

Gosford Draft Local Environment Plan zoning maps for the Peninsula (courtesy of Gosford Council website)

## LEP threatens bushland, say environmentalists

**The Gosford Draft Local Environment Plan has sparked concern among local environmentalists about the protection of more than 20 public bushland sites on the Peninsula.**

Chairman of the Community Environment Network Mr John Asquith said he knew of more than 15 local community groups who had joined together to voice objections to the draft plan currently on exhibition until April 8.

Mr Asquith said the group's main concern was that the draft plan failed to protect the natural environment in Gosford's Coastal Open Space System and other public bushlands.

Nor had it addressed the implications of sea level rise and climate change.

He said the group had urged council to use vegetation and sea level rise mapping in addition to its Biodiversity Strategy, 2008, in its final plan.

"We have identified public bushland reserves on the Peninsula and nearby areas that will lose their environmental protection under the proposed LEP," Mr Asquith said.

"The draft LEP allows a range of unacceptable uses not currently permitted in these areas

"Other councils such as Wollongong, Lane Cove, Mosman and Ryde have either zoned or are seeking to zone their bushland reserves for conservation, why hasn't Gosford?"

"The DLEP is a lost opportunity to better protect the environment in Gosford."

Mr Asquith identified bushland reserves on the Peninsula with reduced protection under the proposed draft plan including Pearl Beach Arboretum, Umina Coastal Sandplain Woodland next to the Ocean Beach Holiday Park as well as Umina, Ocean Beach and Ettalong foreshores.

More than 100 Pearl Beach residents attended a meeting of the progress association on March 13.

"The people of Pearl Beach are justly proud of their beautiful natural environment and want to ensure that it is not eroded by inappropriate development," association secretary Ms Penny Carle said.

"The DLEP does not identify or adequately protect high conservation native vegetation, environmentally sensitive areas, riparian and other wildlife corridor linkages.

"COSS and other publicly-owned lands acquired and managed for conservation will be zoned as Public Recreation (RE1) allowing a range of inappropriate uses.

"The RE1 zoning will apply to the Pearl Beach Arboretum, the beachfront reserve area (including the dunes), the lagoon foreshore, crown land (the Mazlin farm), Paul Landa Reserve and the Pearl Beach headland where the water tank stands – all areas of high environmental sensitivity.

"Other councils have protected their high conservation value bushland areas with an E2 Environmental Conservation zone."

The Peninsula Environment Group has also joined other local groups and organisations in urging residents to make a submission to the Draft Local Environment Plan.

"The proposed new zoning would open up the Peninsula's last parcels of bushland, such as Blackwall Mountain and Mt Ettalong, to potential development," group president Mr Mark Mann said.

"We feel they should be put in the new E2 zone, which bans any development, not the RE zone the council is proposing.

"I'd urge anyone who wants to see these beautiful spots saved for future generations to write or email the council now.

"There's a draft email letter on the PEG website ([www.peg.org.au](http://www.peg.org.au)) which people can use."

Gosford Council will accept submissions to the Draft Local Environment Plan via email at [gosford\\_lep\\_submissions@gosford.nsw.gov.au](mailto:gosford_lep_submissions@gosford.nsw.gov.au) before Thursday, April 8.

**Press release, 19 Mar 2010**  
**John Asquith, Community Environment Network**  
**Press release, 17 Mar 2010**  
**Penny Carle, Pearl Beach Progress Association**  
**Media statement, 18 Mar 2010**  
**Mark Mann, Peninsula Environment Group**

## Council swipes at green groups

**Gosford Council's manager of integrated planning, Mr Eddie Love, has entered the debate about the environmental adequacy of the council's draft planning scheme.**

He has taken a swipe at the region's leading environmental groups, describing their position "misleading and incorrect".

His statement puts Gosford Council on a collision course with the region's environment movement.

Implying that environmentalists should not question or disagree with council staff explanations of the Draft Local Environment Plan (DLEP), he said: "The vast majority of people have been either happy, satisfied or at least understand the

issue that they enquired about after discussion with Council staff."

Mr Love said: "Media attention however has been given to a few individuals representing groups or land owners with particular interests and have conveyed what may be considered by some as misleading and incorrect information."

Mr Love made the statement in answer to questions put to him by Peninsula News about environmental criticism of the DLEP.

Despite these statements, Mr Love claimed the council was able to remain objective.

"Council must approach preparation of the DLEP from an objective position," he said.

**Media statement, 17 Mar 2010**  
**Eddie Love, Gosford Council**

## Council may review bushland zoning

**Gosford Council may have to review the zoning of its bushland reserves as "recreation" under the draft Local Environment Plan (LEP).**

Gosford Council's manager of integrated planning, Mr Eddie Love, has revealed that the Department of Planning has told it to "review its use of E (environmental) zones as soon as practical".

However, Mr Love suggested that there were no plans to do this before the LEP was gazetted.

Mr Love said: "Since the proposed Draft Gosford LEP 2009 was lodged by council with the Department of Planning in May, 2008, the Department released a Practice Note to guide how Environmental Zones should be applied under new LEPs.

"When the Department amended Draft Gosford LEP 2009 and certified it ready for public exhibition in January 2010, it commented that the draft plan is now inconsistent with the new Environmental Zones Practice Note.

"The Department requests that council review its use of E zones as soon as practical, which may result in future amendments to the LEP.

Mr Love said council was investigating all methods to manage "environmentally sensitive lands" in both private and public ownership through the new LEP and associated process.

"The LEP (template) E1 zone is designated for National Parks and Nature Reserves (State Government), hence if the E2 Environmental Conservation is designated for large areas of publicly-owned environmentally sensitive landscapes, there would be just two environmental zones available for all private land in the city with similar attributes.

These are currently under eight conservation type zones," Mr Love said.

Mr Love said council staff were considering whether this would diminish or preserve the environment values of these lands.

Mr Love said: that public

reserves on the Peninsula were currently mostly zoned Open Space Recreation 6(a) under the current Local Environmental Plan, including foreshores, Woy Woy Oval, James Browne Oval, Rogers Park, Peninsula Leisure Centre, Blackwall Mountain reserve, Pearl Beach Arboretum and the Umina Recreation Area.

"The 6(a) zone allows for recreation uses; however these lands are managed under Plans of Management prepared with the community's input under the Local Government Act.

"The POMs set out the uses which council will allow on these areas, usually either recreation or natural bushland.

"These lands have been managed in this manner since 1993."

Mr Love said that they had "been placed into the comparable zone being RE1 Public Recreation" because "the LEP template does not contain a Public Natural Areas zone".

**Media statement, 17 Mar 2010**  
**Eddie Love, Gosford Council**



News

# Competitions - Win Win Win Your chance to win big!



**Peninsula News, in conjunction with Peninsular Office Supplies in Umina, is giving readers the chance to win a \$125 prize of office products.**

The prize includes any combination of products in-store including general stationery and

printing accessories up to the value of \$125.

The competition closes Thursday, April 8, 5pm.

To enter, simply write your name, address and phone number on the back of an envelope and send to: Peninsula News, Peninsular Office Supplies Competition, PO Box 1056,

Gosford, NSW 2250.

The winner of the Earth Central Competition from last edition was Mr Rodney Pilling from Bensville.

Mr Pilling won a double pass to see world music group Djan Djan perform at Kantara House on March 16, valued at \$100.

Clare Graham, 16 Mar 2010

## Peninsula News moves again

**Peninsula News and its publisher Ducks Crossing Publications are moving to larger premises within the Gosford CBD from March 24.**

The new location is at 120c Erina St, Gosford, almost next door to Gosford Post Office.

A new postal address and new telephone numbers are shown on page two of the newspaper.

The email and web addresses will not change.

The move will be accompanied

by a campaign to promote the Peninsula to businesses in Gosford.

This will include distribution of the newspaper and other publications by hand to all businesses and offices in the Gosford CBD in a similar manner to our regular distribution to all businesses in the Woy Woy, Ettalong and Umina CBDs.

It is now also possible to distribute inserts to those businesses.

Cec Bucello, 12 Mar 2010

## Mega-saving of water

**St Hubert's Island and Patonga are now saving more than 100 million litres of drinking water per year thanks to Gosford Council's Pressure and Leakage Management**

**Program, according to council's director of water and sewerage Mr Rod Williams.**

Mr Williams said the program aimed to control water loss from the region's water distribution system by managing leaks and system pressure.

He said the water savings achieved within St Hubert's Island and Patonga could be attributed to active leak detection, reduction in system pressure and ongoing monitoring of the water supply system.

"As part of the program the supply system within the two areas has been fitted with electromagnetic flow meters, pressure reducing valves and data loggers," Mr Williams said.

"These devices enable council to detect any abnormal water use, identify leaks and respond accordingly.

Council received a grant of \$28,000 in support of the program through the Australian Government, WaterSmart Australia regional Water Loss Management Program.

"The 100 megalitres per year Gosford Council is saving has meant the total water savings through the regional program to date exceeds 1.3 billion litres."

Press release, 3 Mar 2010  
Kylie Gillett, Gosford Council

# Peninsula News

Community Access

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

**Association President and Editor:** Mark Snell

**Commercial operator:** Cec Bucello for Ducks Crossing Publications

**Journalist:** Clare Graham

**Graphic design:** Justin Stanley

### Declaration of interests

**Honorary editor:** Mark Snell

Owner and managing director, Open Windows Consulting Pty Ltd  
Convenor, Burrawang Bushland Reserve Committee  
President, Australian Conservation Foundation Central Coast branch  
Chairman, Equilibrium Community Ecology Inc  
Vice-president, Brisbane Water Secondary College Umina Campus P&C

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### Contributions

Letters to the editor and other contributions are welcomed and should be addressed to: Peninsula News PO Box 1056, Gosford 2250. Contributions should be in Word format sent via email to: mail@peninsulanews.asn.au, on disks or by handwritten letter if these facilities are not available to you. Contributions must 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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## Ski boat capsizes

**A six metre \$30,000 ski boat capsized while crossing the bar at Little Box Head around midday on March 13.**

Local police, NSW Maritime and Marine Rescue Central Coast were notified and attended the scene almost immediately.

Marine Rescue Central Coast public relations officer Mr Ron Cole said three people were thrown into the water as a result of the incident.

"As rescue boat skipper Norm Smith and his crew of Ian Brown, Ken Sharp and Ted Leeson were hurrying to the scene, they were advised that two of the people had been picked up by a motor cruiser and that the third person was on a fishing club member's runabout,"

Mr Cole said.

"Seas on arrival at Little Box Head were found to be short, very lumpy and about two metres.

"The bow of the capsized boat was just visible, floating vertically due to the weight of its 225HP motor.

"With the assistance of a local surf life saving club rescue boat, a tow line was attached to the capsized vessel and it was dragged to Lobster Beach.

"A NSW Maritime vessel collected the three men from the overturned vessel.

"One had a badly lacerated toe and was transferred to Central Coast Lifeboat for first-aid treatment and subsequent transfer to an ambulance at Woy Woy.

"The Maritime BSO transported the other men to Apple Tree Bay to collect their car and boat trailer.

"The ski-boat skipper told the Marine Rescue NSW crew that they were hit by a wave and flipped.

"With the assistance of two local surf club members as well as three members of the public at Lobster Beach, the ski boat was righted and pumped out using equipment from the Marine Rescue vessel.

"Once afloat the \$30,000 ski-boat was towed to the inner ramp at Lions Park, Woy Woy.

"The rescue was a great example of cooperation among several agencies, leading to a positive result for all involved."

**Press release, 14 Mar 2010  
Ron Cole, Marine Rescue  
Central Coast**



Members of the local surf club and general public assist in getting the ski boat afloat near Lobster Beach

## Electricity demand increases

**Energy Australia has announced a \$50 million power supply upgrade near Empire Bay to cater for a 36 per cent increase in demand for power across the area over the next five years.**

Major projects general manager Mr Geoff Lilliss said new residential and commercial development in addition to the conversion of traditional holiday homes to more permanent dwellings was driving the increase in energy use.

"Demand for power in this area is double the average growth across our network," Mr Lilliss said.

"This new zone substation will power an estimated 6000 homes and businesses in Empire Bay, Saratoga, Bensville, Davistown, Kincumber South, Killcare Heights, Hardy's Bay and Daley's Point.

"The project will meet the high demand for power in the area and make the electricity supply more reliable for the region."

The upgrade will involve up to 25 kilometres of powerlines connected

to a proposed new electricity substation on Empire Bay Dr near Poole Cl as well as connections to the wider electricity network for local homes and businesses.

Mr Lilliss said Energy Australia would work closely with the local community to ensure minimal impact.

"We are writing to about 700 homes in the area to inform them of this project," Mr Lilliss said.

"A Review of Environmental Factors for the project is being prepared to help guide ways of

reducing any potential impact on the local area.

"We have also been discussing this project with the immediate neighbours, Gosford

Council and RTA to make sure we get the best possible outcome for the local community.

"We estimate that we may need to remove about 20 trees out of more than 500 trees across the entire site.

"However, any tree removed will be replaced with five more, which means there will be more bushland

on the site when we finish our work.

"We will also be holding a community display and have set up a dedicated phone number to make sure the local community can receive any information they need about this project and to provide feedback."

Work on the project is expected to start sometime this year and is planned to be commissioned by mid 2012.

**Press release, 12 Mar 2010  
Allyn Hamonet, Energy Australia**

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## Council cuts back library hours

**Gosford Council has cut back opening hours at Umina and Woy Woy libraries after a "review of library resources", according to council's director of community services and organisational development, Mr Terry Thirlwell.**

Mr Thirlwell said changes would bring Gosford Council libraries in line with other Local Government Areas across NSW.

The changes will see Woy Woy Library opening hours cut back by seven-and-a-half hours per week and Umina Library by nine hours per week.

Major changes to the opening hours will see Umina Library closed on Saturdays with a 5pm closing time on weekdays.

Current hours for Umina are 9.30am to 5.30pm Monday to Friday and 9.30am to 4pm on Saturdays.

Meanwhile Woy Woy Library will no longer have an extended closing time of 8pm on Thursdays and will close at 5pm weekdays under the new changes.

Opening hours at Woy Woy have also been reduced by two hours across the weekend with a

new closing time of 12.30pm on Saturdays and 3pm on Sundays.

Mr Thirlwell said the changes would come into effect on May 1.

"Currently the Gosford LGA houses eight public libraries which operate for close to 380 hours per week," Mr Thirlwell said.

"With these changes, Gosford City libraries will still operate in excess of standard hours at close to 300 hours per week."

Mr Thirlwell said funds have been reallocated to provide improved library resources and better maintain library facilities and no funding cuts have been made to library budgets.

"A decision has been made to reallocate library funding to focus on building better library resources and improving existing library facilities by changing the duration of library operating hours," Mr Thirlwell said.

"These changes have been adopted in full consultation with the relevant unions and council staff.

"No redundancies will be incurred as a result of these changes."

**Press release, 15 Mar 2010  
Terry Thirlwell, Gosford Council  
Website, 16 Mar 2010  
Gosford Council**



Local residents and community groups look on as legal representatives meet with the Land and Environment Court to inspect the proposed development site

## Killcare appeal rejected

**The Land and Environment Court has dismissed an appeal against Gosford Council's rejection of a seven-storey development in Araluen Dr, Hardy's Bay.**

Community group president Mr Adrian Williams said the recent news had been greeted with elation in the general community.

Mr Williams said the developer's appeal to the court was rejected by Commissioner Brown on March 8, based on a number of factors including excessive visual impact.

"The immediate response to the eventual decision on the long-running controversy was one of a mix of exhilaration and relief, with community members expressing delight with the outcome," Mr Williams said.

"The interests of the community had to be a paramount concern when a major development of this nature is under consideration.

"This complex simply didn't fit in with the rest of the buildings around the bay and the general environment.

"This is great news for our community.

"Common sense has prevailed."

Local architect Mr Peter Macfadyen said he couldn't agree more with the decision to block the development.

"We are quite open to sites along the foreshore being developed but we would have liked to see a more sensible approach taken," Mr Macfadyen said.

"Obviously, this proposal was one of blatant overdevelopment and

the court has certainly confirmed that with this recent decision."

Meanwhile, president of the Wagstaffe Killcare Community Association Mr Graeme Anderson said the combined pressure and joint support found with the Hardy's Bay Residents Group and the Killcare Wagstaffe Trust no doubt helped the cause.

"We are happy with the low key atmosphere that has over the years attracted a village-like community," Mr Anderson said.

"We are at the end of a road and not a medium density hub alongside public transport, and strongly prefer to stay that way."

**Press release, 17 Mar 2010**

**Allan Wilson, Hardy's Bay Residents Group**

**Press release, 8 Mar 2010**

**Graeme Anderson, Wagstaffe Killcare Community Association**

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## Lifts break down 60 times

**Woy Woy train station experienced 60 lift breakdowns from January 2008 to December 2009, according to a Freedom of Information document released by the NSW Opposition.**

The document also revealed that Woy Woy train station saw five passengers trapped in lifts for a total of more than 90 minutes.

Liberal candidate for Wyong Mr Darren Webber said it was time

Parliamentary Secretary for the Central Coast Mr David Harris and the NSW Labor Government "got their act together" and fix the problem.

Mr Webber said a total of 184 lift breakdowns were seen at Wyong, Gosford and Woy Woy train stations over the past two years with an average of two lift breakdowns a week.

"The frequency of these breakdowns demonstrates Labor's incompetence and failure to understand the needs of the

public," Mr Webber said.

"Lifts breaking down is a massive inconvenience for parents with prams, the elderly and people with a disability, especially those in wheelchairs.

"In many cases it would make train travel impossible.

"Public transport should be accessible for everyone - not just those who can go up and down stairs.

**Press release, 9 Mar 2010  
Darren Webber, Liberal candidate for Wyong**



Belinda Neal waiting outside the Woy Woy CWA Hall before the pre-selection verdict is announced (photo courtesy of Edward James)

## Neal loses pre-selection

**Member for Robertson Ms Belinda Neal has lost the contest for Labour pre-selection for her seat.**

Ms Neal lost the vote at Woy Woy CWA Hall on March 6, receiving 67 votes to Ms Deborah O'Neill's 98 votes.

Ms O'Neill said: "I am humbled and honoured to be the Labor candidate for the seat of Robertson," Ms O'Neill said.

"Having lived on the Central Coast for the past 25 years and having raised my family here - I know the community has achieved a lot but there is more work to be done.

"I take nothing for granted.

"This will be a tough campaign."

Ms O'Neill said her priority in the upcoming Federal election was working with the Rudd Labor

Government to deliver better health services for the Central Coast including a Radiography Unit, delivering more support to local schools and securing road funding for the region.

Ms Neal of Woy Woy Bay said: "I have worked tirelessly for the benefit of the Central Coast community, the ALP and the broad labour movement for over 25 years."

Meanwhile, the NSW Liberal Party has formally ratified Mr Darren Jameson as its candidate for the seat of Robertson.

Gosford Cr Peter Freewater will represent the Greens.

**Media statement, 6 Mar 2010**

**Deborah O'Neill, Labor**

**Candidate for Robertson**

**Media statement, 6 Mar 2010**

**Belinda Neal, Member for Robertson**

## Native gardening workshops

**The Peninsula Environment Group will host free community garden workshops in coming weeks.**

The workshops will support the establishment of a natural community garden at the Woy Woy Environment Centre.

After taking a break over summer, the first workshop for the year will take place at the centre on Tuesday, March 30, from 4pm to 6pm with all members of the community including families welcome to attend.

Workshops are also scheduled for Tuesday, March 30, from 4pm to 6pm, and on Saturday, April 10, from 9am to 12pm.

The hands-on workshops will transform the grounds of the centre into a low-maintenance, drought-proof garden, using mostly local

native species.

"We will explore a range of local native species that are perfect for local gardens," Group president Mr Mark Mann said.

"Local native species look beautiful and need little or no watering.

"Planting them in your garden helps preserve the natural ecology

of the Peninsula, and will attract native wildlife and birds such as rosellas and lorikeets."

For more information visit [www.peg.org.au](http://www.peg.org.au) or contact Mia Hughes on 4342 9676 or via email at [info@equilibrium.net.au](mailto:info@equilibrium.net.au).

**Press release, 17 Mar 2010  
Mia Hughes, Equilibrium Eco-Services Inc**

**U can find out more at**

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Many of those out and about once again seeking voter support have displayed no political interest in correcting the wrongs done by the already identified corrupt Gosford City Council.

Unfortunately for me and my father now deceased, when I stepped up to do the job our elected representatives still refuse to do, I discovered the wrongs government do to one, they do to everyone

Our problems are incidental to the problems of those all around us.

So many kind hearted and practical people tell me to let the fight for natural justice go and move on.

From their point of view, they are right.

These are the people who pass me every second Tuesday when I hand them copies of the Peninsula News.

They understand as mortgage holders, voters and taxpayers, many of them also parents, that there is no future in pursuing a political war with governments who have a bottomless pit of public money to defend themselves, whether they are right or wrong.

Many people who accept the Peninsula News from me have at one time or another "got into it" with disrespectful and sometimes criminal government.

They understand the cost in time, money and emotional resources.

Very few people actually go so far as to tell me it is just not worth it.

I take heart from those who tell me they are

pleased someone is willing and able to stand up publicly to these political bullies and cowards.

They understand that after decades of rubbish representation, the two parties not much preferred will form an alliance which has hundreds, if not thousands, of paid pawns, all of them willing in their naivety to engage in a process of obfuscation and delay.

This process has often been identified as denying oxygen to public political dissent.

Gosford City Council, my elected corporate entity, is CORRUPT!

Political parties and some independent politicians have been and still are involved directly in the activity of Gosford City Council.

Premier Keneally is the most recent, but not the last, in a long line of Premiers called on for justice.

As the Principal of The Office of Premier and Cabinet, she now presides over more than ten years of accommodating the identified systemic corruption which can, on occasion, be exposed as malfeasance by our State Ombudsman.

An excellent example of this is the seven year battle that 83 year old Magda Mallone had with her Canterbury City Council. <http://indymedia.org.au/2010/02/20/nsw-ombudsman-confirms-maladministration-at-canterbury-city-council>

Our Ministries for Local Government and for Planning are politically culpable for accommodating the sins that councils commit against their ratepayers.

Grubby, lazy politicians are lining up again to ask for your votes.

Political parties are not doing the job we expect them to do.

They are back again asking you to trust them, accept still more promises in a habitually unfair trade for our voter confidence in one or the other of the two parties not much preferred.

I am attacking all of those politicians who have sat on their hands and flat out refused

to correct the corrupt actions which have disenfranchised me and my father before me.

My allegations are clearly before the court of public opinion and a growing number of readers.

I expect politicians who want voter support to act very publicly on my published allegations.

When I last spoke to Barry O'Farrell, he suggested I take my concerns about the Mayor of Gosford Council and the council to the court.

I laughed and explained how I had learnt by watching others that only a fool with money to burn would take a political argument into a court of law.

This is certainly a political fight because if politicians whom we give our votes to in trust can tell lies and continue with impunity, then that brings the whole political process into disrepute.

After almost ten years of pursuing my particular concern, there must be some people at the grass roots of politics who are asking their elected representatives why it is that Mr. James can continue to publish his allegations about Gosford City Council being corrupt, when those published allegations reflect badly on the whole political process.

My answer is that party members will be exposed for what they are and for that reason alone, politicians have closed ranks to protect their brothers and sisters in government.

Their collective attitude is: Bugger the Constituents.

**Edward James,  
P.O. Box 3024**

**Umina Beach NSW 2257  
02 4341 9140**

**For more information, go to:  
<http://gosfordcouncil.tripod.com>**



**These photos reveal just a small example of the damage which results when proper maintenance of the protective concrete is ignored by council for decades. Peats Ridge Road Mooney Mooney Water Catchment. Ring 02 43419140 for electronic copies of this or any other of my advertisements**



# Couples celebrate diamond anniversary

Two Peninsula couples have celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary this month.

Don and Daphne Eagle of Umina and John and Shirley Twiner of Patonga celebrated with family and friends and will also have a second honeymoon.

Don and Daphne's daughter Judy said being married for 60 years was quite significant these days given that so many marriages did not last the distance.

After moving from Brisbane to the Peninsula in 1954, the Eagles spent several months in Adelaide before returning to Ettalong from 1955 to 1961 where Don began practicing as a Baptist Minister.

The couple now live together at Peninsula Village where Don served as the Honorary Chaplin until 2008.

The Eagle's were married at Rosalie Baptist Church on March 11, 1950, after meeting at the Greenslopes Baptist Church in Brisbane.

Their union has brought the couple great joy welcoming into the world one daughter and two sons, followed by 10 grandchildren and one great grandchild many years later.

Don said the secret to a happy and successful marriage was



Don and Daphne Eagle of Umina were married on March 11, 1950 shown through having a wonderful Christian marriage and children.

As part of their anniversary celebration, the Eagles will fly to Darwin before travelling to the Red Centre by The Ghan rail service.

Patonga couple John and Shirley Twiner will also celebrate their special day with a trip away after enjoying holidays together each year since their honeymoon.

Friends since childhood, a first date to the picture theatre started a life time of romance for the Twiners, and after three years of courtship the couple were married

at St Paul's Church in Bankstown on March 25, 1950.

After raising their two daughters in Yagoona, the Twiners moved to Patonga on their retirement.

John, a World War II veteran stationed in Moratai, worked for Qantas before his retirement while Shirley ran her own dance studio which has been continued by her two daughters as the Twiner-Anderson School of Dance.

Through John's continuous work with Rowe St Musicals (now Ashfield Musical Society) since 1972, he has been awarded



John and Shirley Twiner of Patonga were married in March 25, 1950

the Australia Day Citizen of the Year award and the Bicentennial Commemorative Medal.

John and Shirley said they loved spending their spare time with their four grandsons and granddaughter

and last year welcomed a great granddaughter.

Letter, 3 Mar 2010  
Judy Bolas, Umina  
Letter, 21 Feb 2010  
Wendy Twiner, Patonga

## More money for precinct park

Gosford Council has been awarded \$170,000 under the State Government's Metro Greenspace program to contribute to landscaping and access improvements at the \$4.3 million Peninsula Recreation Precinct.

Gosford mayor Cr Chris Holstein said the funding was a welcome boost that would further enhance much of the work that had already been carried out on the Peninsula project.

"Primary weeding is ongoing on over five hectares of Endangered Ecological Community and

Regionally Significant Vegetation, with bush regeneration contractors removing significant volumes of lantana and bitou bush from the site," Cr Holstein said.

"It is anticipated that the project will significantly improve the condition of the Umina Sandplain Coastal Woodland EEC and the regionally significant Coastal Sand Fore-dune Scrub community found along the landward margins of Umina Beach."

Cr Holstein said many other components of the project development were also progressing.

"Works are currently underway

on the Melbourne Ave car park and associated car park lighting instalments.

"The tennis court playground is complete and operational as well as the multipurpose court, which is being hired by a Futsal (soccer) club and tennis clinics during the

coming school holidays.

"The Tennis Clubhouse has become a popular venue for various community activities now that there is access to a suitable playground and multi-purpose court.

Cr Holstein said council had applied for further funding

under the Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program for additional works including the provision of a half-court basketball court, tennis court fencing and dune fencing.

Press release, 8 Mar 2010  
Chris Holstein, Gosford mayor

**Are you entitled to \$4000 worth of Government funded free dental treatment?**

*You may be eligible for free dental treatment if you suffer from a chronic illness such as cancer, diabetes, arthritis, stroke etc.*



**Woy Woy Dental Centre**

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**4342 3538**



## DLEP is flawed

### The Gosford Draft Local Environment Plan (DLEP) is flawed for two main reasons:

It takes no account of climate change or rising sea levels.

It makes inadequate provision for the protection of highly sensitive public lands and coastal foreshores.

Since the Vision for the DLEP was formulated circumstances have radically changed.

The State Government and Council have accepted for planning purposes sea level rises of 0.9 metres by 2100 – in line with the recommendation from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

The Federal Government has accepted a greenhouse gas emissions reduction target of five per cent (on 2000 levels) by 2020

A national assessment of coastal vulnerability has ranked Gosford as the third most “at risk” council area.

And detailed sea level rise mapping for the Gosford area has become available in 2009.

The DLEP ignores climate change issues.

Council has released no independent expert input (if it has any) so residents may understand the implications of these matters on the plan.

For example, with a planned

### Forum

20 to 30 per cent population increase for the Peninsula, the reduction target of five percent for greenhouse gas emissions means per capita levels will need to fall by 25 to 30 per cent by 2020.

This will have major repercussions for the community. The implications must be spelt out.

Detailed sea level rise mapping now available to Council shows the low-lying Peninsula will be at risk.

Woy Woy business district and surrounds will be subject to regular flooding.

Yet Woy Woy is planned to be a major business centre with building heights of 19.8 metres plus extra for consolidation bonus.

Is this a realistic plan with the information now available?

Gosford is rightly proud of its history of acquiring Coastal Open Space System (COSS) lands and its vision to ensure that sensitive environmental and recreational lands are properly protected.

It has available detailed vegetation maps for all such areas which were updated in 2009.

Unfortunately, perhaps in the rush to get the DLEP finished, the new zonings now proposed by Council provide inadequate

protection.

The COSS lands, the Pearl Beach Arboretum and coastal foreshores are all zoned RE 1 – Recreation: such proposed zoning exposes them to unacceptable development such as go-kart tracks etc.

Other councils have protected their sensitive areas by zoning them E2 – Environmental Conservation.

There is no reason why Gosford cannot do the same.

Council must revise the DLEP to ensure proper protection is provided for all highly sensitive environmental lands.

It has available all the information needed to do so and has examples from other councils on how this can be done.

The new DLEP is a long-term planning document.

Such planning warrants taking into account up-to-date professional advice and expertise on the matters outlined above.

It is likely that such input will require real changes to a flawed Vision.

The DLEP must be withdrawn and the community provided with factual information to allow it to determine a more realistic plan for the future.

Michael Gillian  
Ettalong Beach

## Local bush is threatened

As Sue Ellis points out (Peninsula News, Edition 235: Environment Plan fails to protect environment), changes in Gosford Council's draft Local Environment Plan threaten the survival of local bushland, including Blackwall Mountain and Mt Ettalong.

The draft LEP puts these sites into new planning zones that remove their legal protection from future development.

### Forum

Can I urge everyone who values the beautiful natural environment we have here on the Peninsula to write to Gosford Council expressing their concern at this re-zoning?

There is a draft letter you can copy and email on the Peninsula Environment Group website at www.peg.org.au.

Email, 14 Mar 2010  
Mark Mann, Peninsula Environment Group

## Grandparents owned store

I read in the Peninsula News on March 8, a letter from Ms Jean Bright regarding information about the old Blackwall Post Office and General Store.

My grandparents Henry and Ada Heath were owners from about 1935.

I can remember coming up from Pymble by tram for holidays during the war.

### Forum

I cannot remember when the store was sold probably just before the war ended.

My aunt Lilla Heath was the postmistress and married James White a resident of Blackwall.

Unfortunately, I do not possess any photos of that time.

Letter, 10 Mar 2010  
Betty Wells, Ettalong

### More forum page 21

## Garbage truck causes extra walk

Until about 20 years ago, residents put their garbage bins just outside their front gates and local council workers emptied them into the transport vehicles and returned the empty bins to the property line where they found them.

When Gosford Council gave a private company the monopoly to do the waste collection with modern, high-tech equipment, ratepayers were required to place their rubbish bins at the kerbside (if they had the luxury of a kerbside)

and retrieve them when they were emptied.

The public obediently walked the extra metres without complaint and the waste collection enjoyed a satisfactory profit.

Some drivers of waste collection trucks saw an opportunity of saving time and money for their employer by driving forward while shaking the rubbish out of the bins and dropping the empty bins further down the road.

On March 16, 2010, a driver employed this practice and dropped the empty bins up to 3.7 metres away from where they found them.

Each ratepayer had to walk an extra seven metres to get their bin back where he left it.

Surely Gosford Council must take action before 70,000 ratepayers have to walk up to seven metres per week to boost the profits of the domestic waste collection.

Fax, 17 Mar 2010  
John Collins, Woy Woy



### EASTER SERVICES

**PALM SUNDAY 28<sup>th</sup> March**

5.00pm Umina - Peninsula Choir presents 'An Easter Retreat'

**MAUNDY THURSDAY 1<sup>st</sup> April**

7.30pm Umina - Rev. Bill McLeod

**GOOD FRIDAY April 2<sup>nd</sup>**

8.00am Umina

9.30am Ettalong

with Rev. Bob Willoughby

**EASTER SUNDAY April 4<sup>th</sup>**

9.00am Umina - Rev. R. Thompson

9.30am Ettalong - Rev. B. Willoughby

Ettalong Church, Picnic Parade

Umina Church, Cnr Neptune St &

Ocean Beach Road

Minister : Rev. Bob Willoughby

4341 1024

I have recently met with several ex-employees from Osti and have been told the land on which the Woy Woy Hospital had been built was donated by a local woman.

All our monies that we raised at Osti's over the years from functions and raffles was put towards the building of the hospital.

I also know that clubs and local business people raised money for the building.

We feel strongly the hospital should not be taken from us by the NSW Government.

When part of the hospital was transferred to Wyong recently, I was at the meeting in Woy Woy and we were told the hospital would stay.

There were well over 100 employees at Osti and our boss

### Forum

Mr Fred Moss was very active in raising money for charity and donated a substantial amount for the building of the Woy Woy swimming pool.

I was certain it was for the purchase of the land.

Somewhere there would be mention of how these things came about.

I do hope it is not too late to put a stop to the closure of this hospital as with the population of elderly people on the Peninsula.

The need for a local hospital at Woy Woy is a must.

Email, 14 Mar 2010  
Jan Chisholm, Point Clare

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WOY Woy

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Try it and discover the magic for yourself.

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For all enquiries and registrations, contact Sarina on **0403 879 772** or email **kellybellydancer@hotmail.com**





# People - Lifestyle - Community



## What's On Leisure and Lifestyle

### surf skate stuff

#### Learn to Surf

Come and join the Coast's number 1 surf school, in a two or four day safe surfing program.

Classes are conducted at Terrigal Beach, meet in front of the surf club.

Bookings are essential and need to be made prior to attending.

**4 day** Terrigal  
When: 6<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> Apr  
Time: 9:00<sup>am</sup> - 10:30<sup>am</sup>  
11:30<sup>am</sup> - 1:00<sup>pm</sup>

**2 day** Terrigal  
When: 12<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> Apr  
Time: 10:30<sup>am</sup> - 12:00<sup>am</sup>  
1:00<sup>pm</sup> - 2:30<sup>pm</sup>

Cost: 4 day \$120.00  
2 day \$ 70.00

Who: Girls and boys 10yrs +

Contact: Nick Leslie  
☎: nick.leslie@gosford.nsw.gov.au

#### Skate Clinics

There's no better time to learn the basics and more on this fun, safe two day clinic. Slam down and hit the parks.

Where 'n' when:

East Gosford 6<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> Apr  
Fearless First Timers : 9:00<sup>am</sup> - 12:00<sup>pm</sup>  
Bad Boy Beginners: 12:30<sup>pm</sup> - 3:30<sup>pm</sup>

Narara 8<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> Apr  
Bad Boy Beginners: 9:00<sup>am</sup> - 12:00<sup>pm</sup>

Narara 12<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> Apr  
Fearless First Timers : 9:00<sup>am</sup> - 12:00<sup>pm</sup>  
Free Styling Fanatics: 12:30<sup>pm</sup> - 3:30<sup>pm</sup>

Who: Girls and boys 6yrs +

Cost: \$70.00

All skaters get a free super exciting Bad Boy prize pack. Call the Peninsula Leisure Centre to book your limited place.

# PRIME

**star104.5FM**  
CENTRAL COAST

### sport stuff

#### Indoor Soccer Clinic

With the World Cup just around the Corner, keep your skills up to date. Two clinics to choose from, so let our qualified coaches guide you through 6 hours of football skills.

When: 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, Apr  
Time: 9:00<sup>am</sup> to 3:00<sup>pm</sup>

Where: Peninsula Leisure Centre

Who: Girls and boys 5 -13 yrs

Cost: \$37.50

#### Netball Clinic

With over a million players nationwide, it's time to make the turnover and join our fabulous coaching clinic. Now you can be 1 in a million.

When: 8<sup>th</sup> Apr  
Time: 9.00<sup>am</sup> to 3.00<sup>pm</sup>

Where: Peninsula Leisure Centre

Who: Girls and boys 6 -13 yrs

Cost: \$37.50

For all clinics please wear shorts, tee shirt and sand shoes. Bring lunch, snacks and a drink.

#### Holiday Slide Times

Thrills and spills as you plunge down our splashtastic slippery slides.

PLC:

When: 10:30<sup>am</sup> to 11:30<sup>am</sup>  
12:30<sup>pm</sup> to 1:30<sup>pm</sup>  
2:30<sup>pm</sup> to 3:30<sup>pm</sup>  
4:30<sup>pm</sup> to 5:30<sup>pm</sup> weekdays only

GOP:

When: Mon, Wed, Fri  
Time: 11:00<sup>am</sup> - 3:00<sup>pm</sup>

#### Learn to Swim

This intensive program is designed to help progress your child's swimming ability over a short period of time. Lessons are 30 minutes long between 9 am and 12 noon.

Peninsula Leisure Centre & Gosford Olympic Pool:

When: Week 1: 6<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> Apr  
Week 2: 12<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup>

Cost: Week 1 \$44.00  
Week 2 \$55.00

Who: Girls and boys all levels.

### kid stuff

#### Kids Club

We have a bumper packed program of indoor and outdoor fun activities to keep the kids entertained. Arts, crafts, games, sports n splash and movies.

When: 7<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, Apr

Time: 8:00<sup>am</sup> to 4:00<sup>pm</sup>

Where: Peninsula Leisure Centre

Who: Girls and boys 5 -12 yrs

Cost: \$37.00 per day

#### Birthday Parties

Happy birthday, let us create the best ever party!

Come and celebrate your special day with friends, family and party at the PLC or GOP.

We have several menu options to feast upon. Parties at the pools could include the following.

Pool - water slide®, soft play area® (®PLC only). Catering - decorated party room and special party invitations. Special bookings for GOP's "Slide & Glide can be made too.

Call for menu options and more information.

When: School hols & weekends.

Contact: Danielle Hathaway

☎: danielle.hathaway@gosford.nsw.gov.au

#### Super Kids

Super Kids is a fun, active, educational program for children aged 2 - 5 years. Designed to promote core areas of development, cognitive skills and more.

The program develops self esteem and confidence through age appropriate classes that include: games, activities and obstacle courses.

Get 10% off the 11 week term, simply register and pay in full before the 16<sup>th</sup> April.

Peninsula Leisure Centre

When: Begins 20<sup>th</sup> April  
Tues, Wed, Fri

Time: 9:30 - 10:15 (2.5 - 3.5 yrs).  
10:30 - 11:15 (3.5 - 5 yrs).

Chertsey School

When: Begins 19<sup>th</sup> April  
Monday

Time: 10:30 - 11:15 (2.5 - 3.5 yrs).  
11:30 - 12:15 (3.5 - 5 yrs).

Cost: \$87.12 this term (if paid in full).



Gosford Olympic Pool **4325 1869**

Peninsula Leisure Centre **4325 8123**



# Surf school for seniors

**Gosford Council will hold a free surf school at Umina Beach from 9am to 10.30am on Monday, March 22, as part of Seniors Week.**

The school will show seniors how to paddle and catch waves.

Grandparents Storytime sessions have also been planned for Umina and Woy Woy libraries to get seniors interested in reading and keeping an active mind while an email etiquette workshop will be held at Woy Woy Library on March 25 from 10am.

Woy Woy Library will host a local studies talk on the Central Coast Leagues Club in the 1960s and

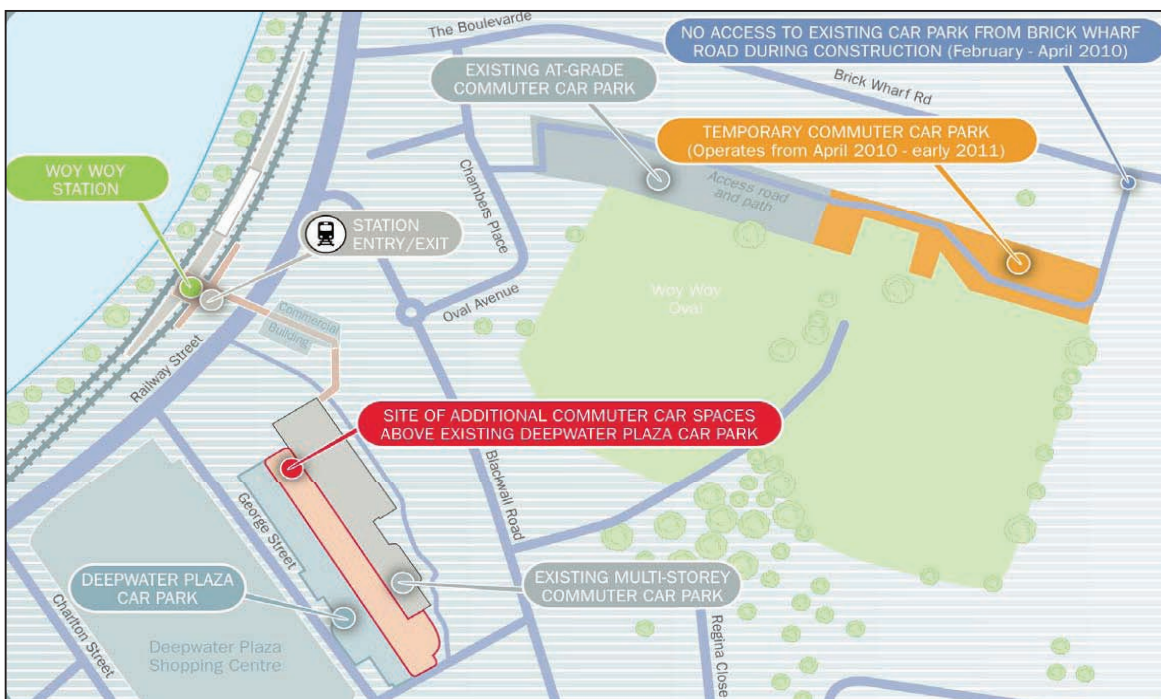
70s with guest speaker Mr Geoff Potter from 10am on March 23.

Activities at the Peninsula Leisure Centre during the week will include gentle exercise to music, gentle aqua aerobics and indoor cycling classes to promote a healthy and active lifestyle.

The week's program on the Peninsula will conclude with a morning cruise across Brisbane Water on March 26, for \$5 per person.

For further details on the program, contact Gosford Council on 4324 4749.

**Letter, 10 Feb 2010**  
Rhondda Gibson, Gosford Council



A map of Woy Woy CBD featuring where TIDC will be making car parking changes for local commuters (map courtesy of TIDC project website)

# Car boot sale

**The Lions Club of Woy Woy Peninsula will hold its monthly car boot sale on Sunday, March 28.**

Stallholders will be charged

\$10 per stall and feature a range of products and items including jewellery, home wares, gifts, preloved clothing, books and plants.

Profits made from the event will go to local causes.

The event will be held at Rogers Park in Woy Woy, opposite the Peninsula Community Centre.

**Press release, 17 Mar 2010**  
Elmo Caust, Lions Club of Woy Woy Peninsula

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Shop 2, 23-27  
The Boulevard Woy Woy

# Fast food plans

**Umina is likely to get another major fast food outlet.**

McDonald's Australia has announced it will submit a development application "within the next few months".

"McDonald's Australia is still interested in potentially opening a restaurant in Umina," said Corporate communications manager Ms Kristy Chong Ms Chong said.

**Media statement, 8 Mar 2010**  
Kristy Chong, McDonald's Australia

# Temporary carpark for commuters

**Peninsula commuters will be expected to park in the temporary car park near Woy Woy Oval by mid April, according to the Transport Infrastructure Development Corporation.**

The temporary car park is part of a larger plan to expand the existing Woy Woy Commuter Car Park providing an additional 300 car parking spaces.

The temporary car park will provide 185 spaces to compensate for the loss of commuter car parking during construction.

Construction for the temporary car park started in February.

It will be opened to coincide with the start of works for the new commuter car park in mid-April.

The new car park is expected to be complete in early 2011.

Three additional storeys of parking will be built above a portion of the existing Deepwater Plaza car park located off George St providing approximately 300

additional commuter car parking spaces.

The temporary car park is being constructed north of Woy Woy Oval and Austin Butler Oval and east of the existing car park off Chambers PI.

The new temporary car park will be constructed in stages so that the number of car park spaces in the existing car park will be maintained throughout the construction period," according to the TIDC website.

During construction of the temporary car park, there will be

no access to the existing car park, Woy Woy Oval tennis courts or Woy Woy Rugby Union Club from Brick Wharf Rd.

Access will be via the existing entry at Chambers PI only.

**Media statement, 18 Mar 2010**  
Chris Johnston, Transport Infrastructure Development Corporation

**Website, 19 Mar 2010**  
Transport Infrastructure Development Corporation

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**ROSES**

One of the most enduring plants throughout human history is the rose. Associated with ceremonies, wars and a symbol of opulence throughout the ages, this wonderful plant has also given the simple joy and frustration to many gardeners seeking the perfect shape, form and scent of the exquisite flower.

By the late 20th century, more than 10,000 hybrid tea roses were bred with great success after the introduction of 'La France' heralded the era of modern roses.

In this era, roses take a more humble role in the garden, so as we get further into Autumn keep a check on rose black spot before the annual pruning which needs to be done in order to achieve a good crop of flowers.

Hint: Prune when the bushes are dormant.

On the Peninsula, this can be done from late April to early June, but leave pruning until August in areas which experience spring frosts.

If you need a hand with your roses, or any other garden problem, call the friendly staff at Gymea-1


**0413 933 244**  
**gymea1.webs.com**

**Need Help with a State Government matter?**

**On Tuesday April 6**

**Marie Andrews MP**  
will be at:  
PCYC Umina Beach from 10am  
and at  
The 50+ Leisure and Learning Centre, Ettalong from 1pm

Call Marie's office to book an appointment  
20 Blackwall Road or PO Box 223 Woy Woy  
PH: 4342 4122 FAX: 4341 2368  
Email: gosford@parliament.nsw.gov.au



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- Community facilities including your own exclusive boardwalks, heated swimming pool, craftroom and workshop
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- Security and safety aspects of the Village
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The village approach offers:

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Pick a time & location that suits you  
FREE INFORMATION DAY

11am Monday 22nd March  
Central Coast Leagues Club  
Dane Drive, Gosford (opposite Bluetongue Stadium)

11am Thursday 25th March  
Ettalong Memorial Bowling Club  
103 Springwood Street, Ettalong

11am Friday 26th March  
Crown Plaza Terrigal  
Pine Tree Lane, Terrigal

11am Saturday 27th March  
Everglades Country Club  
Dunban Road, Woy Woy

To register call us now on  
free call 1800 83 66 99 or 0447 446 420



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a new name for retirement



# Wide range of women's services

The Peninsula Women's Health Centre will run a range of services this year, according to community development worker Ms Katherine Bradfield.

These will include a regular women's health clinic, alternate therapies, counselling services, group and community education, support, advocacy and access to information and resources on a wide range of women's health issues.

"Our aim is to work alongside and support women of all ages, backgrounds and cultures in a safe and supportive environment.

"While we do provide free to low cost services, the centre operates on limited funding and appreciates all donations that assist us to provide a range of women specific services that improve women and children's lives."

The women's health clinic is open at the centre on a Wednesday, three times per month, and is a project in partnership with the Northern Sydney Central Coast Health Service.

The clinic provides free and confidential services including pap smears, pregnancy testing and information, counselling on menopause, hormone replacement therapy, contraception, sexual difficulties and domestic violence among other women's health issues.

Appointments for the clinic are essential and can be made by calling 4320 3741.

Coast Care Counselling is made up of a group of counsellors providing affordable and readily accessible counselling services to those women in need.

The centre is also committed to providing local women with access

to low cost quality holistic care service including acupuncture and massage.

This month the Peninsula Women's Health Centre walking group recommenced its Friday morning fitness and social outing.

The group meet from 9am at the centre in McMasters Rd and walk until around 12noon on the chosen walk for the day.

The centre has begun a special meditation group who meet every Thursday from 1.45pm.

For a gold coin donation, women can be taught simple meditation techniques by facilitator Dayasagar Saraswati for beginners and experienced students.

A monthly coffee morning for women of all ages and cultural backgrounds has been planned for women who would like to get to know other women in the area.

The social get together is a great opportunity to meet other women if you are new to the area, feel isolated or would like to celebrate and share your culture with others.

Childcare facilities are not provided although children are welcome to come along under the mother's supervision.

The group will be held on the first Wednesday of every month from 10am to 12noon at the centre.

Another monthly group is designed to encourage women to "lean into wellness" promoting the idea that small incremental change in various areas of their life can and do make a difference to how they feel and behave.

Women 4 Women explores and reinforces ways to nurture oneself, building resilience in taking small steps towards wellness.

Each session includes some simple yoga and meditation practices and has a different focus topic each month such as wellness, happiness, letting go, motivation or goal setting to name a few.

The group meet from 10.30am to 1pm on the fourth Wednesday of each month with the exception of the next session which will be held on March 17.

The Peninsula Women's Book Club provides an opportunity for women to meet once a month and talk about books they have read and know they will be given the space to do this.

This group is for all women who want to enjoy a friendly, non-judgmental environment where they can explore their love of books.

The group meet at the centre every second Wednesday from 10am to 12noon for a gold coin donation.

A Happiness and Wellbeing group is for women who wish to experience a sense of joy and contentment more frequently in their day-to-day life by learning some practical ways to creating a happier and healthier life.

The group will meet on March 25 and April 1 from 10am to 12noon each session for a gold coin donation.

The Peninsula Women's Health Centre is located at 20a McMasters Rd, Woy Woy, and can be contacted on 4342 5905 or visit [www.cccwhc.com.au](http://www.cccwhc.com.au) for more information.

Newsletter, 9 Feb 2010  
Katherine Bradfield, Peninsula Women's Health Centre



Woy Woy Bay resident Victoria Driffield takes on the World's Greatest Shave for the Leukaemia Foundation

## Shave raises \$500

A Peninsula resident has raised almost \$500 towards the Leukaemia Foundation by hosting a World's Greatest Shave event.

Ms Victoria Driffield of Woy Woy Bay attracted a large crowd of friends, family and local residents looking to support the cause.

As the owner of small baking business Victoria's Treats, Ms Driffield supplies cakes, muffins and other tasty treats to local eateries and cafes in and around the Peninsula including the Coffee@115 coffee shop where the event was held.

The main attraction of the morning tea fundraiser saw Ms Driffield "be brave and shave" with

the help of a local hairdresser.

"I decided to go all the way and shave my head instead of taking the other option of colouring my head for the World's Greatest Shave fundraiser because I felt it put me in the same situation as those less fortunate who are diagnosed with Leukaemia," Ms Driffield said.

"Those living with Leukaemia do not have the luxury of choosing whether they would like their hair coloured so I felt it was better to put myself in their shoes and completely shave my hair off.

"It has made me completely humble and given me a constant reminder that there are people out there who are worse off than me."

Clare Graham, 18 Mar 2010  
Victoria Driffield, Woy Woy Bay

## New hypnosis practice opens

A new hypnosis practice offering assistance for a range of health and emotional issues has begun in Woy Woy.

With more than 10 years clinical and professional experience in Sydney, practitioner Ms Julie Mac brings a "genuine, powerful and down-to-earth service" to the Peninsula.

Believing an individual can change their programmed conditioning, personal problems and destructive and emotional behaviours with appropriate management, Ms Mac said she used a "tool box" of many processes and procedures.

"The experience of being in hypnosis is very relaxing, it is not

sleeping, you will not lose control over your mind or body, nor do anything against your will, personal values and morals," Ms Mac said.

"Put simply, hypnosis is the ability to slow down your conscious mind and allow your unconscious to release any unwanted negative emotions and behaviours that are holding you back from what you want in life."

Ms Mac said hypnosis could help with a range of issues including smoking, weight loss, stress and anxiety, depression, phobias, fear of flying, allergies, anger, general health and wellbeing and past life regression.

Press release, 17 Mar 2010  
Julie Mac, Julie Mac Hypnosis Practice

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# Allowance review causes concern

**Woy Woy's Grandparents Raising Grandchildren support group has expressed concern over the State Government's plan to review the Supported Care Allowance.**

Group coordinator Ms Mary Surman of Umina said the support group of around 18 members was "extremely anxious" after receiving a letter from the NSW Department of Community Services in late January alerting them to the potential changes.

"In January, our members began to receive a letter in the mail from the department stating that carers who receive the Supported Care Allowance may need to have their payment reassessed," Ms Surman said.

"This letter has left every grandparent receiving the allowance in limbo and without any indication of where they stand.

"The State Government would have been better to contact individual families and speak to them regarding their individual situation to save confusion and angst."

The State Government is currently implementing significant changes to the child protection system in NSW in response to the Report of the Special Commission of Inquiry into Child Protection Services in NSW, according to information obtained from the NSW Department of Community Services' website.

"Changes made by Parliament to legislation called the Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998 mean that the Supported Care Allowance may only be paid where an assessment by Community Services determines a child or young person to be 'in need of care and protection'," the website stated.

"Currently, the Supported Care Allowance is financial assistance that can be paid by NSW Community Services to a range of people, including grandparents and other relatives or kin, who are looking after a child or young person who is not living with their parents."

The website states that carers who have parental responsibility by way of a children's court order would not be affected by the change to payments, however, those granted custody of children through the family court or under no official agreement would have their payment reassessed.

The review process could take up to one year to complete and would begin next month, according to the department website.

Ms Surman said many grandparents who care for their grandchildren were faced with additional costs compared to that of the average parent in bringing up a sometimes emotionally and physically troubled child.

"It is also important for many grandparents to provide a loving and supportive home where they can be a normal child participating in normal sport and recreational activities and a good education ... this doesn't come cheap as any parent would know," Ms Surman said.

"Sure people may say the child could go without but in the end they all add to a child experiencing a normal childhood.

"These children are often faced with difficult situations away from the average child and need all the love and support they can get.

"In our opinion, we need to give these children the best in order to bring out the best in them.

"Otherwise, society faces a vicious cycle of raising kids the wrong way, sending them on the

wrong track, only to find them ending up in the same situation as their parents being incapable of leading a normal life whether it's because of drugs, crime or mental health issues."

Ms Surman said many members in the Woy Woy support group had been forced to take out second mortgages and spend life savings and superannuation funds in order to raise their grandchildren on top of the government payments they received.

She said members feared what would happen to their current lifestyle if these payments were reduced in any way.

"We are asking the State Government to think again before changing individual allowances," Ms Surman said.

"These children are our future and deserve a chance at succeeding in life just like any child who is raised by their birth parents.

"Our understanding is that the State Government can no longer afford to look after the increasing number of children unable to be cared for by their birth parents.

"But if we don't get this right now, society risks raising children that will grow up in the wrong environment with their needs unheard and become a burden on the next generation."

**Clare Graham, 4 Mar 2010**  
Interviewee: **Mary Surman, Woy Woy Grandparents Raising Grandchildren**



Donna Markwell and daughter Takara visit Umina Fire Station recently

## Wish comes true

**A young Ettalong resident's wish came true when she was granted a visit to the Umina Fire Station late last month.**

Three-year-old Takara Markwell was diagnosed with leukaemia in May last year and found immense joy in playing with toy fire engines through her intensive treatment.

Takara's mother Donna thanked local firemen for going "beyond the call of duty" and helping a little girl's wish come true.

"Takara has been receiving treatment for leukaemia since May, 2009," Ms Markwell said.

"To help her through this she played many games with her fire engine, especially fire rescuing games with her grandparents who

live in Umina.

"Her grandfather is a retired chief inspector from the NSW Fire Brigade and had secretly arranged for Takara to visit Umina Fire Station.

"Takara was truly delighted when she arrived at Umina Fire Station and it was all fun and games from then on.

"With fire engine lights flashing, Takara was able to sit in each fire truck and had a short ride around the block in the fire engine (with permission for the inspector of course).

"Takara has now been given the all clear in regards to her leukaemia and is well on the mend."

**Letter, 16 Mar 2010**  
**Donna Markwell, Ettalong**

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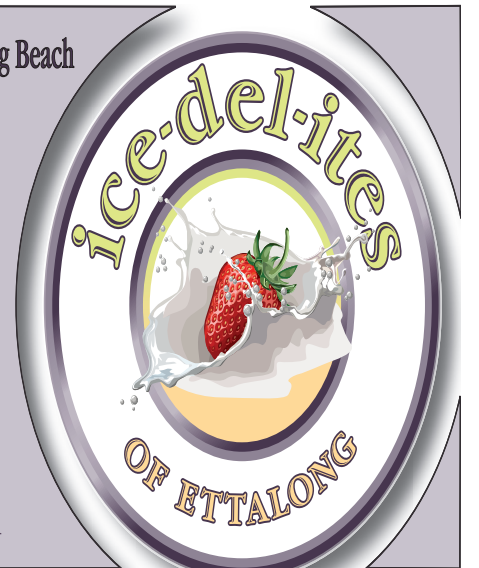
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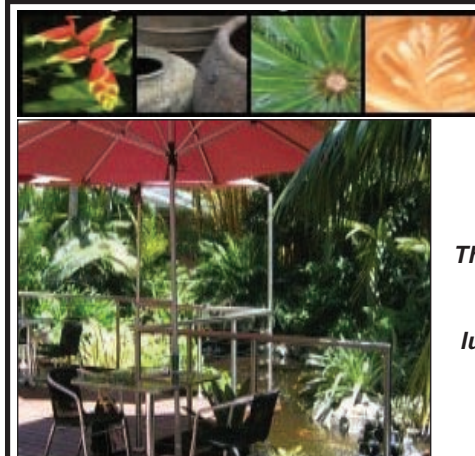
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Minister for Women Jody McKay, Margaret Thoms from Woy Woy Peninsula Netball, Deputy Premier Carmel Tebbutt, Mary Mac's Place volunteer Pat Slattery and Member for Gosford Marie Andrews

## Volunteers are nominated

Two Peninsula residents involved in volunteer work for Peninsula community organisations have been nominated for this year's NSW Woman of the Year award.

Ms Margaret Thoms from the Woy Woy Peninsula Netball Association and Ms Pat Slattery from Mary Mac's Place in Woy Woy attended a special awards ceremony at NSW Parliament House on March 8, along with more than 80 other award nominees from around the state.

Both women were recognised for their individual contribution to the

local community through countless hours of volunteer work, according to Member for Gosford Ms Marie Andrews who also attended the awards ceremony.

Ms Andrews said the award coincided with celebrations for International Women's Day and congratulated both Peninsula residents on each of their nomination.

"Margaret is a more than deserving nominee for this prestigious award," Ms Andrews said.

"Margaret was a founding member of the Woy Woy Peninsula Netball Association and has had a long involvement with the

association, fostering the young netballers and tirelessly raising funds for much needed capital works.

"Also nominated from the Gosford electorate was Mrs Pat Slattery of Ettalong, a much valued long standing volunteer at Mary Mac's Place and 2009 Gosford City Council Senior of the Year."

Press release, 15 Mar 2010 Marie Andrews, Member for Gosford



## Harvest donated to Mary Macs

The Umina Uniting Church parish community has donated several cartons of food that were used as a display in its Harvest Thanksgiving service to Mary Macs Place in Woy Woy.

The special service was led by Rev Peter Swain on March 7, according to publicity officer Ms Annette Strong.

"Many folk will have remembered harvest festivals which are a more common service in rural/agricultural areas," Ms Strong said.

"This is the first time this type of service has been celebrated in our local churches for many years.

"A lot of food was donated, some perishable, and was displayed on bales of straw and included a milk can and other vintage farm tools which all added to the pleasing effect.

"The following day, the food was donated to Mary Mac's place kitchen at Woy Woy Catholic Church for use and distribution to the needy."

Press release, 18 Mar 2010 Annette Strong, Umina Uniting Church

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## Holiday program at Woy Woy pool

**The Peninsula Leisure Centre will host a number of activities for children during the Easter school holidays.**

With the World Cup just around the corner, two indoor soccer clinics have been planned for April 6 and 13.

The clinic is for girls and boys aged five to 13 years and will feature six hours of qualified coaching from 9am to 3pm.

The centre will also host a netball clinic on April 8, from 9am to 3pm for girls and boys aged six to 13 years.

Participants of the netball clinic are encouraged to wear shorts, a

t-shirt and sand shoes and bring along a packed lunch and drink.

The Peninsula Centre pools will have a holiday slide time and learn to swim lessons being offered.

The pool slippery slides will be open between 10.30am and 11.30am, 12.30pm and 1.30pm, 2.30pm and 3.30pm as well as from 4.30pm to 5.30pm on weekdays throughout the holidays.

The centre will also conduct intensive learn to swim sessions in both weeks of the holidays.

The intensive program is designed to help progress a child's swimming ability over a short period of time with 30-minute lessons between 9am and 12pm from April 6 to 9 and also in the second holiday week from April 12 to 16.

Girls and boys of all ages and levels are welcome.

The Peninsula Leisure Centre will hold a Kids Club on both Wednesdays and Fridays during

the two-week school holiday break.

The club is a program of indoor and outdoor activities to keep children from five to 12 years of age entertained from 8am to 4pm.

The centre also has a Super Kids educational program on offer to families and is designed for children two to five years of age to promote core areas of development and cognitive skills.

The program looks to develop self esteem and confidence through age appropriate classes including games, activities and obstacle courses.

The program runs for 11 weeks and begins on April 20 running every Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday mornings.

For more information, contact the Peninsula Leisure Centre on 4325 8123.

Pamphlet, 18 Mar 2010  
Andrew Stuart, Gosford Council



Food and wine lovers enjoy last year's Pearl Beach Food and Wine Fair

## Food fair expands

**Organisers of the third Pearl Beach Food and Wine Fair have expanded the selection of wines and gourmet foods on offer at next month's event.**

A variety of food and wine producers including Wollombi Wines and Wine Infused Produce, Cheese Please and Little Black Duck will provide samples.

"Following the successful 2009 events, we have expanded our range of participants this year with an exciting selection of gourmet food items and local Hunter products to taste and purchase," Pearl Beach Progress Association president Mr David Denton said.

"Returning this year will be Cheese Please representing boutique cheese-makers from the Upper Hunter, Bangalow and Robertson.

"We are also delighted to welcome back Little Black Duck who produce spicy pickles, jams and chutney which contain no artificial colours or preservatives and delicious wood fired bread.

"New to this year's event is

Crooked Creek biscuits, preserves, chutneys and jams freshly made using the finest natural ingredients.

"Hunter Olives is also a new exhibitor representing a number of Hunter Valley growers who process and sell table olives, tapenades and olive oils.

"In addition, experience the aromatic Laguna Lavender who has a delightful range of essential oils, craft products, linen items as well as beauty and body products on offer.

"Everyone is welcome to join in the fun and there will be a sausage sizzle at \$3 each and raffle of a gourmet hamper for \$2 a ticket."

Proceeds from the event will go towards the upgrade of the Pearl Beach Hall and other community projects.

The event will take place in the Pearl Beach Memorial Hall on Saturday, April 10, from 10am to 6pm.

Press release, 17 Mar 2010  
Lynne Lilloco, Pearl Beach Progress Association

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# Author will be guest

Ms Nicole Alexander, author of the Australian family saga **The Bark Cutters**, will be guest author at the morning tea event hosted by a Umina bookstore on Sunday, April 18.

Book Bazaar owner Ms Mandi McIntosh said: "A fourth generation grazier, Nicole Alexander spent six years at boarding school in Sydney, completed a degree through the University of New England before taking up a marketing career in Singapore and Australia.

"Eleven years ago she returned to the family's wheat and cattle station in Moree, and is now its business manager.

"Not only does she run the homestead but she is also a talented writer.

"Her poetry, travel and genealogy articles have been published in Australia, America and Singapore.

"She has a Master of Letters in creative writing and is currently working on the sequel to **The Bark Cutters**, Wangallon.

"The first novel is an Australian family saga that centres around the family property Wangallon.

"Past and present interweave in a story that traces the Gordon family from the arrival of Scottish immigrant Hamish Gordon in Australia in the 1850s to the life of his great granddaughter, Sarah, in the 1980s.

"Full of action, romance, tragedy, family secrets and misunderstandings this novel has a bit of something for everyone but particularly the discerning commercial women's fiction reader."

The event will cost \$10 to cover morning tea and will be held from 10.15am.

Press release, 16 Mar 2010  
Mandi McIntosh, Book Bazaar

# Performances at Troubadour

The Troubadour Central Coast folk club will host two performances at the Woy Woy CWA Hall over the coming weeks.

The first concert will be held on Saturday, March 27, from 7pm and will feature special guests Kate Rowe and Ryan Morrison.

Club president Mr Bill Bekric said the performance would leave audiences captivated.

"The one-time French scholar and ex-party fairy, Kate Rowe, began performing in Paris while working as an English teacher at the Sorbonne in 2001.

"Kate's folk-country songs are characterised by powerful narratives and quirky subject matter — what dogs would say if they could talk, a love song for a man she never got to blind date, a dysfunctional pirate family and the Parisian catacombs, to name a few.

"Kate will be accompanied by Perth songwriter Ryan Morrison, arguably the sweetest member of the notorious Spooky Men's Chorale.

"Ryan has been touring Australia with Kate since January last year, accompanying her music and performing his own beautiful, thoughtful, cheeky and romantic songs."

The performance will start from 7pm and entry starts from \$7.

Meanwhile, "the amazing" Les Barker will join members and guests of The Troubadour on Sunday, April 11, from 2pm.

"This guy is a legend in his own time and for us to have him at The Troubadour is in my opinion one of our greatest coups ever," Mr Bekric said.

"Book early if you would like to



Ryan Morrison and Kate Rowe

see this show because no doubt tickets will be selling fast." 0417 456 929.

For more information and bookings, contact 4341 4060 or

Email, 5 Mar 2010  
Bill Bekric, Troubadour Central Coast

# RSL seeks band

The Woy Woy, Ettalong, Hardy's Bay RSL Sub-branch is seeking a marching band to participate in the Anzac Day march in Woy Woy on Sunday, April 25.

Senior vice president Mr Merv Heath said RSL members who had played instruments at previous events were no longer available for the band.

"We are expecting more than

800 people to line the streets of Woy Woy and commemorate Anzac Day," Mr Heath said.

"It would be wonderful if we could get a marching band to carry out the tradition of our Anzac Day march.

"Unfortunately many members are getting older and less mobile and our marching band can no longer perform.

"It seems there are not too many bands that march these days especially from the Central Coast, so we are really struggling to find someone."

Mr Heath encouraged anyone who is involved or knows of a band who can march on the day to contact the Ettalong Beach office on 4341 2594 or 4344 5855.

Press release, 15 Mar 2010  
Merv Heath, Woy Woy, Ettalong, Hardy's Bay RSL Sub-branch

**ROCK FOR CANCER**  
**Friday 26 March 2010**  
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Arts & Entertainment



Book enthusiasts searching for "the perfect book" at last year's Easter Saturday Book Fair in Pearl Beach

## Easter Saturday book fair

The 34th Pearl Beach Easter Saturday Book Fair will be held in the Memorial Hall on

Saturday, April 3, from 9am to 5pm.

Event organiser Mr Bill Abbott said entry to the fair was free with proceeds from the event going towards important Pearl Beach community projects and upgrades to the hall.

Mr Abbott said: "The fair has had a long tradition of raising much needed funds for local community and hall improvements and repairs.

"Book genres include children's, educational, cooking, gardening, business, art, sport, travel and hundreds of novels.

"As well as books there will be a collectables table, bric-a-brac, a traditional home made cake stall and potted plants.

"Members of the Pearl Beach community will also be on hand to provide information about coming events and activities being undertaken throughout the year."

The Pearl Beach Memorial Hall is located at 9 Diamond Rd, Pearl Beach.

Press release, 10 Mar 2010  
Lynne Lillico, Pearl Beach Progress Association

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## Choir performs Easter program

The Peninsula Choir will give two performances during the Easter period.

The group's program will include a new arrangement of a folk song from the Appalachian region of the USA as well as favourites like All in the April Evening and Mozart's Ave Verum Corpus.

This year's presentation entitled An Easter Retreat will allow local residents to withdraw from their mundane affairs and re-live, through music, the sorrows and

joys of Holy Week and Easter, according to choir publicity officer Ms Maria Collins.

The Peninsula Choir will perform on Palm Sunday, March 28, at Umina Uniting Church at 5pm and Good Friday, April 2, at St Andrew's Anglican Church in Umina from 3pm.

Ms Collins said all members of the Peninsula community were welcome to attend.

Press release, 16 Mar 2010  
Maria Collins, Peninsula Choir

## Local young artists wanted

The Regional Youth Support Services Inc is calling on young people on the Peninsula interested in visual and performing arts to take part in its upcoming program of activities currently on offer to local youth.

Project coordinator Ms Virginia Warshaw said the Regional Youth Support Service was looking to get as many local youth on board especially from the Peninsula.

"The programs and courses we offer at RYSS are not restricted to youth living in Gosford.

"Even though the programs are run out of our Gosford headquarters we are always encouraging youth from outside Gosford to become involved.

"And since the Peninsula has a large number of youth who are involved in music, art and writing this is a great opportunity for them to further their passion."

The Regional Youth Support Services Inc in conjunction with Gosford Council are delivering a young writer's development program Script Inc with the aim of investing in the talents of local young writers, directors and performers.

The program is open to young people aged 12 to 25 who are challenged to put pen to paper and draft a one-act theatre script with the chance to develop their work further with a director and

performers, according to Ms Warshaw.

"Participants will then workshop, refine, rehearse and present the successful pieces at a season of staged readings at the Youth Arts Warehouse at the end of July," Ms Warshaw said.

"All submissions must be original work, 30 to 60 minutes in length and emailed to artstart@ryss.com.au before 5pm on April 1.

"There is no restriction in regard to subject matter, style and content in order to encourage diversity and dynamic submissions.

"Winners will be officially announced at the Youth Week Live it Now event on April 16."

Ms Warshaw said the event would also feature the talents of local youth from visual arts, music, theatre and film.

Meanwhile, the Youth Arts Warehouse will host a series of free art workshops to help local young people with their professional development and to manage and develop their art portfolio for TAFE, school or just for fun.

The workshops will be held on Fridays between 3.30pm to 5.30pm from April 30 and June 25.

For more information, contact Virginia Warshaw on 4323 2374 or via email at artstart@ryss.com.au

Email, 12 Mar 2010

Virginia Warshaw, Regional Youth Support Services Inc



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## Women's Day celebrations

Staff and students at Brisbane Water Secondary College Umina Campus officially celebrated International Women's Day with a special assembly on March 9.

School vice captain Tara Hayward addressed staff and students and spoke about the origins of International Women's Day and its 100-year anniversary, according to head welfare teacher Ms Ruth Brown.

"On Wednesday, a group of Year 9 girls had the pleasure of listening to Liesl Tesch share her experiences as a Paralympic basketball player," Ms Brown said.

"Liesl is also a teacher at the

Woy Woy Campus of the college. "She talked to the girls about the cycling accident that she had at age 19 and the gruelling treatment that followed.

"Liesl became quite emotional when reminiscing about the 2000 Sydney Olympic and Paralympic Games as well as the hardships that she has faced.

"Liesl is an inspiration to all students and teachers at the college and her speech was a great motivator for our girls, teaching them to never give up on their dreams, no matter the setbacks."

Email, 14 Mar 2010

Ruth Brown, Brisbane Water Secondary College Umina Campus



Eloise Genner's major HSC art work "A fable of lost innocence"

## HSC work in exhibition

A former Brisbane Water Secondary College visual arts student has been selected to showcase her HSC major work at a prestigious exhibition in Sydney over the coming weeks.

Eloise Genner of Umina will have her artwork entitled A Fable of Lost Innocence featuring a series of drawings using ballpoint pen shown at the ArtExpress Armory exhibition at Sydney Olympic Park from March 2 to April 25.

She will join 74 other students in having her work displayed at the exhibition, the largest of its kind in metropolitan Sydney this year.

"I'm really excited about having my work exhibited because I didn't think that I would get in," Eloise said.

"My family and friends are really proud of me but since I left my artwork until the last-minute to complete, I reckon they were a little shocked that I was chosen too.

"Some advice for any visual art student starting their major work - try and come up with an idea early on in the year to give more time to produce something rather than being rushed at the end or doing half of it the night before its due."

The local student graduated from Woy Woy Campus at the end of last year and decided to study visual arts in her HSC only by chance.

"Doing Visual Art in my HSC wasn't actually my first choice but due to timetable clashes I ended up choosing it," Eloise said.

"I enjoy art because it allows me to express my creativity.

"The theory side of the course was interesting, but I definitely liked the practical side most since I

love to draw."

Eloise said she gathered inspiration for her major work from the graphic novel The Arrival by Shaun Tan and through a variety of ideas and concepts developed throughout the year.

"Essentially, my artwork is about the journey of growing up and losing that innocence that everyone seems to possess as a child," Ms Genner said.

"I drew my work using a ballpoint pen and chose this medium as I felt confident that I could produce quality work and because ballpoint drawings are a little bit different

than what you normally use to draw, which I liked."

Since graduating from high school, Eloise has begun a combined degree of Bachelor of Teaching and Fine Arts and said she looks forward to becoming a qualified high school art teacher and professional artist if the opportunity arose.

The free exhibition will be shown in the Armory Gallery in Jamieson St at Sydney Olympic Park from 10am to 4pm each day.

Clare Graham, 4 Mar 2010  
Interviewee: Eloise Genner

## Call for footpath

A Umina grandmother has called for a footpath and safety crossing to assist her wheelchair-bound grandson get to and from school safely.

Ms Colleen Giles said she was concerned over her grandson's safety and would love to see him travel to and from school independently but feared the current condition of roads near his Woy Woy home prevented him from doing so.

"Liam currently attends Brisbane

Water Secondary College Umina Campus but will be moving to the Woy Woy Campus next year to complete his senior years of schooling," Ms Giles said.

"Liam's family have lived in Woy Woy for the past nine years so they know the area very well and how busy this particular street is as a main road and thoroughfare for patrons of the local bowling club.

"The elderly patrons that attend the club would also benefit from a footpath in this street for their safety and convenience too."

Ms Giles said a proposed footpath would allow Liam to travel along the road safely before continuing down Rawson Rd where a safety crossing island would need to be installed to allow him to cross the road safely.

"A footpath and safety crossing island would give Liam to have a safe route to and from school every day as well as some independence," Ms Giles said.

"Liam's family are a very loyal and community-based family.

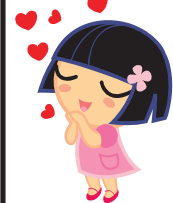
"Liam was awarded the Inspiring Young Person of the Year award at the 2007 International Day for People with a Disability while his two older brothers have achieved outstanding levels within the local surf life saving community."

Letter, 1 Mar 2010

Colleen Giles, Umina

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Student of the Month



Lily



David Hosford UMINA 4344 5042

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## Table tennis tables wanted

Peninsula residents are being encouraged to donate unused table tennis tables to Vision Australia as part of an initiative to bring a special version of the sport to local people living with vision impairment.

Project organiser Ms Lauren Davis of Woy Woy who has been legally blind since birth said the tables would be converted to cater for the needs of blind and vision impaired people.

"The Central Coast has one of the largest populations of people living with vision impairment," Ms Davis.

"Yet the region does not have any sport freely available to residents who are blind or with low vision.

"Residents have to travel to Newcastle or Sydney to take part in special activities."

Ms Davis, 22, said the tables would be adapted in order for participants to play Swish, a modified version of table tennis that allows blind, vision-impaired and fully sighted people to play together.

"We are asking anyone in the community who has an unused



Lauren Davis

table tennis table sitting around or who is thinking of getting rid of their old table to contact Vision Australia," Ms Davis.

"So far we have received expressions of interest from several local clubs and community centres looking to have a Swish table available for its members and guests including the Peninsula Community Centre.

"This is a great opportunity for people to help out the community in a significant and unique way."

Ms Davis said she began working on the project after undertaking

work experience at Vision Australia as part of her Community Welfare diploma.

She said it was extremely important for all people to have a sport available to them and Swish was a great way to achieve this.

"Often it can be very difficult and challenging for those who are blind or vision-impaired," Ms Davis said.

"But living with the disability myself I can only encourage them to live life and not to let anything bring them down or stop them from doing something they love to do.

"Sure there are obvious things they cannot do such as drive a vehicle.

"But that shouldn't stop them from getting out there and living the best life they can and deserve to live.

"There are so many services put in place by Vision Australia to assist blind or vision-impaired people and I encourage them to make the most of these."

For more information, contact 1300 847 466 and ask for the Gosford office.

Clare Graham, 17 Mar 2010

Interviewee: Lauren Davis, Woy Woy

## Boardriders hold first meet

Umina Boardriders held its first meeting of the year at the start of the month with more than 30 members turning out for the evening competition.

Club secretary Ms Verity Roser said the waves were good on the day and everyone enjoyed a fun afternoon of surfing.

Ms Roser said results for the day saw Greg Power take out first in the Masters division with Luke Gehrels in second place and Brian Cook finishing third overall.

Huw Toner took out first place in the Open Grade A while in second place came Craig Glynn and in

third Ant Whitehall.

Open B Grade saw Billy Davis finish in top place followed by Zach Makepeace in second and Jye Jewis in third.

"Zach Makepeace and Maddie Cook were selected to participate in the Central Coast Institute of Sports 2010 Surfing Academy Program," Ms Roser said.

"They will be attending weekly fitness and surf training sessions and get to go to Port Macquarie for a Squad Camp in September."

Press release, 15 Mar 2010

Verity Roser, Umina Boardriders



## Sponsor for triples

A new sponsorship deal between Umina Beach Men's Bowling Club and Ettalong Bendigo Bank will enable the club to make its monthly triples tournament "more attractive" to local

competitors, according to club publicity officer Mr Bob Penson.

Mr Penson said the sponsorship would enable the bowling club to increase the available monthly prize money for the tournament and make the event even more attractive to competitors from all over the Central Coast, particularly on the Peninsula.

Branch manager Mr Peter McKeon and director Mr Brian Wright confirmed details of the sponsorship arrangement with Umina's president Mr Ian Jarratt at the start of the month.

"The next tournament will be held on Wednesday afternoon on March 31, and any entries or queries may be directed to the bowls office at Club Umina on 4341 8862."

Press release, 10 Mar 2010

Bob Penson Umina Beach Men's Bowling Club

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## Peninsula News

Community Access

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## Hospital will be destroyed

The national plan for hospitals will destroy small local public hospitals like Woy Woy Public Hospital.

Distance is a killer especially for the growing number of aging voters.

I am not impressed with the

### Forum

way Labor is pushing taxpayers around.

They have forgotten that we, the people, are the boss!

Email, 6 Mar 2010  
Edward James, Umina

## Elect an independent

The Central Coast is far from an independent region at present.

Some would say it is a forgotten region by State and Federal Governments, or a dormitory region.

An exaggeration perhaps, but in state planning policies, it is treated often like a handy spillway for the growing population surplus of the Sydney metropolis.

There is a lot more to come of that given current Sydney growth forecasts.

Here is a question that Central Coast voters could ask themselves, especially now that the sitting federal MP Belinda Neal will not stand for re-election.

Do they really want to continue to be represented by a major party MP?

### Forum

The Rudd Government looks likely to be re-elected with a reduced majority and the very marginal Robertson seat may well return to the Liberal Party.

It seems to me that Robertson would be better served by an effective Independent MP or a Green who, in a closely balanced federal Parliament would have clout.

This would open the way for the airing of a range of major regional concerns not dependent on policy platforms of either major party.

The advantages of such a situation for the Central Coast could be enormous with national consequences to follow.

Email, 15 Mar 2010  
Klaas Woldring, Pearl Beach

## Not interested in excuses

I am actively involved in the fight for the return of our rehabilitation ward to Woy Woy Public Hospital.

I am not impressed with Member for Gosford Marie Andrews who when approached for help trotted out a couple NSW Health apologists, experienced in telling us this is what NSW Health are doing.

The problem I have with this sort of approach is my elected representatives are hiding behind public servants.

And none of them from the top down are listening to what we the people who pay are telling them we want.

Where does government get off asking elderly and retired people to prepare a feasibility report including

### Forum

costing to return our important medical amenity?

We want our ward back and we want it back now!

Don't come back with why we can't have it replaced.

I am not interested in mealy mouthed excuses.

I believe our public hospital is under direct threat of closure because of what the Federal Government is doing.

The Peninsula has 9000 people living here who are over 65 years of age, certainly many thousands more than were living here when our public hospital was first opened.

Email, 19 Mar 2010  
Edward James, Umina

## Broken Bay consultant assessed Adelaide impact

### Forum

for the first three years)".

It seems to me that monitoring the surrounding sand at six months and 12 months and the organisms for only three years is inadequate for a 4100 tonne metal warship that will take hundreds of years to rust away.

The Worley Parsons Ex-HMAS Adelaide Draft Plan of Management document focuses primarily on commercial management and very little on pollution monitoring and management and does not even mention rectification of pollution impact from the planned scuttling.

This Plan of Management states: "Whilst the reserve is extensive, this Plan of Management focuses on the site where the ex-HMAS Adelaide will be scuttled and future management of dive visitation".

"It is intended to reduce the extent of the existing reserve to the area (still to be determined) that will be subject to ongoing, active management".

So the very limited and short term monitoring that is called for under the REF is intended to be limited even more in a geographic sense by the Plan of Management.

It appears the monitoring will be

limited to the area of commercial interest, i.e. around the ship, to the exclusion of the beachfront, surfing and fishing reefs as well as excluding the adjoining lagoon and waterways.

I also note that none of Worley Parsons' reports mention what will happen if the metal decontamination or any other pollution from this ship reach unsafe levels, there is no mention of who will clean up this potential mess, or how, or even, if it is possible.

What will be the Worley Parsons' approach to environmental factors when it comes to Broken Bay?

Do not trust Worley Parsons as the residents of Avoca Beach did.

Do not rely on Gosford Council to pull Worley Parsons into line on pollution issues, as Gosford Council has done nothing to help us at Avoca Beach.

In the case of Avoca Beach, Worley Parsons have demonstrated little to no care about the long-term impact of their recommendations on our local community and inadequate care in terms of monitoring, managing and removing the pollution that is dumped on our beach.

Email, 9 Mar 2010  
Tim Bowcock, Avoca Beach

More forum page 8

## Neglecting older voters

Belinda Neal will be busy cleaning up before leaving at the end of her last term as MP for Robertson.

It will be interesting to see if she really means some of the things she has been quoted as saying in the aftermath of such a sound thumping by the Robertson electorate party members.

We are still fighting for the return of our Woy Woy Public Hospital rehabilitation ward.

With over 9000 people over the age of 65 on the Woy Woy Peninsula, I am still trying to understand why both John Della Bosca and Belinda let their own local community public medical amenity be downgraded in such a mean-spirited and detrimental way to our ageing community?

Norman Hanscombe, with whom I spoke outside the Woy Woy CWA Hall while the Labor pre-selection was going on, should

be congratulated for exposing the now obvious very strong dissent within the Robertson electorate.

While unpopular with some party members, Mr Hanscombe displayed evidence of being able to think and act in what many perceive to be the public's best interest.

He saw and wrote about the need for change because there was, after all was said and done, no other sensible course of action.

Email, 11 Mar 2010  
Edward James, Umina

### Forum

Letters to the editor should be sent to:

Peninsula News

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Woy Woy 2256 or

mail@PeninsulaNews.asn.au

See Page 2 for contribution conditions

"Thanking all men for the positive times with our children"

Dad's Day Out

### Gosford Photo Competition

You could win prizes by sharing your pictures with us!

The Gosford library is hosting the People's Choice Exhibition from Thanks Dad National Photographic Competition and you are invited to enter a photo of your husband/ dad/ uncle/ grandfather/ stepdad/ sports coach, or other significant man in your children's lives, spending time with them. There are great prizes on offer! Simply bring in your photo (mounted on black cardboard) and fill in an entry form—share the special moments with us—while thanking these men for having fun with our children. There is also a special prize for the picture receiving the most votes!

All Gosford entries will be entered into the 2010 National Thanks Dad Photo Competition



Visit the Thanks Dad Photos website to find out more about this national competition - [www.thanksdadphotos.org.au](http://www.thanksdadphotos.org.au) Or email [tdpccoord@communityconnections.org.au](mailto:tdpccoord@communityconnections.org.au)



Entries Close 28<sup>th</sup> March 2010

For the latest news on what's happening on the Peninsula see....

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History

# The search for Norma Callaghan

They were young Australian army girls in uniform in World War II, smiling and laughing and each looking like a beautiful actress from a black and white film of the era.

These were the photos that smiled back at me from the family album, ever since I was a little boy.

"Oh, that's Norma Callaghan", my mother use to say as she pointed one particular girl out.

"We use to go everywhere together".

"I lost touch with her after the war when we went our separate ways and got married".

"I wonder where she is now?"

In later years, as a military historian with Defence in Canberra, I would eventually grow to understand what a truly great task these young army girls did in World War II.

Named the "Australian Women's Army Service" (AWAS) the girls came from farms, small towns and cities as they enlisted from the far flung corners of Australia.

If the girls were under 21, which many of them were, they had to have a parent's written permission to sign up.

In mid 1941 there had only been 1400 female enlisted in all three services.

By the end of the war some 24,190 of the women had enlisted in the AWAS with a further 2744 joining the army as nursing sisters.

My own mother, Nola Bates, and Norma Callaghan had been based in Sydney, often around aerodromes or at North Head at the harbour entrance, on the anti-



Nola Bates second from left and Norma Callaghan second from right

aircraft guns. An airborne attack on Sydney in 1943 was still considered a very real possibility and Japanese submarines were still regularly sinking allied shipping along our eastern coast. The girls were on the searchlights, predictors and height finders.

The searchlights were to seek the enemy aircraft out at night and the predictors and height finders to predict where the shots should be fired and at what height to set the shells to explode.

Many years later, after my mother had passed on, I looked again at these photos and thought how challenging it would be to find Norma and return copies of these wonderful old prints with their magic memories.

Advertisements in veteran's magazines and Sydney papers brought no result.

The problem lay in that Norma had probably married and had a

new surname.

Late one night, just recently, the penny dropped.

Hadn't the registrar for Births, Deaths and Marriages in Sydney recently upgraded their online data system to release marriage records up to 1949?

I checked and they had.

Norma's details were entered in and there was just one person by that name in NSW, married between 1945 and 1949.

Joy oh joy and her new surname was a very unusual one.

Thanks heavens it was not a Smith.

A search of Sydney's white pages phone directory and a Christian and surname came up with very real possibilities.

Norma appeared to be widowed and was using her own full name in the directory.

A discreet and gentle phone call to Norma, now living in Umina, was an emotional experience for the writer and his mother's best army friend.

Photos and memories to be exchanged of two army girls who served Australia well in World War II and were reunited in spirit after 67 years.

Email, 16 Mar 2010  
Bob Piper, Higgins ACT

# Art exhibition in 1968

Today I am going to write about art and a significant event that occurred at Ettalong March 2 and 3, 1968.

Woy Woy Apex Club decided to stage an art exhibition, ostensibly to raise funds but also to give local artists an opportunity to show and sell their paintings.

The CWA Hall at Ettalong was the chosen venue being centrally located and considered large enough for the public to comfortably view the works.

Invitations went out to local artists to submit their work, and the response was quite extraordinary.

Not only were established and commercially successful artists keen to show their works, entries were also submitted by the Noonameena Art Club, Charles Swancott, Neal Jespersen and Thomas Boyd.

All in all, some 42 artists contributed to the exhibition.

The highlight of the exhibition was several marvellous paintings submitted by the late Lance Solomon who lived for many years in Calyptra Road, Umina.

Lance won the prestigious Wynn Prize on two occasions.

In 1958, his oil painting Blue Lagoon was chosen by the State Government for presentation to the Queen Mother during her tour of Australia.

Another of his paintings was presented to the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester at the official opening of the Royal Easter Show.

His paintings are held in almost every gallery in Australia and in numerous private and corporate collections.

Prior to the exhibition, a catalogue containing a brief synopsis of each artist was prepared and printed, and various people prominent in the art world were contacted to lend their support.

Knowing that Russell Drysdale, one of our greatest and much loved artists, had recently moved into his new home at Killcare, I had the temerity to contact him to see

whether he would be interested in being involved in some way.

He declined but, much to our surprise, he spontaneously invited me and my "bride" to dinner with his wife Maisie to discuss what Apex had in mind.

Even though we knew very little about art, what followed was one of the most memorable evenings we have ever experienced.

There was a blazing fire at the end of the lounge room, with one wall completely covered with shelves containing hundreds (if not thousands) of beautiful books.

Maisie was a former librarian.

The eastern side was almost totally glass thus affording them a magnificent view of the valley beyond covered in eucalyptus trees and other native vegetation.

The official opening of the exhibition was conducted by Pixie O'Harris, in the presence of Ted Humphries MLA, and the Club's President, Rodney Moyes.

A capacity crowd of 200 was present at the opening, and more than 600 people visited the exhibition over the weekend, with many of the paintings finding new homes.

Pixie O'Harris, who was described at the time as Australia's best loved artist, was responsible for many of the delightful murals of fairies and elves in schools and children's wards in hospitals throughout the state.

Many who attended the exhibition said afterwards that it had awakened their interest in art and they had no idea there was such an abundance of talent on the coast.

Before I finish I should mention that one lady exhibitor, Elsie Winkle, can still be found every first Saturday of the month outside the Ettalong paper shop where she has become something of an institution.

She is always busy painting or finishing off another work in progress, but she readily stops to answer questions from locals and tourists alike with her usual happy smile.

Letter, 12 Mar 2010  
Fred Landman, Daley's Point

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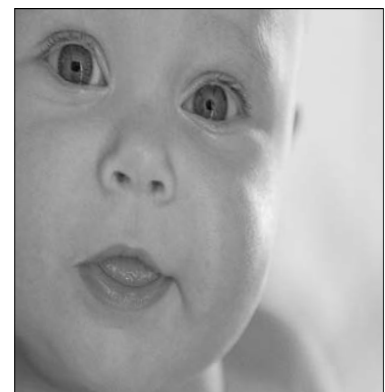
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# Hundreds attend regatta festival

More than 2500 local residents and visitors lined the main street of Ettalong for the inaugural Brisbane Water Regatta Festival on March 13.

The Ettalong town centre was transformed when stall holders, entertainers and guests enjoyed the day's festivities, according to event organiser Mr Richard Berntsen.

"The first Brisbane Water Regatta Festival was a huge success," Mr Berntsen said.

"State Emergency Service volunteers estimated that between 2500 and 3000 people attended throughout the day while the St John's Ambulance Service was there if they were needed.

"Ettalong town crier Peter Hutton was dressed in all the 1800s gear for the day's events and was announcing the day's happenings all along Ocean View Rd and down at the ferry wharf for the visitors from Palm Beach."

Among the entertainers were Jita and the Indian dance group, the crowd-pleasing belly dancers,

Brisbane Water United Physical Culture dance group, and Izzy and the boys with the Fijian dance group.

"There were 25 stalls on the street and the cafes were doing a great trade.

"The children were also well catered for with mini-jeeps, a jumping castle and fairy floss.

"The day concluded with music by Luis Monteiro and Aina, Mickey G as well as Null and Void."

Press release, 15 Mar 2010  
Richard Berntsen, Ettalong Beach Business Group Inc



## Biggest seniors concert

Member for Gosford Ms Marie Andrews has described this year's Seniors Week Concert as "the biggest event to be held on the Central Coast during Seniors Week".

The event is set to feature food and entertainment for local seniors on Tuesday, March 23.

The 15th annual Seniors Week Concert will be held at the Ettalong Senior Citizens Centre.

The concert will feature performances from Central Coast entertainer Chris King as well as local singers, dancers and guest speakers.

Students from Brisbane Water Secondary College will also be in attendance to serve sandwiches and cake to seniors as well as beverages.

The event is open to Peninsula seniors with the morning concert commencing at 10am and the afternoon session at 1pm.

Tickets can be obtained from the Ettalong Centre or Marie Andrews MP Woy Woy office.

Gold coin donations will be welcome at the door in support of the Woy Woy Hospital Auxiliary.

Press release, 16 Mar 2010  
Marie Andrews, Member for Gosford

# Dad's Day Out

A day for dads, families and kids

**Sunday 28th March 2010**

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For more information goto [www.gosford.nsw.gov.au](http://www.gosford.nsw.gov.au) or please contact: Gosford City Council's Community Development Officer on 43047072 or [Ainslie.whitburn@gosford.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Ainslie.whitburn@gosford.nsw.gov.au) or Chertsey Schools as Community Centre - Nada Potter on 43237158 or [ccchertsey@yahoo.com](mailto:ccchertsey@yahoo.com)

**Dads Day out is Sponsored by:**

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Woy Woy Peninsula Lions Club  
Sunday, March 28, 8am to 1pm  
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Car Boot Sale - \$10 per car  
NB stall sites not open until 6.30am  
Cnr. Ocean Beach Road and Erina St. Woy Woy  
Always Last Sunday  
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More Details...  
Elmo 4341 4151 - Hope 4369 8707

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## Community Organisations

**ABC Support Friends of the ABC - Central Coast** <sup>(257)</sup>  
a support group for the Australian Broadcasting Corporation. Aims: safeguard ABC's political independence, adequate funding and high standards.  
Meetings throughout the year + social coffee afternoons  
Guest speakers  
4333 8107  
jhale@tac.com.au;

**Art Ettalong Beach Art & Crafts Centre Inc** <sup>(256)</sup>  
Adult Classes in Patchwork & Quilting, Pottery, Folk Art, Silk Dyeing, Oils, Acrylics, Pastels, Drawing, Watercolour, Silvercraft and Children's Art & Pottery Classes  
Monday to Saturday during School Terms  
Ph: 4341 8344  
info@ebacc.com.au

**Central Coast Art Society** <sup>(257)</sup>  
To bring together artists and interested people for lectures, demonstrations and discussion, with weekly paint-outs each Tuesday, workshops and meetings 9.30am To 12.30pm, plus regular exhibitions.  
The 1st & 3rd Wednesday of each month at Gosford City Art Centre and 1.30PM on The 4th Wednesday of each month, for demonstration by guest artist.  
Coleen Martin 43251420  
publicity@artcentralcoast.asn.au  
Po Box 4168 East Gosford 2250

**Community Centre Beachside Family Centre** <sup>(257)</sup>  
A school-based community centre for families with children from birth to 8 years old. Offering a range of group programs and community activities to promote healthy and happy families  
4343 1929  
Umina Public School  
Sydney Ave, Umina

**Community Group Wagstaffe to Killcare Community Association** <sup>(256)</sup>  
The Association works to protect and preserve the beautiful environment and low density residential nature of the Bouddi Peninsula area and to strengthen community bonds

Monthly Meeting - 3rd Monday, 7.30pm at Wagstaffe Hall  
PO Box 4069, Wagstaffe  
2257 Tel: 4360 2945  
info@wagstaffetokillcare.org.au

**Vietnam Veterans', Peacekeepers' and Peacemakers' Association Of Australia Inc, Gosford Sub-Branch** <sup>(259)</sup>  
The VPPAA assist all Veterans and their families with pension & welfare matters.  
Drop in for a chat.  
Cnr Broken Bay Road & Beach Street Ettalong.  
Monday & Wednesday Between 9am to 1pm  
Phone 4344 4760  
vietvetsgosford@bigpond.com  
PO Box 505, Ettalong Beach NSW 2257

**Disabled Services Riding for the Disabled Association (NSW) - Central Coast Centre** <sup>(257)</sup>  
Horse Riding as a therapy for those with intellectual or physical disabilities  
Monday to Saturday  
4340 0388  
stateoffice@rdansw.org.au

**Environment Peninsula Environment Group** <sup>(260)</sup>  
Talks, films, social events, workshops, renewable energy and recycling projects, organic food buying group  
www.peg.org.au

**Friendship Endeavour View Club** <sup>(254)</sup>  
1st Monday of the Month at Woy Woy Leagues Club - 10.30am  
4344 3825

**History Fellowship of First Fleeters Central Coast Chapter** <sup>(259c)</sup>  
To create a greater awareness of the part played by those pioneers who arrived in Sydney with the first fleet on 26th January 1788  
Every second Saturday of the month at Wyong RSL Club  
10am  
roy.kable@bigpond.com  
4344 3876

**Marine Rescue NSW Central Coast Unit** <sup>(256)</sup>  
Members required for radio duty & boat crews.  
Point Clare  
Public courses for Boat Licence and VHF Radio

As a community access newspaper, Peninsula News has published details of not for profit community events on and around the Peninsula in a What's On format for over ten years. While this information has been provided free of charge to the community, unfortunately it has not remained current and many changes have not been provided to the newspaper.  
Starting with the first edition of Peninsula News in 2010, this information will be presented in an easier to use format where activities and like organisations will be grouped to make them easier to find and their contact information will be included.  
It will now also be possible to add specific one off events with information that applies only to that event.  
All Not for Profit Community Organisations that would like to be included will need to complete the following form and return it to Peninsula News by mail, fax or email together with the nominal payment amount shown where appropriate.

If you would like your Community Organisation listed here, see  
www.duckscrossing.org/publications.html for the forms or contact Peninsula News on 4325 7369

**Licences, Boat Licence Safety Course**  
4325 7929  
www.coastalpatrol.org.au  
info@coastalpatrol.org.au

**Migrant Assistance Northern Settlement Services LTD** <sup>(257)</sup>  
NSS Provides socialisation for migrants. Volunteers assist with home visits, shopping and social days where clients from all over the world enjoy time together. 2nd Wednesday of the month  
4334 3877

**Service Clubs Rotary Club of Woy Woy Inc.** <sup>(259)</sup>  
A fellowship of business, professional and community leaders through which the club provides service to others, promotes integrity and advances world understanding, goodwill and peace.  
Everglades Country Club  
Woy Woy, each Tuesday  
Jayne Mote  
4342 8183  
jayne\_mote@bigpond.com  
PO Box 175, Woy Woy NSW 2256

**Sport Woy Woy Judo Club** <sup>(259)</sup>  
Judo is a full contact sport for males & females aged from 7 years to senior. Learn self discipline, self esteem & fitness  
Every Tuesday and Friday 5.30 to 7.30pm  
ferryman57@hotmail.com  
0434 000 170

**Music Activities ASC Songwriter Assist Inc.** <sup>(258)</sup>  
Regular activities and events for anyone interested in the craft and business of song writing  
0412 149 094  
www.ascsa.org.au  
info@ascsa.org.au

**Retirement Centre Peninsula Village** <sup>(257)</sup>  
Not-for-profit, community owned, retirement centre caring for aged residents on the Peninsula in self care hostel and nursing home accommodation  
4344 9199

**Animal Care Wildlife Animal Rescue and Care Society (ARC)** <sup>(258)</sup>  
Rescues and cares for native wildlife in distress.  
www.wildlife-arc.org.au  
Free training provided.  
Meetings 3rd Saturday each month 1pm  
Wyoming Community Centre, Maidens  
Brush Rd Wyoming  
4325 0666  
arc@wildlife-arc.org.au

**Women's Group Country Women's Association Woy Woy** <sup>(257)</sup>  
Friendship Mornings  
1st and 2nd  
Wednesday 10am  
Monthly Meetings 4th  
Wednesday 12.30pm  
4324 2624

**Peninsula Women's Health Centre** <sup>(2605)</sup>  
A centre for women's well being. Clinic sister; counselling; alternate therapists; groups and community education; drop-in; support for women in crisis; advocacy; printed information and resources on a wide range of women's issues  
4342 5905  
Wednesday and Thursday 9.30am to 3pm  
20a McMasters Rd, Woy Woy  
www.ccwhc.com.au  
pwhc@cccwhc.com.au

## Returned from surf titles

**The Ocean Beach Surf Life Saving Club has returned from the NSW State Open Surf Championships with an overall placing of 14th, third of the Central Coast clubs, according to club director of surf sports Ms Robyn Carr.**

Ms Carr said Ocean Beach was represented in all disciplines of the life saving events from the patrol competition through to the surf boat races and board riding events.

"The club won three events, placed second in three events and third in five events in the open competition," Ms Carr said.

"This allowed members to come home with four gold medals, nine silver medals and 10 bronze medals.

"Competition started two weeks ago where all life saving events were contested the same weekend as the junior titles.

"Ocean Beach members competed in each age division of the male and female champion lifesaver, two teams entered into the open patrol and three teams in the first aid competition. "From these events, Ocean Beach came away with eight placings including two gold, three silver and three bronze.

"The second week of competition saw much calmer conditions than what the juniors experienced the week before.

"The Masters competitors held their events the Thursday before the Opens and unfortunately luck was not on our side with no medals coming our way.

"Ocean Beach was represented in the boat area with four crews, Open Men teams the Pygmies and Juniors, Under-23 Males the LTD's and our newest female crew the Under-23 girls OBHayve.

"Not the best of weekends for the men's crews but the girls of the OBHayve crew were pleased with their performance and were able to knock out the Avoca crew who were the branch champions.

"Not bad for a crew of girls all of whom are just 16 years of age.

"The five Under-15 members this year were joined by four Under-14s and one Under-13 competitor and even though no water medals were achieved each

gave their best making many finals and in some instances just missing out on the medals.

"Elyssia Gasparotto known mostly as a water competitor showed her all round ability and defended the title she won last year by taking out the two kilometre beach run again this year.

"The traditional event of R&R was contested by three teams from Ocean Beach, two men and one female team.

"Both male teams contested the five man and six person R&R events.

"Over the two days of competition the men's team of Grant and Drew Hayes, Dean Hillard, Nathan Lakejav and Matt Staples came away with a bronze medal and determination to make it a gold medal at the Australian Titles."

Ms Carr said the Ocean Beach juniors also enjoyed success at their State Titles coming home with a number of medals.

"Alessandra Gasparotto continued her success from last year winning the Under-13 female iron person and placing third in the surf race," Ms Carr said.

"The Under-12 female board relay of Jasmine Mandy, Caitlin Oakes and Emma Brady picked up silver and the Under-14 male board relay team of Jacob Mandy, Blake Arahill and Wade Hannell finished the year with a gold medal.

"These three boys were undefeated in this event all season and finished their junior years on a high note.

"The club has been successful so far this season and this year we have our biggest touring team in over 20 years heading off to Queensland to contest the Australian Surf Titles.

"The club is hoping to match and exceed its success from last year and wish all the competitors the best of luck.

"With the life saving events competitors must qualify through their respective state titles to contest the Australian Titles. Ocean Beach members to be representing NSW at the Australian Titles are Aaron Camp, Brooke Carr, Rebecca Cooper, Katie Dixon, Jason Gauci, Richard Grimmond, Jessica Mensforth, Jessica Moyes, Shane Ross, Bryce Sainy and Shelley Smith."

Press release, 5 Mar 2010  
Robyn Carr, Ocean Beach SLSC



## Success in competitions

Umina Surf Life Saving Club has seen success in various local and state competitions over the past few weeks, according to club secretary Ms Christine Lavers.

Ms Lavers said Umina club members Keisha Bovill, Rachel Wood and Indigo Verhoeven recently competed in the NSW Country Swimming championships and won many medals in the pool.

"There's no stopping these little champs after a great result the weekend prior in the State Age Surf Titles," Ms Lavers said.

"In the State Age Surf Titles, our juniors achieved some terrific results and should be very proud.

"Kirsten Miller won a bronze medal in the Under-8s female wade event as did Lachlan Braddish in the male equivalent.

"Bradman Best achieved a gold medal in the Under-9s beach flags event while Harry Braddish took out a silver medal in the Under-10s male board competition.

"Rachel Wood achieved top results with a gold medal in the Under-11s iron woman event as well as a bronze medal for the female surf swim.

"Rachel was also a part of the silver medal winning Under-11s female surf team joining Keisha Bovill, Jemma Smith and Mollie Murphy.



Mollie Murphy Keisha Bovill (Back) and Raqchel Wood and Jemma Smith (Front Row)

"Rachel and Keisha continued to make an impact by taking out a bronze medal in the Under-11s female board rescue event

"Meanwhile Joshua Thorndyke won gold in the Under-13s beach flags competition and Helen Krucler competed up from the Under-14s age division to the Under-15s in the female champion lifesaver event coming out with a silver medal."

Ms Lavers said the club's cadets had also done very well with medals to Jessica Rooke and Melissa Edmond who placed third

in the senior first aid competition.

"The two girls have been trained by Paul Sharpe and Wendy Cook and are now competing in the Australian titles in Queensland," Ms Lavers said.

"Many of the Masters ladies also won medals at State and they are Kerry Armstrong Smith, Wendy Cook, Vanessa Henderson, Christine Bishop, Brigita Parmeter and Lisa Brew.

"Also our Under-23s female boat crew recently came second in the Peter's Boat Series competition.

"The team consists of young females all under the age of 20 including Megan Langford, Hannah Hansen, Lauren Swain, Olivia Brown and swept by Phil Welch."

Press release, 19 Mar 2010  
Christine Lavers, Umina Surf Life Saving Club

## Four teams win grand final

Four of five of the Woy Woy Wombats Water Polo Club's teams have won their grades in the competition's grand final at the Peninsula Leisure Centre recently.

"First up we had our third grade men's team play Wyong," said club publicity officer Ms Jan Sillato.

"They saved their best game of the season for the grand final.

"They really played as a team and it paid off.

"Led by their coach Nathan Tait, they had a convincing win against Wyong.

"Next up was our second grade ladies team who also played Wyong.

"Consistent all season, they continued their team work through the grand final and also came up with a convincing win.

"Super coach Vanessa Henderson was always confident they could finish the season on a high.

"The first grade men's team had

a really tough tussle with Wyong again.

"They played a solid game and ended up with a great win.

"Coach Scott Henderson allowed three of our junior players the opportunity of playing up in the first grade team all season, and in the grand final giving them time in the water with two of them scoring a goal.

"The final game of the day was our first grade ladies team who played Gosford.

"Another very tough game but the girls stuck to their own game and ended up with a great win.

"More opportunities were seen for our junior girls who have played in this team all season, and also scoring goals in the grand final.

"Vanessa Henderson also coaches and plays in this team.

"She had one hectic day but the rewards were well worth it."

Press release, 15 Mar 2010  
Jan Sillato, Woy Woy Wombats Water Polo Club

## Surf boats go to Turkey

Umina Surf Life Saving Club will introduce surf life saving

to Turkey over the next five years.

The local surf club will send two of its own surf boats to the European country to assist up to six Turkish crew members in surf boat management.

Club secretary Ms Christine Lavers said Umina club member and secretary of the Australian Surf Rowers League Mr Alan Gibbons had been heavily involved in securing the two boats as well as two instructors from the League.

"The boats are going to Bosphorus University that has a campus just north of Istanbul at Burc Beach on the shores of the Black Sea," Ms Lavers said.

Ms Lavers said a 100km race involving a contingent of 100 surf boats was planned for the country to mark the 100th anniversary of the landing of the Anzacs in Gallipoli.

"The race is planned to start at Eceabat on the eastern side of the Dardanelles and travel south towards a half-way crew change point near Cape Helles," Ms Lavers said.

"The boats would then turn north towards the finish point near Anzac Cove.

"It is anticipated that crews from Umina and the Central Coast will also participate in the race so that may mean Umina crews may race in the original boats sent to Turkey."

Press release, 19 Mar 2010  
Christine Lavers, Umina Surf Life Saving Club

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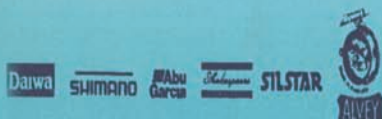
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# Roosters show good trial form

**The Woy Woy Roosters First Grade team has started its season campaign in style with solid wins over Toukley and Terrigal in the first two rounds of the Country Rugby League pre-season tournament, according to head coach Mr Les Lowe.**

The club's new signing of Adam Tippet stepped out in Woy Woy colours for the first time against the Hawks and led the Roosters around the park in their 36 to nil win.

Former Premiership winning player Chris Hyde continued his good form from the Manly trial, scoring two tries and generally causing Toukley some headaches, while Jade Mason, Aaron Hardman and Scott Wilesmith headed up a dominant forward pack.

In the round two match against Terrigal, the Roosters battled difficult conditions to prevail 54 to four against the Sharks.

"Again Chris Hyde was the star, however the re-emergence of the legendary Dave Maryska continues to be the talking point around the Roosters camp," club marketing and promotions manager Mr Peter Read said.

"Maryska, who has played in excess of 70 First Grade games, returned from rugby this season with the hope of playing with his brother Mick.

"This dream may well play out, with Dave among Woy Woy's best in its three trials thus far."

Mr Read said first grade coach Mr Les Lowe was happy with the squad's progress but knew only too well that trial form could be quickly forgotten.

"I'm pretty happy with the way our new guys are coming together," Mr Lowe said.

"Our defence has been great, only letting in one try - but it doesn't count for much when we face Berkley Vale in round one."

The Woy Woy Roosters lower grades also recorded wins against Toukley and Terrigal, with youngsters Alex Baxter, Adam Howe, Brent Bovis, DJ Markham and Brendan Neal showing the benefits of their pre-season training with the first grade squad.

WoyWoy play its first competition game against Berkeley Vale on Sunday, April 11, at Berkeley Vale Oval.

**Press release, 14 Mar 2010  
Peter Read, Woy Woy Rugby League Football Club**



Glenn Hall carves it up at the Merewether Pro Surfing Competition

Photo: Andy Larkman

# Umina surfer takes out pro comp

**Umina surfer Glenn Hall has taken out a pro surfing competition and claimed US\$85,000 in prize money at Merewether Beach in Newcastle on March 14.**

The 28-year-old nicknamed "Micro" won his first world surfing tour event after defeating South African Brandon Jackson.

The event was part of a competition that attracted around 650 competitors from around the world from March 2 to 14.

Hall, who competes under an Irish passport so he can enter European surfing competitions, contested his first world tour event

at Newcastle 14 years ago when he was just a "grommet with a dream".

"I won \$300 here when I was 14 and convinced Mum to let me use it to enter the Qualifying Series the next week," Hall said.

"I stayed at Warren Smith's house with Rhys and a heap of other groms.

"Newcastle has great memories for me."

After a week of mostly ordinary conditions affected by onshore winds and average surf, Merewether turned it on with blue skies and offshore winds for the final day of competition. The morning offered clean one to one-and-a-half metre

waves and provided contestants with the opportunity to get some of the best scores of the week.

Thousands of locals and visitors descended onto Merewether to witness the final.

Fellow Umina surfer Drew Courtney bowed out of the competition in his quarter final event against Hall finishing with 13 points against Hall's 13.90 score.

Courtney is set to head to Bell Beach in Victoria at the end of the month as part of the Association of Surfing Professionals World Tour.

**Website, 14 Mar 2010  
Steve Robertson, Global Surf News  
Website, 17 Mar 2010  
ASP World Tour**

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