

Masonic hall is sold

Woy Woy Masonic Hall has been purchased for more than \$1 million by the Schwartz Family Company (SFC), according to the United Supreme Grand Chapter (USGC) of NSW.

Grand chapter scribe Mr Ron Duckworth said the Woy Woy property had been up for sale since late last year.

"Unfortunately the up-keeping of the building was becoming difficult to maintain," Mr Duckworth said.

"The cost of maintaining the property far outweighed the income that was being generated by keeping it alive."

Mr Duckworth said the USGC is trustee to the property and sold it on behalf of the Albert Josephson Royal Arch Chapter.

The Albert Josephson Royal Arch Chapter has owned the Woy Woy Masonic Hall for more than 40 years, according to Mr Duckworth.

Although the exact price of the property sale was not disclosed, Mr Duckworth said it was around the \$1 million mark.

The sixth largest hotel group in Australia, SFC, will settle contracts with USGC for the purchase of the Railway St property in July this year.

The company already controls the Hotel Ibis at World Square, Sydney, the Fawcner Centre office complex, Melbourne, and the Deep Water Plaza, Woy Woy.

"We were approached a number of times over the years for a sale amount," Mr Duckworth said.

"But we were happy with the final price since it fetched well over the valuation amount."

Schwartz Family Company director Mr Peter Grant said the company had been interested in purchasing the Masonic Hall for "a



The Woy Woy Masonic Hall on Railway St, Woy Woy

number of years".

"No firm plans have been made to what the company will do with the property," Mr Grant said.

Mr Grant would not comment on whether the SFC had plans to remove the Masonic Hall building or whether Deep Water Plaza would be expanding to the newly purchased site.

Woy Woy Masonic Hall was officially opened in 1926.

Since that time the building has

been used by a number of social groups including the Royal Arch Chapter, the Order of the Eastern Star, Brisbane Water Sovereign Chapter and Central Coast Boot Scooters.

The upper level of the hall was closed in 2004 due to lack of funding for repairs.

Clare Graham, 10 April 2008
Interviewee: Ron Duckworth, United Supreme Grand Chapter

Lawyer joins Red Shield team

Mr Geoff Corah of Peninsula Law has joined Mingara Recreation Club chief executive officer Mr Paul Barnett and Kevin Gregory of Landin Realty as newcomers to the Salvation Army Central Coast Red Shield Appeal committee.

Committee Chair Cr Peter Hale said he hoped that the expertise and experience of the three new committee members would assist The Salvation Army in closing the gap between revenue generated on the Central Coast and funds that The Salvation Army commit to their programs in the region.

"The Central Coast is still one of the few regions in Australia where The Salvation Army commits more

money than it collects," Cr Hale said.

"I'm sure that the addition of Mr Barnett, Mr Gregory and Mr Corah to the Red Shield Appeal committee will make significant inroads toward turning that around.

"They are well known and well respected among our business community."

The Salvation Army on the Central Coast is currently accepting donations to the Red Shield Appeal.

Anyone willing to spare several hours over the doorknock weekend of May 24 and 25 to be a volunteer collector should telephone The Salvation Army Central Coast on 4325 5614.

Press release, 8 Apr 2008
Scott MacKillop, Brilliant Logic

Mitre 10 stays until year's end

It is "business as usual", according to Mitre 10 Umina Beach store manager Mr Blake Sandell.

"There is no secret that the store has been sold to Woolworths, but we are open as usual well until the end of the year," Mr Sandell said.

Peninsula News reported in its last edition that the Umina Beach Mitre 10 store had been sold and would be vacating its site later this month.

The information was provided to Peninsula News from Mitre 10's public relations company Haystac PR.

However, Mr Sandell has since said the information was untrue and confirmed that the store would be open until the end of the year.

"No official date has been set as yet," Mr Sandell said.

"But we are trading as usual until it is time to vacate the site.

"I want to make sure our customers are aware that it is business as usual.

"A lot of sales and promotions will be coming up in the next few months for our customers to take advantage of."

The Mitre 10 store has been in West St, Umina Beach, for more than 30 years.

Mr Sandell said it would be sad to see the store close after such a long time.

He said the hardware store would not be relocating to another site.

He also said long-term employees were being "looked after" and relocated to other hardware stores on the Central Coast.

Clare Graham, 10 April 2008

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BEFORE & AFTER HOURS AND WEEKEND APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE

New café in Umina

A new family café has opened on Trafalgar Ave, Umina.

Owned by Umina residents and sisters Andrea Sullivan and Susie Manual (nee Margrath), the "Lolli Mania" store sells lollies, chocolates, slush puppies, milkshakes, pies, hot chips, smoothies, frappes, soft drinks,

coffee and cake, pinball and video games, Plaster of Paris painting and more.

Both sisters have lived in the area for 30 years.

The pair said they had set up a place where children could go with or without their parents and also a place for families as well.

Cec Bucello, 11 Apr 2008

Win home show passes

Peninsula News, in conjunction with the HIA Sydney Home Show, is giving readers the chance to win one of 10 double passes to next month's show.

The 20th Anniversary show will run from May 1 to 4, at the Sydney Exhibition and Convention Centre in Darling Harbour.

Each double pass is valued at

\$36 and can be used on any day of the show.

For a chance to win, simply write your name, address and telephone number on the back of an envelope and send to HIA Sydney Home Show Peninsula News competition, PO Box 532, Woy Woy, 2256.

Entries will be accepted up until close of business on April 25

Clare Graham, 10 April 2008

Groups benefit from Community Chest

Several Peninsula groups have received a share in \$19,256 worth of funding from Central Coast Community Chest.

The groups, Woy Woy Aged Care, Peninsula Village and Cancer Council NSW, shared \$12,940 of the funding.

Woy Woy Aged Care received \$6300 for outdoor tables and chairs in the umbrella area of their Palm Sails Courtyard.

Peninsula Village received \$5140 for two weigh chair scales.

Central Coast Community Chest said residents of the two hostel facilities required monthly weigh-

ins to ensure adequate nutrition and detect sudden weight loss.

The chair scales acted to prevent falls as most residents were "unable to use stand up scales".

Cancer Council NSW Central Coast Regional received \$1500 for "promotion, recognition and information" of the Peninsula Relay for Life.

The Community Chest stated that a significant part of the Relay for Life involved recognising local cancer survivors and their carers at the opening ceremony.

**Press release, 8 Apr 2008
Central Coast Community Chest**

Beauty therapy

A new beauty therapy business has opened on the corner of Ocean Beach Rd and Lone Pine Ave, Umina.

Umina resident Melissa Purcell (nee Girban) opened "Classic Beauty by MJ", her first business, on February 7.

Ms Purcell, who has a diploma in beauty therapy, said she used to work at a day spa at Tuggerah, and decided should open her own business at the Umina Mall.

The business offers many different services such as facial treatments, treatments for hands and feet, waxing, tinting, piercing, makeup, massage, manicures and back treatment.

The business location was previously a doctors surgery which has since been refurbished.

Classic Beauty by MJ is open from 9am Tuesday to Saturday.

Cec Bucello, 11 Apr 2008

Day Club 'opened'

The Krait Day Club has been "officially opened" after finding a new home at Coinda Village in Umina Beach.

The club had outgrown its previous premises at Woy Woy Community Aged Care.

It is jointly sponsored and supported by the Department of Veterans' Affairs and the State RSL, under the auspices of the Woy Woy-Ettalong-Hardys Bay RSL Sub-branch.

The opening was attended by Member for Gosford Ms Marie Andrews, who later spoke in State Parliament about the club.

"The Krait is open to any

interested member of the community, and is completely run by volunteers," Ms Andrews said.

The Krait is the second club to open in Ms Andrews' electorate.

The first to open was the Broadwater Club in 2004 at Point Clare.

"With around 40 active participants meeting once a week, The Krait Day Club provides social and activity opportunities for older people, mostly still living at home, but unable to attend more active programs offered in their local community," Ms Andrews said.

**Press release, 3 Apr 2008
Marie Andrews,
Member for Gosford**

Boatshed opens seven days

Anderson's Boatshed at Booker Bay is now open seven days, according to boatshed manager Mr Robert Graham.

"Drive yourself open and half cabin launches available for hire," Mr Graham said.

"The open launches carry eight people, the 16ft half cabins carry six people and the 18ft half cabins

carry a maximum of eight people.

The business also offers overnight weekend berths at its marina overnight for visitors with their own boats.

The business is now also on the internet at www.andersonsmarina.com.au.

**Press release, 9 Apr 2008
Robert Graham,
Andersons Boatshed**

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Peninsula News

Community Access

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

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President, Australian Conservation Foundation Central Coast branch

Chairman, Equilibrium Community Ecology Inc

President, Central Coast Bush Dance & Music Association

Vice-president, Brisbane Water Secondary College Umina Campus P&C

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Train breakdowns cause concern

Shadow Minister for Transport Ms Gladys Berejiklian has expressed "concern" at the frequency of train breakdowns recently, including two at Woy Woy since the start of April.

The first delay was at 7.58am on the April 2 morning peak train.

The incident involved "major delays" to trains running from Newcastle on the Northern Line, and resulted in a train requiring mechanical repairs at Woy Woy.

The second incident involved a minor five to 10 minute delay on the April 4 morning peak train at 7.49am.

The "operational problem" at Woy Woy affected trains running to the North Shore Line and the City.

"Unreliable services are a daily issue for commuters and it further highlights the Minister for Transport John Watkins' incompetence, and his failure to fix the problems plaguing the network," Ms Berejiklian said.

"...over the past 11 days there have been 23 train breakdowns due to maintenance failures leaving

commuters stranded on platforms and running late.

"Two train delays per day is the reason why some people are simply giving up on catching the train to work.

"Of the 23 train breakdowns, 19 were in peak periods, exacerbating the inconvenience caused to commuters.

"Running late for work or arriving home later in the evening has become a daily occurrence for commuters using the CityRail network.

"It is clear John Watkins has failed to address the serious lack of maintenance culture within RailCorp to ensure trains are up to standard and services run on time.

"On average more than two train breakdowns a day is not good enough, John Watkins needs to address the maintenance problems within RailCorp to prevent commuters from being inconvenienced on such a regular basis."

Press release, 9 Apr 2008 Gladys Berejiklian, Shadow Minister for Transport



Pool fees to remain higher

Peninsula Leisure Centre pool entry fees will remain higher than Gosford Olympic Pool, despite Cr Vicki Scott's call for Gosford Council to have a standard pricing system.

Cr Scott failed to get backing for a standard entry fee of \$2.90 for children aged five to 16 for both venues at a council meeting on April 8.

In a report made to council, staff estimated a loss of more than \$15,500 if the Woy Woy pool entry fee for children aged five to 16 be reduced to \$2.90.

The report stated: "Applying a standard entry fee to a single age

group of five to 16 year olds would generate \$15,758.10 less income than would have otherwise been generated if the suggested entry fees for the centres were to apply."

Council agreed that the fee at Woy Woy remain at \$3.30 for at least two years, allowing the fees at Gosford to catch up, resulting in an across the board entrance fee for both centres.

Prior to council's recent price adjustment the Woy Woy entry fee for five to nine year olds was \$3 and \$3.60 for 10 to 16 year olds.

The entry fee for Gosford will be set at \$2.90 for children aged five to 16.

Entry fees for children aged

zero to four remain free at both locations.

Council also approved plans to review entry fees if any future changes to the official school leaving ages be recognised.

Cr Scott said she did not believe children on the Peninsula should be charged a higher fee than children at Gosford just because the facilities were more modern on the Peninsula.

"Children across the area should be charged the same fee whether five or 16 years old," Cr Scott said.

"I don't think we should be discriminating one side of the community from the other."

Council agenda SF.S14/1, 8 Apr 2008

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Emergency exercise at Wondabyne

More than 60 local emergency service personnel participated in a joint emergency response exercise with RailCorp at Wondabyne on Saturday, April 12.

The exercise brought together relevant representatives from the Gosford Local Emergency Management Committee including the NSW police, ambulance, fire brigade and other agencies.

RailCorp media manager Mr Paul Rea said the purpose of the emergency response exercise was to test accessibility and communication in a remote location such as Wondabyne.

"The exercise was not a response to a real emergency situation," Mr Rea said.

"Rather it was an emergency simulation to test the capacity of local emergency services."

According to Mr Rea there were no trains or passengers involved in the emergency simulation exercise.

"The exercise was a great way to test the accessibility of emergency services to such a remote location and if communication systems were able to cope," Mr Rea said.

RailCorp emergency preparedness general manager Mr Ron Creighton said exercises such as Wondabyne were an essential part of RailCorp's planning for emergency situations.

"The Wondabyne area is a unique, challenging location, with water on one side and the escarpment on the other side of the rail corridor," Mr Creighton said.

"The exercise will enable RailCorp and the emergency services to work as a team to gain a greater understanding of who can do what and how we can all be better prepared if an emergency occurs."

Last year RailCorp participated in 13 emergency exercises, including one at Wondabyne.

Press release, April 9 2008

RailCorp

Clare Graham, 11 April 2008

Interviewee: Paul Rea, RailCorp

A complete upgrade of Woy Woy Rd, including a tunnel under the railway line at Bulls Hill, would occur within the next 25 years, if a plan supported by NSW Business Chamber Central Coast is adopted.

The business chamber in partnership with 10,000 Friends of Greater Sydney has released a blueprint on the long-term future of the Central Coast, entitled "Towards a Sustainable NSW Central Coast Region".

The blueprint outlines the opportunities and challenges facing the Central Coast over the next 40 years.

The Sydney Morning Herald reported that it also contained plans for the "gradual construction of an independent highway linking Woy Woy to the M7 in western Sydney".

"The message to Government is simple; we need urgent action on transport and congestion before it strangles our region," NSW Business Chamber regional manager Ms Mary Doherty said in a media release last week.

"Long term investment in road and public transport will unleash significant economic opportunity for the region."

Ms Doherty said the key to the strategy was the development

Woy Woy Rd would be upgraded

of three distinct Central Coast precincts: coastal tourism and residential precinct, central industrial, employment and residential precinct and the western agricultural, resources and rural residential precinct.

The strategy found that 82 per cent of workers from the region choose to travel to work by car, less than 10 per cent travel by train and only 1.5 per cent travel by bus.

It also found that train travel had declined by 15 per cent since 2001 and that between 2001 and 2006, households in the Central Coast with three cars jumped 26 per cent with car ownership now outgrowing population growth.

The strategy stated that the six key infrastructure issues that were constraining the Coast were ineffective public transport, constrained regional road network, inadequate fast access to Sydney and Newcastle CBDs, lack of integration, inadequate funding and a lack of leadership.

NSW Business Chamber Central Coast and 10,000 Friends of Greater Sydney developed an action plan of six strategies to confront the infrastructure and economic issues facing the Central Coast over the next 25 years.

The strategies included integrating land use and transport planning, fostering economic growth of the region, reversing the growth of car travel with improved public transport, encouraging active transport and improving intra-regional connectivity and inter-regional connectivity.

"This strategy is a wake up call for the future planning and

development of our regional economy," said Ms Doherty.

"If we continue on our current course of under investment in infrastructure we will end up in a traffic nightmare that will be very hard to awake from.

"Sydney is not the only region to be facing traffic congestion issues, the problem exists in the Central Coast and it is very real.

"We need to act now to ensure that the Central Coast has the opportunity to grow and develop and not be restrained by traffic gridlock.

"It's very worrying to think that one day there could be more cars on the central coast than people.

"Over 80 per cent of Central Coast residents driving to work is a shocking statistic and shows that our public transport isn't up to scratch.

"We need to reverse this trend and take pressure off our roads.

"Considering the rising costs of petrol and the impact of climate change, an integrated and fast moving public transport system makes sense.

"While the shift in focus to public transport is very important for our transport future, we can't ignore investment in our road network.

"Roads will continue to play a very important role as links between town centres and to Sydney and Newcastle.

"The strategy we have announced is a comprehensive plan to build on and dramatically improve our existing infrastructure."

Press release, 8 Apr 2008

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A bush rat with a tagged foot

Mammals recover after fire

Killcare resident and National Parks and Wildlife Service's biodiversity officer Mr Doug Beckers has recently completed a study into the recovery of native species after bush fires in Bouddi National Park.

"We began our live trapping program of small ground mammals in Bouddi National Park at the start of the month," Mr Beckers said.

"We trapped two different mammals over the three day program; the brown antechinus (marsupial mouse) and the native bush rat.

"From setting 30 traps at five trap sites in Bouddi, we caught 34 rats and six antechinus.

"Compared to studies done in previous years, we did not trap any house mice."

Following a fire at Bouddi in 2005, Mr Beckers said he trapped three house mice in 2006 and five house mice in 2007.

Mr Beckers said the house mouse was a feral animal and was the most widespread of all mammals in Australia.

He said the department had been conducting similar studies since 2004.

"From these recent findings we have discovered a good recovery of native species after bush fires," Mr Beckers said.

"There has been an increase in the number of native species trapped and a decrease in the number of feral species trapped.

"From this it is safe to say the bush is in pretty good shape."

Clare Graham, April 11 2008
Interviewee: Doug Beckers, National Parks and Wildlife Services

Gosford Council will erect a banner at Ettalong Beach foreshore in a move to deter future vandalism and highlight the importance of sand dune vegetation following a fire in the area last month.

"Recently there was an illegal fire ignited in a section of the sand dune vegetation along Ettalong Beach by an unknown source," Cr Terri Latella said.

"The illegal igniting of the fire... damaged the inner section of part of the sand dune vegetation protected under the Ettalong Beach Foreshore Plan Management.

"As a consequence of that damage... the entire sand dune vegetation in that section of the beach has been removed in an effort to clean up the fire damaged area.

"We must ensure this important environment area is not wiped out by further arsonist attacks."

The banner will be displayed at the site of the fire for a period of

28 days.

Council have also agreed on placing an advertisement in the local media advising of council's policy on vandalism and seeking information from the public or any eye witnesses to the setting of the fire.

Cr Latella failed to gain support for an official investigation into the fire at a council meeting earlier this month.

Cr Latella said if council was not prepared to seek out the perpetrators of the fire at Ettalong Beach foreshore than the least they can do is highlight the importance of protecting the area to the community.

"The public need to know the importance of protecting coastal foreshore areas and that illegal vandalism will not be tolerated," Ms Latella said.

Cr Latella said the sand dune vegetation at Ettalong Beach was protected as a barrier to protect the beach against further erosion.

Woy Woy Bay resident and dune campaigner Ms Margaret Lund said

she was disappointed in council's failure to launch an investigation into the fire at Ettalong Beach foreshore.

"At Ettalong there is absolutely no sign that there has ever been a fire," Ms Lund said.

"Just as there is no sign it would seem of an enquiry as to how, why or who caused this vandalism.

"Lest the public is left with the mistaken idea that fire is no longer a crime in the shire."

Ms Lund has welcomed council's plans to erect a banner at Ettalong Beach foreshore because it demonstrates to the public that such destruction is unacceptable and will not be tolerated.

However, she has called for the destroyed area to be re-vegetated with native indigenous plants with the same promptness that was demonstrated in the council's efforts to clear away fire damage.

"This surely is the minimum for council to do if it is to confirm its environmental credentials," Ms Lund said.

Council Agenda NM.8, 8 April 2008

Dune bulldozing 'worse than burning'

The bulldozing of a burnt section of vegetation on the Ettalong dunes may have been more environmentally damaging than the burning of the vegetation itself, according to a local environment group.

The Central Coast branch of the Australian Conservation Foundation has called on Gosford Council to observe the requirements of the recently-approved Ettalong Beach Foreshore Plan of Management in its supervision of works on the beach.

Branch president Mr Mark Snell has called on the council to submit itself to the development application process, treating the new viewing platforms as community facilities, to enable environmental protection measures to be clearly defined.

Mr Snell said that bulldozing

the dunes meant that regeneration of the vegetation from seed in the soil, or dropped from seed pods which release seed when burnt, was now unlikely to occur.

"The adoption of the plan of management should not be treated by Gosford Council and others as open slather to do whatever they like on the foreshore and dunes," said Mr Snell.

Mr Snell said that, when the Minister of Lands Mr Tony Kelly approved the foreshore plan, the Minister said that one of its aims was "better management of beach vegetation".

"This has not been demonstrated to date," said Mr Snell.

"All work on the foreshore

should conform to the letter and spirit of the management plan.

"It should abide by the Lands Department guidelines.

"Vegetation should not be cleared for the viewing decks before the decks are ready to be installed.

"In any case, management of vegetation on the foreshore should follow ecological expertise and bushcare guidelines."

Mr Snell said the council had well-qualified bushcare officers on staff to provide this advice and had no excuse for not following best management practices for the beach vegetation while undertaking the foreshore works.

Press release, 9 Apr 2008
Mark Snell, ACF Central Coast

Affordable possibility

Gosford Council has resolved to support, in principle, the use of council property in Macleay Ave, Woy Woy, for the purpose of an affordable housing project.

Further investigations will be undertaken to determine how the Gosford Housing Trust can be involved in facilitating the use of 10 Macleay Ave, with the project to be carried out in partnership between council and a community-housing provider.

Council officers said it is envisaged that the pilot project could assist in facilitating future

affordable housing projects involving both public and privately-owned lands.

Council agenda SF.15, 1 Apr 2008

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Why the change of village management?

I have been a resident at the Ettalong Beach Village since September 2005.

Many of the other residents have lived here for 15 years plus.

Gosford Council is reported in Peninsula News stating that Australian Tourist Park Management has the skills and expertise to effectively operate the village.

Surely Oakhut has proved

Forum

itself over 17 years of complete satisfaction both to the residents and the council.

It has effectively run this village, keeping the village totally up to scratch cleanliness and being able to satisfy 105 full-time housed residents, always there to help anyone anytime.

Why would you want to change

the management now when this has been operating successfully over 17 years?

Oakhut has upgraded this village to being in the top 10 parks in NSW.

Something seems to be amiss here.

Were the residents surveyed?

What was the reason for the change?

**Pat Powell
Ettalong Beach**

More forum on page 19

Dramatic night sea rescue

A helicopter rescue was searching the waters off Umina Beach at 1 20 am on Monday, March 31, while ambulance officers waited in the esplanade car park at the end of Augusta St Umina.

The insistent throbbing of chopper blades cutting the night air alerted me and other residents to the drama playing out on the beach in our small community.

I went with many others to see and possibly photograph real life drama.

Forum

The search moved to the eastern end of Umina Beach and I followed ahead of the gathering crowd.

I was able to assist in pulling the very cold young woman's body from the water, after the rescuer who had been dropped onto the sand at the northern end of the beach had swam out and brought her in to the waters edge.

Police media advised me the young woman had thankfully been stabilised within minutes of being

pulled from the water and air lifted to Gosford Hospital at 1 45 am where she is she is recovering from her early morning ordeal.

**Edward James
Umina**

Forum

Letters to the editor should be sent to:

Peninsula News
PO Box 532,
Woy Woy 2256
or

mail@PeninsulaNews.asn.au

See Page 2 for contribution conditions

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:

www.peninsulanews.asn.au

Forum

rescue of sick, injured or orphaned wildlife should be directed through the new number.

**Nora Elder
Woy Woy**

Wildlife ARC, Central Coast, has changed its telephone number.

The new number will be 4325 0666 effective April 19.

All calls to Wildlife ARC on and after this date, including calls for the

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Deb designs dunes

Deb stamped her foot and shook her head.

"You just don't understand.

We need a theme to unify the beach and town," she said.

"Like shopping centres, Disneyland, a theme will make it work, so tourists flow in tidy waves from cafes onto sand.

"Now cabbage palms will line each street. They're pretty, neat and trim. They'll help us sell the village as a paradise retreat.

"That dune's too big, it has to go; it's higher than the road. It spreads too far across the beach, untidy too, you know.

"Knock off the top and trim the toe, fill in those hollow bits. Bulldoze the rest to make it smooth, symmetrical and low.

"Selectively remove the scrub that's covering the beach. Chop down the trees and plant some flowers, an outlook for the Club."

"For Pete's sake, build some decks and stairs that take up lots of space, and give his patrons somewhere nice to eat chocolate éclairs."

"Let Anton have his tuckeroos if that's what he desires. We'll give him anything he wants now he's restored our views."

© 26/8/06 Shirley Hotchkiss
Umina

Say goodbye to small shops

Forum

in the main street?

If Woolworths opens up, I believe we can kiss goodbye to Flemings and possibly IGA at Ettalong as well.

If Big W or even a smaller Kmart opens up, you can say goodbye to a whole range of specialty shops in Umina.

You only have to look at the sad retail shopping in Woy Woy to see that.

**Ross Cochrane
Woy Woy**

Although one must have all respect for the work Matthew Wales does on behalf of the Peninsula Chamber of Commerce, has he ever stopped to think that maybe the people of Umina do not want to be like "Erina Fair" as he says?

Maybe the people of Umina shop there because it is not Erina Fair!

Where in Australia has the opening of major chains such as Woolworths or Coles has actually helped the smaller specialty stores

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Anzac Day services

Platform

Special breakfast

Several services will be held on April 25 to commemorate Anzac Day.

Woy Woy-Ettalong-Hardys Bay RSL sub-Branch will be holding its regular dawn service and march.

The dawn service will be held at 5am at the Woy Woy Memorial Park.

Coffee will be available from 4am supplied by Apex.

Breakfast will be available at the Ettalong Beach War Memorial Club from 6am.

If bad weather disrupts the services, they will be held at the Memorial Club.

The March will begin at 9.30am in the K-Mart carpark, outside Deepwater Plaza, Woy Woy.

Marchers will form up in the carpark at this time, then march off at 10am.

The march will head through George St, Victoria Rd, Blackwall Rd and Brickwharf Rd before ending at the memorial park.

Guest speakers will be selected from Brisbane Water Secondary College and will address the public during the 10.30am service.

The Brisbane Water Brass Band will also be performing from 10am at the Memorial Park.

They will also be performing at two private functions at aged care

facilities on April 21 and 23 to commemorate Anzac Day.

The Hardys Bay RSL and Citizens Club will be holding an Anzac Day service at 11am, with Two-Up from 12.30pm.

Empire Bay residents will conduct an Anzac Day service at the Cenotaph near the waterfront at Empire Bay, from 11am.

Anzac Day committee member Mr Geoff Melville said the service was conducted annually and last year attracted around 500 people with over 20 wreaths laid by ex-servicemen, and children representing their fathers and grandfathers.

An Anzac Day service will be held in the Pearl Beach Memorial Hall, located on Diamond Rd, commencing at 10am.

The Rev Ernie Carnaby will lead the service, and afterwards there will be tea, coffee and Anzac biscuits as refreshments.

Brisbane Waters Private Hospital will be holding a service in its Commemorative Garden at 8.45am.

Morning tea will be provided.

Lyle Stone, 9 Apr 2008

Press release, 1 Apr 2008

Geoff Melville,

Anzac Day Committee

Press release, 4 Mar 2008

Stewart Whale

A raised platform will be installed at the intersection of Flathead Rd and Schnapper Rd, Ettalong, following a resolution from Gosford Council.

Council had originally planned to construct a speed hump at the intersection, but following a public consultation, has since resolved to install a raised platform.

The raised platform would be similar to the type at the intersections on The Esplanade at Kourong St and Barrenjoey Rd, Ettalong Beach.

A report from Council's traffic committee stated that the raised platform would be acceptable as it performed a traffic calming effect for all legs of the intersection.

It said that such a device was not considered to have a detrimental effect on the surrounding streets.

Council agenda TR.02.107, 4 Mar 2008

Ettalong Beach Club will be holding a special breakfast and luncheon as part of its Anzac Day celebrations on Friday, April 25.

The breakfast will be held at the club from 6.30am to 9am following the dawn service at Woy Woy Memorial Park.

Breakfast will be free to all participants of the dawn service.

A stamped dawn service program will serve as proof of attendance for the breakfast.

The bar will also be open for participants to purchase beverages.

Following the Anzac Day march in Woy Woy, the club will be opening its doors from 11.30am to ex-servicemen, their partners and the general public for a special luncheon.

The two-course lunch will begin at 12.15pm and will cost \$15 per person for ex-servicemen and their partners and \$32.50 for the general public.

A concert will begin from 1pm to 5pm and will feature John Brownrigg.

Press release, 10 Apr 2008

Lin Hope, Ettalong Beach Club



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25 APRIL 2008

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Council 'not affected' by mortgage crisis

Gosford Council has claimed that local ratepayers "will not be affected by the current sub-prime mortgage crisis", as suggested in light of the Cole Report into NSW Councils' investments.

The report states that council's investments have potentially dropped \$23 million (estimated Mark to Market) in value in the wake of the US sub-prime mortgage market collapse.

"Council would only experience a loss if it were to call on all investments right now at the present valuation," Council's Director of Corporate Services Mr Nic Pasternatsky said.

"The Cole Report is based on the Mark to Market valuation as at June 30, 2007, and the price we would have received if we sold at that point.

"There will not be a 'fire sale' of council's investments.

"Our current strategy is to hold our investments to maturity, then reinvest the funds in direct cash securities."

Council said it was conscious of its liquidity and currently had over \$25 million available in direct cash to meet its commitments.

"The best way to explain it to residents is to equate it to the value of your own home or shares. In recent years, the value of your home or shares may have gone

up, but in the current depressed market the value of your home and shares would have most likely decreased," Mr Pasternatsky said.

"However, if you have no plans to sell, then this is only a paper loss with no effect on your situation.

"This is similar to council's current strategy.

"We have no plans to sell these investments at present and this will not affect our commitments to our ratepayers."

The Cole Report emphasises that its findings are based on "market valuations and hence unrealised potential market losses", with it also stating that "these unrealised losses are significant in absolute terms but are not considered to pose a threat to the financial viability to the NSW Local Government Sector".

Council acknowledged that the global capital markets were impacting on the market value of council's investments but claimed that it was "a worldwide phenomenon being experienced across the market".

Council said it had strategies in place to minimise the impact.

Council also said it was regularly monitoring the state of the market, the performance of the portfolio and council's ongoing investment strategy.

**Press release, 3 Apr 2008
Kate Carragher, Gosford Council**

Cole report is reminder, says Andrews

Member for Gosford Ms Marie Andrews says the fallout from the Cole Report into council investments is a timely reminder of the need for local government to be responsible with ratepayers' money.

Ms Andrews said the exposure of Gosford Council to the fall-out from the US sub-prime mortgage market was a concern for ratepayers.

"When the situation in the United States deteriorated and the flow-on effects were apparent to those councils that invested in financial products linked to the sub-prime mortgage market – the NSW Government acted swiftly by commissioning the Cole Report," Ms Andrews said.

Ms Andrews said the Government accepted Mr Cole's recommendations and would work with local government to implement them.

The recommendations included tightening permissible investment products and clarifying some

existing definitions, grandfathering existing investments that are excluded by the changed regulations and barring the manufacturers and distributors of investment products from acting as investment advisors to councils.

The recommendations also included temporarily suspending councils' ability to make any new investment other than through TCorp or in land, cash, bonds or other councils, ensuring councils are more fully aware of their obligations by requiring a signature demonstrating understanding of the investment requirements, and Issuing an investment policy guideline for councils in addition to the existing.

Ms Andrews said it was important to safeguarding ratepayers' money.

"It's also important councils seek independent financial advice before making investment decisions," Ms Andrews said.

**Press release, 3 Apr 2008
Marie Andrews, Member for Gosford**



Ros Sackley and Member for Robertson Ms Belinda Neal at the Ettalong Beach Club

Ettalong delegate for 2020 Summit

Ettalong Beach resident Roslyn Sackley will be a delegate at the Australia 2020 Summit, to be held in Canberra on the weekend of April 19 and 20.

Ms Sackley is the only resident from the seat of Robertson to be invited to attend the Canberra Summit as one of the 1000 nominated delegates from across Australia.

Ms Sackley, a Ngyimpaa woman from the Lake Cargellico region of western New South Wales, is a blind Aboriginal teacher at Eora College, Redfern, and a world-recognised authority on the challenges facing people with a disability living in Indigenous communities.

Member for Robertson Ms

Belinda Neal said the 2020 Summit was a chance for all Australians, including the people of Robertson, to play a direct role in shaping the future of this country.

"I am delighted that Ros, a community leader of national standing and great experience in the fields of Indigenous affairs and disability policy, has been chosen as one of the key Summit participants," Ms Neal said.

Ms Neal said Ms Sackley had lived at Ettalong Beach for eight years and "loves the Central Coast".

Ms Sackley will contribute her ideas to the Communities and Family section of the Australia 2020 Summit.

Ms Neal said: "Eventually, she hopes to establish a national one-

stop referral and support portal for all Indigenous communities across Australia".

"The Australia 2020 Summit is not about me," Ms Sackley said, "but about improving the health, the lifestyle and the opportunities for the thousands and thousands of people with disabilities living in Aboriginal communities.

"If you want to make a real difference, the trick is not to forget where you came from."

Ms Neal said the 2020 Summit concept is getting a "refreshingly positive" response across the nation and locally.

**Press release, 5 Apr 2008
Belinda Neal,
Member for Robertson**

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(L to R) Marie Andrews member for Gosford, MC Chris King, Award Recipient Merle Sharpe and State Minister for Ageing Kristina Kenealle



(L to R) Marie Andrews member for Gosford, MC Chris King, Award Recipient Elmo Caust and State Minister for Ageing Kristina Kenealle

Seniors receive awards

Several Peninsula residents and local residents who have worked on the Peninsula have received awards as part of Seniors Week celebrations.

The awardees were Patrick and Mary Dolan of Woy Woy, Merle Sharpe and Elmo Caust.

Patrick and Mary Dolan were both nominated for the NSW Seniors Week Achievement Award for "outstanding contribution

in Community Service and Volunteering for the St John Ambulance.

They both received a certificate in recognition of the nomination.

Merle Sharpe, a member of the Salvation Army corps for 45 years, received a NSW Government Community Service Award.

"Merle is a senior soldier of the Salvation Army and regularly visits residents of Woy Woy Aged Care and Peninsula Aged Care," Member for Gosford Ms Marie Andrews said.

"She is on the Red Shield Appeal committee, is the home league secretary, a recruitment sergeant and a community care worker for public and home visits.

"Merle also assisted in setting up the Meals on Wheels service in Woy Woy back in the 1960's."

Elmo Caust, a retired school teacher who has been a member of the Lions Club since 1967, also received a NSW Government Community Service Award.

"He has held every position available within the club up to Deputy District Governor," Ms Andrews said.

"He gives an enormous amount of his time to the Lions Club as well as helping parents through difficulties with their children.

"For the past 13 years, Elmo has been running car boot sales in Umina for the Lions Club as well as volunteering at nursing homes, helping a number of elderly residents within their own homes and doorknocking for the Salvation Army appeal."

Press release, 10 Apr 2008
Marie Andrews, Member for Gosford

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First sale at Rainbow Gate

Rainbow Gate opened its doors and car park last month for the first of its weekly Saturday car boot sale and sausage sizzles.

The aim of the weekly charity event is to raise funds for Rainbow Love Charity and the Integrated Community Development Foundation.

"We are committed to raising funds to better the lives of children who are needing a hand up, either because they are orphans in Uganda, or particular Central Coast children with high medical needs including physical and cognitive disabilities, chronic and terminal illness," publicity officer Ms Sue McCarthy said.

"We are delighted with the support already shown from the community on the first car boot sale.

"It is a happy use of the old church building and an extremely bright and happy place to be."

The day featured Drumbala, Behind the Veil Belly Dancers, as well as enthusiastic sellers and buyers at the car boot sale.

The car boot sale will be held from 8am to 2pm each Saturday and is \$10 per car to participate.

A special event has been organised for Saturday, April 26, to be held during the weekly car boot sale at Rainbow Gate.

Katy and Warren Loades from Drumbala will be holding a Djembe African hand drumming workshop from 11.30am to 12.20pm.

The cost of the workshop is \$5 per person (children under four are free) and participants are welcome to bring along their own drum from home.

Other drums will be available on the day for participants.

"The car boot sales and other activities at Rainbow Gate are aimed at including the whole community in art and music, which is a wonderful way of joining as a community," Rainbow Gate Manager Ms Susie O'Donnell said.

Rainbow Gate will also be celebrating its official opening with a cocktail party and art exhibition on Friday, June 20.

"We will have art and craft classes, mums and bubs craft mornings, and we welcome people to call in and see what we are doing," Ms O'Donnell said.

**Press release, 7 Apr 2008
Sue McCarthy, Rainbow Gate**



A stall sets up at the recent Rainbow Gate car boot sale

Projects funded in corporate plan

Gosford Council has released a list of long term actions to be completed as part of its corporate management plan over the next four years.

The projects include the installation of irrigation at Eve Williams Oval, Patonga, a master plan for the Woy Woy Catchment Area, the closure of Woy Woy tip in 2025 and modifications for Pearl Beach and Empire Bay Rural Fire Brigade Stations.

Under the plan, irrigation would be installed at Eve Williams Oval, Patonga, at a cost of \$40,000.

The \$40,000 has been provided through \$40,000 in Government funding.

The project is expected to be implemented during the 2009/2010 financial year.

A water sensitive urban design master plan for the Woy Woy Catchment Area has also been planned.

The plan would cost \$60,000 in section 94 contributions.

The project is expected to be implemented in the 2008/2009 financial year.

Plans for the closure of Woy Woy tip to the receipt of putrescibles waste are also expected.

Council expects the landfill to be full by December 2025.

Funding for the closure is included in council's Closed Loop Waste project.

The Pearl Beach Rural Fire Brigade would be modified to accommodate the new category one fire tankers at a cost of \$50,000 under council's recurrent budget.

The project is expected to be implemented in the 2009/2010 financial year.

Ettalong Seniors' Building will have its broken folding door replaced at a cost of \$40,000, which includes necessary repairs.

Capital funding amounts to \$29,000 of the project, with the other \$11,000 being provided via Ettalong Senior's fundraising.

The project would be implemented in the 2009/2010 financial year.

Other projects to be funded include road repairs and flood and drainage works.

Other ongoing projects, such as the refurbishment of local surf clubs and works at the Patonga camping ground, would also be funded.

**Report, 10 Apr 2008
Corporate Management Plan,
Gosford Council**

Ugandan party raises money

Peninsula residents will have the opportunity to raise money for the Integrated Community Development Foundation, while partying Ugandan style on Saturday, May 3.

Fundraising party "Akabaga" has been organised for the Peninsula to help raise money for the "Central Coast Internet Café" in Kampala, in land-locked Uganda.

The event is being organised by

the Foundation to help purchase a diesel generator required to keep computers working during frequent Kampala power interruptions at the internet café in Uganda.

"Many local musicians are donating their time and talent to ensure that participants have fun whilst raising money for a good cause, with food, drinks, raffles and African arts and crafts for sale on the night," publicity officer Ms Sue McCarthy said.

The event will begin from 5.30pm

to 10.30pm and is held at Rainbow Gate, 207 West St, Umina.

The night will feature entertainment from Drumbala, Akabaga Boys Band, Jan Couchman and soloists from the Bouddi Voice Choir.

Tickets are available on the night for \$10 per person (gold coin donation for children) or can be purchased by telephoning 4344 3044.

**Press release, 31 March 2008
Sue McCarthy, INCODEFO**

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What's On in and around the Peninsula

Listings in this section are free to not-for-profit community groups although a subscription to help support Peninsula News would be appreciated.

Many events listed take place at the following locations:

BFC, Beachside Family Centre, Umina Public School

CWA, 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 8344

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

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

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

EPH, Ettalong Progress Hall, Memorial Ave, Ettalong

ESCC, Ettalong Senior Citizens Centre, Cnr. Karingi St & Broken Bay Rd Ettalong 4341 3222 **MOW**, Meals on Wheels Hall, Cnr Ocean Beach Rd and McMasters Rd.

PBPCC, Pearl Beach-Patonga Chamber Of Commerce, (meets at) Pearl Beach Café, 1 Pearl Pde, Pearl Beach.

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 5905

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

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

WWAC, Woy Woy Aged Care, Kathleen St 4353 4224

WVEC, Woy Woy Environment Centre, 267 Blackwall Road Woy Woy 4342 6589

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

True Blue Meeting, 1.30pm; **Toastmasters**, 7pm, **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

Burrawang Bushland reserve **bushcare**, Nambucca Dr playgrnd 9am 4341 9301. **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, 7.15pm, **EBWMC** **Combined Pensioners** assoc afternoon tea, enq: 4341 3222, **ESCC**

Every Tuesday

Woy Woy Blood Bank - Ocean Beach Road, Woy Woy 1pm to 7pm

Chess Club EBWMC 1pm enq: 4341 8748

Woy Woy Blood Bank welcomes donations Ocean Beach Road, Woy Woy 1pm to 7pm

Free Tax Help by Appt., School for Seniors (Cards, Craft & Games) 9am; **Playgroup** 9am; **Occasional Care**, 9am; **U3A Courses, Pre-School Playgroup**, 12.30pm; **Over 55s Learn To Play Bridge**, 1pm; **Stroke Recovery**, 2pm; **The Web**, from 2pm; **Dance & Theatre School**, 3.45pm; **Brophy Circus Academy**, 4.30pm; **Belly Dancing**, 4.30pm, **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

Carpet Bowls; 10am, **Card Club**; 7.15pm, **Chess Club**, 1pm, **EBWMC**

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

Folk Art 9.30am, **Silk Dyeing** 1pm, **EBACC**.

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

Sahaja yoga meditation, 10:30am only enq: 4368 2847, **CWA**

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

Woy Woy Blood Bank, 11.15am to 8.45pm, session time 1pm to 7pm, Ocean Beach Rd, Woy Woy

Tap Dancing, EPH, 6pm, enq: 0438 033 039

Tai Chi WH 9:30 am Enq: 4360 2705

Supported Playgroup for first time and single parents **BFC** Enq: 4340 1111

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

Second Wednesday of every Month

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

Woy Woy **Auxiliary**, 10am enq: 4344 2599.

Umina Beach **Probus Club**, 9.30am, **ECC**

Fourth Wednesday of every month

Everglades **Probus Club**, 10am, **ECC**, enq: 4341 0664

Every Wednesday

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

St John's Ambulance; 7pm, **Meals on Wheels**

St John's Ambulance; Brisbane Water Cadets, 6.30pm - 8pm, Enq: 0404 748 471.

Free Tax Help by Appt., Occasional Care, School for Seniors, 9am; **Playgroup**, 10am; **Bridge Club**, 9.30am & 7.30pm; **The Web**, from 2pm, **Physical Culture Club**, 3.45pm, **Coast Care Counselling Judo**, 5pm; **Weight Watchers**, 6pm; **Belly Dancing**, 7.30pm; **PCC**. Peninsula **Choir** rehearsal 7.30pm St Andrews Hall Umina.

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

Seniors fitness EPH 9am, enq: 43328550.

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 & Drawing** 11.30am, **EBACC**, **Children's story time**, Woy Woy library, 10.30 (Exc Jan).

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

Handicraft CWA, 9am, enq: 4341 1073.

Country Women's Association (CWA) Umina Beach craft day, 9am - noon, CWA Hall, Sydney Ave, Umina, enq: 4341 5627.

Rotary Club of Umina, 6pm, **ECC**

Dance Club, 1pm, **EBWMC**

Empire Bay Tennis 9-12am **Shelley Beach Road** Shelly Beach Road 4341 4125

THURSDAY

First Thursday of every month

Brisbane Water Senior Citizens, 1pm; **EBWMC**

Second Thursday of every month

Women's Health Clinic Enq 4320 3741 **PWHC**

Australiana Bus Trips **PCC**

Third Thursday of every month

Brisbane Water Senior Citizens, 1pm; **EBWMC**

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

Last Thursday of every month

Socrates Cafe Group Entréz 4 Booklovers Cafe, Umina

5:30 - 7pm Enq: 4367 4730

Every Thursday

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

Creative Writing, **CWA**, Enq 4369 1187

Childrens Art, 4.30pm, 15th Oct-**Occasional Care**, 9am; **Music Program**, 9am; **Yoga**, 10am;

School for Senior Australiana, 10.30am; **Tai Chi**, 11.30am &

7.30pm; **Bridge**, 12pm; **The Web**, from 2pm; **Brophy Circus Academy**, 4pm; **Kids' Yoga**, 4pm; **Belly Dancing**, 6.30pm & 7.30pm; **Coast Care Counselling PCC** **Free entertainment** 6.30 pm, **School for Learning/Seniors** 9am; **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**

Card Club, 1pm; **Chess Club**, 7.30pm, **EBWMC**

Tai Chi 11.30am & 3.45pm; **Dancing** 9am; **Indoor Bowls**, 9am; **Table Tennis**, 1.45pm;

Cards noon, **ESCC**

Children's story time, 3 - 5 yrs Umina library, 10.30am (Exc 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

Fairhaven Services **Cash Housie**, Ettalong Bowling Club 7.30pm

Dance, 9am - 11:30am, **ESCC**, enq: 4344 3131

Pilates WH 9:30 am Enq: 4384 5005

Mah-jong WH 2pm Enq: 4360 2178

Yoga WH 5:30 pm Enq: 4323 1859

FRIDAY

First Friday of every month

Legacy Ladies, 9am; **EBWMC**

Second Friday of every month

Bookclub 10:30am enq: Mandy 4342 2482, 2pm

RSL Sub Branch Meeting **EBWMC**, 2.30pm.

Third Friday of every month Legacy Ladies, **EBWMC**, 9am, enq: 4343 3492.

Fourth Friday of every month

South Bouddi Peninsula Community Assoc, **WH**, 1.30pm, enq: 4360 1002.

Civilian widows, **ESCC**, 1pm. School for Seniors **Bushwalking**, **PCC**

Every Friday

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 10am, **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, 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.

Occasional Care, 9am; **Kindy Gym 0-3s** 9.15am, **3-5s** 10.20am; **Weight Watchers**, 9.30am; **Smart Recovery**, 10am; **Samaritans Support Group**, 10.30am; **Bridge Club**, 12pm; **The Web**, from 2pm;

Brophy Circus Academy, 5pm; **Kempo Karate**, 5.30pm; **Judo**, 7pm; **U3A Courses**, **PCC**

Women's walking group, 9am - 11am **PWHC**

Fishing Club. **EBWM**

Krait RSL Day Club - 10:30am, Kooinda Village - 4341-8151

Fairhaven Services **Cash Housie**, East Gosford Progress Hall 7.30pm

Old Wags Bridge Club WH (except 4th Friday of month) 1:30 pm Enq: 4360 1820

Friendship for Seniors Hardys Bay Community Church 10am - 12pm Enq: 4360 1598

SATURDAY

First Saturday of every month

The National Malaya & Borneo **Veterans Assoc. Meet**, **EBWMC**, 2pm Enq: 4340 4160

Second Saturday of every month

Bookclub 10:30am enq: Mandy 4342 2482

Alliance Française french conversation, Impact Cafe Empire Bay 11am - 1pm Enq: 0412252709

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

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**.

Peninsula **Residents Association**, 2pm, **Peninsula Community Centre**, Cnr Ocean Beach Road and MacMasters Road.

Fourth Saturday of every month

Troubadour **Acoustic Music Club**, 7pm **CWA** Enq: 4341 406

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

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

Every Saturday

Vision Impaired Woy Walkers Fisherman's Wharf Woy Woy 7.15am Enq: 4325 3686

Chess Club EBWMC 1pm enq: 4341 8748

What's On in and around the Peninsula

Weight Watchers, 8.30am; **Dance & Theatre School, Bridge Club**, 12pm; **Gambling Anon**, 2pm; **The Web Drop In Centre**, 4.30-9.30pm, **PCC**
Cash Housie St Mary's Hall, Ocean View Rd Ettalong 7.30pm.
Chess Club, 1pm; **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. WWEC Enq 4342 6589.
Car Boot Sale, Ettalong Markets. Community Dance, 1pm to 4pm, \$2, ESCC, Enq: 4344 3131 / 4341 3222
Social Dance, New vogue, old time, \$3 (inc. afternoon tea), 1pm, ESCC, enq: 4344 3131.

SUNDAY

First Sunday of every month
 Blackwall Mountain **Bushcare**, 9am cnr Blackwall Rd & Memorial Ave Enq: 4342 6995
Second Sunday of every month
Ladies Auxiliary of Vietnam Vets, 10 am, **Vietnam Vets**, 11am; **EBWMC** Umina P&C **Bushcare** 9am BWSC, Enq: 4341 9301
Third Sunday of every month
Bushcare Group, Tennis Courts, Empire Bay, 9am Enq: 43692486
Ettymalong Creek Landcare, Ettalong Rd, Umina, 8am, enq: 4342 2251
EBWM Fishing Club competition at Club House in Beach St, Ettalong.
EBWM Vietnam Veterans Peacekeepers, Peacemakers 4344 4760.
Last Sunday of every month
Alliance Française "La Petanque" (the game of boules) 11am - 5pm Enq: 0415309074
Lions Club Boot Sale & Mini Market, Rogers Park Woy Woy Enq: 4341 4151

Every Sunday

Fijian Cultural Group, 11am-4pm, **PCC**
 Coast Community **Church Services** 9am & 5pm Enq 4360 1448
Al-anon/Alateen family support group "The Cottage" Vidler Ave Woy Woy 7pm.
Patonga Bakehouse Gallery 11am Enq: 4379 1102

MONDAY

First Monday of every month
RSL Womens' Aux 9:30am EBWMC
 Endeavour View Club Luncheon **ECC** Contact 4342 1722
 Pretty Beach P S **P&C**, Resource Centre 7:30pm, ph 4360 1587.
Grandparents Parenting Support Group, Web Riley Room Catholic Church Woy Woy 4342 9995
Country Women's Association

meeting, 10am, CWA Hall, Sydney Ave, Umina, enq: 4341 5627.

Second Monday of every month

Bookclub 7pm enq: Mandy 4342 2482
Save the Children St Andrews Church Hall, Ocean Beach Rd Umina 1-30pm Enq 4324 4389
Women 50+ Group Chat, PWHC RSL Women's Auxiliary, 9am; **RSL Sub Branch**, 2.30pm; **Card Club**, 1pm, **EBWMC**
Pretty Beach to Killcare Community Association WH 7:30pm, Enq: 4360 1546
Killcare Heights Garden Club, 10:30am, Enq: 43601595
Coastal Crones (over 50's), **PWHC**

Third Monday of every month

War Widows, 11am, **EBWMC** Enq: 4344 3486

Fourth Monday of every month

Toastmasters Speechcraft Classes 6pm EBWMC
Labor Party Peninsula Day Branch, CWA, 1pm.
Carers support group, Group room, Health Service Building, Woy Woy Hospital, Enq: 4344 8427.

Last Monday of every Month

WWLT Playreading, Woy Woy P.S. 7.30pm, Enq: 4341 2931

Every Monday

Cash Housie EMBC 7:30pm Enq: 4323 3566
Walking with other Mums Enq: Liz Poole 4320 3741
3Cs-Craft, Coffee & Conversation, 12.30pm
BFC. Enq: 43 431929
Yoga WH 9.30am Enq: 4360 1854.
Computers, 1pm, **Dancing** 9am; **Indoor Bowls**-9am; **Mahjong** 1pm; **Fitness** 1pm; **Yoga** for beginners 2.30pm; **ESCC**.
Gym Sessions 8am, **Tiny Tots** 9:15am, **Circuit Boxing** (Women) 9.00am, **Boxing/fitness training**, 4.00pm (Junior), 5pm (Senior)
PCYC
Carpet Bowls 9am, **Card Club** 1pm, **EBWMC**
Fairhaven Cash Housie 7.30pm & **Bingo** 11am **EMBC** enq: **4323 3566**
Arts and Crafts for people with a disability 11am, Enq. 4341 9333
Patchwork & Quilting, 10am, **Pottery** 10am & 1pm EBACC
Children's Story Time, Woy Woy Library. 10.30 am
Occasional Childcare, 9am; **Volunteering**, 9am; **Gentle Fitness**, 9am; **Supported Playgroup**, 9.30am & 12.30pm; **Yoga**, 10am; **Second Chance Craft**, 11am; **Bridge Club**, 12pm; **Physical Culture Club**, 3.45pm; **Coast Care Counselling**, 4pm; **Dance & Theatre School**, 3.45pm; **Judo**, 5pm; **U3A Courses, PCC**
Craft group, 1pm **BFC**
Fairhaven Services Cash Housie, Ettalong Bowling Club 7.30pm
Yoga WH 9:30 am Enq: 4360 2705
Pilates WH (except 2nd Monday of month) 6-7pm & 7-8pm

Tai Chi Empire Bay Progress Hall 9:30am Enq: Clare 4369 1075

Upcoming Events

April 19 - Point Clare to Patonga Artist open Studio - See page 11 for advertisement
April 20 - Accoustic blues artist Hat Fitz, Patonga Tavern 2pm
April 21 - Rotary Club Woy Woy Annual golf day,
April 25 - Anzac Day Service, 10am Pearl Beach Memorial Hall Enq: 43420402 - See page 7
April 26 - Umina Beach PCYC Trivia Night/Auction Candlemaking Workshop, EBACC, 10am to 1pm - See page 15 for advertisement

If you would like your community not-for-profit event listed here, send the details to the Peninsula News

Art at nursery

A local nursery will be holding its first art exhibition from April 1 to April 30.

Creative Courtyards featured demonstrations by artists Leila Desborough, Meredith Gilmore and Sherry McCourt on April 4.

Ms Desborough demonstrated the art of sculpting.

Meredith Gilmore showed visitors the colourful uses of pastels while Sherry McCourt sketched

visitors.

"We have some great new artists joining in as well as a new sandstone range, garden art and sandstone sculptures," owner Ms Janice Rutherford said.

Customers will also have a chance to win a prize when they vote for their favourite piece of art.

Press release, 1 Apr 2008
 Janice Rutherford, Courtyard Capers



Classes resume 28th April
Patchwork & Quilting, Pottery, Folk Art, Silk Dyeing, Oils & Acrylics, Pastels & Drawing, Watercolour Painting, Silvercraft & Children's Pottery & Art
Adult Classes 9 week term \$90 plus \$10 pa membership
Children's Classes 8 week term \$50
Book early for enrolments
and for all enquiries phone 4341 8344

KITCHENER PARK, ETTALONG
Corner Picnic Parade and Maitland Bay Drive

Sponsored by
Peninsula News
 Community Access



North Burge Rd, Woy Woy
4341 7598

Introducing - Joanne and Ping
Garden Court Restaurant
Open Lunch and Dinner - Tuesday to Sunday
 Large menu range of Asian and Western Meals
 Offering- 10% discount on member's meals
\$6.00 lunches (Asian and western options) Tuesday - Friday

Trading hours:
Open: Lunch 12pm - 2pm Tuesday- Sunday ~ Dinner 5:30-8:30 Tuesday - Thursday
Fri & Sat Night 5.30-9.00 pm ~ Sunday Night 5.30-8.30pm

What's happening?

<p>HAPPY HOUR.. Everyday 9am-12pm \$2.90 schooners \$2.50 middles!! Tuesdays Lingerie Waitress and Pool comp starts 5pm Thursdays Surf and turf Raffle Tickets on sale: 5pm Plus Members' Badge Draw...followed by karaoke!! & Darts</p>	<p>Fridays Madness- Happy hour 5pm to 7pm.. Schooners \$2.50, Middles \$2.00 Saturdays Saturday Morning Raffle tickets on sale Fisho's raffle from 7pm Sundays Childflight (every third Sunday of the month) Free poker from 1pm</p>
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Membership - now only \$2.50

Hat Fitz at Patonga

Queensland acoustic blues artist Hat Fitz will be making a rare one-off solo appearance at the Patonga Tavern on April 20, from 2pm.

"Showcasing material from his recently released and critically acclaimed ninth CD "Play Me Sumthin New" the afternoon is a

last chance for fans to catch Fitz before he heads off overseas on his now annual festival tour of Ireland and England," promoter Mr Garrie Sinclair said.

For more information, telephone 0407 460 856.

Press release, 27 Mar 2008
Garrie Sinclair



More than 500 people enjoyed the third Opera in the Arboretum, held in late March

Pleasing support for opera event

Organisers of the third Opera in the Arboretum have said they were "very pleased" with the support given to the event.

Rotary Club of Woy Woy service director Mr Tony Cameron said: "Over 500 patrons enjoyed an afternoon listening to their favourite operatic arias on Saturday, March 29, in the Crommelin Arboretum, Pearl Beach."

"The glorious autumn weather and the tranquil surrounds enhanced the performances.

"The event featured opera stalwarts mezzo-soprano Sally-Anne Russell, soprano Stephanie Acraman, tenor Henry Choo and bass Gennadi Dubinsky.

"They were ably supported by pianist Jem Harding and the Central Coast Conservatorium String Orchestra.

"Event co-ordinator Rotarian John Greenway was pleased with the support given to 'Opera in the Arboretum' in its third year and is eager to begin organising next year's event."

Mr Cameron said all proceeds from the event would support Wires Central Coast and Rotary charities.

Press release, 7 Apr 2008
Tony Cameron, Rotary Club of Woy Woy

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4342 2150 or email: info@wallers.biz

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FREE! business card design
- worth \$25

Full colour business cards

250 cards - \$75

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BRASSERIE / CAFÉ

OPEN 7 DAYS

FRESH NEW AUTUMN MENU

Wonderful to enjoy BBQ "Under our New Canopy" on Terrace. Or choose from the great selection of dishes from the Brasserie and relax, enjoy the view from the Terrace

Specialty Evenings

Sunday - Carvery \$12 **

Monday - Steak \$12 **

Wednesday - Schnitzel \$9.50 **

Friday - Reef'n'Beef \$24.50

** Special Family Price available

Saturday - evening BBQ

Sunday - lunch BBQ

Breakfast open from 7.30am.

a-la-carte or weekend buffet

Coffee Shop: Open

Daily : 7.30am to 9.30pm

Lunch open from 12.00 midday

Express Specials \$8.00*

Dinner from 5.30pm



TEXAS HOLD 'EM POKER

Saturdays

7.30pm - till late

Sunday 6.30pm

Mondays from 6.30pm

Tables available all week long for practice games

THURSDAY NIGHT

CHICAS Lounge

Trivia from 7pm - 9pm

With the

"Professor" Graham Lewis

Karaoke from 9pm - 12am

Cash prizes

Anzac Day Celebrations

Breakfast - 6.30am to 9am

Luncheon for ex-servicemen,

their partners and general public

- 11.30am

\$15 ex-servicemen

\$32.50 general public

Anzac Day concert 1pm to 5pm

The Summer of Entertainment

All Free

LIVE MUSIC IS BACK IN A BIG WAY

IN RILEYS LOUNGE

The largest bar on the Peninsula with the biggest entertainment venue

Saturday 19th April

"Mighty Rockers"

Saturday 26th April

"As Long As it

Grooves"

Every Sunday from 1pm

Jazz/Chill out music

on the ocean front terrace

Sunday 27th April

"Tux Deluxe"

ETTALONG



B E A C H C L U B

Ettalong Beach War Memorial Club

51 - 52 The Esplanade

Ettalong Beach NSW 2257

Telephone (02) 4343 0111

Fax (02) 4342 3639

www.ettalongbeachclub.com.au

*Members' prices - Non-members add 10% so why not join now for only \$5

Details correct at time of printing

Journal writing workshop offered

A workshop for people writing a journal is the latest addition to the adult learning programs being offered through Gnostic Forest at Woy Woy.

Meredith Gilmore will present the workshop series, starting on Tuesday, May 13.

"Many people write in a journal at some time in their lives, and find it helpful," Ms Gilmore said.

"Over seven weeks I will present a range of techniques, so that people can experiment and expand on methods they may currently use.

"The benefits of keeping a journal can extend to relationships, work and communication, as well

as to personal understanding and well-being."

Meredith is an experienced workshop facilitator with qualifications in psychology and writing, and claims to have over 20 years experience in journaling.

She is also a local artist known best for her dog portraits, with a studio gallery in Umina Beach.

Her artwork, "Gentle Giant" won the People's Choice award at the Gosford Overflow exhibition in 2006.

For more details about the journaling workshop, telephone 4341 6777 or visit her website at www.meredithgilmore.com.au.

**Press release, 7 Apr 2008
Meredith Gilmore, Gnostic Forest**



Nathan Wakelin has been nominated for the Riding for the Disabled Association's Rider of the Year Award

Nomination for Nathan

Nathan Wakelin from Ettalong Public School Support Class has been nominated for the Riding for the Disabled Association's Rider of the Year.

"Nathan is the Central Coast's Rider of the Year and is anxiously waiting to hear how he fares in the

competition against 30 other riders from NSW," said Ettalong Public School casual teacher Ms Elaine Simmonds.

"Nathan is 11 years old and shows great control and skill when riding his favourite horse, Thunder.

"Coaches Di and Jenny are delighted with his abilities and

encourage him to take control of his horse during weekly lessons.

"Nathan has been having weekly riding lessons with RDA for every Tuesday for two years and attends with other members of K/6D from Ettalong Public School."

**Press release, 2 Apr 2008
Elaine Simmonds, Ettalong Public School**



Ettalong Beach Arts and Crafts Centre

Candlemaking Workshop

When: 26th April 2008 - Time: 10am to 1pm

Where: at our centre

Love Candles? Why not come along and learn how to make soy wax candles. They can be coloured, fragranced or plain and made in a variety of containers. Great for gifts, to sell or just treat yourself.

Workshop Costs: \$55 Members (includes kit)

Non Members \$ 65 (includes membership fee & kit)

A Kit is provided which includes containers, wax, colour, fragrance, wicks and notes.

Enrolments necessary (limited numbers) and all enquiries phone 4341 8344

**KITCHENER PARK, ETTALONG
Corner Picnic Parade and
Maitland Bay Drive**

Sponsored by

Peninsula News
Community Access

Locals graduate from NAISDA

Several local residents have celebrated their graduation from NAISDA, Australia's leading Indigenous performing arts college, on Friday, April 11.

Cecilia Geissler of Umina was among those to graduate at a ceremony held at the Gosford Regional Gallery in the grounds of the Japanese gardens, East Gosford.

Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts Mr Peter Garrett, Member for Robertson Ms Belinda Neal and artist and NAISDA graduate Ms Christine Anu were among those presenting awards and enjoying traditional Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island dance and

music performed by NAISDA's young developing artists.

"Last year's young Australian of the year Ms Tania Major gave the keynote speech and the Minister congratulated the graduates on their fine achievements, as did Ms Neal," NAISDA spokesperson Ms Jennifer Dakers said.

"NAISDA is one of the most significant cultural and learning institutions in Australia," Ms Neal said.

"We are privileged to have the college here on the Central Coast.

"I pay tribute to Kim Walker and his staff for creating an environment here at NAISDA where creativity, passion and talent can combine."

The NAISDA dance college opened in 1975 and moved to Mt

Penang Parklands in September 2006 after more than 10 years at The Rocks in Sydney.

**Press release, 11 Apr 2008
Jennifer Dakers, NAISDA**

**★ WHAT'S ON ★
PENINSULA THEATRE**
Cnr McMasters & Ocean Beach Rds WOY WOY

The CULTURAL LABORATORY
Returning on 9th May
Tickets on sale now.
Still only \$10!

It's a safe space so bring your friends, your ideas & an open mind. Includes a mixture of local performers, story-telling, visual arts, film, music and drama, plus the Open Forum & Supper.

SHORTER + SWEETER
23rd & 24th May

Shorter + Sweeter is a tasting box of some of the best new 10 minute plays from the highly successful Short + Sweet Festivals held in Sydney and Melbourne over the past five years. These shows feature the best of over 3,000 entries.

GOSFORD CITY COUNCIL presents
SHORT + SWEET

Bite-sized theatre with attitude returns in July 2008. Start working on your 10 minute plays - the deadline for submission of scripts is 30 April 2008. The best 10 will be performed at the Peninsula Theatre in July.

More information
www.laycockstreet.com/sns2008.html

EDUCATING RITA
30th May to 7th June
By Willy Russell
Directed by Brenda Logan
A classic Pygmalion story! Susan changes her name to Rita and enrolls in University. She then begins a mutual education with her tutor Dr Frank Bryant, who is also seeking something extra in his dull life.
A presentation from Brisbane Water Secondary College.

BOX OFFICE 43 233 233
Sponsored by
Peninsula News
Community Access

Peninsula Theatre - Cnr McMasters & Ocean Beach Rds, Woy Woy is proudly owned & operated by Gosford City Council



Umina Beach PCYC Trivia Night/Auction
Fundraiser for new PCYC Bus
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\$80 per table (8 persons per table)

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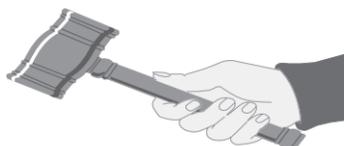
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Public Notices

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Students raise \$1000 for Red Cross

Students from Brisbane Waters Secondary College recently helped raised close to \$1000 for the Red Cross Calling appeal.

"The \$1000 can train 20 volunteers in First Aid so that they can respond during times of emergency, a remarkable contribution by the students and community," Red Cross spokesperson Ms Amber Edwards said.

Members of the Red Cross's Umina Beach Branch, Les Anderson and Eileen Stewart, thanked teachers Liesl Tesch, Rob Howard and Sara Cutting and the students for their assistance in

helping to raise the funds.

Ms Tesch helped coordinate the fundraising efforts of the senior campus and Ms Cutting for the middle school campus.

Mr Howard drove the bus as well as accompanied the students during their fundraising activities.

Mr Anderson and Ms Stewart praised the students for their efforts.

"It was a pleasure to work with these young people," Mr Anderson said.

"They were stable, composed and enthusiastic as they engaged with the public."

**Press release, 9 Apr 2008
Amber Edwards, Australian Red Cross**



Brisbane Water Secondary College Woy Woy senior campus environmental team has launched a sticker campaign

Team launches green bag reminder

Brisbane Water Secondary College Woy Woy senior campus environmental team has launched a sticker to remind people to take their green bags with them when shopping.

The stickers can be given out by grocery stores for customers to place on their windscreens to remind them to take their green bags with them, said the school's Green Team facilitator Ms Linda Langmaid

"This seems to be one of the biggest issues with the bags in that people forget them in the car," she said.

"We have an environment group at the school called 'Go Green'.

"This year they have been concentrating on introducing and monitoring a recycling program within the school.

"The stickers were sponsored as part of a special day we hold annually called Green Day.

"A grant of \$5000 came from Gosford Council and generous sponsorship from a hardware store allowed us to buy bins and have 2000 stickers printed to hand out to local supermarkets.

"This year we begin our campaign to look at energy savings in the school.

"We can all contribute in our

own small ways.

"Begin by remembering your green bags!"

**Press release, 3 Apr 2008
Linda Langmaid, Brisbane Water Secondary College**

School P&C to apply for grants

The Woy Woy Public School P&C will be applying for several school grants over the coming months.

The grants will include the NRMA Community Grant, the Woolworths Fresh Food for Kids Community Grant, the Community Development and Support Expenditure Scheme and the Gosford Council Community Grant.

The P&C will be applying for \$5000 from the NRMA Community Grant.

"This money would allow us to further extend the community garden with work commencing in term 3 and concluding in term 4," P&C president Ms Julie Stevens said.

"Some of the funding would be used to pay for continued support from Equilibrium Eco Services and the rest for plants and other garden materials.

"This application has already been lodged with the decision pending in May."

Ms Stevens said another \$5000 would be applied for from the

Woolworths Fresh Food for Kids Community Grant.

Ms Stevens said this would be most likely used for either a combination of soccer and rugby fixed posts and properly drawn out soccer and rugby fields at the school oval, or for a fixed play zone.

Approximately \$10,000 would be sourced from the Community Development and Support Expenditure Scheme.

"Current thinking is to ask for support for a portable stage to compliment our new COLA (Covered Outdoor Learning Area) but other ideas could be considered," Ms Stevens said.

About \$5000 would be requested from Gosford Council's Community Grant.

"We could apply under a number of categories where the aim of the grant is to support individuals and groups to join together to create a healthy, active and inclusive community."

**Newsletter, 28 Mar 2008
Julie Stevens, Woy Woy Public School**

Mufti day raises \$600

Woy Woy South Public School recently raised \$600 as part of its Red Cross Mufti Day, according to principal Mr Mick Tattam.

"Woy Woy South Public School has a widely recognised record of support for charitable organisations," Mr Tattam said.

"In the past, we have support Stewart House, Life Education, CanTeen, The Cancer Council, Central Coast Community Chest and World Vision just to name a few."

**Newsletter, 8 Apr 2008
Mick Tattam, Woy Woy South Public School**

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Pictorial



Kody Morgan won the Troy Tatham Trophy at the recent skate competition in Umina

Kody wins trophy

Kody Morgan was awarded the Troy Tatham Trophy at the Uminafied Skate and BMX competition on April 5.

Kody was presented with the award for "young person showing the most potential".

The trophy was donated by Troy's father in remembrance of Troy's passion for skating, and to commemorate his endeavours in life.

Now in its sixth year, the Uminafied event included skate,

surfing and BMX competitions and an evening event of surf movies on the beach.

The day also included food, drinks, information stalls and local MCs, DJs, beat-boxers and bands.

The event was held at the Umina Skate Park, at the end of Melbourne Ave, Umina.

Competitions were held for Up to 16s and for those under 24 years.

**Press release, 11 Apr 2008
Kate Carragher, Gosford Council**

Youth garden opened at Woy Woy

Member for Robertson Ms Belinda Neal officially opened a youth and community garden at Woy Woy Public School last week.

"The Youth and Community Garden at Woy Woy Public School is a superb example of how a terrific environmental project can be made socially inclusive, combining ecological education for school children and also re-connecting previously disengaged youth with their community," Ms Neal said.

"The lessons learnt in this project are priceless for the children, the youth and the wider community."

The Woy Woy Public School garden contains a variety of plant and forest ecosystem types, including edible plants, natives and bush foods that thrive in local

conditions.

The garden design has been informed by Indigenous land management practices and by perspectives gained by students during field trips to a range of local ecosystems.

The garden is accessible to the public and will evolve into a valuable learning area with the input of local students and volunteers.

The project was a partnership between Equilibrium Eco-Services Inc. of Ettalong Beach and Youth Connections Inc. of Gosford

It was supported by \$32,000 in funds from the Hunter-Central Rivers Catchment Management Authority and the Australian Government's Natural Heritage Trust, now known as Caring for Our Country program.

"This project shows what can be achieved when communities and our schools work in partnership," Ms Neal.

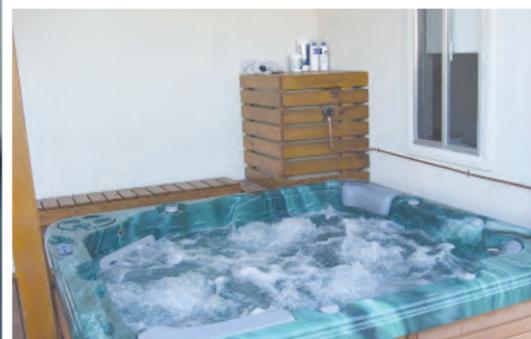
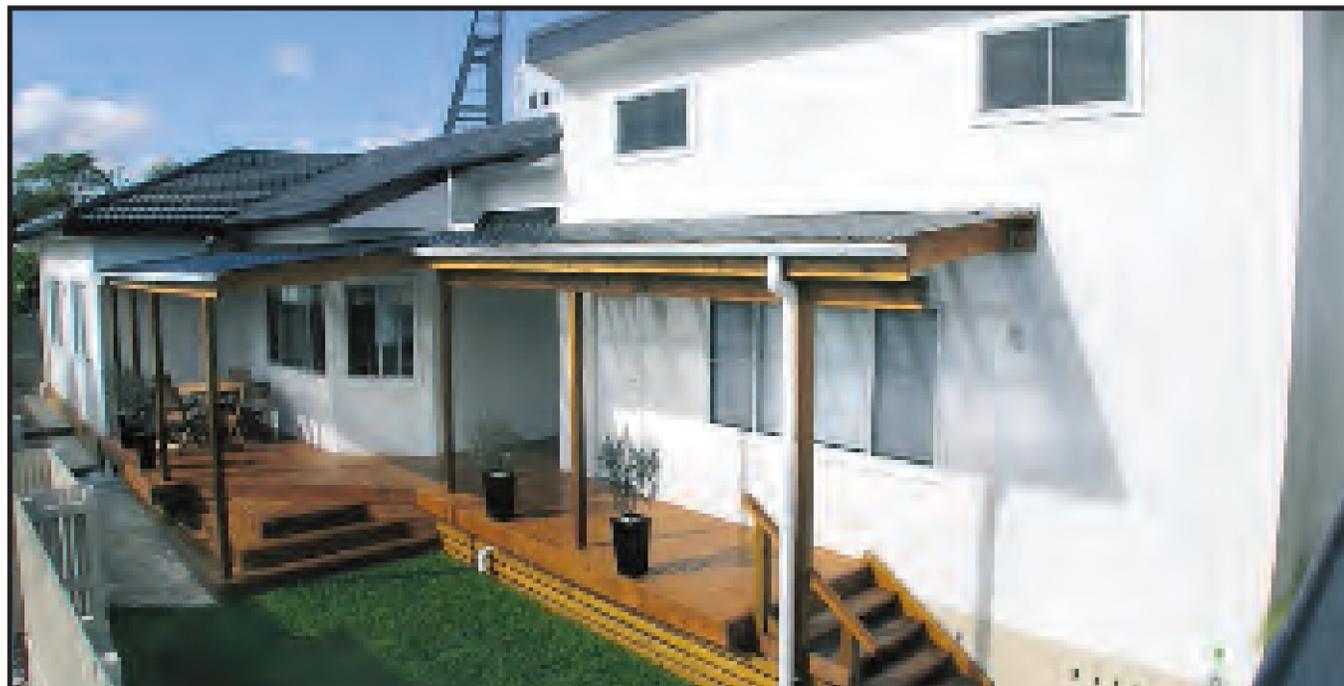
The garden was conceived, designed, and developed by youth in collaboration with experts in natural resource management since October last year, according to Equilibrium Eco-Services sustainability education officer Ms Mia Hughes.

Ms Hughes said the main aim of the project was to reconnect "disengaged youth" with the community and the environment, as well as educating others about natural gardening principles using sites located within public school grounds.

**Press release, 9 Apr 2008
Belinda Neal, Member for Robertson**

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Foreshore should shine like diamond

I'm an Irish commuter who lives in Sydney and has the great privilege to work on the beautiful Central Coast – in Woy Woy, affectionately now referred to by me in Sydney as "The Woy".

My 180 km daily commute via the F3 has just received a boost with the emergence of finding the "diamond in the rough" that is the Ettalong Beach foreshore.

What a revelation to a jaded suburban Sydneysider commuter to see this natural beauty now emerging from the years of neglect that has resulted in the dunes being covered by the proliferation of overgrowth.

There is now at least a fleeting glimpse of this faded beauty that hopefully will now be fully restored to her previous splendour.

Modesty is certainly a virtue, but

Forum

in the case of the Ettalong Foreshore my view is that it has been clad in its matronly overgrowth for far too long, and now needs to come out into the sunshine and shine like the natural diamond that it is.

As a non-local, I am constantly amazed and in awe of the natural scenic beauty of this area that appears to be deliberately hidden as if to deny the community one of its greatest assets.

This natural beauty certainly needs to be carefully managed to maintain the amenity for all and in particular safeguard its environmental future for future generations of locals and non-locals alike.

But it should not be treated like a museum piece or some sacred relic off limits to the view of the

community.

Responsible management of the Ettalong foreshore will enhance the appeal of the area for the local community as well as provide an incentive for non-locals like myself to visit and become entranced by the natural scenic beauty.

Surely this is an argument to return the area to its former glory and not the degradation of the current 'natural environment of overgrowth and neglect'.

Generally nostalgia is a lovely place to visit, but you can seldom live there.

It seems to me that in turning back the clock and reclaiming the Ettalong Foreshore to its former glory, locals in this instance can afford to be nostalgic, and can in fact have their cake and eat it too!

Michael Nesbitt
Woy Woy

Changes will come

Forum

This changing demographics will force areas like Umina to have to adapt and most likely become a better seaside village with work galore for locals and healthy business for local businesses.

Change is in the wind.

This part of the world can no longer remain in a time warp when it is so close to Sydney.

Pat Brophy
Umina

In reply to Meredith Graham's letter (Peninsula News March 31), any town within an hour of Sydney will not be able to avoid the population spreading to their town.

Especially Ettalong and Umina have so much untapped potential and the demands that will create for services.

As well, Sydney real estate prices are forcing working families to take advantage of cheap housing (whether renting or buying) in places like Ettalong and Umina which are still within an hour of Sydney by F3, train or ferry.

Businesses want fair share

I refer to the letter from Richard Newby (March 10) regarding the calls by the Chamber of Commerce for an increase in the funding for street cleaning, maintenance and security in our Peninsula town centres.

Like Mr Newby's grandfather (who was a shopkeeper), many of our local business operators also sweep their footpaths and clean their shopfronts each morning.

This is a basic expectation which ensures that businesses look clean and attract customers.

However, all businesses are rated by Council with funds allocated for the general cleaning, maintenance and security across each of our Peninsula retail centres which go beyond the normal daily expectations of our

Forum

Letters to the editor should be sent to:

Peninsula News
PO Box 532,
Woy Woy 2256
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See Page 2 for
contribution conditions

local shopkeepers.

Mr Newby asks whether we can afford to give more subsidies to local business and this is where Mr Newby is clearly wrong.

The Chamber is not asking for subsidies at all.

The Chamber is simply asking that more of the money that our

business people pay through rates and rental outgoings is spent on ensuring that our Peninsula town centres are kept clean, receive the maintenance they deserve and are safe for the very customers on which they rely.

Like many business people down here, I am sick and tired of seeing the rate dollar raised on the Peninsula being spent in other sections of the city whilst our local retail centres are treated like second class citizens.

With millions of dollars being spend on upgrading the Terrigal town centre and beautifying the Gosford CBD ghost town, I would like to see a little bit of that come this way without having to continually fight for every lousy dollar.

Matthew Wales
Peninsula Chamber of Commerce

Long-time resident dies at 93

I thought some of your readers might like to know the passing of my mother, a well-known former Peninsula resident, Violet Mackay.

Violet passed away on March 19, in her Wyoming Community Aged Care home.

She was 93 years of age.

Violet lived in Woy Woy for more than 70 years and I am sure a lot of old friends have missed her

Forum

passing.

Violet was the beloved wife of Bill (deceased), loving mum and mother-in-law of Barry and Lynette, Barb and Mal (deceased), proud nan to her six grandchildren and adored "gateway" to her 11 great grand children.

Barry John Mackay
Umina

Incredible fire

It seems incredible that a fire can come to Ettalong Beach and no one bats an eyelid.

There would appear to be no investigation as to how or why, or what's more to the point who caused it.

It is amazing that just the right piece of bush was burned and just the right toilet block and that private business people were willing to clear it all, at no extra cost to the ratepayers.

Furthermore, the council was able to dig even deeper and find just the right amount of money required to do the work.

Our rates have risen and our roads are in a dangerous state but

Forum

plans for Ettalong would appear to take precedence.

Margaret Lund
Woy Woy

Make Umina shopping more pleasant

The Peninsula Chamber of Commerce President Mr Matthew Wales has stated that the future proposed extension of the Umina shopping district could become the next Erina Fair.

He further stated that small businesses struggled because local shoppers went to Erina Fair I don't think so.

The hassle and cost of travelling to Erina Fair has increased greatly and Woy Woy is much closer and

Forum

a better choice.

Secondly, the aging population is not inclined enough to spend a whole day out going to and from the Fair.

Finally, the introduction of large Woolworths and Coles stores will also bring with it a number of smaller shop vacancies similar to

Erina Fair.

If the Chamber of Commerce

is to make Umina shopping centre more acceptable to shoppers and more profitable for retailers, it should first concentrate on providing better parking and accessibility for shoppers and a more pleasant atmosphere: More arcades and outdoor market type stores.

Has the Chamber of Commerce asked the community what they want?

Rod Fountain
Erina

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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