



Arboretum receives nesting boxes

The Crommelin Native Arboretum at Pearl Beach has received nesting boxes for brushtail possums, sugar gliders, pygmy possums, parrots, microbats and the glossy black cockatoo.

They were paid for by the Wildlife Information, Rescue and Education Service (Wires) with the

support of Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch and built by the Men's Shed under the direction of Central Coast zone coordinator Mr Ray Crawley.

Arboretum president Ms Victoria Crawford said University of Sydney PhD candidate Ms Vivian Miritis was helping the Arboretum with the nesting boxes.

Pictured are Ms Crawford,

Arboretum secretary Ms Mary Knaggs, Wires microbat carer Ms Clare Rickell, Ms Miritis, committee member Mr Phil Rich, Arboretum vice-president Ms Ann Parsons, Mr Crawley, Arboretum honorary ecologist Mr Robert Payne and Ms Tesch.

SOURCE:

Social media, 17 Nov 2020
Victoria Crawford, Crommelin Native Arboretum

Gosford council chambers sale to be decided tonight

Council properties in the Gosford town centre, including the Gosford council chambers, will be sold if a proposal for tonight's (November 30) council meeting is approved by interim administrator Mr Dick Persson.

No council property on the Peninsula is part of the proposal.

"This report nominates an initial group of properties which are surplus to Council's current and future needs and can be considered for immediate sale," according to its author Council property development manager Mr Joe O'Connor.

"These properties were nominated after completing a desktop review of Council's high value assets which would have the least perceived impact to the community."

The report recommended the sale of properties at The Entrance, Doyalson, Wyong, Jiliby and Warnervale, as well as in Gosford.

The report said that the Gosford administration building had been considered "due to the 95 per cent reduction in occupancy rates from pre-Covid levels, attributed to remote and flexible working arrangements".

"The yet-to-be-adopted draft Accommodation Strategy also considered the sale of the Gosford

administration building due to these reduced occupancy rates as well as the forecast that post-Covid occupancy may be reduced to 50 per cent of pre-Covid levels," the report stated.

The report said that the proposed sales were the first group of properties to be considered for sale.

"Additional groups will be brought forward subsequently.

"These groups require further due diligence to confirm their suitability for sale and additional works to make them ready for sale."

SOURCE:

Central Coast Council item 5.5, 30 Nov 2020

Pearl Beach hall appeal reaches target

The Pearl Beach Progress Association has reached its target of \$24,000 to upgrade the deck of the Pearl Beach Memorial Hall.

This fundraising effort means the association now has the \$99,000 to complete the upgrade project.

The upgrade includes an extension of the deck, a new side access to the deck from the hall and a storage room in addition to the deck roof which was completed earlier this year.

The project makes alterations to the rear deck by increasing its depth and widening steps "to provide improved connectivity with the garden".

It adds a roof over the rear deck to provide shade and weather protection.

It adds an extension to the eastern end of the toilets to provide new level access storage for heavy items and chairs.

The project will carry out general repairs and maintenance work to the hall around the area of

the proposed additions.

Central Coast Council provided a grant of \$66,000 for the work under its community infrastructure grants program.

The \$24,000 raised leaves \$99,000 to be contributed as in-kind labour by the association's volunteers.

Of the money raised, most was raised through an internet fundraising page, an online auction, donations and two raffles.

SOURCE:

Website, 23 Nov 2020
Pearl Beach Progress Association

Peninsula News moves forward

What's happening with Peninsula News?

Peninsula News is still here and will continue into the future. We are not shutting down.

We have fewer pages at present due to a change in production arrangements, but – with the help of the Peninsula community – we expect to build the newspaper back up to its previous size over time.

A voluntary non-profit community group has owned and operated Peninsula News over the past 21 years, and continues under the leadership of its

founding editor Mark Snell.

It will continue with the same editorial policies that have seen it develop an extraordinary level of recognition, appreciation and support over the years: comprehensive and exclusive coverage of news relevant to the Peninsula, encouragement of well-informed discussion of issues affecting our future locally.

Peninsula News is not associated with the Pelican Post, and after a 20-year association no longer has a relationship with Central Coast Newspapers.

Help and support offered

We are appreciative of the many generous offers of help we have received from the community.

These include help from community organisations such as the Umina Beach Men's Shed, which has generously made and donated news stands, and the Woy Woy Peninsula Lions Club,

which is helping with distribution.

We have received offers from individuals, which have included helping with advertising, with graphic design, with distribution and proof-reading. A recent journalism graduate inquired after the possibility of work experience, which we were able to offer.

All help welcomed

Peninsula News is now being researched, written, designed, produced and distributed and advertising raised by volunteers from our not-for-profit community group, The Peninsula's Own News Service Inc, and its supporters.

Although many offers have been made, more help and support is needed, and community

involvement is welcomed.

Volunteer opportunities are available in all aspects of the newspaper's production, from news gathering and photography, through to seeking advertising and administration.

SOURCE:

Mark Snell, editor
13 Nov 2020

Distribution points

Our main distribution points remain as they were previously:

Ettalong: Ettalong Diggers Club, Ettalong Bowling Club and Ettalong IGA.

Umina:

Aldi, Woolworths, Coles, Peninsula Office Supplies, Lois Jones Real Estate and the Bourke Rd Store.

Woy Woy:

Deep Water Plaza, Peninsula Plaza and Peninsula Leisure Centre.

New contact details

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ADVERTISING: advertising@peninsula.news

PHONE: 4342 5333 - Please leave a message

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Peninsula News

Community Access

Peninsula News is a fortnightly community newspaper for the Woy Woy Peninsula, owned by The Peninsula's Own News Service Inc, a local non-profit incorporated association. Its aims include providing a viable, non-partisan news medium and forum exclusively for the Peninsula and developing a strong sense of community on the Peninsula.

Editor: Mark Snell
editor@peninsula.news

Journalist: Jackie Pearson
jackie@peninsula.news

NEXT EDITION: Peninsula News 508
Deadline: Thursday, November 26
Publication date: Monday, November 30

CONTACT DETAILS

NEWS: contributions@peninsula.news
ADVERTISING: advertising@peninsula.news
PHONE: 4342 5333 - Please leave a message
POSTAL ADDRESS: PO Box 585, Woy Woy NSW 2256

Please note: Peninsula News currently has no paid employees, and it may take a little time for us to get back to you. Our volunteers usually have other jobs and commitments, which compete for their time.

EMAIL ISSUES?

When emailing us, you will note that the domain name is PENINSULA.NEWS only. There is no .com or .com.au. If your email bounces or does not appear to have reached us, please check the address and try again. If this still does not work, try our old fallback address or call us by phone and leave a message.

Fallback email address: editor@peninsulanews.asn.au

Editorial policy and guidelines

At its heart, Peninsula News is a community effort.

It welcomes and relies on the contributions provided voluntarily and at no cost by local organisations, groups and residents.

The newspaper aims to be accessible to the community - both through making its columns accessible to community groups and by having copies available in accessible locations, including through its website.

The following policies and guidelines are designed to support the aims and standards of the newspaper.

Locality

The newspaper's editorial policy reflects a desire to reinforce the Peninsula's sense of community.

To qualify for publication, articles must have specific relevance to the Peninsula. For example, they must be about activities or events happening on the Peninsula or be organised by or involving Peninsula people.

The newspaper is not regional or national in nature, so regional or national issues will not be canvassed except as they affect the Peninsula.

Regional sports will only be covered from the perspective of Peninsula clubs. Regional plans will only be aired in the context of their ramifications for the Peninsula.

Peninsula News aims to be inclusive of as much of the Peninsula community as possible.

Readability

To ensure that the newspaper serves its purpose, it must be readable and represent the interests and activities of the community in its content.

Contributions to the paper are edited to consistent standards of readability. Guidelines are available for intending contributors.

All items will be dated. They must contain the name of the author to whom the contribution may be attributed, with their first name spelt out, along with their suburb or organisation. Anonymous contributions will not be accepted.

Forum letters

The Forum section provides the opportunity for readers to express their views on any aspect of Peninsula community life, with the aim of reflecting the community's diversity of opinion.

Nevertheless, letters may be edited for readability, including for length, spelling and grammar, and to avoid legal liability on the part of the newspaper, or they may be declined altogether.

Contributors are asked to keep their

contributions to the matter at hand, and to focus on the issues and not abuse or insult others.

Other than in the case of holding public figures to account, criticism of others (as opposed to criticism of particular opinions) is unlikely to be published in the interests of facilitating the expression of a diversity of views.

All letter writers need to supply name, address and contact details. Only name and suburb will be published.

Contributors who do not wish the wording of their letter to be changed at all should make a note to this effect when submitting their letter. In some cases, this may result in the letter not being published.

Corrections

We try to be as accurate as possible. However, mistakes can still slip through.

If you believe we have got something wrong, whether an error of fact or interpretation, we ask that you write to us by email with details for publication. These corrections may appear as Forum letters or as news items and should conform to our requirements for news and Forum contributions.

Source lines

Peninsula News includes "source lines" at the end of each article which aim to provide readers with information about where and how we came across the information, so that they might judge for themselves the veracity of what they are reading.

It should not be assumed that the article is a verbatim reproduction of the source. Similarly, it should not be assumed that any reporter listed is necessarily responsible for writing the whole news item. Source lines are not by-lines.

Often articles come from a number of sources. They are edited for readability and reader interest and given different headings, and consequently can be expressed quite differently from the source material.

Peninsula News usually receives its information in three ways: It is sent to us by someone wanting to promote their activities; it is sent to us in response to our inquiries; or it comes from a newsletter or other document to which we have access.

Sometimes we may interview a person or report what they said at a meeting.

The following descriptions are used:

Media Release - unsolicited contributions.

Media Statement - sent in response to our questions. **Website or Social Media** - information published online. **Newsletter or Report** - published in print or online.

Interview or Meeting - statements recorded by a reporter.

Forum contributions may be: **Email** if sent electronically and **Letter** if written on paper.

Ferry captain takes a new role

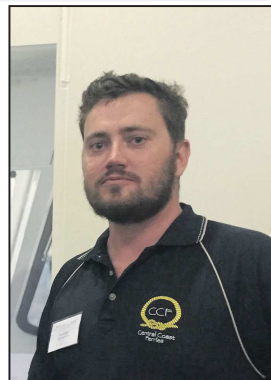
The man credited with guiding Central Coast Ferries over the past 14 years, Captain Tim Conway, has taken a role with Sydney Ports and will no longer be working day-to-day on the Davistown ferry.

In that time, he helped grow the family business from one ferry to three.

He will still be involved with the family business, but won't be seen on the ferries.

The ferry service has five other captains and last week welcomed a sixth to take Tim's place.

SOURCE:
Social media, 14 Nov 2020
Conway family, Central Coast Ferries



Fundraising reaches hall upgrade target

The Pearl Beach Progress Association has reached its target of \$24,000 to upgrade the deck of the Pearl Beach Memorial Hall.

This fundraising effort means the association now has the \$99,000 to complete the upgrade project.

The upgrade includes an extension of the deck, a new side access to the deck from the hall and a storage room in addition to the deck roof which was completed earlier this year.

The project makes alterations to the rear deck by increasing its depth and widening steps "to provide improved connectivity with the garden".

It adds a roof over the rear deck to provide shade and weather protection.

It adds an extension to the eastern end of the toilets to provide new level access storage for heavy items and chairs.

The project will carry out general repairs and maintenance work to the hall around the area of the proposed additions.

Central Coast Council provided a grant of \$66,000 for the work under its community infrastructure grants program.

The \$24,000 raised leaves \$9000 to be contributed as in-kind labour by the association's volunteers.

Of the money raised, most was raised through an internet fundraising page, an online auction, donations and two raffles.

SOURCE:
Website, 23 Nov 2020
Pearl Beach Progress Association

Mobile tower for Patonga

A construction certificate has been issued by Central Coast Council for a telecommunications tower in Patonga.

The certificate was issued on November 17 to Optus Mobile Pty Ltd with the work estimated to cost \$350,000.

The application for the tower at 68 Patonga Dr, Patonga, was determined by private certifier MB Certifications Pty Ltd.

The builder is Civil Constructions Pty Ltd.

SOURCE:
DA Tracker, 17 Nov 2020
CC200942, Central Coast Council



CWA branch sells raffle tickets

The Umina branch of the Country Women's Association is selling raffle tickets in Umina on Saturday mornings over the next month.

Branch members will sell tickets in front of Stephenson's Real Estate in West St, Umina.

A patchwork table runner has been made to be part of the hamper raffle prize.

Another prize is artwork by Ms Olwyn Hirsch of Umina.

Other prizes include a crochet lap rug, handmade Christmas cards, French champagne, a large Christmas cake and a pudding, chocolates, jam, condiments, a Christmas game, jumpers, shortbread and raspberry wine.

SOURCE:
Social media, 19 Nov 2020
Margaret Key, CWA Umina Beach

November rainfall stands at half the average

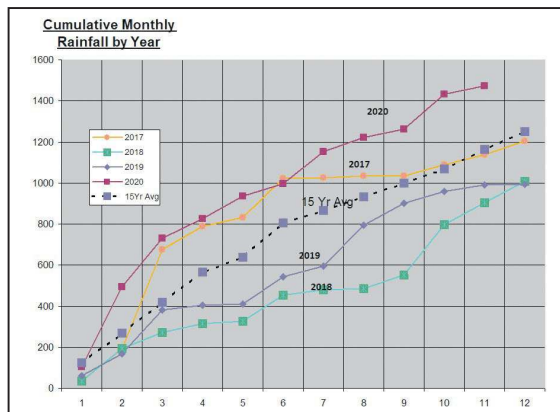
The Peninsula received less than half of its monthly average rainfall by Friday, November 27.

The month's rainfall totalled only 44.7mm, compared to the monthly average of 96mm for November, according to figures supplied by Mr Jim Morrison of Umina.

Only five millimetres of rain had fallen in the previous two weeks.

Despite the lack of rain, the cumulative total for the year stood at 1476.5mm on Friday, which was 26.7 per cent above the average figure at the end of November of 1165mm.

SOURCE:
Spreadsheet, 27 Nov 2020
Jim Morrison, Umina





Community garden celebrates project completion

Woy Woy Community Garden has celebrated the completion of work to rebuild its facilities after arson attacks in 2018 and the destruction of its storage shed in January last year.

Those attending the event last week included people who helped

raise money for the project as well as people involved in the project, including planners, builders, tradesmen and volunteers.

Among those present was Member for Robertson Ms Lucy Wicks.

Community garden co-ordinator Ms Tania Haydn said that having a community garden with good

facilities helped create a sense of community.

"Growing your own food in your local community garden is a pathway to healthy living, a prescription for health," she said.

"We have learned that community gardening is not just about growing healthy food but it is also a way to grow a sense of

place and community.

"Other benefits are nutritional healing through access to an increased variety of healthy foods, increased physical well-being through exercise, fresh air and sunlight, and antidepressant effect through meditative connection to nature.

"Social connection is achieved

through meeting neighbours, new friends, learning gardening skills and personal relationship skills through cooperative effort," she said.

SOURCE:

Media release, 27 Nov 2020
Tania Haydn, Woy Woy Community Garden

Council to apply for eight per cent rate rise

Central Coast Council has decided to apply for a "special rate variation" which would increase rates by eight per cent.

Interim administrator Mr Richard Persson resolved at an extraordinary meeting on November 26 to notify the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal of its intention to apply for a one-off variation.

The meeting was held in time to meet the Tribunal's November 27 deadline.

Prior to the sacking of Gosford Council in 2016, residents were told by the NSW Government that amalgamated councils, including Central Coast Council, would not be entitled to apply for special rate variations.

Mr Persson said notifying the tribunal did not necessarily mean the application would proceed but, if an application was not lodged, the opportunity could be lost.

The eight percent adjustment, in addition to a two percent rate

increase already authorised, would apply from 2021-22 financial year and remain in the rate base for seven years.

The application for a rate rise was proposed by Mr Persson as part of a number of measures being considered to address Central Coast Council's cashflow issues.

"I want to assure the community that this is not a done deal," Mr Persson said.

"It remains one of the options on the table," he said.

"We need to keep our options open here as a rate rise may be needed to ensure our community can continue to receive the services they want and need."

He said the Tribunal was "completely independent" and the community would be consulted on any proposed rate rise.

"We are exploring all other options as well including the sale of assets, borrowings, a reduction in our management structures and restrictions on spending, which will

all help our bottom line."

Mr Persson appointed a chief operating officer at the previous council meeting held on Monday, November 23, as a result of the "big planning and operational issues" the council was facing.

He appointed Mr Malcolm Ryan to the position for three months.

He said Mr Ryan was one of the most respected planners in the state and the appointment should not be interpreted as a lack of confidence in existing planning staff.

Council's recently-appointed chief financial officer Ms Natalia Cowley told the meeting that Central Coast Council had secured a \$6 million loan at a competitive rate from a commercial lender, and was negotiating a \$50-\$100 million capital works loan.

SOURCE:

Media release, 26 Nov 2020
Richard Persson, Central Coast Council
Central Coast Council item 2.1, 23 Nov 2020

Restaurant business increases, says report

Restaurants in Woy Woy and Umina have increased business, despite the effects of the coronavirus.

This is one of the findings of research conducted by Tourism Research Australia, according to a report to Central Coast Council.

The report about "Progress of Actions of the Destination Management Plan" said that, for the year to June, the research had shown 21.8 per cent decline in domestic visitor expenditure to \$516 million, a 58 per cent decline in international visitor expenditure to \$26 million and a 3.7 per cent decline in domestic day visitor expenditure to \$338 million.

However, the report stated: "In terms of spend overall on the Central Coast, it has continued to increase significantly year-on-year, with recent months since April experiencing a 20 per cent or more increase."

It cited "the restaurant sector", quoting Umina and Woy Woy where "the spend is up year-on-year" by 30 per cent and 20 per cent respectively.

"By comparison, restaurant

spend in Sydney is down almost 50 per cent year on year."

The report said: "With restrictions easing in September and October, Council staff were also able to deliver small school holiday activities in four town centres including Woy Woy with a total economic impact of \$30,000."

In a media release, interim administrator Mr Dick Persson said: "The Central Coast tourism sector has rallied strongly and is set for a bumper summer season after being hit hard by Covid-19 lockdowns."

"As Covid-19 restrictions eased, restaurant spending numbers have been particularly impressive since April."

"The Central Coast Destination Management Plan 2018-2021 seeks to ensure the long-term viability and sustainability of the region's tourism sector, including securing grant funding to deliver targeted campaigns and initiatives," he said.

SOURCE:

Central Coast Council agenda 3.3, 23 Nov 2020
Media release, 23 Nov 2020
Dick Persson, Central Coast Council



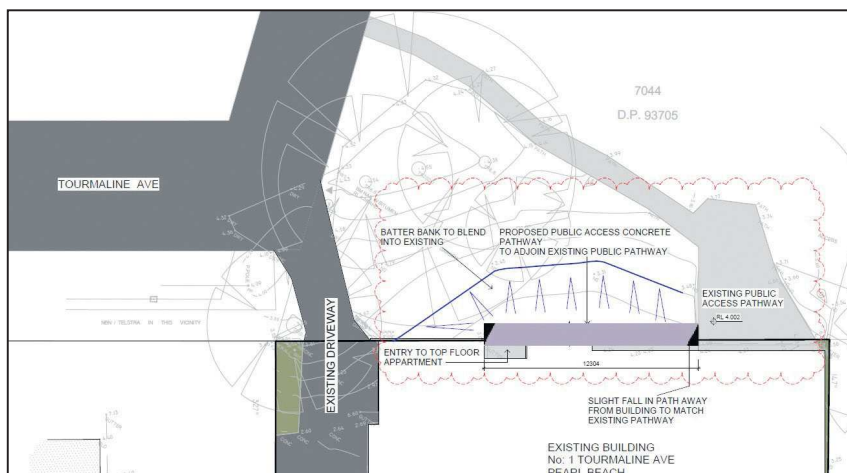
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Restaurant seeks extension of public pathway

A restaurant in Pearl Beach has applied to Central Coast Council for the creation of a public pathway across Crown land to provide access to a new second-storey dual occupancy development.

The proposal would extend an existing public footpath along the side of the Pearls on the Beach Restaurant to provide access to the entrance to the upper storey.

Proposed lease terms have been agreed between Central Coast Council as the manager of the Crown land and The Suzanne Holding Company Pty Ltd as the owner of the restaurant, according to a report prepared for the restaurant by planning consultant Doug Sneddon Planning Pty Ltd.

"Notwithstanding the agreement to enter into a lease, a development application is required in order to obtain development consent under the Environmental Planning

and Assessment Act 1979 for the construction of the proposed pathway," the report stated.

It said the Crown land was part of a beach front recreation reserve, which provided public car parking and pedestrian access to the beach.

"Adjoining the southern boundary is Pearls on the Beach restaurant and associated dual occupancy residential development.

"An existing pathway provides pedestrian access to the restaurant across the public reserve."

The report said that development approval was granted last December for alterations and additions to the dual occupancy at the restaurant.

That development application "proposed a new pathway providing access to/from dual occupancy Unit 2 across the adjacent public reserve, connecting with the

existing pathway providing public access to "Pearls on the Beach" restaurant.

However, the proposed access path was not approved by Council at the time, as "no details of this path have been provided, and no owner's consent for these works has been provided. As such consent cannot be granted for this pathway".

The report stated that the proposed pathway was consistent with relevant State and local planning frameworks for the locality and Council was able to reasonably form the view that the proposed pathway had minimal environmental impact.

The estimated cost of work was \$1000.

Approval for the proposal was requested.

SOURCE:
DA Tracker, 20 Nov 2020
DA59704/2020, Central Coast Council

Survey finds working from home is better, says Tesch

The move to working from home in response to Covid-19 has allowed many Peninsula residents to find a better balance between work and home life, according to Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch.

Ms Tesch said she had been conducting a work-from-home survey to get an idea of how the community felt about the changes and what can be done to support local workers.

"When you're commuting, a nine-to-five work day can turn into a 12 hour work day very quickly," Ms Tesch said.

"Since lockdown many of our commuters have started to work from home allowing them to spend more time with their children and family, enjoying the beauty of the local area and supporting our local economy," she said.

Ms Tesch said statistics indicated that working from home was a win-win for the local community.

"Commuters usually shop where they work so working from home will give a much needed boost to our local businesses who have been working hard throughout Covid," she said.

"It's been a win-win for local families, and it is something almost 85 per cent of our respondents would like to keep doing at least a

few days a week post-Covid."

She said that 92 per cent of respondents said they enjoyed the reduced commuting time, with 61 per cent confirming they were able to maintain a better work-life balance, and almost 80 per cent of respondents indicating they were satisfied with working from home.

Ms Tesch said the results were a clear indication that working from home should stay.

"An overwhelming majority of respondents prefer working from home."

"As we emerge from Covid, I think it is crucial we think about how we can keep this system going."

"With the rising cost of childcare, working from home a few days a week could even assist in closing the gender gap, allowing parents more flexibility in arranging their children and sharing responsibilities."

"I am collating more evidence to show the positive impact of working from home for regional workers and local economies."

"We have proven it can be done, but now we need to lock in the change."

Ms Tesch said the survey could be accessed at <https://www.research.net/r/WorkFromHomeSurvey2020>

SOURCE:
Media release, 26 Nov 2020
Liesl Tesch, Member for Gosford

Neighbour hires planner to object to Ferry Rd proposal

A neighbour of a proposed three-storey development in Ocean View Rd, Ettalong, has hired a planning consultant to lodge an objection to the proposal.

The proposal would see a three-storey mixed use development containing ground floor retail floor space, ground floor vehicle parking and 12 residential units built at the corner of Ferry Rd.

The objection was written by Macken Strategic Planning Solutions of Marrickville on behalf of a property owner in Ferry Rd.

The submission called for the council to reject the proposal because it did not comply with planning provisions for height and bulk and the requirement for underground parking.

It said the amalgamation of two separately-zoned lots should not be permitted.

It also said the application for the development did not contain all the relevant information, including future uses of the property, so affected parties could make an

informed opinion of the proposal and understand its potential impacts.

"This site has been subject to several development proposals over recent years, all of which have been rejected by Council because they do not comply with the relevant planning controls," the submission stated.

"This latest application should also be rejected as it too is non-compliant with the relevant planning codes and is not in the public interest."

"The proposal lodged with Council is a bulky and over height development which does not reflect the existing built form of the neighbourhood, which is predominantly one and two storey, stand-alone, housing."

"Its design presents poorly to the street with above ground parking providing much of its frontage."

"While a portion of the site is permitted to be three storeys, the current proposal presents as a four-storey development with the roof top entertainment area and pool."

"The transition from the neighbouring properties represents particularly poor urban design."

"For these reasons we believe the proposal should again be rejected by Council."

The submission commented that the proposal was substantially over the permitted maximum "floor space ratio", a control which was "both reasonable and necessary", making "the proposal particularly bulky and out of character of the existing streetscape".

"The excessive bulk of the proposal is aggravated by the breaching of the maximum height limit allowed in the planning controls."

"The building does not represent good quality design or built form, the extra overshadowing is not minor, and the building does not 'provide(s)' an appropriate transition in built form and land use intensity."

"It should be noted that the house immediately adjacent this proposal is just one storey and three metres high."

"The suggestion that at grade

parking 'demonstrates a high quality urban form' should be challenged by Council's urban designers."

"The presentation of two driveways and above ground parking along Ferry Rd is particularly poor urban design especially as this is the main gateway for tourists visiting Ettalong."

"The proposal is not accompanied with a strata subdivision plan, nor have there been any exhibited architectural drawings provided to affected parties."

"As such, it is impossible to ascertain whether the future uses of the property will be for permanent residential accommodation."

"The provision of several small, single room, 'bed sits', would suggest that the actual future use will be for temporary accommodation, either as short stay tourist accommodation or as a boarding house."

"The proposal is also seeking to amalgamate two separate lots, each of which are subject

to different zoning and planning controls."

The submission said that the amalgamation represented a significant departure from the existing built form and streetscape which was "not anticipated nor encouraged" in the council's planning controls.

"Many of the problems associated with the proposal stem from this undesirable site amalgamation and no justification has been provided to support it."

"Many of the important impacts of this proposal cannot be fairly assessed and many are hidden among the ancillary documentation."

"For these reasons we believe that Council cannot legally approve the development."

A number of other submissions have been lodged objecting to the size of the proposed building."

SOURCE:
DA Tracker, 24 Nov 2020
DA 59732/2020, Central Coast Council



Christmas cakes on sale

Woy Woy Peninsula Lions Club will be selling its Lions Christmas Cakes and Puddings at a Woy Woy shopping centre on Friday, December 4, from 9am to 5pm.

The Lions table at Deepwater Plaza will sell one kilogram cakes

and puddings at \$13 each and 1.5kg cakes for \$17.

It will also sell Lions Bears at \$10 and Christmas stocking fillers and teachers' Christmas presents at marked prices.

SOURCE:
Media release, 19 Nov 2020
Greg Head, Woy Woy Lions

Church plans for more meetings in person

The Broken Bay Uniting Church is planning to hold more meetings in person as coronavirus restrictions are relaxed.

"We are now looking at meeting for worship on Christmas morning," said church minister, the Reverend Patty Lawrence.

"We will be asking people to register."

She said that, while initially hesitant about the logistics, the leadership team had been encouraged by feedback to proceed with the service.

"The leadership team will continue to look at ways of being church while following the requirements set by the Department of Health," she said.

"Now that we are meeting in person once a month for communion services, the Zoom communion services will no longer be offered.

"To allow us to meet in larger numbers we are moving the chairs being stored in the meeting room to the garage.

"This means we can have up to 50 people in a service.

"This will help particularly with Christmas morning."

Ms Lawrence said: "We are considering starting weekly worship sometime in January, if Covid numbers stay low.

"At present, I do not know what time Sunday morning worship will be.

"It is likely we will only be having one morning service.

"We are looking at offering an evening worship service in a different style to the morning service.

"We are taking the opportunity, that this break in meeting in person for worship has given us, to look at ways of being church that are appropriate for this community, both the faith community that already meets, and those who have not yet found a spiritual home.

"I sense a time for experimenting, trying out some possibilities and connecting with people searching for something deeper in their life.

"This does not mean everything will change.

"Sunday morning worship will remain in the present style, while following the Department of Health advice.

"This means no singing and no morning tea for the foreseeable

future.

"Pastoral care will continue to be an important part of the life of the Parish."

SOURCE:
Newsletter, 15 Nov 2020
Patty Lawrence, Broken Bay Uniting Church

Limit set to 120

St John the Baptist Catholic Church in Woy Woy will continue to limit numbers at its church services to 120, despite the increase of total church numbers to 300 under new coronavirus restrictions.

The limit was "due to floor space and seating" and was "the safest option to keep people socially distanced".

The church has decided not prepare Christmas hampers this year due to the pandemic.

SOURCE:
Newsletter, 8 Nov 2020
St John the Baptist Catholic Church

New Rotary member

The Rotary Club of Woy Woy has welcomed a new member.

Former Rotary Youth Exchange student Ms Liz Jazwinska was inducted as a new member by club president Ms Joan Redmond.

"Liz brings to Rotary and our club her talents as an independent director and strategic advisor in science," Ms Redmond said.

SOURCE:
Social media, 19 Nov 2020
Joan Redmond, Woy Woy Rotary



Liesl Tesch MP
Member for Gosford

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News

Pearl Beach Art Trail to include 20 artists

Twenty Pearl Beach artisans are opening their studios to show and sell a range of paintings, cards, jewellery, handicrafts, ceramics, pottery, sculptures, cakes and relishes.

The Pearl Beach Art Trail from 10am to 4pm next Saturday, December 5, will also include a sale of books for holiday reading.

"The community, friends and visitors are encouraged to come along and enjoy the beautiful Pearl Beach village and environment and visit the various locations," said Pearl Beach Progress Association publicity officer Ms Lynne Lillico.

"A map with details of the trail and addresses of the exhibitors will be available at the local cafe.

"The participating artists will be following the Covid19 regulations and visitors will be asked to register at each address.

"At the café, we will be selling raffle tickets for a gourmet hamper with all proceeds toward the Pearl Beach Memorial Hall upkeep and renovations."

In Diamond Rd, the artists will include painters Vicki Davison, Jo Diggins and Robyn Bellamy, jewellers Mary Hyland and Sandy Thomas, sculptor Malcolm Davison, potter-painter Margaret



Westcott, ceramicist Jennifer Gordon and Bev Lapacek offering Christmas decorations.

Painters Phil Rich, Michael Ghalayini, Adriana Verduin and Cecile Ferguson, sculptor Rachel She and jeweller Susie Colless will open studios in Cornelian Rd, together with books from Alison Phillips and "tasty morsels" from a catering business.

Other artists elsewhere in Pearl Beach will include sculptor Gaby Porter and painters Pim Sarti and Marijke Greenway.

SOURCE:
Media release, 16 Nov 2020
Lynne Lillico, Pearl Beach Progress Association

Nurse graduate program at Woy Woy

A Woy Woy hospital is expected to employ two recent nursing graduates next year in a nursing graduate program.

The program will include 12-month contracts for 32 hours a week and will include organised study and training, with a certificate issued upon successful completion.

The program is being offered by hospital owner Healthe Care through its three Central Coast hospitals to a total of eight recent graduates who have less than 12 months work experience.

The other two hospitals are Gosford Private and Tuggerah

Lakes Private Hospitals.

The program will provide experience in general, peri-operative and mental health environments.

It includes a placement opportunity at the hospital, working with mentors and an opportunity for the student to be funded throughout their studies, said Brisbane Waters Private Hospital chief executive Ms Debba Ritter.

"We really need to start training up our next generation of nurses so we make sure our experts have the opportunity to pass down their knowledge to our new nurses so the best quality care can be provided locally," Ms Ritter said.

"We want to have exceptional

services here and the best possible experience for both staff and patients at our hospitals and this program is sure to deliver this outcome," she said.

Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch said the program was exactly what the community needed.

"We have an ageing population, especially on the Peninsula, and it's vital we start to proactively think about the future of our community," Ms Tesch said.

Applications for the program close on November 29.

SOURCE:
Media release, 26 Nov 2020
Debba Ritter, Brisbane Waters Private Hospital

Holiday activities will raise funds

The Pearl Beach Progress Association is undertaking a fundraising drive this summer, to compensate for the financial impact of the coronavirus on the association.

Coronavirus restrictions have prevented the use of the association's memorial hall and to hold events which the association

normally relies on for its financial viability.

Activities planned include an Art Trail on December 5, Christmas twilight dinners on December 6 and 13, and raffles held every Saturday until January 23.

Santa on the Beach photo opportunities will be held on December 19 and 23.

A Summer Book Sale will be held on December 28.

Kids Club activities will include lantern-making with Malcom on January 5, an art class with Marijke Greenway on January 12 and a Walk on the Wild Side at the arboretum with clay sculptures with Gaby Porter on January 21.

Bingo is planned for January 6, 13 and 20.

SOURCE:
Website, 23 Nov 2020
Pearl Beach Progress Association

Forum

A complete bungle on the part of the Council

To suggest that Central Coast's problems are all the result of some deep-seated state government plot ("What's Government's role in Council crisis?", PN 506), dating back to the amalgamation decision, strains credulity more than a little.

First of all, I don't think that there is anybody in our state government with the brains to plan such a Machiavellian scheme four years ahead of time.

Secondly, it is difficult to see how the Liberal government had the capacity to manoeuvre the Labor council into apparent blunders and misjudgements on a scale that would justify suspension.

Thirdly, even if they could, what is the benefit to the government of bringing about this debacle: Central Coast Council is of no consequence in the state balance of power, so, if Norm Harris is right, the Minister has just been put to the trouble of appointing a temporary Administrator merely for the pleasure of embarrassing an insignificant player in state politics.

I'd say that Occam's Razor applies here.

It looks like a complete bungle on the part of the Council, it sounds like a complete bungle on the part of the Council and it is viewed by the Minister as a complete bungle on the part of the Council, so why

do we need to search for hidden motives in this matter?

If amalgamation was at the bottom of it, how does it happen that other councils have been amalgamated umpteen times over the years without this result?

The pathetic excuse that bushfires and Covid have put the Council in a financially unstable position immediately raises the question of how other councils, far more affected by these factors, have managed to come through, without bankrupting the ratepayers.

To propose that the inconsequential Regional Plan is to blame (I pointed out, when it was published, that it made no contribution to a development strategy for the area and that the Council would have to take the initiative, if we wanted anything worthwhile to guide us) is so far-fetched that it is worthy of Donald Trump.

Is it any wonder that the Minister decided Central Coast needed a Planning Panel to take decision-making out of the hands of our inept councillors?

The bleating about how a Panel would not be responsive to local wishes would prompt anybody to ask how responsive our councillors have been to local concerns.

Peninsula News reports, week after week, examples of Council's riding roughshod over the wishes of Peninsula residents, in violation of its own standards, in approving

non-conforming developments, so an independent Panel can only be better.

The Council hasn't even managed to reconcile the old, separate planning instruments into a single instrument for the city - something that a junior clerk could manage in considerably less than three years.

Finally, it is pertinent to ask what

Council has done in its three years in office, to justify its continuation.

To read the recently published list of councillors' achievements is to be dismayed by the picaresque level of thinking that it reveals.

Let us hope that, at the end of the three-month hiatus, the Minister will decide to let the Administrator continue in charge until September.

It is horrifying to think that, if the Administrator straightens out the mess, the intention is to return control into the same incompetent hands as created the problem in the first instance: imagine what havoc they could still wreak in the eight months that would give them.

SOURCE:
Email, 10 Nov 2020
Bruce Hyland, Woy Woy

Administrator appointed for cosmetic surgery

The Administrator has been selected to carry out cosmetic surgery and save the Premier.

The downfall of Gosford Council was reported in editions of Peninsula News in 2014.

Why didn't the Minister for Local Government take action?

Was the amalgamation strategy already active?

Administrator No 1 was appointed in May 2016, giving the State Government sufficient time to play its part, strengthening its control and chipping away councillor credibility.

Did senior Government officers inspect the Gosford

Council chambers to determine if it could be refurbished to safely accommodate 15 councillors with an increased public gallery and then advise the Council time and cost estimates?

All that is required now is a small room to suit a maximum of three senior council officers and one public representative.

Interim Administrator No 2 will not address core issues which leaves the door open for Administrator numbers three, four and five.

Council watchers on the Peninsula should not be alarmed I have failed to report the Council's administration problems did not begin in 2014

Residents appointed to Council's advisory committees often commented on the failings in the Council's administration, many years prior to 2014

However 2014 was the year the division between the Council and councillors deepened, with the public shackled onlookers.

Everyone now knows where the Central Coast is located, for all the wrong reasons.

The first question potential buyers will ask is: Have the amalgamation problems been solved?

SOURCE:
Letter, 18 Nov 2020
Norm Harris, Umina

Students prepare for high school

Year 6 students from Woy Woy Public School visited the Umina Campus as part of their transition to high school program on Thursday, November 19.

The students were able to explore the layout of the campus, see some classrooms and meet some of the teachers.

The previous week the students met the principals of Brisbane Water Secondary College when they came to Woy Woy Public School to meet the students.

"There is such a short time left here now at Woy Woy Public School for them," said principal Ms Ona Buckley. "Just four more weeks."

She said: "When they walk past you in the school grounds, you note how much they have grown up, grown taller and more confident and, yes, you know they are ready for high school."

"But it is sad to see them go, as you remember all the years they have been here."

"Some of our Year 6 students started with us in Preschool."

"There is a lot of excitement coming up for them with end of year activities and we have certainly enjoyed their company over these last few weeks."

Ms Buckley said the Year 6 Farewell would go ahead at the Everglades Country Club on Wednesday evening between 6 and 8:30pm and December 9.

"The club has a strict Covid plan in place for our event."

"Our Year 6 students will experience everything that all



Brisbane Water Secondary Collage has hosted visits of next year's Year 7 students from local primary schools over the last two weeks.

Pictured above are students from Umina Public School attending the campus as part of their transition to high school program.

Pictured below are students from Woy Woy South.

SOURCE:

Social media, 18-25 Nov 2020
Kerry O'Heir, BWSC Umina



previous Year 6 students have had with the exception of parents and carers attending for the final graduation handouts.

"At present, Year 6 teachers are busy making special placemats for

the occasion and putting plans into place for the Farewell evening."

SOURCE:

Newsletter, 22 Nov 2020
Ona Buckley and Dan Betts,
Woy Woy Public School



Colour Run fun

Umina Beach Public School held its fund-raising Colour Run 2020 on Thursday, November 19.

Students wore old light-coloured clothes to school for the run, and were doused in coloured powder along the way.

A number of events were held during the day, and students were required to stay at school until the

last colour run event finished at 3.15pm.

Fundraising money was collected by the school and the runners entered in prize draws conducted by the school's Parents and Citizens Association.

SOURCE:

Social media, 19 Nov 2020
Lyn Davis, Umina Beach
Public School

Lyn Davis moves on

Umina Beach Public School principal Ms Lyn Davis has announced that she will leave the school at the end of the year to take up a position with the Education Department's School Leadership Institute.

"This exciting position will allow me to have influence on developing future school leaders from across the state," she said.

"Leadership Development has been my passion as a school leader and I am looking forward to having this as my main focus over the next three years."

"The last day of this term will be my last day at Umina Beach Public School as principal."

"I have mixed emotions about leaving this beautiful school as its leader."

"It has been the best job I have ever had and one that I have enjoyed every day."

"The school has an excellent leadership team and the fantastic teachers will continue to do everything they can."

Ms Davis said she had thanked the school community for the "outstanding support" it had given to the school.

"We can be proud of what we have achieved together."

"However, it is time for me to move on."

"I have been offered and accepted a position with the NSW Department of Education School Leadership Institute."

"As a member of the local community, I will always be keeping an eye on what the school is up to and I look forward to continuing my friendships with the many families I have met here into the future."

SOURCE:

Newsletter, 17 Nov 2020
Lyn Davis, Umina Beach
Public School

PCYC offers holiday program

The PCYC in Umina is offering a school holiday program in December and January which will include gymnastics, archery and creative activities and arts.

The program will be available for children aged five to 12.

Other activities include boxing and soccer.

It will run from Monday, December 21, to Wednesday, December 23, and weekdays from

Monday, January 4, to Wednesday, January 27.

A charge applies for the activities, to which the government Creative Kids voucher may be applied.

Participants must be members of the PCYC, bring their own food

and drinks and wear closed shoes.

Bookings are required in advance.

SOURCE:

Social media, 21 Nov 2020
PCYC Umina

Mini fete

Ettalong Public School will hold its annual Year 6 Mini Fete this year.

The format will be modified to comply with current Covid19 requirements, said school principal Ms Lynne Balfour.

"Year 6 students are currently collecting quality items to be donated for the incredibly-popular white elephant stall."

"Items such as books and toys can be sent to school where they will be sanitised in accordance with NSW Health guidelines."

SOURCE:

Social media, 25 Nov 2020
Lynne Balfour, Ettalong
Public School

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Sport

Southern and Ettalong United appoints coaching team

Southern and Ettalong United Football Club has announced soccer coaches for next year's soccer season.

Dale Eggleton, Andrew Ollier and Mark Webb have been appointed as the senior men's premier league coaching group.

The group's appointment sees the addition of both Andrew Ollier and Mark Webb, working closely with club technical director Dale Eggleton.

The club has also appointed Augusto Terra as senior head coach of its women's premier league squad.

Augusto has had more than 11 years coaching experience, starting in Brazil before moving to the United States for a senior head coaching position for three years, before coming to Australia as senior assistant coach for Manly United's women's premier league squad.

The club has also appointed Peter Jamieson as its junior girls technical director.

The club's social media post said that Peter brought more than 35 years' experience, having had many coaching and administration roles with Kings Langley FC, Hills United FC and Blacktown City.



He helped his son Josh Jamieson with the club's premiership-winning Under-U14A Girls side this year.

Pictured is senior women's premier league head coach

Augusto Terra with junior girls technical director Peter Jamieson.

SOURCE:
Social media, 28 Nov 2020
SEUFC

Southern Spirit masters team plays for first time

The Southern Spirit Cricket Club fielded its new Masters Over-40s for the first time last Sunday, November 29.

Team members were John Jewiss, Jamie Doran, Joel Corbett, Matt Corbett, Bruce Leslie, Darren Shaw, Scott Aitchison, Paul Wright, Col Handley, Ryan Johnson, Scott

Markham and Luke Bruisch.

The team had scored 9/187 against Terrigal at the close of its innings, with Joel Corbett scoring 26 and Jamie Doran 25.

But Terrigal took the game with 7/188.

SOURCE:
Social media, 28 Nov 2020
Southern Spirit Cricket Club

Cricket results

Results of games played over the past week by the Southern Spirit Cricket Club were:

First Grade: Southern Spirit 156 (LM O'Farrell 33, LA Bull 30) def by Kincumber 5/160 (ES Jones 3/32).

Second Grade: Southern Spirit 10/183 (M Bursle 73, O Martyn 31) def by Wyong 242 (J Starkey 4/36).

Third Grade: Brisbane Water v Southern Spirit.

Male Youth League: The Entrance 116 (JS Sibley 3/18) def by Southern Spirit 163 (WJ Slater 42).

Masters - Over-40s: Terrigal 7/188 (C Handley 2/18) def Southern Spirit 8/142 (JG Corbett 26, JG Doran 25).

Fourth Grade: Southern Spirit 7/200 (M Corbett 54) def Warnervale 196 (C Johnston 4/18).

Under-21: Southern Spirit 2/111cc (LE Cork 58) def Warnervale 95 (JA Wilson 5/6 inc hat-trick).

Fifth Grade: Southern Spirit

7/92cc def by Wyong 9/283cc (M Roberts 4/13).

Under-16: Warnervale 72 (H Tomlinson 3/3) def by Southern Spirit 1/76 (JD Johnston 46*).

Under-12a Southern Spirit 6/161cc def Narara Wyoming Junior 6/159cc (A Roese 2/15).

Under-14c: Lisarow 146 (L Downs 2/21) def by Southern Spirit 6/159 (D Jennings 45*).

Under-11: South Southern Spirit 7/72cc def by Kincumber Sixers 4/133cc (H Waters 2/13).

Eighth Grade: The Entrance Blue 73 (S Markham 4/20) def by Southern Spirit Purple 1/83 (G Simon 48*). Southern Spirit White bye.

Womens T20 - A Grade: Terrigal 84 (J Moody 2/4) def by Southern Spirit 1/85 (S Oman 25*, J Moody 25*).

Womens T20 - B Grade: Southern Spirit 6/92cc def by Northern Power Blue 2/103 dec.

SOURCE:
Website, 29 Nov 2020
Southern Spirit Cricket Club

Jenni is the Umina United Club Person of the Year

Umina United soccer club has announced Jenni Hill as its 2020 Club-Person of the Year at the club's presentation night on November 19.

She now has her name engraved on the Presidents Trophy.

As club registrar, Ms Hill processes over 700 registrations each season.

She also helped in the canteen, assisted on the official table, coordinated the cadet referees, as well as managing the club's 14A team.

Other awards included Ollie Jones being name Senior Men's Player of the Year, Dane Lawther as Men's First Grade Players Player and Mason Oldfield being named Young Player of the Year.

W12A player Julia Hall was named Junior Female Player of the Year.

Other junior awards went to Michael J as Under-9's Player of the Year.

The girls 10-13s encouragement award went to Jessica Balfe.

The boys 10-13s encouragement award went to Archie Croft.

The 10-13's player of the year was Nate Young.

The 14-16s player of the year was George Knight.



The Club and Community Spirit Award went to Anais Nelson as Cadet Referee of the Year.

Pictured above is Club Person of the Year Jenni Hill and, right, Junior Female Player of the Year Julia Hall.

SOURCE:
Social media, 20/21 Nov 2020
Umina United FC



Support students represent school in 10-pin bowling

Two teams from Ettalong Public School's support classes have represented the school at a 10-pin bowling event, organised by the NSW Inclusive School Sport Unit.

Eight Ettalong students practised their skills and bowling techniques with other support units in the Newcastle and Central

Coast region.

The students demonstrated their ability to cheer on their peers showing great sportsmanship.

A boccia event will be held tomorrow, Tuesday, December 1, with eight students participating.

SOURCE:
Newsletter, 22 Nov 2020
Lynne Balfour, Ettalong Public School

Netball association elects committee

The Woy Woy Peninsula Netball Association held its annual general meeting by teleconference on Monday, November 16.

Office bearers elected were president Sharon Bailey, vice president Daniel Reeves, secretary Nichole Barnes, games and grader Leesa Edgar, representative convenor Tracey Burraston; canteen convenor Nadia Sgaravizzi, assistant treasurer Damon Kiley, assistant secretary Donna Fardell and public

relations officer Lisa Coakley.

The association has yet to confirm who will take on the position of treasurer.

Other positions vacant include the umpire convenor, assistant umpire convenor and coach convenor.

Those interested in filling a vacant position have been encouraged to express interest via wwpna@bigpond.com

SOURCE:
Media Statement, 17 Nov 2020
Sharon Bailey, WWPNA