

Leisure centre report 'devalued'

Gosford Council has described a report by the Department of Local Government about the Peninsula Leisure Centre project as "devalued", due to a number of errors of fact and "reliance on unsupported assertions".

The report dated December 2005 questioned the adequacy of project and budget management, the adequacy of council's role as consent authority and the process for keeping the public informed of the project and of dealing

with public complaints about the project.

The December report stated that "where appropriate" errors of fact identified by the council in its response had been corrected in the report.

The response was released to Peninsula News by the Department of Local Government.

In the point-by-point response made to the draft report in June last year, council general manager Mr Peter Wilson rebuked claims made by the department's reviewers.

In response to concerns about council assessing its own development, Mr Wilson stated

that councils commonly assessed their own developments, citing a number of other projects, and noted that the department asserted "without support" that the leisure centre was a "particular" project.

Mr Wilson stated that a construction certificate was issued when the documentation provided by the architect met the requirements of council.

"The standard of documentation for the construction certificate was identical to the tender documentation, and arguably of a superior standard to most developments," Mr Wilson stated.

Continued on page 6



Minister for Fair Trading Ms Dianne Beamer at Coles Woy Woy

Checking out the check-outs

Fair Trading Minister Ms Diane Beamer and Member for Peats Ms Marie Andrews accompanied Fair Trading inspectors in Woy Woy last week.

The inspectors carried out compliance checks on scanning equipment at Coles Supermarket Woy Woy at Deepwater Plaza on Tuesday, September 12.

"Our inspectors check pricing,

measuring and licence compliance in a wide range of businesses across NSW including supermarkets, pubs, clubs, petrol stations, pawn brokers, builders and real estate agents," Ms Beamer said.

"These checks ensure that consumers can be confident that they are getting what they pay for."

Press release, September 11

Dianne Beamer,

Minister for Fair Trading

Department is monitoring

The recommendations made in the Promoting Better Practice report, which was critical of the Gosford Council's handling of the Peninsula Leisure Centre project, are now subject to monitoring by the Department of Local Government.

The department will monitor

the situation to establish whether council is taking action to properly implement the recommendations, according to the department's executive support manager Ms Anne Guzman.

"The first review progress report has only recently fallen due, so it is premature to comment on council's progress.

"And it should be noted that

council is given time to implement the recommendations, and monitoring may continue for over a year," Ms Guzman said.

Ms Guzman said: "The report is now a public document and is available on the department's website."

Press statement, September 14
Anne Guzman, Department of Local Government

Effluent plans are only one option

Injecting high quality treated effluent into groundwater at the Woy Woy borefield was only one option under consideration, according to Gosford Council's Manager of Asset Management Ms Pam McCann.

If it did occur, it would be "six-star" treated effluent, "a higher standard than current drinking water", she said.

It would be used "as a salt water barrier to protect the aquifer" rather than injected into "the mount of the aquifer for use in the borefield".

Ms McCann said comments in Peninsula News which stated that secondary treated water would be injected into the groundwater were "incorrect".

Ms McCann also said that council had been completely transparent with the many water recycling initiatives it had underway.

"Council resolved on August 1 to undertake a water recycling community information program to facilitate best practice water recycle management and community acceptance of any proposed water recycling projects," Ms McCann said.

"As part of this program, a Gosford Council Public Water Forum will be held on October 7 at the Erina Centre where recycling along with other water activities will be presented and discussed with the community."

Ms McCann said a recently-completed water recycling

initiatives study listing possible options had been presented at a Community Environment Network public water forum, documented in an open council report on September 5.

"In fact, two community representatives attended the stakeholder workshop in March to evaluate the options as part of the study," Ms McCann said.

Ms McCann also said council was not under any requirement to treat the development application for the water treatment plant has an integrated development, following comments from the Department of Natural Resources suggesting the water treatment plant should have been advertised as such.

Continued on page 14

Council accepts water treatment plant tender

Gosford Council has resolved to accept a \$3 million lump sum tender by Veolia Water Solutions Pty Ltd for a membrane filtration water treatment plant for the Peninsula.

The tender of \$3,069,592, excluding GST, covers the design and construction of a plant to treat five megalitres a day.

The council has also resolved to implement a comprehensive community information campaign for the Woy Woy Borefield, including a summary of the information to be submitted to the Department of Natural Resources.

As part of the activities, displays

would be placed at Woy Woy depot, Woy Woy Library and Woy Woy customer service centre.

Public presentations would take place at suitable meeting rooms in Woy Woy regularly from the end of September through to April next year.

A newsletter or fact sheet, including information on previous groundwater studies, would be provided at council's customer service centres and on the internet which would be updated to reflect the progression of the project.

Council has also resolved to provide a detailed briefing with interested community groups.

Press release, September 5

Marion Newall, Gosford Council

THIS ISSUE contains 59 articles. Read more at www.PeninsulaNews.asn.au

Information for members and their guests

Everglades Country Club

Dunban Road, Woy Woy - Ph: 4341 1866

<p>Gala Day</p> <p>Maureen Elkner September 21</p>	<p>Over 30's Cabaret</p> <p>Robert Gennari September 30</p>	<p>Gala Day</p> <p>Glen Amer October 5</p>	<p>Gala Day</p> <p>Marty Morton October 19</p>
<p>Sunday Market Day Raffles Butcher's Delights Grocery & Vegetable Trays Tickets on sale 3.30pm Draw from 5.30pm Bingo Wednesday 7.30pm Friday 10.30am Vouchers Meat Raffles Friday and Saturday from 5.00pm</p>		<p>Nightly Members' Badge Draw Draw 6.00pm Courtesy Bus Thursday to Sunday from 5.15pm Pickups available Golf & Bowls Conditions of entry and dress rules apply Function Rooms All occasions catered for Dance floor available</p>	

Settlers could be featured

Early Peninsula settlers and boat builders James Webb and Rock Davis could be featured in a maritime museum at George Frost House.

That is the hope of the Friends of George Frost house who are looking for community support to preserve the house, with an aim to turn it into a maritime museum for early shipbuilders.

"The house has a future as the district's maritime museum, but only if the community supports its preservation," said Friends' vice president Ms Kay Williams of Pearl

Beach.

"The Friends of George Frost house aim to establish a regional maritime museum in the former shipbuilder's house, beside St Paul's Church of England in Kincumber.

"Woy Woy was the home of Brisbane Water's earliest settler, boat builder James Webb.

"Brisbane Water supported 56 shipbuilders, who were responsible for the construction of at least 500 registered vessels between 1829 and 1953.

"Rock Davis was the most prolific of the shipbuilders, operating from

a huge shed at Blackwall.

"He is buried near George Frost and 10 other shipbuilders in the graveyard at St. Paul's.

"We need regional support to save the house, which is being destroyed by vandalism and bureaucratic apathy," said Ms Williams.

"This building should be in community ownership, before it is too late."

For further information, please contact Kay Williams on 4344 4811

**Press release, August 2
Ruth Ross, Residents of
Kincumber Association**

So Good competitions

Peninsula News, in conjunction with Sanitarium So Good soymilk, Light 'n' Tasty breakfast cereal and Sunraysia Pink Grapefruit Fruit Juice Drink, are giving readers the chance to win a bouquet of pink flowers, valued at \$75, delivered to their door by Ready Flowers.

The three companies are giving readers the chance to win prizes as part of the National Breast Cancer Foundation's annual fundraising appeal.

The major prize winner will also receive a Ticked Pink pack, valued at \$80, which includes the Donna Hay recipe book "Instant Cook", two cartons of So Good soymilk, three boxes of Light 'n' Tasty cereal and two bottles each of 250ml and 1 litre Sunraysia Pink Grapefruit Fruit Juice Drink.

Four runners up will also each receive a Ticked Pink prize pack.

To enter the prize draw, place your name and contact details on the back of an envelope and mail it to Peninsula News Sanitarium Ticked Pink Giveaway, PO Box 532, Woy Woy, 2256.

Entries will be accepted until close of business on September 29.

The winner of the Peninsula news So Good New Taste Giveaway published in edition 149 have also been chosen.

The major prize winner was Luke Pilling of Bensville.

Mr Pilling won a pair of Asics Gel 1110 running shoes valued at \$160.

The three runners up were Jarryd Hayne, G. Wadham and Ms G. Todhunter of Woy Woy who have each won a So Good Health Pack which consists of a beach towel, cap, drink bottle and Susie O'Neill recipe book valued At \$120.

**Rob Hunter, September 14
Lyle Stone, September 16**

Cooperation wanted

Gosford Council has contacted the owner of a dog on Ocean View Rd, Ettalong, asking for cooperation in

addressing noise and welfare issues of three dogs.

The owner was contacted by council regarding an "alleged noise nuisance" following a petition to

council on May 30.

Seven petitioners stated that they had "concerns about the noise from and welfare of three dogs".

Council agenda P.30, August 22

Zone may be extended

Gosford Council's traffic committee has been told by the Roads and Traffic Authority that the 40 km/h precinct in the Ettalong Beach town centre area may be extended to Schnapper Rd to encompass Ocean View Rd to Ettalong Markets.

The committee has now recommended that council officers liaise with the RTA to have the Ettalong Beach 40 km/h precinct, with appropriate pedestrian crossing points, extended further east on Ocean View Rd to the intersection of Schnapper Rd.

Mid-week pedestrian counts had previously been presented to the committee after a request for a pedestrian crossing in Ocean View Rd near the ambulance station.

The committee had planned to undertake weekend traffic counts to identify weekend pedestrian volumes associated with the Ettalong Markets and the theatre, but has now decided not to proceed with this.

Bus company Busways has objected to the extension of the 40km/h precinct.

**Council agenda TR.05.070,
September 5**

Pedestrian refuge planned

A proposed pedestrian refuge for Rawson Rd has been endorsed for construction by council at its meeting of September 5.

Council's traffic committee recommended the plans be endorsed for the refuge between the railway level crossing and Waterview St, Woy Woy.

The provision of a pedestrian refuge was considered for inclusion in the 2005-06 Traffic Facilities Program following a meeting on July 4 last year, with a detailed plan requested prior to construction.

The plan has since been prepared and local residents have been consulted with "no objections to the proposal".

**Council agenda TR.05.111,
September 5**

Peninsula News

Peninsula News is owned by Peninsula Community Access Newspaper Inc., an incorporated, non-profit association. Its aims include providing a viable, non-partisan news medium and forum exclusively for the Peninsula and developing a sense of community on the Peninsula.

Association President and Editor: Mark Snell
Commercial operator: Cec Bucello for Ducks Crossing Publications
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Contributors: Stuart Baumann, Gregory Hoffman, Greg Edwards, Rob Hunter, Shannon Kennedy
Sales Manager: Bob Homan
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Declaration of interests

Honorary editor: Mark Snell

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Convenor, Burrawang Bushland Reserve Committee
Vice-president, Australian Conservation Foundation Central Coast branch
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Next Edition: Peninsula News 151

Deadline: September 27 Publication date: October 3

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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Website: www.duckscrossing.org

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

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Printed by MPD, Maddox St, Alexandria

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Minister for Natural Resources, Primary Industries and Mineral Resources Mr Ian Macdonald

Meeting Ministers

Central Coast residents had the opportunity to meet with State Government Ministers at Everglades Country Club after the Cabinet meeting on the Peninsula last week. More on page 14.



Minister for Transport Mr John Watkins



Minister for Energy, Ports and Minister Assisting the Treasurer on Business and Economic Regulatory Reform Joe Tripodi

Killcare assured of fire response

Rural Fire Service district manager Mr Steve Marsh has assured residents in the Killcare, Hardys Bay area that all emergency calls would be adequately attended to by the volunteers and equipment at Killcare fire station.

Mr Marsh made the comments while addressing a recent meeting of the Hardys Bay Residents group.

Currently the Killcare brigade

has a heavy Cat 1 and a small Cat 9 tanker, along with a Cat 7 light tanker due to arrive in September.

Also speaking at the residents group meeting were community safety officer Mr Rolf Poole and Killcare brigade president Mr Chris Radford.

"Officer Poole delivered a most informative presentation entitled 'Firewise' which focussed on how to identify bushfire hazards and the manner in which local community groups can use a telephone tree to

assist the fire service in providing vital communication services during emergencies," group president Mr Adrian Williams said.

"In highlighting an important issue Chris Radford reminded the large gathering that volunteers are always urgently needed, not only to control fires but also to help with administration and fund raising duties."

Press release, September 14
Adrian Williams,
Hardys Bay Residents Group

Residents told to collect seaweed

Council has advised petitioners on St Huberts Island that its maintenance program does not include the collection of litter or seagrass from the shoreline, following a complaint from residents over seagrass at Shelter Cove.

Council instead advised the petitioners to collect the litter from the shoreline themselves and encouraged them to "continue this practice".

It also advised the petitioners

that it was permissible to collect up to 20kg of dead seaweed or seagrass per person per day without the requirement of a NSW Fisheries permit.

The petitioners had sent a petition to council on June 27 asking it to contact the Fisheries Department to remove the seagrass and ribbon weed from the shoreline of Shelter Cove as it was causing a "rubbish accumulation, which is resulting in a health hazard".

The petition contained eight signatures.

Council agenda P.39, August 22

Trivia nights are back

Form teams of any number up to 8 and come along to play for the weekly cash prize. Will your team gain entry to the grand final, held every two months, with a \$1000 prize pool? Ettalong Beach Club's Trivia is the Peninsula's biggest! Entry of fee of \$10* per team.

Be registered for a 7pm start, every Monday night in Chica's Sports Bar.

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www.ettalongbeachclub.com.au

For the information of members and their guests.

ETTALONG



B E A C H C L U B

Forum

Endangered bushland is groundwater-dependent

While we are endeavouring to conserve and reduce our water use, unfortunately our nearby Endangered Ecological Communities (EEC) - Umina Coastal Sandplain Woodland and Sydney Freshwater Wetlands - have no such ability.

The Woy Woy-Umina sandplain aquifer is being targeted by Gosford Council to supply up to five per cent of our drinking water through a proposed borefield of 20 sites, seven of which will be located adjacent or near the two EECs.

The endangered Umina Coastal Sandplain Woodland (UCSW) is particularly at risk as only between 10 and 40 hectares remain (Bell, 2004 - *Native Vegetation of Gosford Council LGA*; DEC-NPWS Scientific Committee 2003) and none is conserved within NPWS reserves, State Forests or Local Government reserves (Bell, 2004).

The UCSW community is recognised by the Department of Environment and Conservation, the National Parks & Wildlife Service and the Scientific Committee set up under the Threatened Species Act, 1995.

We believe that the proposed

Forum

seven bores within the larger Umina-Woy Woy borefield is a "key threatening process".

Gosford Council also recognises that these communities are endangered and vulnerable (GCC 2006, *Draft Biodiversity Strategy*) and has acknowledged that existing private bores will be affected by the proposed draw-down.

Yet the council still proposes to locate and pump from the seven bores adjacent to these EECs, relying on monitoring bores to check for saltwater incursion - and four tiny vegetation monitoring plots.

The importance of groundwater to certain ecosystems has been identified by CSIRO in the *Australian Journal of Botany*, April 2006, where a whole issue was devoted to Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems.

As a sandplain woodland, the UCSW is dependent on groundwater during times of drought (O'Grady, 2006).

The modelling of responses of these ecosystems to groundwater extraction is identified by Professor Eamus as being 'conceptual only' and that additional research is

required (*Australian Journal of Botany* April, 2006) to understand these responses.

By extracting groundwater during drought, the magnitude and rate of draw-down are sufficient to collapse the water flow through plant xylems, leading to the death of plants such as Banksias - one of the 'positive' species in the Umina EEC.

In the recent *National Parks Association Journal*, Environment Minister Debus wrote that Climate Change is a key threatening process and that "... action must be taken to enhance the resilience of ecosystems and reduce the impacts on biodiversity" (Debus, Jun-Jul, 2006).

We totally agree, and believe intervention is required to prevent potential eradication of these EECs on the Umina-Woy Woy sandplain.

We know that our water shortage is dire, but such a tiny percentage (1.5 per cent) of drinking water from seven bores in environmentally sensitive areas will not make a significant difference to the Central Coast's water supplies.

**Rod Craig
Pearl Beach
Progress Association**

Expensive exercise

Forum

I am wondering what device the fast ferry will use to deliver its passengers to their destination.

Maybe it will be wind and sails. Maybe it will be rowed.

It seems apparent they would not be using fuel as we know it - the stuff that oil companies extract from underground which is becoming scarce, expensive and

detrimental to the atmosphere .

The Central Coast ferry operators have increased fares because they use this commodity.

I wonder if there will be enough custom to sustain what appears will be a very expensive exercise.

**Pat Garnet
Terrigal**

Read the foreshore report

Forum

I have been bemused by the myriad of people expressing their "expert" opinion and selectively quoting from reports, items that go towards their own agendas.

If they have read all the reports and I doubt it, the report prepared for Council by Patterson Britton & Partners 2000 Ettalong Beach Foreshore Management Study, clearly sets out that the only way to protect the foreshore, the road and the footpath is to build a sea wall about where the retention

fence was situated and maintain the sand in front thereof.

If the suggestions of all the good people are followed, the sea and nature will eventually give to the commercial centre a complete water frontage.

There will be no dune.

Perhaps your paper could read the report and provide the public with an unbiased view.

**Peter Hale
Ettalong Beach**

More forum on page 8

A good news story

Forum

I feel it necessary to respond to the individuals who have contacted me re the last edition of the Peninsula News, and the article re the audit of the leisure centre.

Firstly the article refers to a report placed on the web nine months ago about an audit from 2003 - all of which was addressed and answered by council.

Thank you for the calls of support for the staff and the centre and I,

like you, question media ability at times to just bag things for the sake of a sensational headline.

Those who use and work at the centre can tell the massive benefit and good news story that this facility is.

When will those learn to use it not abuse it?

**Cr Chris Holstein
Narara**

Site taxi rank on resort property

Gosford Council agenda item TR.06.061 for September 5 (page 214) reveals a desire from the Ettalong Club Resort to have the "noisy taxi rank" moved.

I was reflecting on this while reading Richard Noone's story in a local newspaper "Fed up Peninsula venues to join a midnight curfew".

I realised how inconvenient the location of the taxi rank is, when considering the aspirational desires, published by council in the Macgregor overview, to remove

Forum

part of Memorial Dr.

Certainly enhancing the club's relationship to the water's edge drives this commercial consideration.

Management may be hoping neighbours ignore the fact that venues similar to the Outrigger Resort have always been a late night noisy minority in our community, something which constituents have had to endure for far too long.

The current location of the taxi rank was in fact influenced initially by the resorts own interest.

Now it presents an obvious barrier to bigger plans for our public land.

The Outrigger Resort, acting in the best interest of our local community, may consider the public relations opportunity pivoting on locating the taxi rank on its own property in a continuation of the turning circle and mandatory disability access on street level.

**Edward James
Umina**

Contributions

The Forum page/s presents an opportunity for Peninsula Residents to have their say. Any opinions expressed on the forum page/s are not necessarily those of the editor or management of Peninsula News. Contributions can be emailed, sent on disks or by handwritten letter. 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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Residents recognised



Award winners Kathleen Morison and Cecily Prentice with NSW Premier Mr Morris Iemma and Member for Peats Ms Marie Andrews

Two Peninsula residents were awarded NSW Government Community Awards at a recent meeting of the NSW Government Cabinet meeting at Everglades Country Club on Tuesday, September 12.

The award recipients were Kathleen Morison and Cecily Prentice.

There awards were presented by NSW Premier Mr Morris Iemma and Member for Peats Ms Marie Andrews.

"Kathleen Morison is a community minded 19-year-old university student who was educated locally at Ettalong Public School and Brisbane Water Secondary College," Ms Andrews said.

"She has reached the highest awards in Scouts and recently

achieved the Queen's Scout Award.

"Kathleen was an Olympic Torch Bearer at the age of 13 and also a school prefect.

"Kathleen holds a First Aid certificate, a Level 2 Boat Charge Certificate in Canoeing and Kayaking and has completed Child Protection Training.

"Cecily Prentice has held honorary positions with Meals on Wheels, the Central Coast Historic Car Club (19 years), NSW Justices Association and the Order of the Eastern Star (30 years).

"Her dedication to volunteering and particularly to fundraising has greatly benefited numerous charities and organisations."

Press release, September 15
Marie Andrews, Member for Peats

Profile of the Peninsula

Gosford Council has launched a "small area community profile" of the Peninsula on its website.

The profile includes population, residents' occupations and lifestyles, and the percentage of each small area population that is employed.

The information is derived from the ABS Census of Population and Housing 2001 and each small area can be compared to data from previous censuses.

It allows each small area to be compared to the Gosford Local Government Area, the Central Coast and NSW.

Data will be updated when the 2006 census information becomes available.

Umina Beach is profiled as one of three "stand-alone" areas.

The profile is available on council's website at www.gosford.nsw.gov.au.

The information can be accessed by first clicking Community Services and then Community Profile and scrolling down to Local Area Information - Small Area Community Profile.

Press release, August 21
Marion Newall, Gosford Council

Awards for fire fighters

Three local Rural Fire Service volunteers received long service awards at a presentation recently.

Local award recipients included Timothy (Dale) Rose, Bruce Sharples and Noel Sadler.

The Gosford District of the NSW Rural Fire Service hosted its Annual Awards Ceremony on Wednesday, September 13, highlighting the contribution of local volunteers.

The ceremony was held at Gosford Regional Gallery and Arts Centre and was a celebration of the efforts that 29 volunteers had made to the community and the Rural Fire Service over many years.

Timothy Rose was presented with a 15-year long service award for 19 years of service.

Bruce Sharples was presented with a 15-year long service award for 18 years of service.

Noel Sadler was presented with a 15-year long service award for 16 years of service.

Other awards presented included The National Medal, 25 Years Long Service Award and 35 Years Long Service Award.

Attendees included Member for Peats Ms Marie Andrews, Member for Gosford Mr Chris Hartcher and Gosford Mayor Cr Laurie Maher.

Press release, September 11
Rolf Poole,
NSW Rural Fire Service

Advertisement

Peninsula Perspective



by
Chris Holstein
Liberal Candidate 2007

POLICE AND THE PENINSULA

Our community deserves the right to feel safe - to know they are being protected by a fully manned and adequately resourced Police Force.

Our way of life depends on these Police Officers and their ability to respond quickly, with the powers they need, to circumstances in our community.

Regrettably, many communities right across the state don't feel they have the level of safety they once did.

We now have 600 fewer police than in 2003 and we have seen offensive behaviour increase by 104% and malicious damage by 44%. Yet while frontline Police numbers dropped and crime rates rose the backroom bureaucrats in the Ministry of Police are ripping \$7.4 million out of the total police budget.

It's typical of this Labor State Government that the second highest paid person in the NSW Police Force is a backroom administrator who gets \$290,000 a year.

The safety of our community can only come from frontline Police, not highly-paid bureaucrats. That is why, as part of the Liberal team, I'm committed to:

- Increasing the number of frontline Police and ensuring they have the resources to get the job done;
- Strengthening police powers in relation to offensive language and conduct so as to raise the standards of public decency;
- Legislation that ensures mandatory life sentences for those convicted of the murder of Police;
- Strong locally led and locally based policing, not centralised Local Area Commands;
- Reducing the Police Ministry bureaucracy and getting rid of the spin doctors transferring the savings to frontline Police.

The safety we deserve can only come from the better services and higher standards that a Liberal/Nationals Coalition Government and its policies will bring to policing in our community.

Regards
Chris Holstein

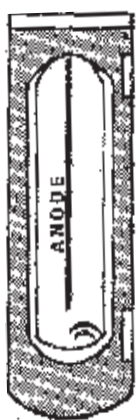
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Leisure centre report 'devalued'

Continued from page 1

He also stated that the combined architect-design and contract administration role was a common method of managing a project, citing Lane Cove and Emerton facilities as similar projects.

"This is particularly appropriate given the complexity and specialisation required building an aquatic facility," Mr Wilson stated.

He responded to comments regarding a "cost blowout" stating that the original scope of the project had only been for the construction of a basketball facility on the same site as the original Woy Woy Pool.

A presentation of masterplans, requested by councillors for the redevelopment of the site, was done by a number of firms or architects.

"However, it was the dilapidated condition of the original pool that demanded that the scope of the project change," Mr Wilson stated.

"Council decided that it was appropriate to utilize the services of the appointed architect as he had presented the best option in the presentation of various masterplans.

"The fee proposal was below that recommended by the Royal Australian Institute of Architects.

"The architect's fees also include all the sub-consultants costs.

"The engagement of the quantity surveyor was increased as the scope of the project was revised.

"Council also increased the extent of this work by resolving to do a 'Bill of Quantities' for the building tender process."

Mr Wilson stated that once council decided to replace the existing dilapidated facility, it was committed to using the engaged

consultants, on the basis of "intellectual property".

"Council decided not to stage the redevelopment and this decision was from the floor of council, not based on any staff recommendation," Mr Wilson stated.

"The architect-design and contract administration cost is \$1.7 m, inclusive of all consultants including hydraulic engineering, structural engineering, pavement and traffic studies, environmental studies etc.

"The quantity surveyor was \$0.2m for the three stages including concept costing, project costing and bill of quantities.

"Additional studies, contingencies, fees and charges, and connection of utilities make up the remainder of the project."

Mr Wilson said council believed it had provided "sufficient information about these costs" on a number of occasions, including when a councillor made available to the media a list of consultants that council had engaged prior to the last council elections.

Mr Wilson stated that council had followed all requirements of tender legislation, with the assistance of its internal and external consultants and that, contrary to the department's report, Multiplex and Pluims did lodge expressions of interest (EOIs).

"The consultant was advised that some of the firms that were successful in the EOI would not submit a tender and to ensure a competitive tender the number was increased," Mr Wilson stated.

"The report notes that only four tenders were received."

Mr Wilson defended council's

process for keeping the public informed and of dealing with public complaints about the project, stating that media coverage was extensive.

"Council provided adequate information through public meetings, facilitations, public information sessions and staff visits to individual properties at the request of neighbours for briefings.

"In addition, brochures, newsletters and press releases have been made, as well as roadside signage on the site and in Gosford on the Pacific Highway."

Mr Wilson stated that only \$100,000, compared to the \$400,000 reported by department, had been used from council's sewer fund, and this was "not in breach of Sections 409 and 410 of the Act".

Mr Wilson also stated that auditors Freeman Kennedy had carried out a full audit of expenditures in January last year to meet the requirements of a Commonwealth Government grant, finding no issues.

He also stated that council's development assessment unit considered that the changes were consistent with being suitable for a Section 96 determination and did not require a new development application.

The council's response was not incorporated in the report available on the department's website at the time the last issue of Peninsula News went to press.

The report on the webstie has since been updated and now includes the council's response.

Fax, September 15
Department of Local Government

Review timeline

Oct 2004

Director-General of Local Government advises Gosford Council that the department would conduct a review of Council under its "Promoting Better Practice" reform program.

8 Nov 2004

After receiving a completed checklist, self-assessment and other documents from the council, two departmental officers conducted an on-site review and examination of documents during this week.

May 2005

The department provides council with a copy of its draft review report for comment.

30 Jun 2005

Council provides itemised responses to the draft report's 37 recommendations.

12 Dec 2005

The department advises Council that the review report has been finalised and requests that it be tabled at a council meeting.

28 Feb 2006

Council's corporate services director Mr Nic Pasternatsky reports to Council about the review with a statement that the review report "is tabled in accordance with the department's request".

The review was not published in the council agenda or minutes and is not available on the Council's website.

The report to council listed only nine of the 37 recommendations made in the review document and the associated actions being taken by council.

No mention was made of the Peninsula Leisure Centre project and the recommendation concerning it was not among them.

Mr Pasternatsky told Council in his report: "The department ... acknowledged that a number of the recommendations had already been actioned or were currently being addressed by council.

"As a result of this, further action is required for only nine specific recommendations."

30 Aug 2006

Peninsula News comes across the final review report, which includes criticism of the Council's management of the Peninsula Leisure Centre project, on the department's website.

The report did not contain Council's response.

Peninsula News seeks a comment from Council's media liaison staff by email at 3.48pm.

1 Sep 2006

Peninsula News sends Council a reminder email at 3.57pm, asking whether a comment was coming from Council.

2 Sep 2006

Peninsula News goes to press without any response from Gosford Council.

4 Sep 2006

Peninsula News is published.

5 Sep 2006

Cr Chris Holstein asks a question of Council's general manager Mr Peter Wilson at the evening council meeting: "Will the Council ... ask the Peninsula News to explain why they have misled the public that Council had not replied to a question when they asked the question one day after the paper's 4 September 2006 deadline had passed?"

Mr Wilson replied: "We will be taking this matter up with the newspaper and the Department in an endeavour to have our responses included in the Department's website."

11 Sep 2006

The Peninsula News send Council a further email, requesting a response from Council.

The Department updates the "Promoting Better Practice" report to include council's responses to the draft review report.

14 Sep 2006

Peninsula News seeks a copy of Council's responses from the Department and receives a faxed copy.

16 Sep 2006

Peninsula News goes to press. The Department's website has been updated to include Council's responses as part of the final review report.

Peninsula News has still not received an official reply from Gosford Council.

Mark Snell, September 16

New tanker at Killcare

Killcare-Wagstaffe Rural Fire Service has received a new fire fighting tanker.

Gosford District NSW Rural Fire Service officially received two new fire-fighting tankers on Wednesday, September 13.

The light four-wheel-drive vehicles, classified as Category 7 Tankers, were formally presented by Minister for Emergency Services Mr Tony Kelly.

The tankers were presented to district manager Superintendent Steve Marsh and have been assigned to Killcare-Wagstaffe brigade and Gosford headquarters.

The Category 7 tanker is four-wheel drive, carries six people, has a manual five-speed gearbox and holds 1100 litres of water.

The funding for the vehicles was provided from the Rural Fire Service estimates funding and Gosford Council' contribution of 13.3 per cent.

Community safety officer Inspector Rolf Pool said both vehicles would be a welcome addition to the fire fighting fleet of Gosford District.

Press release, September 11
Rolf Poole,
NSW Rural Fire Service

Art and Craft Markets
at
Jasmine Greens
2 Mt. Ettalong Road, Umina
ph. 43417000

The market dates for the rest of the year are as follows:

Saturday, September 30th
Saturday, November 4th
Saturday, December 2nd
Saturday, December 16th

9am-3pm

Come along and check out lots of locally made arts, crafts and clothes, or indulge in a relaxing hand massage and manicure. Spend over \$40 at any one stall to receive a free coffee!

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each



Purex
Toilet Tissue 8-Pack

\$3.95



Colgate
Toothpaste Regular 120g

\$2.00
each

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*Conditions apply. See in store for details. Only redeemable at Lance Clarke Amcal Chemist or Umina Beach Amcal.

Importance of dune vegetation

The Ettalong Beach Reserve Plan of Management (EBRPOM), the Ettalong Beach Dune Management Plan (EBDMP) and Patterson and Britton's 2000 Report all confirm the importance of dune vegetation in slowing erosion and preventing wind-blown sand.

The EBRPOM states (p24): "In 1983, dune stabilisation work was undertaken involving reshaping of the dunes, re-vegetation and fencing.

"These works have helped to protect the foreshore and The Esplanade from erosion".

The 1998 Patterson and Britton Report notes (p11): "It is important to maintain vegetation on the dune in the future to stabilise the sand to act as an erosion buffer for the road (The Esplanade) and minimise maintenance costs".

The EBDMP states (p8): "Vegetation is one of the best means of slowing the effects of erosion and the movement of wind-blown sand".

No confusion – dune vegetation will slow erosion.

Secondly, I agree sand movements in Brisbane Water are

Forum

very important.

Patterson and Britton noted in 2000 that "without a comprehensive sediment transport study of Brisbane Water entrance, it is not possible to determine definitively the long-term trend for behaviour of Ettalong Beach".

Fortunately, we will have that information with the soon to be completed Brisbane Waters Estuary Study.

It should provide a clearer understanding of sand movements in Brisbane Water.

Also the sand replenishment studies for Ettalong Beach (understood to have been requested by the Department of Lands) will provide additional essential information.

All interested parties will agree that access to such up-to-date scientific and cost input will ensure better decision making in respect to both foreshore plans.

Thirdly, better information on the cost of long-term erosion mitigation measures for Lance Webb Reserve and Ferry Park are needed.

Erosion in Ferry Park resulting from the high winds and seas on

September 6 and 7 and erosion behind the new sandstone wall on Lance Webb Reserve at its eastern end show how important it is to deal now with this matter.

The Town Beach-Ettalong Dune area is sandwiched between these two sectors.

With limited funding available, we need to determine priorities – erosion containment measures should be a priority.

Finally, the EBDMP consultants were initially briefed by commercial interests and not Council.

Correspondence received from Council confirms the brief for consultants Andrews Neil to prepare concept plans for Town Beach was through a third party and Council could not provide a copy of that brief.

Council also confirmed the consultants were paid not directly from Council funds but from Ettalong CBD Upgrade funds.

Compromise solutions for this area are possible involving up-to-date independent advice from foreshore experts.

The current EBDMP will make the dune area unsustainable: it should be rejected.

**Michael Gillian
Ettalong Beach**

Keep the real Australia

Forum

There seem to be many people who would prefer to see exotics planted along the foreshore.

They mention the beauty of beaches overseas.

They do not seem to realise that this is Australia. It is not an Hawaiian Island or a seaside resort in Britain.

If they were to take a stroll along the Lance Web Reserve or near the Vietnam Memorial at Ettalong, they would see for themselves just how ineffective grass is to stop erosion.

There are great channels and holes gouged out by the storms and the heavy rain.

Near the Ocean Beach Surf Club they can see sand right across the car park, due to the lack of vegetation at the end of the walkway.

There is no sand across the road at Town Beach as there used to be before the vegetation was put in.

If they were to visit many seashores in Britain, they would notice that there are now waves crashing across the promenades and coastal paths at high tide or in rough weather. They would find that the National Trust and landholders have adopted a policy of "managed retreat" as they can no longer afford the enormous expense of holding the waters back.

They could see a farm on the Yorkshire coast which is losing two

metres a year of its land, as it falls into the sea.

This is largely due to a seawall which was built further up the coast.

We have to accept that whatever we do to one part of the coast will have an effect somewhere else on that coast.

If we are to nourish our beaches by dredging elsewhere, what impact is that going to have on that dredged area?

The famous "Basque wave" off the northern coast of Spain has turned into a ripple and the government is concerned about its impact on tourism.

What will happen to the surf at Ocean Beach if we dredge for a ferry or to replenish the sand on our beaches?

We cannot just have what looks pretty.

Surely tourists come to see the real Australia, not an artificial seaside which they can find in many other places of the world.

Why not use that Australian-ness to get their interest instead of destroying everything which is truly Australian before we realize just how valuable it is.

That has been the history of settlement here: Will we ever learn just how wonderful and unique our flora and fauna really are?

**Margaret Lund
Woy Woy Bay**

Wanting the best

Forum

Letters to the editor should be sent to:
Peninsula News
PO Box 532,
Woy Woy, NSW, 2256
or
mail@PeninsulaNews.asn.au
See Page 2 for
contribution conditions

I refer to comments by Michael Gillian (Peninsula News, August 21) regarding the Ettalong Beach Foreshore Management Plan and particularly his offensive remarks regarding anyone who has commercial interest in Ettalong Beach.

Since when was it an offence to have a business in town and be involved in community projects?

I've been involved in the upgrading of our town centre for years and look forward to the day when our town beach will be improved to something we can all be proud of.

I and many others have a positive attitude and want only the best for Ettalong and the Peninsula.

That's what being a true local is all about.

**Rex Mayes
Ettalong Beach**

Plan should protect

Forum

There seems to be a lot of hot air expressed about the Ettalong Beach Foreshore Management Plan.

First, we're led to believe a century of research is wrong and that the planting or maintenance of vegetation does not prevent erosion, salination or reclaim deserts.

Then, nostalgia is expressed for the halcyon days of children, waders, families and the only high rise on the beach was a six-foot father.

I can recall Ettalong Beach in the late 1940s, pristine then, sparkling

and unpolluted.

A decade earlier, Ettalong and Woy Woy were called the Venice of New South Wales.

Since those golden days, the beach has been devastated in the 1970s and nourished in the 1980s.

Let us hope a sensible plan can be developed that protects the beach, beautifies the area and doesn't lay down for the almighty dollar.

**Keith Whitfield
Woy Woy**



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Gosford Town Centre
Opposite Kibble Park

Book for camping

The National Parks and Wildlife Service will start taking bookings for several local camping areas today, Monday, September 18.

The service's regional manager Mr Tom Bagnat said the camping areas at Putty Beach, Little Beach and Tallow Beach in Bouddi National Park were always full over the peak Christmas holidays period, with their "beautiful beaches and great camping facilities proving attractive to both visitors and locals alike".

"Bookings for the busy summer holidays up to January 30 will be taken from mid-September," Mr Bagnat said.

"As always camp bookings are on a first-come, first-served basis and people should note that all camp

fees must be paid for at the time of booking."

Bookings can be made over the phone by contacting 4320 4203 between 10am and noon or in person at the Gosford NPWS Office, Suite 36-38, 207 Albany St, North Gosford, between 8.30am and 4.30pm, Monday to Friday.

Putty Beach features car access, free gas barbecues, toilets, drinking water and cold showers.

Little Beach features free gas barbecues and toilets also, but no drinking water.

Campers must also walk in about 700 metres.

Tallow Beach has a toilet, but no drinking water.

Campers must walk in about 1.5 kilometres.

Press release, September 11
Susan Davis, National Parks and Wildlife Service

New outreach service highlighted

Minister for Fair Trading Ms Dianne Beamer recently highlighted a trial of a new outreach service for Peninsula residents.

A drop-in centre now operates at Umina Public School every second Friday from 2pm to 4pm.

"Residents from nearly 500 public homes in Umina and Woy Woy can call in and speak with our frontline staff and have any issues solved faster and more conveniently," Ms Beamer said.

"The new drop-in centre is another example of how the lemma Government is improving services and support for the hard-working

families in public housing."

Liberal candidate Cr Chris Holstein said that support of the families in public housing was essential, but stated that people on the waiting list deserved better.

"What of the families on the waiting list, with the revelation in Sydney media recently that evacuees from the Middle East were getting priority for housing," Cr Holstein said.

"Whilst one feels for the evacuees, surely those who have been on the waiting list for years deserve better."

Press release, September 11
Dianne Beamer,
Minister for Fair Trading

Life membership

Sel Manuel was awarded life membership of the Woy Woy Bowling Club at its annual meeting.

Sel joined Woy Woy in 1987 and has been active in all the club's activities.

He has held every administrative position in the club from social selector to president.

Whenever there were working bees organised, Sel would always be found on site.

The maestro tournament was one of Sel's pet projects, one in which he was involved for many years.

Newsletter, July 30
Ken Poole, Kevin Dring,
Coast Bowls News

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Irrigation piping before it was laid at Everglades Golf Course in September 2004

Premier notices water savings

NSW Premier Mr Morris lemma and Minister for the Central Coast Mr Grant McBride paid tribute to local residents and businesses for their water saving efforts during a visit to the Peninsula last week.

They were on the Peninsula as part of the NSW Government Cabinet meeting held at the Everglades Country Club on Tuesday, September 12.

The Premier joined Mr McBride and other members of parliament in inspecting water savings works

carried out by the Everglades Country Club.

"The Everglades Country Club management, staff and members are to be commended on their water-saving initiatives," Mr McBride said.

Everglades have spent several thousand dollars on water saving measures including fitting flow restricting devices to all taps inside the club and fitting extension arms to the cisterns of toilets to further reduce water usage above and beyond dual flush reduction.

It also reduced the use of town water by removing access to

exterior taps and invested in bore water technology and irrigate only at night to reduce evaporation.

Member for Peats Ms Marie Andrews thanked the club and community for heeding the message that water was a precious resource and undertaking a range of water saving actions.

"At a time when our water supplies are very low, it is encouraging to see all members of the community across the Central Coast doing their bit to help conserve our precious drinking water," Ms Andrews said.

Press release, September 12
Morris lemma, Premier of NSW

6/7/8 October CoastFest

The 2006 Central Coast Festival of Music Art & Culture

A 3 day celebration of cultural diversity, in an atmosphere created by a wide variety of music, dance and artistic endeavour.

Music is the emphasis of the festival and ranges from

Folk & World to Blues & Roots and from Contemporary to Alternative.

Featuring musicians from many parts of Australia and overseas.

Non-stop music, activities and workshops as well as separate blackboard concerts and jam venues where anyone can perform or take part.

2006 Festival will include:

3 Performance Stages – non-stop music all weekend

Dances of Diversity – a dedicated dance space

YarnFest – poetry and story telling including 2 poets breakfasts

Aboriginal Village – indigenous healing ways, culture and activities

EnviroFest – environmental discussion, stalls and workshops

The Healing Tribe – a health, well-being, cultural and spiritual area

United Drum Circle & Stomping ground – a weekend program of drumming and percussion workshops with a chance to take part

in the festival finale, as well as a dance and fire-twirling area.

KidsFest – a special program of activities and workshops for children

Fireworks & Flickers – youth arts and short film festival

ArtSpace – an exhibition by local artists plus a program of workshops

CoastFest Markets & Buskers – world foods, arts, crafts and all things unusual.

Chai Chill Tent – chillout and acoustic jam space

Festival Choir – come together and sing

Fire Ceremony & Festival Finale – Fire Circus, Ceremony, Parade and Finale

CoastFest Camp – limited onsite camping for 3 whole days, so get your tickets early

Season Ticket \$75

Saturday & Sunday only \$55 Friday \$25 Saturday \$40 Sunday \$30

Children under 14 years – free with paying adult | Special Youth prices(14-17) available see website for details

Limited Weekend Camping (Adult and Youth) – per person \$10 (first in get a spot)

Applications for performers have closed. Stallholder and volunteer applications are still open.

Volunteers donating eight or more hours receive a free season ticket. Group booking discounts are available.

More details, list of performers and ticket outlets checkout:

www.coastfest.org.au

Tickets available online from:

www.moshtix.com.au

www.tradandnow.com



Gosford City Council 'Let's get it sorted'

Recycler of the Year

Nominations are now open for the 2006 Recycler of the Year award!

What is the Recycler of the Year award?

There are many people within Gosford City's community who are excellent at recycling and reducing waste. The aim of the **2006 Recycler of the Year** award is to acknowledge those people within our community who are 'getting it sorted' and practising great waste management principles within their homes, schools, community and businesses!



Who can be nominated for the Recycler of the Year award?

The competition is open to all Gosford City residents, businesses, schools and community groups.

There will be four categories for the award:

- 1 Household/Person
- 2 School
- 3 Business
- 4 Community Group



Fantastic prizes to be won! Entries close 6 October 2006

How do I enter?

Tell us in 500 words or less why you or someone you know is the recycler of the year in one of the following categories:

- 1 Household/Person
- 2 School
- 3 Business
- 4 Community Group

Pictures can be included to support your nomination!

Three finalists will be selected from each category and an evaluation committee will visit you to decide who will become the **2006 Recycler of the Year!**

For further information

Contact Council's waste contractor SITA Environmental Solutions on 13 13 35.

Send your entry along with your name, address and contact phone number to:

Michelle Norman
SITA Environmental Solutions
21 Dell Road
West Gosford NSW 2250
michelle_norman@sita.com.au

2006 Recycler of the Year is proudly supported by:



For more information about prizes go to www.gosford.nsw.gov.au



Experts called in

Brisbane City Council's medical entomologist Mr Mike Muller has been invited by Gosford Council to address councillors and staff on the subject of mosquito control.

Westmead Hospital medical entomologist Dr Cameron Webb, author of the Risk Assessment Report commissioned by Gosford Council, has also been invited to speak.

The pair were invited to address the meeting following requests by Hardy's Bay Residents Group (HBRG).

"We have the opportunity to meet and speak with Mr Muller and Dr Webb prior to their meetings with council," said HBRG secretary Mr Adrian Williams.

The meeting will be held today on Monday, September 18, at 7.30pm, at the Killcare Surf Club.

Cr Terri Latella questioned the move at Gosford Council's meeting of September 5.

"I infer that he would be supporting the initiatives of spraying with Bti," said Cr Latella.

"The spraying of Bti in this area, where there are threatened and endangered ecological communities, will impact on those

communities."

Cr Latella asked that someone be allowed to speak on the impact on the environmental communities, stating that hearing one side of the argument would be an unequal footing to take in information.

"I feel councillors have been lobbied to allow spraying of the area occur, because of social ramifications."

Cr Trevor Drake said that Mr Muller was an expert in his field and that he expected Mr Muller would "endorse that Bti doesn't have long term effects on the environment".

Only land owned by council would require State Government Departmental approval for the spraying of Bti.

Director of Environment and Planning Ms Colleen Worthy-Jennings said that "a lot of the land" was national park.

Cr Chris Holstein asked that the authors of the report to council be present at the presentation from Mr Muller.

For more information about the residents' group meeting, visit www.hardysbay.com.

Press release, September 14
Adrian Williams, HBRG Council
agenda ENV88, September 5
Lyle Stone, September 5



The Umina Police and Community Youth Centre bus

PCYC to raise funds for bus

Umina Beach Police and Community Youth Centre (PCYC) will be holding several fund raising events over the next year to help pay for a new bus, according to club manager Mr Tim Keogh.

"Our current bus has been on the go since 2001," said Mr Keogh. "It's done over 215,000 kilometres and although it's still on the road we feel its days are numbered."

The bus is used to transport local young people participating in PCYC activities to venues and location on the Central Coast or in Sydney and Newcastle.

Mr Keogh said that although it was essential to the success of the club's youth programs, individual clubs had to find the funds to pay for any vehicles used daily on club business.

The PCYC Advisory Committee has been planning some fund raising events which will be held over the next 12 months, including an auction.

"Our first activity has been to seek some items for auction and raffling at events through out the coming year," said club president Ms Carolyn Carter.

State and national sporting organisations have been approached for donations of sporting souvenirs and

memorabilia.

So far the NRL, Netball Australia, Basketball Australia and Jeff Fenech have donated items.

Committee members will be approaching local businesses over the next few weeks seeking donations of vouchers and items suitable for auction or raffling at the club in Osborne Ave, Umina, or at fund raising events.

"We are hoping that local businesses will be able to see their way clear to continue to support us in the same way as they have in the past," Ms Carter said.

"The bus is vital to the continuation of the great work that the club has done in the six years of its operation."

Press release, September 13
Carolyn Carter, Umina PCYC

Mayor meets Premier

Gosford Mayor Cr Laurie Maher met with Premier Mr Morris Iemma and State Cabinet Ministers at the Everglades Club in Woy Woy last Tuesday.

The mayor and senior council members also met with individual Cabinet Ministers on issues of "vital local importance".

Issues involved emergency drought funding for the Central Coast and funding for the sustainable water cycle futures project, which were discussed with Minister Campbell.

Issues about regional road funding and the proposed RTA intersection upgrade of Dane Dr and Masons Parade were on the agenda with Minister Eric Roozendaal.

Funding for Coastal Protection

Works was raised with Minister Kelly.

The Gosford City Centre project was on the agenda with Minister Frank Sartor.

They also discussed the East-West Bypass proposal and the proposed RTA intersection upgrade of Dane Dr and Masons Parade in light of their impact on the CBD Local Environment Plan and its connection to the waterfront.

Funding for Coastal Protection Works were discussed with Minister Macdonald

"The Ministers were receptive to the information presented and I'm now looking forward to working with the State Government on addressing these important issues" Mayor Maher said.

Press release, September 14
Tina Davies, Gosford Council

PENINSULA DANCE COMPETITION

Come and enjoy the glitz & glamour of heat two.

Tuesday 26th September
2pm - 4pm
Ettalong Beach Club

One hour of free dance instruction is available to the public at the start of each heat - so why not come and have a friendly dance then enjoy the competition?

Amateur dance entrants required for September and October heats - contact Club reception to register your interest - great prizes including a family holiday to be won!

It's Free to watch and enter

For the information of members and their guests

For more information contact 02 4343 0111

Water Mains Cleaning Program Peninsula



The Water Main Cleaning program is designed to reduce the frequency and severity of discoloured water in the Peninsula area, using air scouring and mains flushing techniques.

Over the last couple of weeks, cleaning has been undertaken successfully in Woy Woy, Booker Bay, northern Ettalong Beach and parts of Umina Beach.

Over the next few weeks, suburbs due to be cleaned include Ettalong Beach and Umina Beach. This includes streets south of Bangalow Street, Palm Street and Australia Ave. As the water mains in each street needs to be interrupted in order to be cleaned, Council's contractor will deliver a notice of 'Interruption to Supply' to all affected properties at least 48 hours prior.

For a map of areas due to be cleaned over the next few weeks please visit Gosford City Council's website at www.gosford.nsw.gov.au, or visit one of Council's Customer Service Centres. Information is also available on the causes of discoloured water and what to do if you experience it within your home. Alternatively you can call the Council's Customer Service Centre on 4325 8222.

Gosford City Council would like to assure local residents that the majority of water used during the program is captured and re-treated before being returned to the system. With more than 95% of water used in the program so far being captured and re-used.

Gosford City Council appreciates the continued support of the local community during the program and is making every effort to minimise any impacts on residents while improving the water quality in the long term.

Pictures from top to bottom: a glass of discoloured water, street signage and a water tanker used during the program, a local water treatment plant, a council worker using water captured during the program to irrigate a local sporting field.

UMINA

C

K

I

D

S

B

Daycare Centre

New!

Childcare Centre

Nowack Ave, Umina

Opening New Year

Enrolling Now

Phone: 4344 4000

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 Picnic Pde & Maitland Bay Drive, Ettalong 4341 3599

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

ECC, Everglades Country Club, Dunban 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. Karangi St & Broken Bay Rd Ettalong 4341 3222

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

NPWS, National Parks & Wildlife Service, www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au, 4320 4205

PBPH, Pearl Beach Progress Hall, Diamond Rd, Pearl Beach 4342 1459

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

PCYC, Osborne Ave., Umina Beach 4344 7851

PWHC, Peninsula Women's Health Centre, 20a McMasters Rd Woy Woy 4342 4905

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

WVEC, Woy Woy Environment Centre, 267 Blackwall Road Woy Woy 4341 7974

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

WWPH, Woy Woy Progress Hall, 76 Woy Woy Rd

DAILY EVENTS

Woy Woy **Pelican Feeding**, 3pm Pelican Park, Fishermans Wharf.

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

TUESDAY

First Tuesday of every month

Buffalo Primo Lodge No 9, 7pm, **UCH**.

Second Tuesday of every month

Playgroup for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Island families, **BFC**

Senior's Idol, 1pm; **Toastmasters**, 7.30pm, Seniors Day 12 noon, enq: 4341 6842, **EBWMC**

Get Together afternoon tea, **ESCC**, **Pearl Beach Craft group**, **PBPH**, 1.30pm.

Stroke recovery group, 11.30am, **MOW**.

Diabetics Support Group, 10am, **ECC**

Third Tuesday of every month

Buffalo Lodge Knights Chp9, 7pm, **UCH**

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

Fourth Tuesday of every month

Playgroup for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Island families. **BFC**

Toastmasters, 7pm enq: 4341 6842, **EBWMC**

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

Every Tuesday

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

Butterfly Group for Women who have suffered domestic violence 12.30pm **PWHC**

Empire Bay Scrabble Club 9.15am-12.45pm, enq: 4369 2034

Judo 5pm, **Playgroup** 9am, **Peninsula**

Dance and Theatre School 3.45pm, **Dragon Kung Fu** 6.30pm, **Gambling Counselling** by appointment, Latin Salsa Dance 8pm, **School for Learning - over 55's** 10am, **Belly Dancing**, 1pm, **PCC**.

Circuit Boxing (Women) 9am, **Boxing/fitness training**, 4pm (Junior), 5pm (Senior), **Breakdancing**, 5pm; **Gym Sessions** 8am; **Gym Circuit** 9:15am & 6pm; **PCYC**

Rotary Club of Woy Woy, 6pm, **ECC Ladies Indoor Bowls**-9am; **Handicraft**-9am; **Cards**-12.30pm; **Computers**, 9am, **ESCC**.

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

Bowls; 10am, Card Club; 7.30pm, **Chess Club**, 1pm, **EBWMC**

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

Folk Art 9.30am, **EBACC**

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

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

Playgroup 10am Kids 0-5yrs, **WWPH**, enq: Juhel 4342 4362

Butterfly Group Drop In (Domestic violence support), 12.30pm **PWHC**

WEDNESDAY

First Wednesday of every month

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

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

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

Second Wednesday of every Month

Woy Woy VIEW Club, Friendship Day, **MOW**, 10.30am, enq: 4344 1440.

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**, 9.30am, **ECC**

Third Wednesday of every month

Woy Woy VIEW Club - Luncheon, 10.30am, enq: 4344 1440, **ECC**

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.

Brisbane Water Bridge Club, 9.30am & 7.30pm enq: 4341 6763,

Oil Painting, 9am, **Scrapbooking** 9am, **Multi-craft needlework** 10am,

BJP School of Physical Culture, 3.30pm, 4-13 yrs enq: 4344 4924

Playgroup 10am, **Weight Watchers** 5.30pm, **Belly Dancing** 7.30pm;

School for Learning 9am, **Gambling and general counselling** by appointment, **Peninsula Dance and Theatre School** from 3.45pm **The Web**, 12pm - 6pm; **PCC**.

Peninsula **Choir** rehearsal 7.30pm St Andrews Hall Umina.

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

Seniors fitness **EPH** 9am, enq: 4385 2080.

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

Leatherwork-9am; **Table Tennis**-9am. **Scrabble** 1pm; **Computers**, 1.30pm, **ESCC**

Gym Sessions 8am (Incl Self Defence for Young Women 1pm; **Gym Circuit** 6pm; **Circuit Boxing** (Women) 9am, **Boxing/fitness training**, 4pm (Junior) 5pm (Senior), **PCYC**

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

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

Alcoholics Anonymous 12.15 & 6.30, St John the Baptist Hall, Blackwall Rd, Woy Woy.

Handicraft **CWAHWW**, 9am, enq: 4341 1073.

THURSDAY

Second Thursday of every month

Outsiders Club, 9am; **Brisbane Water Seniors** 1pm Enq: 4344 5670 **EBWMC**

Women's Health Clinic Enq 4320

3741 PWHC

Australia Bus Trips PCC
Women's Health Clinic; PWHC 4320 3741

Fourth Thursday of every month

9am **Free immunization** clinic for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Island children 0 - 5 years, **BFC** Umina Probus, **ECC**, 10am.

Women's Health Clinic; PWHC 4320 3741

Every Thursday

Creative Writing **CWAHWW** Enq 4369 1187

Silk Painting 1pm **EBACC**

Gambling and general counselling by appointment, **Music 2-5yrs** 9am, **Yoga** 10am, **Brophy Circus Academy** 5pm, **Brisbane Water Bridge Club** 12.30pm, enq. 4341 6763, **Judo**, 5pm

Enq: 43424121; **The Web**, 12pm - 6pm **Young Men's Groups** 12-18 yrs, 4342 3684; **PCC**

Free entertainment 6.30 pm, **Senior Snooker** 8.30am **Ballroom Dancing**, 10am, **Trivia**, 7pm, **Indoor Bowls**, **Fishing Club Raffle** 5.15pm, **EMBC**.

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

Scrabble, 12.30pm. **WWPH**

Children's art classes 4.30pm, **EBACC**

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

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

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

Gym Sessions 8am, **Gym Circuit** 9am & 6pm **Circuit Boxing** (Women) 9am, **Boxing/fitness training**, 4pm (Junior), 5pm (Senior) **PCYC**.

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

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

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, **ESSC**, 1pm.

Every Friday

Cash House Nights, Gosford progress hall, 7.30pm, 4325 3608

Kids entertainment Yrs 7 -12, 7.30pm, **Playgroup**, 10am Umina Uniting Church.

Bingo 11.30am, **UCH** Enq:4343 1664

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

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

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

Watercolour Painting 12.30pm **EBACC**

Painting 9am, **Computers** 1pm, **Scrabble** 1pm **ESCC**

Gym Sessions 8am, **Gym Circuit** 9am **Circuit Boxing** (Women) 9am, **Boxing/fitness training** 4pm (Junior) 5pm (Senior) **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.

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

Kids Club (Primary) .4pm, **Brisbane Water Bridge Club**, 12.30pm, enq. 4341 6763, **Weight Watchers**

10am, **Gambling Counselling** by appointment, **Peninsula Dance and Theatre School** 3.45pm; **The Web**, 2pm-9.30pm **Doctor & Nurse** for 12-18 yrs old, **Brophy Circus Academy** 5pm **Kindygy** 0 - 3yrs 9.15am, 3 - 5yrs 10.20am **PCC**

Women's walking group, 8am **PWHC**

Fishing Club. **EBWM**

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, 1pm, enq 4342 2251 **WWPH**

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

Scrapbooking 12pm, **PCC**. enq 4342 3712

Umina Garden Club, 1pm, Woy Woy Meals on Wheels, enq 4369 2657

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, **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; **Weight Watchers** 8am, **PCC**

Cash Housie St Mary's Hall, Ocean View Rd Ettalong 7.30pm.

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

Dancing Club; 1pm, Enq: 4341 2156

Snooker 8.30am **EBWMC**

Childrens Pottery 9.30am **Silvercraft** 1pm, **EBACC**

Gym Sessions 9am, **Drama & Discovery** 9am **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.

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

Car Boot Sale, Ettalong Markets. Community Dance, 1pm to 4pm, \$2, **ESCC**, Ph:4344 3131/4341 3222

Social Dance, New vogue, old time, \$2, refreshments, 1pm, **ESCC**. ph:4344 3131/4341 3222.

SUNDAY

First Sunday of every month

Blackwall Mountain **Bushcare**, 9am cnr Blackwall Rd & Memorial Ave Enq: 4342 6995

Second Sunday of every month

Umina P & C **Bushcare** 9am BWSC, Enq: 4341 9301

Buffalo Lodge, Woy Woy, No 381, 11am, **Buffalo Lodge**, Gosford No 63, **UCH** 1pm.

Troubadour Acoustic Music Club, 1.30pm **CWAHWW** Enq: 4342 9099

Third Sunday of every month

Bushcare Group, Tennis Courts

Exhibition opens at Pearl Beach

Two Pearl Beach residents, Pim Sarti and Marijke Greenway, will open an exhibition at the Pearl Beach Memorial Hall from September 29.

They held their first joint exhibition two years ago in the Pearl Beach Memorial Hall, which Ms Greenway said was so successful that they immediately booked a follow-up show.

The pair now have a brand new set of paintings, and besides the landscapes, they will also exhibit paintings of flowers, still life, birds and buildings.

Marijke Greenway and Pim Sarti are "plein air" painters, so every Tuesday morning at 8.30am sharp, they head off together to "yet another beautiful painting site" somewhere around the Central Coast.

Ms Greenway said that more often than not, it was a beautiful day and an inspiring site that had

been chosen by the group.

But sometimes the obvious choice was just not right.

In that case, they turned around and painted what was behind them and "end up being surprised at the result".

Ms Greenway had been painting the "plein air" landscapes in squares and has come up with an arrangement of 25 paintings in a five by five Sudoku grid, the size of which "has enormous impact, a new way of presenting a visual map of the Central Coast".

"Pim also loves to paint squares, but hers are studies inspired by food," Ms Greenway said.

The exhibition will take place at the Pearl Beach Memorial Hall over the October long weekend, opened on Friday at 6pm by the actress Dinah Shearing.

The exhibition will also be open on Saturday, Sunday and Monday from 10am to 5 pm. Entry is free.

Press release, September 11
Marijke Greenway



Looking for percussionists

Brisbane Water Brass Band is currently looking for percussionists following a "truly remarkable" year for the band, according to band secretary Mr Richard Collins.

Mr Collins said "we are particularly keen to find percussionists who can read music, we have a range of instruments that we can provide to new members and I must say we have a heap of fun".

The band was formed several years ago by a group of Peninsula-based, experienced brass musicians.

Following a recruitment campaign, the band picked up members from all over the Coast and from Sydney.

Many of its regular performances are on the Peninsula, including

at Peninsula Village, Deepwater Plaza and churches at Ettalong and Umina.

Band publicity officer Mr Brian Findlay said the group was currently in discussions with a large Peninsula-based organisation regarding sponsorship.

Mr Findlay also commented on the band's recent successes throughout the year.

"Earlier in the year some of the band's more experienced players achieved some excellent results in the Hunter Championships," Mr Findlay said.

"Merve Gale was placed first in the slow melody section and third in the veterans' class. Brian North and Ken Townsend came third in the duet contest and the bands musical director Jonathan Gatt placed first in both the open tenor

horn and the open euphonium sections and once again was named champion of champions.

"Only last week the band was placed second in its grade in the State Brass Band Championships finishing ahead of a number of bands with long histories."

"The band's busy schedule of concerts all over the Coast reaches a pinnacle this year when it joins with The Parramatta Brass Band in their "Side By Side" concert at the Gosford RSL on September 17.

Tickets are still available and may be purchased by contacting 4343 1907.

Those interested in taking part in the band can contact Mr Collins on 4368 1051.

Press releases, September 5, 14
Brian Findlay,
Brisbane Water Brass Band

New book published

Pearl Beach resident Mr Klaas Woldring has recently published a book entitled "How About Our Republic?"

The book is published by BookSurge and is 175 pages.

The book concentrates on comparative assessments of institutions and change elsewhere.

It emphasises the need for Australians to look beyond "minimalist changes such as entertained by the Australian Republican Movement and the Labor Party in a future debate on

the Republic".

"It aims to be informative and educational," Mr Woldring said.

The book follows his last book "Australia - Republic or US Colony?", published in late 2005 by Lulu Press.

"It has a substantial first part that deals with the 2004 federal election, presented as a possible watershed, and the subservient relationship of Australian Governments towards the US," Mr Woldring said.

Press release, September 7
Klaas Woldring, Pearl Beach

Documentary will be launched

Producer Jeremy Linton-Mann will launch the second and final instalment of his "Community Spirit" documentary at the Hardy's Bay Community Church on September 29 and 30, three years after the launch of Community Spirit Part One.

"In the winter of 2001, as a long-time maker of documentaries,

I started recording volunteer community groups and the primary school in action on the Bouddi Peninsula, specifically at the villages of Wagstaffe, Pretty Beach, Hardy's Bay and Killcare," Mr Linton-Mann said.

"The concept was a 12-month seasonal focus on activities.

"Part One - winter, spring and summer was launched locally in September 2003, and follows the activities of the RFS, SLSC, progress association, school, winter swimmers and other colourful individuals.

"Part two continues this as we journey through summer, autumn and winter.

"The entire project has taken longer to complete than originally anticipated because other projects required attention.

"It is entirely self-funded in the

belief that in years from now it will become a valuable historic focus on the area."

Part Two picks up the story on Christmas Eve, and continues through autumn and winter of 2002, culminating in the 75th anniversary of Pretty Beach Primary School.

Press release, September 5, 14
Jeremy Linton-Mann,
Community Spirit

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Effluent plans are only one option

Continued from page 1

Ms McCann said that the public would get a chance to comment on the borefield, following a 12-month production testing period.

Residents would then get 28 days to submit comments for consideration to the department.

"The bore field scheme is not a 'fait accompli'.

"The test licence is only for the initial 12 months production testing of the proposed 14 production bores, to allow enough time to determine and prove the sustainability of the bore field," Ms McCann said.

"The department requires this preliminary work to be done at the same time we are making water.

"This normally applies in circumstances where there are many groundwater and environmental impacts to be assessed.

"The department's Newcastle office advised that once this period was completed the department would generally advertise the applications for comment, allowing a period of 28 days before close.

"Under the Water Act, this is not generally required, but only if a free flowing artesian bore/s etc.

"However in particular cases, the department likes to advertise and get public comment.

"The comments received are taken on board by the department in its assessment of the annual allocation given to each bore.

"The department has advised verbally that this will be the process.

"This process has already been taken in

Tanks 'not cost-effective'

The use of 7000 rainwater tanks on the Peninsula would not be as cost effective as the groundwater scheme nor viewed as an alternative to the scheme due to the depth of the drought, according to Gosford Council's manager of asset management Ms Pam McCann.

Ms McCann was responding to comments suggesting that the provision of 7000 rain water tanks would be more cost effective and more reliable than planned ground water extraction plans.

Ms McCann said the use of rainwater tanks was "strongly encouraged by the councils and that is why rebates are

a number of playing field bores in respect to the department issuing allocations in Gosford and Wyong.

"Undertaking a wide range of monitoring and data collection during this test period can enable a realistic appraisal be made of what will be allowed at the end of the day."

Ms McCann stated that groundwater monitoring would take place, similar to that already in train for the Ourimbah and Mangrove Weir bore fields.

She said the bore field management plan would involve both a groundwater

offered for the installation of the tanks" and that the installation of the tanks was an important component in the current drought contingency measures.

"However, as the Central Coast is experiencing the worst drought on record, the solution is not just one activity.

"There are a suite of drought contingency activities to stop the decline in the water storage including the groundwater, the Hunter Connection and temporary desalination units in addition to many demand-reduction activities such as rebates."

Ms McCann also noted that the labelling of tank water as "Not for drinking" was due to State legislative requirements.

Press releases, September 6, 7 Pam McCann, Gosford Council

management plan and an environmental management plan.

"There are multiple numbers of monitoring bores already in place in the bore field.

"These will be used to monitor standing water levels, and basic water quality parameters such as Ec (salinity) and pH (acidity) and DO (dissolved oxygen)," Ms McCann said.

Ms McCann said groundwater-dependent plant communities such as the Umina Coastal Sandplain Woodland, the Melaleuca Wetlands and Everglades Lagoons had been

identified and mapped, with recommended monitoring sites back in July last year.

She said that four major sites had been identified.

"The department will make its own assessment prior to sign off on the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) requirements," Ms McCann said.

"The plan will generally set monitoring targets, frequency of sampling, indicate value or level indicating potential impact, action/s required, follow up action/s, reporting required to the department.

"The methodology will involve floristic surveys, condition assessments, wetland monitoring, flora photo monitoring, plant ID, and taxonomic review, fauna monitoring, diurnal bird surveys, and amphibian surveys.

"Council will have in place a baseline survey, ecological monitoring report, prior to the bore field production commencing.

"It is expected these will be carried out in the coming months and just prior to the bore field coming into operation in March 2007.

"Basically there will be a lot more data and assessment concentrated on these specific and nominated areas than there is at present.

"The groundwater and environmental management processes to date, with all the other operating bore fields (Ourimbah, Mangrove Weir, Somersby, Braithwaite, and Mardi) has been kept flexible with any changes suggested and required by the department, over the period being incorporated by council."

Press release, September 6, 7 Pam McCann, Gosford Council



Minister for Finance, Commerce, Industrial Relations, Ageing, and Disability Services Mr John Della Bosca



Minister for Education and Training Ms Carmel Tebbutt



Minister for Roads Mr Eric Roozendaal



Minister for Community Services and Youth Ms Reba Meagher

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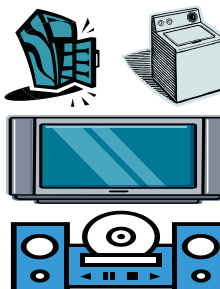
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Award for poem's humour

Empire Bay resident Mr Peter Mace has been awarded the Bob Miller Memorial Trophy for the most humorous poem at the EKKA Bush Poetry Competition in Brisbane in August.

Mr Mace was also joint winner of the Traditional and Original competitions.

Following EKKA, Mr Mace

competed at the Gympie Muster in the "Musterbeenabloodgood" Poetry Award and made the final.

"For anyone who is interested in bush poetry, the Gosford Bush Poets meet at the Hotel Gosford at 7pm on the last Wednesday of the month," Mr Mace said.

Press release, September 5
Peter Mace, Gosford Bush Poets



Artist Donella Waters with her painting, which is the first prize for the major raffle

Classic movies continue

The Bouddi Society will continue its series of Classic Movies at Wagstaffe Hall on Tuesday, September 26, at 7.30pm, with the movie *The Red Violin*.

"In present day Montreal, a famous Nicolo Bussotti violin, known as The Red Violin, is being auctioned off," Bouddi Society vice president Mr David Duffy said.

"During the action, we flash back to the creation of the violin in 17th century Italy, and follow the violin

as it makes its way through an 18th century Austrian monastery, a violinist in 19th century Oxford, China during the cultural Revolution and back to Montreal, where a collector tries to establish the identity and the secrets of the Red Violin."

Entry to the event is \$10, which includes supper and discussion led by film producer Michael Rubbo.

The event is open to everyone.

Press release, September 12
David Duffy, The Bouddi Society

Inaugural show at Empire Bay

The inaugural Empire Bay and Peninsula Art and Craft Show will be held over the October long weekend at the Empire Bay Progress Hall.

The event was organised to "celebrate the community and to reflect the rich indigenous and cultural diversity of the local population" and to raise funds for the hall, progress association secretary Mr Paul Duffy said.

The show will have paintings, craft and sculpture from a range of local people, "with some new surprises, demonstrating the richness of local talent," Mr Duffy said.

Local children will also exhibit their artwork in a mini children's exhibit.

Devonshire Teas will also be available.

"Included in the show this year will be jewellery, handbags, imaginative sculpture, decorative hats.

"Prices are reasonable as we charge very little commission to the exhibitors."

Empire Bay Progress Association is a community-based organisation working with local people to "improve their quality of life and the local environment".

The art show raffle has as its prize a painting by local artist Donella Waters.

Donella's painting has an indigenous theme and she has been awarded local art prizes, parliamentary mentions and commissions to the Holmes a Court family, amongst others.

"We also have prizes from local businesses to be won," Mr Duffy

said.

Mr Duffy said that funding from Gosford Council's community and cultural grants program had made it possible to include craft in the show for the first time this year.

The show will include a "Meet the exhibitors" night on Saturday from 7pm as well as hosting a "Footy Arts" ARL Grand Final night on Sunday night with a barbecue and viewing from 5pm.

The Empire Bay Progress Hall is located on the corner of Gordon Rd and Sorrento Rd, Empire Bay.

The exhibition will operate from 10am to 4pm on Saturday and Sunday, September 30 and October 1 and from 10am to 3pm on Monday, October 2.

Press release, September 12
Paul Duffy,
Empire Bay Arts & Craft

Making cards

The Peninsula Women's Health Centre will be holding a workshop to teach participants how to make their own personalised greeting cards.

The workshop will be held on Thursday, September 21, from 10am to noon.

The cost is \$4 to cover

materials.

The facilitator of the workshop will be Jennie Spillane.

Bookings are essential and can be made by calling the Peninsula Women's Health Centre on 4342 5905.

Press release, September 13
Kate Bradfield, Peninsula
Women's Health Centre

Wireless internet at Killcare

Killcare Marina in Hardy's Bay has begun a joint venture with Anyport Wireless Internet to become a wireless internet hotspot.

The introduction of the service will allow marina clients, visiting boaters, local residents and the general public located in and around the Hardy's Bay area, to access high speed broadband connection.

Once signed is as an Anyport customer, clients will be able to access the internet at any Anyport Hotspot.

Killcare Marina chief executive officer Mr Michael Sparks said he expected that many local residents and holiday makers would make use of the facility, particularly those who did not require a full-time broadband service.

"The service is not a profit centre for the marina.

"We provide the location. This is all," Mr Sparks said.

"The service has been tested to the outer extremity of Hardy's Bay with high signal strength.

"The introduction of this service is seen by us as a small step to obtaining our ultimate goal which is to become the leading marina in Brisbane Waters, with a full range of services that customers now demand."

Payment and signup can be made directly via Anyport's website or alternatively Killcare Marina will sell prepaid access cards on Anyport's behalf.

The service was available for access from 2pm, Friday, September 8.

Press release, September 11
Michael Sparks, Killcare Marina

Car boot sale

The Lions Club of Woy Woy Peninsula will be holding a boot sale and mini market on Sunday, September 24.

The event will operate on the corner of Ocean Beach Rd and Erina Ave, Woy Woy, from 8am to 1pm.

Stall holders can operate a stall for \$10.

The usual wares at the market and boot sale include plants, tea, coffee, soft drinks and barbecued goods.

All profits from the event are distributed to causes in the local community.

Press release, September 15
Elmo Caust, Lions Club of
Woy Woy Peninsula Inc

Central Coast
Whale Dreaming
Festival
Sunday 24th September at 10am
Terrigal Haven

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- Finalists in the children's poetry competition

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Public Notices

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Woy Woy Bowling Club
 North Burge Rd, Woy Woy
 To book a spot contact Leila on 4344 1810 or Email
 mail.web@troubadour.org.au

Woy Woy Peninsula Lions Club
 Sunday, 24 September 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

Under new management

A pizza store in Umina Beach is now under new management.

Henry and Donna Folkers have taken over operations at Thommos Pizza, West St, Umina Beach.

The pair took over running Thommos nine weeks ago.

"I've been running pizza stores all over the place for about 30 years," MrFolker said.

He said he had worked as a chef in many different restaurants, and had an extensive pizza background.

"I wanted to try it for myself.

"You get sick of working for someone else," Mr Folker said.

Thommos Pizza operates from 5pm until late, seven days a week.

It now trades as a gourmet

pizza shop, and a la carte.

The gourmet pizza shop does both take away and dining and runs as an "all you can eat" buffet on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

"Everything we do restaurant-wise, we do take away as well," Mr Folker said.

"We are now offering top quality products, backed up by great staff and good service.

"Our aim is to please.

"Twenty years ago, any time somebody mentioned food on a weekend, they thought of Thommos.

"We want to take it back to where it was."

Mr Folker said they were currently renovating and were considering building a pergola out the back that would seat about 30 people.
Lyle Stone, September 13

Public Notices

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Students prepared to buy first car

Senior students from the Woy Woy Campus of the Brisbane Water Secondary College are now better prepared to face the pitfalls, problems and potential rip-offs when they go to buy their first car, according to Fair Trading Minister Ms Diane Beamer.

Ms Beamer and Member for Peats Ms Marie Andrews visited the school recently to get a first hand look at a program that is "helping students become fully informed car buyers".

Ms Beamer was visiting the Peninsula in the lead up to the NSW Regional Cabinet meeting at Everglades Country Club, Woy Woy, on Tuesday, September 12.

"Buying a car is a big step for young people but unless they do their homework, they can end up losing a lot of money," Ms Beamer said.

"That's why experts from Fair Trading have developed the Revved Up program.

"Revved Up gives students hands-on experience at checking the mechanical condition and registration details of used cars.

"Students also get advice on

buying a car privately, at auction or through a licensed dealer, as well as all the pitfalls and options in financing their purchase.

"Fair Trading resolves or mediates thousands of disputes each year involving consumers who believe they have not received a fair deal when buying motor vehicles."

Ms Andrews said students came away with a clear and simple message from the program.

"When it comes to buying your first car or any vehicle, don't let you're heart rule your head," Ms Andrews said.

"The program also emphasized the importance of doing a REVS check before buying a vehicle to avoid any embarrassing and costly repossessions."

The Register of Encumbered Vehicles (REVS) handles 1.5 million enquiries a year, holds details of more than 2.6 million financial encumbrances on vehicles and boats and also holds information on nearly 200,000 vehicles and boats which have been reported stolen or written off.

Press release, September 11
Dianne Beamer,
Minister for Fair Trading



Umina Primary School students helped raise money to save bilbies from extinction

Students raise \$660 for bilbies

Umina Primary School students have raised \$660 to help save bilbies from extinction.

The students took part in National Bilby Day on Friday, September 8, by selling 330 bilby pins at school.

The money raised will be sent to Save the Bilby Fund operating in Chareville, Queensland.

"Two hundred years ago Greater Bilbies occupied more than 70 per cent of mainland Australia; however today their numbers are estimated around 900 to 1000 in total," according to teacher Ms Sonja Stein.

"The Lesser Bilby is now extinct. Loss of habitat and competition for food are two main reasons for the bilbies declining population numbers.

"The increased risk from predators such as foxes, and feral cats has also contributed to bilbies becoming rarer," she said.

Currawinya National Park near Chareville has been established as a bilby sanctuary, and is surrounded

by an electrified predator-proof fence.

"There they have a bilby breeding program and hope to release bilbies back into their natural desert habitats," said Ms Stein.

To find out more about the

bilby and how these threatened nocturnal marsupials may be saved from extinction, go to www.savethebilbyfund.com.

Press release, September 12
Sonja Stein,
Umina Primary School

Getting a head start

Ettalong Public School welcomed a new batch of "enthusiastic starters" for Kindergarten 2007.

The school's Headstart program for next year's kindergarten students started on Wednesday, August 30, according to school publicity officer Ms Michelle Pathirana.

The program is held each Wednesday afternoon for 10 weeks and it aims to introduce incoming kindergarten students to the school.

During the 10 weeks, the newcomers become familiar

with the layout of the school, the teachers and various activities in the school routine.

"The program has been running successfully for many years now and helps to ensure the important transition to school is as smooth as possible," Ms Pathirana said.

"Anyone wishing to enrol their kindergarten student for 2007 can contact Ettalong Public School on 4341 3655, or call into the office for an enrolment package."

Press release, September 12
Michelle Pathirana,
Ettalong Beach Public School

NAIDOC Week celebrated

Ettalong Public School held NAIDOC Week celebrations between Monday, August 28, and Friday, September 1.

Special activities were held each day and included a dance performance, traditional smoking ceremony, bush tucker talks, Aboriginal games, art lessons and the Whale trailer.

Publicity officer Ms Michelle

Pathirana said an information centre was also set up in the school hall and students enjoyed a special lunch pack on one of the days.

The theme was Respect the Past, Believe in the Future.

The day was planned by the Gurringai Committee.

Press release, September 12
Michelle Pathirana,
Ettalong Beach public School

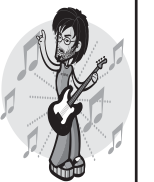
First places

The infants and senior choirs of Ettalong Public School both received first places in their sections of the recent Central Coast Eisteddfod.

Publicity officer Ms Michelle Pathirana said both choirs delivered outstanding performances and "truly deserved their first place awards in the classical section".

Press release, September 12
Michelle Pathirana,
Ettalong Beach public School

October School Holiday Music Workshops



Workshop 1 - Beginner guitar - \$35

4 sessions - 2pm - Tues 3rd & 10th & Thurs 5th & 12th
Loan guitars available for the workshop

This workshop is for beginners who have not played guitar before and want a kick start in learning guitar.

Workshop 2 - Intermediate guitar - \$45

4 sessions - Tues 3rd & 10th Thurs 5th & 12th - 2pm - Singers welcome to join in.
This workshop is for students who can play G E A Em D & C chords. We will workshop a song with rhythm, lead and bass arrangements. The workshop will be held over 4 days of the school holidays

Workshop 3 - Harmonica for Beginners \$15 per 1 hour Session

2 sessions - Tues 3rd Thurs 12th - 4pm

Workshop 4 - Guitar Maintenance \$20 (includes D'ARCO strings)

Book your time

Bring along your guitar and learn how to change your strings and do some general maintenance on your guitar. The cost of the workshop includes a set of strings and all polishes, oils and instructions to spruce up your guitar and get it into good shape.

Workshop 5 - Late Intermediate to Advanced Guitar Workshop \$20

2 sessions - Thurs 5th & 12th - 5pm

Exploring different styles of music - Jazz, Blues, Gypsy Swing.

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General Information

There will be some guitars available for students who do not have a guitar but want to try their hand at playing before they buy. Classes are limited and booking is essential. The Workshops will need to be paid for on or before the first day of the workshop.

Phone for bookings 4342 9099

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Education



The Ettalong Public School students who performed "Wild Thing" in front of a huge crowd at the Sydney Entertainment Centre

Wild Thing performed in Entertainment Centre

Ettalong Public School performed their J Rock item "Wild Thing" in front of a huge crowd at the Sydney Entertainment Centre on Friday, September 8.

Ettalong was one of only two primary schools chosen to perform at the grand final of the high school Rock Eistedfodd.

"It was a great honour but

one which was truly deserved, as the quality of their item was outstanding," said publicity officer Ms Michelle Pathirana said.

"The students delivered a spectacular performance on the night and were cheered on by many proud relatives and teachers.

"They also received much praise from the high school students and teachers for their fantastic effort."

Ms Pathirana said Ettalong's participation in the junior rock eistedfodd had been greatly supported by the local community.

They received sponsorship from local businesses and a group of parents and grandparents helped make costumes and sets.

Press release, September 12
Michelle Pathirana,
Ettalong Public School

Students to attend Croc Festival

Students from several Peninsula schools will be among 200 students from 28 schools on the Central Coast attending this year's Croc Festival in Kempsey this week.

The Peninsula "cluster" includes Ettalong Public School, Brisbane Waters Secondary College Woy Woy and Umina Campus, Woy Woy Public School, Woy Woy South Public School, Umina Public School and Peninsula Pre-School.

The Peninsula students will be joining almost 6000 students from 120 schools from across the Mid-North Coast, and beyond.

Part of the Global Rock Challenge and now in its eighth year, the Croc Festival is a youth program held annually in eight locations in rural and remote Australia, designed to "motivate and inspire young Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians to live healthy lifestyles without tobacco, alcohol and other drugs".

Thirty students from Brisbane Waters Secondary College Woy Woy Campus will be participating in workshops and activities aimed at improving students self esteem, goal setting skills and career aspirations at the event.

The college's liaison teacher Ms Marty Nuku said she believed the festival promised to be an unforgettable experience.

"The Croc Festival offers wonderful extensions to our aims and desires regarding student and community achievements," Ms Nuku said.

"In doing so, the festival provides students with ideas and experiences that can give flight to opportunities they may never thought existed or were beyond their reach."

Ms Nuku said a feature of Brisbane Waters Secondary College was its cultural diversity.

Many of its Indigenous students have come from different areas of the state.

"We will be able to perform a story that reflects this diversity in a harmonious way...a story that speaks of dreams, challenges and celebrations...a story that can be passed down," said Ms Nuku.

The college's preparation for their performance began with gathering a range of ideas from students based on the festivals theme, "From the Desert To the Sea - Australian Stories".

With the assistance of community elder Ms Anita Selwyn and choreographer Mr Reuben Doolah the ideas were transformed into a unique combination of narrative, music and dance.

Ms Clarke said students on the college's senior campus, parents and other helpers had also played a crucial role in the preparations.

Senior students had also been involved in making the props and mothers had organised the performance costumes.

The college is also in the process of planning a fundraising "Koorioke" night.

"Croc Festival is one way that students can come together, form friendships, receive support in a fun and relaxed environment and possibly see themselves as leaders of the future," Ms Nuku said.

While at the festival, students will have the opportunity to gather information about future job pathways at the Careers Market, attend the Health Expo, have free ear checks from Australian Hearing and eye checks from Luxottica as well as improve their motor skills through sporting clinics.

Students will also have a chance to scale the Department of Human Services Agencies Climbing Wall, and explore career opportunities at the Department of Human Services Agencies "I Want To Be" workshop.

The Croc Festival is supported by the Australian Government, which has committed \$3 million to the events.

Press release, September 15
Yvette Clarke, Rock Challenge

Centre celebrates 20 years

Umina Child Care Centre celebrated its 20th birthday from September 11 to 15.

All former pre-schoolers from the centre and their families were invited to drop in between 3.30pm and 4.30pm on any day during the week of celebrations.

Taylor Cassidy, 14, who attended the centre from 1994 to 1997, said she still had fond memories from

her pre-school days there.

She said some of her fondest memories were of Jenny, the cook, "who always made really nice meals for us - spaghetti bolognaise, rice pudding, fruit and biscuits".

She also remembered the centre's director since 1996, Ms Sandra Luxford, who was "always fun to play with".

Taylor caught up with Sandra and

some of the centre's pre-schoolers last week.

The centre's present oldest attendee, five-year-old Bronte Smith, told Taylor that she likes "making things and painting", while the youngest, 11-month-old Jenaya Ella Rose Archer, refused to comment.

Press release, September 6
Marion Newall, Gosford Council

Children's disco party

A Primary School Age Disco Party will be held on Saturday afternoon, October 7.

The event will be held at the Woy

Woy Bay Community Hall, Woy Woy Bay Rd, between 2pm and 5pm.

The disco is for children 12 and under.

Tickets are only \$5 for entry with a complimentary drink and chips.

Press release, September 9
Louise May,
The Bays Community Group

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Junior rugby presentations

Woy Woy Junior Rugby Union will hold presentations for its teams on September 24 and October 15.

"While the club is still only in its third season, we had four teams make it to the Finals Series," said registrar Ms Gerri Wolfe.

"The Under-13s put in a valiant effort against Avoca in the semi-final going down 21 points to 12.

"The Under-11s and Under-12s both had wins in the semis that put them through to the next round played at Avoca on Sunday, September 10.

"Unfortunately the Under-11s couldn't quite match the strength of Warnervale losing 39 to 10.

"Woy Woy's Under-12s also had a tough game against a revamped Avoca, bowing out of contention by 10 points to 7.

"The Under-15s secured a spot in the grand final, to be played at Central Coast Blue Tongue Stadium on Saturday, September 16, by overcoming a tough Warnervale side 15 points to 13."

The presentation will be held at Ettalong Oval on Sunday, September 24, at 10.30am for the Under-7 to Under-10 teams and Sunday, October 15, 10.30am for Under-11 to Under-17 teams.

**Press release, September 11
Gerri Wolfe,
Woy Woy Junior Rugby Union**



Attending the presentation were Cr Jim McFadyen, Minister for the Central Coast Mr Grant McBride, Ocean Beach Surf Club president Mr David Unger, Surf Life Saving NSW president Mr Brett Harrod, Mr John Loundon, Minister for Sport Ms Sandra Nori, Surf Life Saving NSW CEO Mr Phil Varney, Member for Peats Ms Marie Andrews, Umina Surf Club president Mr Andrew Wing and Gosford mayor Cr Laurie Maher

Surf clubs get rebuilding funds

The Peninsula's two surf life saving clubs will share more than \$250,000 in State Government funding for building upgrades and refurbishments, the NSW Minister for Tourism, Sport and Recreation Ms Sandra Nori announced last Friday, September 15.

Ms Nori announced that Umina and Ocean Beach Surf Life Saving Clubs had been awarded more than \$120,000 each under the Surf Life Saving Club Facility Development Program.

The funding will be for the

construction of replacement facilities.

Ms Nori said the surf clubs were an integral part of the local community and the funds would help volunteers continue to provide a valuable service.

"The funds will go towards the demolition of both Umina and Ocean Beach club houses and the construction of replacement facilities," Ms Nori said.

"Both of these Surf Life Saving Clubs have been providing an essential safety and rescue service for many years, to the benefit of visitors and the local community.

"In fact, Ocean Beach SLSC has

been operating for almost 80 years and was the first surf club on the Central Coast to hold a surf life saving carnival."

Ms Nori said the Surf Life Saving Club Facility Development Program aimed to provide surf life savers with quality facilities that reflect the first rate job they carry out each day.

"Safety is the over-riding priority on the beach and it is essential that our volunteer life savers can operate from quality facilities," Ms Nori said.

**Press release, September 15
Sandra Nori, Minister for Tourism,
Sport and Recreation**



Ms Belinda Neal

Appointed to audit committee

Umina Eagles Soccer mum and player Ms Belinda Neal has been appointed chair of the Central Coast Mariners Audit Committee on Monday, September 11.

Ms Neal is currently a board member of the Mariners.

Although she played soccer at 17, Belinda gave it away to concentrate on work, and raising two sons with her husband.

As her boys began to be interested in soccer, the enthusiasm was reawakened in her, and Belinda completed her coaching certificates.

While coaching her son's teams and leading them into grand finals, it was just a matter of time before

the urge to play again got the better of her.

Belinda now plays for The Umina Eagles Soccer Club and her team is celebrating their achievement in reaching the finals.

Belinda Neal has been a resident of the Peninsula for 20 years and says she understands the local communities enthusiasm for football.

She has been able to use her skills as a lawyer and her previous experience of boards to help build the Central Coast Mariners.

She was appointed as a foundation board member last year and said she was keen to take on the challenges of the audit committee.

Patrizia Morgan, September 8

National bushwalk on Peninsula

Part of the Great Australian Bushwalk took place on the Peninsula on Sunday, September 10, although in a reduced capacity due to poor weather, according to bush walk participant Ms Mel Flemming.

"This was the fourth national event, held by the National Parks Assoc of NSW to promote bushwalking and membership, with 110 walks, 3000 walkers and 250 experienced volunteer leaders," Ms Flemming said.

"The bad weather put a damper on the Woy Woy-Blackwall Mountain to Ettalong walk.

"Out of the 20 who registered only two turned up and two leaders.

"Undaunted by the showers, the walkers saw the beauty of Blackwall Mountain, with the glistening trees and wildflowers, the colourful outcrops of sandstone, topped by the panorama of Brisbane Water, and the spectacular views across Broken Bay to Lion Island, Palm Beach and beyond.

"The rain held off until the return when a few downpours tested the rain gear.

"A great walk it was."

**Press release, September 14
Shirley Drake,
Great Australian Bushwalk**



On Blackwall Mt (L to R) Pat Paris of Woy Woy, Sarah Pittman from Dee Why and leader Shirley Drake from Woy Woy

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Peninsula News

Edition 150

18 September 2006



Umina Public School students perform at a civic reception at Everglades Country Club

Students perform at civic reception

Students from Umina Primary School performed at the Everglades Country Club as part of a NSW Government cabinet meeting civic reception on Tuesday, September 12.

The students performed two songs, "Pizza" and "Common People", in front of government ministers and dignitaries.

NSW State Government members announced a range of funding allocations and projects for the Peninsula and Central Coast at the cabinet meeting, including

an announcement by the Minister for Tourism, Sport and Recreation Ms Sandra Nori for \$110,000 in funding each for both the Umina Beach Surf Life Saving Club and the Ocean Beach Surf Life Saving Clubs.

NSW Government Community Awards were also presented to Kathleen Morison and Cecily Prentice.

Gosford Mayor Cr Laurie Maher also spoke with the NSW Premier Mr Morris lemma and relevant ministers about several issues, including emergency drought funding, coastal protection works

and regional road funding.

Minister for Fair Trading Ms Diane Beamer visited Brisbane Water Secondary College to view its "Revved Up" project, and also checked out scanning policies at the Woy Woy Coles Supermarket.

Ms Nori also launched a regional tourism plan at the Outrigger Resort at Ettalong on Friday, September 15.

More information on these projects can be found in this edition of Peninsula News.

Lyle Stone, September 16

George Street, Woy Woy

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