

# Peninsula News

Community Access

EDITION 510

THE PENINSULA'S OWN NEWS SERVICE INC

11 JANUARY 2021



## Cheapest petrol on the Coast

**Petrol prices on the Peninsula were the cheapest on the Central Coast with the opening of a new petrol station in Ocean Beach Rd.**

Last week, prices at the new United petrol station were, on average, five cents less than those at West Gosford and Wyong.

E10 petrol was selling for 117.9 cents a litre, the same as Metro in West Gosford and five cents less than the lowest price in Wyong.

Premium 95 petrol was selling for 132.9 cents, while at West Gosford and Wyong best prices were 138.9 and 137.7 respectively. Unleaded 91 and Premium 98 prices were both around the same

amount less than corresponding prices at West Gosford and Wyong. The United prices were close to the State average.

Diesel prices, however, were more than 10 cents more than prices available elsewhere on the Coast.

In response to the competition, both Coles and Woolworths service

stations on the Peninsula reduced their prices to be within six cents of the United prices.

United Petroleum marketing general manager Mr Jon Yarnall did not give a commitment on the company's pricing policy for the Peninsula, but claimed it was "in the company's DNA" to support local communities.

He also interpreted recent statements made by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission as recognising the company's role in keeping petrol prices low.

Mr Yarnall noted a changing local petrol marketplace, with work underway to convert the old BP station at the Rawson Rd roundabout to a 7/11 store and on the Blackwall Rd Caltex petrol station to become a Total petrol

station.

Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch commented that it was "pretty astonishing that it only took a couple of days for the new United Petroleum Umina Beach to force the other companies to drop their prices".

"Shows that there was no reason prices couldn't have been made fairer years ago."

However, while welcoming the prices, neighbours said they had not been consulted about the station's impact on them.

**SOURCE:**

Website, 4 Jan 2021

NSW Fuel Check

Interview (Mark Snell), 7 Jan 2021

Jon Yarnall, United Petroleum

Social media, 8 Jan 2021

Liesl Tesch, Member for Gosford

Impact on neighbours - Page 4

## Four coronavirus cases in 2257 postcode area

**Four cases of coronavirus has been notified in the 2257 postcode in the past month.**

The most recent cases were recorded on Monday and Tuesday, December 28 and 29.

As well as Umina, Ettalong and Booker Bay, the 2257 postcode covers Empire Bay, Daleys Point, St Huberts Island as well as Killcare, Killcare Heights, Hardys Bay, Pretty Beach, Wagstaffe

and Box Head, on the Bouddi Peninsula.

Two cases earlier were reported on Friday, December 18.

Another case was reported in the adjacent 2251 postcode area, which covers Avoca Beach, Kincumber and Bensville, on January 4.

The only other case on the Central Coast in the last two months was recorded on December 13

in the 2260 postcode area, which includes Terrigal and North Avoca.

The most recent cases bring the total number notified since March 11 to 14.

No cases have been notified for Woy Woy and the 2256 postcode area since August 31.

**SOURCE:**

Website, 4 Jan 2021

Covid-19 Cases, Data NSW

More - Page 4

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## Peninsula News - supporting local democracy

**The price of liberty, and its democratic expression, is eternal vigilance.**

Perhaps nothing brings this home as starkly as last week's storming of the Capitol in the United States.

That should be a cause for some reflection, and not just in terms of how national democratic processes and institutions can be hijacked or put under threat.

Coming so soon after the financial failure of the amalgamated Central Coast Council, it highlights the questions of the scale and the nature of democracy that we want for our community here on the Peninsula.

It raises questions of the

obligations of our democratic representatives.

It also raises questions of the role and responsibility of the media.

As Peninsula News enters its 23rd year, we are reminded of the reason that Peninsula News was started.

That was to provide information to our readers so that the Peninsula community could take the maximum responsibility for and control over the quality of our own community life.

This should not be a remarkable idea for a population of 40,000 people.

More than half the councils in the state have lower populations

than this, all of which went through the amalgamation review.

Peninsula News' role requires it to provide an accurate, comprehensive and attributed coverage of local events.

It requires us to regard the community as real identifiable people, and to avoid manipulation by anonymous influencers.

It requires us to write from the perspective of the ordinary member of the community and to resist pressure to modify our reporting to suit the rich and powerful.

We believe that Peninsula News' structure as a voluntary non-profit association provides the best opportunity for us to do so.

We believe that the most successful democracies are those where ordinary people actively participate and speak up.

We encourage you to do so. We ask for your continued support.

**SOURCE:**

Mark Snell, editor

11 Jan 2021

**Our next issue:**

**Monday,  
January 25**

### Distribution points

Our main distribution points are:

**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.

**NEWS email: [contributions@peninsula.news](mailto:contributions@peninsula.news)**

**THIS ISSUE: Contains 32 articles**

**... and another 10 articles online at <http://peninsula.news>**

# 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.

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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.

## New bridge at arboretum

A new footbridge has been constructed in the Pearl Beach Arboretum over a branch of the Green Point Creek.

The bridge constructed by Central Coast Council replaces a previous footbridge that was constructed in the 1970s by volunteers and was due for replacement, according to Arboretum secretary Ms Mary Knaggs.

"The Pearl Beach Arboretum looks forward to all its bridges and boardwalks being brought up to the same standard over the coming years," she said.

**SOURCE:**

Website, 11 Dec 2020  
Mary Knaggs, Pearl Beach Arboretum



## Tree tally reaches 473

The Peninsula's Grow Urban Shade Tree group has announced that its street tree planting tally is now 473.

This was "an amazing number considering the challenges and uncertainty we experienced this year," said group member Ms Jenny Wilder.

She attributed the "great result" to the support of the community, particularly "those who have embraced the opportunity to help beautify and green their suburb."

"Our passion is helping people choose and plant a tree."

**SOURCE:**

Social media, 31 Dec 2020  
Jenny Wilder, Grow Urban Shade Trees

## Long-serving Rotary members move on

Two long-serving members of the Rotary Club of Woy Woy are leaving the club to pursue other interests.

They are Mr Vic Deeble and Ms Di Schwarzl.

Mr Deeble, who joined the club in 2013, served as its president in 2016-7.

Current president Ms Joan Redmond said Mr Deeble had undertaken many tasks with the club, including three years as its newsletter editor, and being master of ceremonies at club changeovers and the Opera in the Arboretum.

"He is much appreciated for his wise council and general enjoyment that he gets out of helping others," she said.

Before joining the club, he was a member of the Rotary Club of Wahroonga from July 1993 to June

2013, serving as its president in 2004-5.

He was awarded a Paul Harris Fellow in 2006.

"Di Schwarzl also joined Woy Woy Rotary in 2003 and is a Paul Harris Fellow," said Ms Redmond.

"Di's passion was in the International side of Rotary and she travelled to Cambodia and Uganda for International projects during her time with us."

"Di also served on the board for quite a few years and her dedication was much appreciated."

"Woy Woy Rotary will miss both Vic and Di."

"Their circumstances have changed and they are moving on from Rotary, with other interests and new challenges to take up."

**SOURCE:**

Newsletter, 15 Dec 2020  
Susan Tee, Rotary Woy Woy



## Wettest December and wettest year in 16 years

Rainfall of 209.1mm on the Peninsula in December made the month the wettest December in 16 years, according to figures supplied by Mr Jim Morrison of Umina.

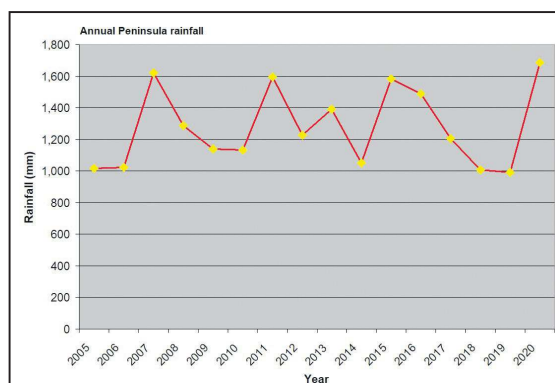
The largest falls were 56.8mm recorded on December 30, 38.4mm on December 22 and 16mm on December 16.

It brought the year's total to 1685mm, which was the wettest year in the same period.

The next highest figures were recorded in 2007, which recorded both the second wettest December and the second wettest year.

The December figure in 2007 was 199.5mm for an annual total that year of 1622mm.

This year's rainfall contrasted with last year's, when the December figure of just three



millimetres and the annual total of 993 were the 16-year low.

A total of 20.4mm have been recorded this year, to January 8,

with a January monthly average of 122mm.

**SOURCE:**

Spreadsheet, 8 Jan 2021  
Jim Morrison, Umina



## Two young life savers make successful rescue

Two young life savers at Umina Beach Surf Life Saving Club have conducted a successful rescue after a man on a boogie board went down the face of a wave into a shallow bank.

Davara Marshall, 15, had just recently completed her bronze medallion and, on Boxing Day, was on her first patrol as an official "Bronzie".

"While honing her skills in a dropping tide about 100 meters south of the flags, she spotted a man on his boogie board go straight down the face of a wave onto the shallow bank," a post on the club's social media site reported.

"After the white water had passed, she noticed the man face down and unresponsive.

"Davara swiftly paddled over



and rolled the man over on to his back securing his neck and head in the breaking swell.

"Fellow patrolling member, clubbie and friend Lachlan McLeod paddled over to provide assistance.

"While Davara had the patient secured, Lachlan noted that the man had a large graze to the forehead.

"Lachlan immediately signalled



for assistance.

"The two young lifesavers took the lead on providing the spinal rescue to transfer the man safely onto the beach.

"The urgent response from all patrolling members ensured the patient was comfortable and safe till the paramedics arrived."

**SOURCE:**

Social media, 26 Dec 2021  
Umina Beach SLSC

## Higher crime rate in Woy Woy than in Umina-Ettalong

Crime statistics released in December have shown a higher incident rate across a range of offences in the 2256 postcode area than in the 2257 postcode area in the two years to September.

The figures for the 2257 postcode, which covers Umina and Ettalong, were often well below the State and regional averages, while the 2256 figures which include Woy Woy were often close to or above these averages.

However, the rates in both areas were well below those for the Sydney 2000 postcode area, which was often several times greater.

Incident rates for both local areas generally dropped significantly in the past 12 months.

The new recorded crime statistics from the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research showed many major offences across the state were lower in the

third quarter last year compared with historic norms.

Bureau executive director Ms Jackie Fitzgerald said: "All high volume property and many violent crimes fell sharply in April 2020 in line with measures to reduce the spread of the pandemic.

"Since then offending has increased, but in most cases is yet to return to pre-pandemic levels."

She said 11 offences associated with robbery and theft categories, as well as non-domestic assault and malicious damage had shown downward trends across the state.

The total number of incidents for the Peninsula postcodes dropped from 3301 in 2019 to 2869 in 2020, a 13 per cent reduction.

Thefts in Umina and Ettalong dropped by 172 from 712 to 540, a 24 per cent reduction.

**SOURCE:**

Media release/website, 9 Dec 2020  
Jackie Fitzgerald, BOSCAR

More details - Page 4

## Expired flares to be collected at Lions Park

Marine Rescue Central Coast has urged local boat owners to dispose of expired flares through a disposal program with a local collection point.

Expired flares will be collected this Friday, January 15, at the Lions Park boat ramp, North Burge Rd, Woy Woy.

Expired Marine Flare Disposal Program is run by Transport for NSW Maritime to help boaters dispose of expired marine flares, according to the Marine Rescue group.

"Most flares have a use-by date of three years and they must be replaced before the expiry date.

"Flares contain explosive

matter which makes safe and legal disposal difficult.

"This collection program provides the boating community with an opportunity to safely dispose of their out of date flares."

**SOURCE:**

Social media, 5 Jan 2021  
Marine Rescue Central Coast

## The world needs altruists, says Rotary club president

Now, more than ever, the world needs altruists.

That is the message of Rotary Club of Woy Woy president Ms Joan Redmond.

She is asking residents to consider joining the Rotary club "to serve our community and become part of Rotary's Action Plan: rotary.org/actionplan".

"Our club knows that if we cannot achieve our plans due to unexpected circumstances, the global outreach of Rotary's own charity, the Rotary Foundation will continue to be there, through good times and bad, to fund projects to help communities in need.

"In difficult times, Rotarians value greatly being connected to

an organisation that puts the needs of communities at the forefront of its activities, all year, every year, including 100 years in Australia," she said.

**SOURCE:**

Social media, 5 Jan 2021  
Joan Redmond, Rotary Woy Woy

## Shop at aged care home replaces supermarket

Coronavirus restrictions have stopped many residents of aged care homes from taking outings to the supermarket.

Woy Woy provider Blue Wave Living has responded by setting up its own shop, which it operates twice a week.

"Our staff stock up on lots of goodies including food and personal health items for the residents to

come along and have a browse," said marketing manager Ms Kylie Scott.

The shop has now been operating for some time.

"It has been such a hit," she said.

Ms Scott said the shop was a staff initiative.

**SOURCE:**

Media release, 6 Jan 2021  
Kylie Scott, Blue Wave Living



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## Petrol station neighbours hit by noise and parking limit

**Residents opposite the new petrol station in Ocean Beach Rd say they have been detrimentally-affected by parking restrictions and noise which has followed its opening.**

They have called on Central Coast Council to remove the No Stopping signs placed in front of their properties between Bourke Rd and Paul St.

Mr Rob Landow said he and his neighbours had not been consulted about the change.

He said they were not advised of the development application when it was submitted to council and had not been approached by Council staff.

He said that the signs, which were installed unannounced, made it difficult for residents to take deliveries for their small businesses at home or to receive medical supplies and nursing services as they had previously.

Service providers would now have to park in adjacent streets, which often flooded, to be able to visit these properties, he said.

"Council has made a poor decision to erect No Stopping signs along Ocean Beach Rd without consultation with residents," he said.

"It has not fully considered all the dangers, health, financial and noise pollution impact that has created for the residents."

Mr Landow said that the restrictions caused danger to vehicles entering and leaving their properties, as well as to pedestrians on the footpath.

The footpath had a high volume of pedestrians, including young children, because of a nearby bus stop.

Mr Landow said that he believed the new petrol station would be good for the Peninsula, but that the council had not considered nearby residents when it placed conditions

on the development's approval.

He said the council had not placed adequate noise controls on the development.

"Residents have to put up with loud speakers, from the garage, going day and night.

"They start at 5.40am and can still be heard booming after 9.30pm.

"Residents have small children and they are kept awake by this constant loud noise and flood light pouring into their lounge room windows.

"Did Council consider this?"

Mr Landow said that loose grates across the petrol station driveway also created a loud noise at all hours as cars entered and left the petrol station.

Mr Landow said the residents had written to Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch and had received a response from Council development assessment manager Mr Andrew Roach.

His letter stated: "I have been advised by staff that this matter has been investigated and Council [staff] has confirmed that the signage was a condition of development consent for the development application No 50046/2016 Part 3 (service station and two shops) at 303-313 Ocean Beach Rd, Umina Beach, approved on 23 December 2016.

"The signage and line-marking engineering plans were submitted for endorsement and adopted by the traffic committee on 8 November 2017."

Mr Landow said he had been told by council staff that they could not say any more because the matter had been referred to "the Minister".

Pictured are neighbours Michael Deguara, Shaun Duffy and Rob Landow next to a No Stopping sign installed in front of their properties.

**SOURCE:**

Media release, 6 Jan 2021  
Robert Landow, Umina



## Statements made about local coronavirus cases

**During the course of the last month, the Central Coast Local Health District has made a number of statements through social media about local coronavirus cases.**

However, it has not given any direct information about the location of coronavirus cases on the Central Coast or how many households have been involved.

This information was available on another NSW Government website.

The first information about the case in the 2257 postcode area came in Local Health District advice on December 18 that a Central Coast resident had been diagnosed with Covid-19.

A close contact who lived in the same household was tested.

Passengers on the 6.15pm ferry

from Palm Beach to Wagstaffe on Wednesday, December 16, were considered casual contacts and asked to monitor for symptoms.

A walk-in Covid-19 testing clinic was established at the Woy Woy Hospital next to the kiosk, on Ocean Beach Rd, to operate from Saturday, December 19, to Tuesday, December 22.

On December 20, NSW Health advised that a second Central Coast resident had been diagnosed with Covid-19, linked to the Avalon cluster.

The advice did not disclose whether the second case was the close contact who lived in the same house as the first.

On December 21, drive-through testing at the Koolewong boat ramp was announced.

On December 23, an alert was issued stating a Western Sydney

resident who had been visiting the Central Coast has tested positive.

This case visited the Saltwater Bistro, Avoca Beach Hotel on Sunday, December 20, between 7.40 and 8.30pm.

"There are currently two confirmed cases of Covid-19 in the Central Coast Local Health District. The case from Western Sydney is not included in these numbers."

The State Government Data NSW website reported two cases being notified for the 2257 postcode area on December 18.

Central Coast Local Health DisCovid-19 fragments were detected in the Kincumber sewage treatment plant on December 21.

On December 29, the Local Health District advised that a third Central Coast resident had been diagnosed with Covid-19.

"As this person had been

identified as a household contact of a previous Central Coast case linked to the Avalon cluster, they were already isolating at home before becoming infectious."

The social media post stated that there was "therefore no risk to the community" and no venues of concern.

Data NSW recorded a case in the 2257 postcode area as being notified on December 28.

On December 30, the diagnosis of a fourth Central Coast resident was announced.

This person's household contact was also already isolating at home.

"There is therefore no risk to the community and no venues of concern to alert people to.

Data NSW recorded a case in the 2257 postcode area as being notified on December 29.

On January 5, the Local Health

District advised in a social media post that a Central Coast resident returning from overseas had tested positive while in hotel quarantine in Sydney.

Data NSW recorded a case in the 2251 postcode area as being notified on January 4.

In a statement to Peninsula News, Health District acting chief executive Ms Kate Lyons said these details were not released "for privacy reasons".

She did not explain how revealing that a number of cases or households existed in a postcode area with a population of 29,000 could be a privacy matter, or why another government department did not seem to regard it so.

**SOURCE:**

Social media, 18 Dec 2020-5 Jan 2021

Media statement, 6 Jan 2021  
Kate Lyons, CCLHD

### NSW Crime Statistics from Oct 2018 to Sep 2020

Year ending		Sep 2019		Sep 2020	
Postcode	Trend p.a.	Count	Rate	Count	Rate
<b>Theft</b>					
NSW	Down 16.4%	227197	2844.1	189874	2376.9
2000	Down 23.9%	5675	17909	4321	13636.1
Coast	Down 17.3%	9549	2791.7	7897	2308.7
2256	Stable	621	3836.4	501	3095.1
2257	Down 24.2%	712	2347	540	1780
<b>Against justice procedures</b>					
NSW	Up 9.6%	72214	904	79141	990.7
2000	Up 36.5%	735	2319.5	1003	3165.2
Coast	Stable	3115	910.7	3296	963.6
2256	Up 20.4%	270	1668	325	2007.8
2257	Stable	148	487.9	132	435.1
<b>Assault</b>					
NSW	Stable	65691	822.3	64122	802.7
2000	Down 18.2%	1655	5222.8	1353	4269.8
Coast	Stable	3205	937	3011	880.3
2256	Stable	199	1229.4	162	1000.8
2257	Stable	267	880.1	236	777.9

An extract of the latest Bureau statistics

## Crime rate drops on Peninsula

**The total number of reported criminal incidents for Peninsula postcodes has dropped in the past year from 3301 in 2019 to 2869 in 2020, a 13 per cent reduction, according to the Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research.**

Thefts in Umina and Ettalong dropped by 172 from 712 to 540, a 24 per cent reduction.

The incident rate for theft in the postcode area was 1.78 per 1000 people, compared to a regional average of 2.31 and a State average of 2.38.

Thefts in Woy Woy dropped by 120 from 621 to 501, a 19 per cent reduction.

The incident rate for Woy Woy was 3.10.

There were 37 fewer assaults recorded in Woy Woy, incident numbers falling from 199 to 162, a

19 per cent reduction.

The incident rate was 1.00 per 1000, compared to a regional rate of 0.88 and a State average of 0.80.

In Umina and Ettalong, assault numbers dropped by 31 from 267 to 236, a 12 per cent reduction.

The incident rate was 0.78.

The figures for offences against justice procedures ran against the trend in Woy Woy, with 55 more incidents being recorded, with a count of 270 in 2019 increasing by 20 per cent to a count of 325 in 2020.

The incident rate was 2.00, compared to a rate of 0.96 for the region, and 0.99 for the State.

The increase was primarily attributed to "Breach bail conditions" numbers increasing by 47 to 255.

Despite the general drop in incident numbers across the Peninsula, the Bureau described the statistical trend for most

categories as "stable".

Only thefts and disorderly conduct in 2257 had two-year downward trends – 24.2 per cent per annum for thefts and 39.5 per cent in the case of disorderly conduct, where numbers fell from 43 to 26 in the past year.

The offences against justice procedures in Woy Woy had an upward trend of 20.4 per cent.

The Bureau explained the method used to calculate trends.

"It relies upon the Kendall Rank Order Correlation statistical test (or Kendall's tau-b) to determine whether a series is trending upwards, downwards or is stable (p<.05).

"The statistical test is applied to the monthly data over the specified (two-year) period."

**SOURCE:**

Media release/website, 9 Dec 2020  
Jackie Fitzgerald, BOSCAR



## 'Busiest' holiday season, say businesses

**Local tourism businesses are reporting a busy holiday season, despite "strict new laws" effective on December 18 to control short-term rental accommodation.**

Sydney residents have looked to the Peninsula and Central Coast, driven by coronavirus concerns and particularly restrictions on interstate travel.

Holiday bookings "look to be the busiest for the region in its history", according to Accom Holidays, which claims to be the Peninsula's

largest holiday rental company.

Principal Mr Stephen Brooks said that holiday bookings were continuing at a busy pace during the current season.

"The ongoing demand is still due to the Covid restrictions, especially when border restriction come back into place," he said.

"The Sydney market specifically has seen the advantages of travelling locally and enjoying all the benefits of a shorter trip while being on some of the best beaches, National Parks and waterways on

the east coast of Australia."

He said many had taken the attitude: "Why travel for many hours or even fly when in just a couple of hours you can be in your holiday property and enjoying the delights of the Central Coast?"

Member for Terrigal Mr Adam Crouch said the mandatory Code of Conduct introduced obligations for hosts and guests, on December 18, centred on minimum standards of good behaviour.

**SOURCE:**

Media statement, 8 Jan 2021  
Stephen Brooks, Accom Holidays



## Market stall for Uganda project

**The Rotary Club of Woy Woy has run a stall at markets on the Woy Woy waterfront to raise money for the Pure Joy women empowerment project in Uganda.**

Some of the items sold at the stall were made in Uganda, "way back when travel was possible", said club president Ms Joan Redmond.

Other items were made locally. "All the funds raised on the day supported the project which helps disadvantaged women gain skills in tailoring, hairdressing and beauty and provides reusable

sanitary items for girls in need," she said.

The project ended the year with seven graduates in tailoring and 10 in hairdressing and beauty.

"We are very proud to support this vital project which helps disadvantaged women in Uganda to gain vocational skills they can use within their own community," said Ms Redmond.

"They have survived so many set-backs in 2020.

"It's uplifting to see the happy, confident smiles."

**SOURCE:**

Social media, 4 Jan 2021  
Joan Redmond, Rotary Woy Woy

## Both old and new trees needed, says GUST

**The community must demand both new trees and the retention of older trees where possible, according to the local Grow Urban Shade Trees group.**

The group made the call after it discovered that new advanced trees planted at a development in Webb Rd, Booker Bay, were replacements for "two healthy established coastal banksia".

"Replacing trees felled for new buildings is council policy but it takes community pressure to

ensure it happens," said group member Ms Jenny Wilder.

"While we are thrilled about the replacement trees, the loss of the two original banksia is thought-provoking.

"One was on the boundary and could surely have formed valuable amenity for this building.

"These were shade and habitat trees with many years of life still in them.

"This case just highlights the dynamics of the ongoing struggle between state government density

targets and the liveability of the suburbs consequently created.

"Perhaps thanks to the submissions of concerned residents, at least we now have replacement trees at this location.

"Emails and submissions to council can make a difference, even if sometimes it feels like they aren't listening.

"It's your neighbourhood and it's important to speak up."

**SOURCE:**

Social media, 19 Dec 2020  
Jenny Wilder, Grow Urban Street Trees



**Liesl Tesch MP**  
Member for Gosford

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## Health

### Free women's class

**A free nine-week group exercise class for women will be held in Woy Woy starting next month on Wednesday, March 3.**

The class is being organised by Diabetes NSW and aims to show how a more active and healthy lifestyle will benefit the participants.

The program is open to women aged over 18 of all fitness levels and backgrounds and involves a one-hour afternoon group exercise session every week for nine weeks, with an additional 30 minute health education session every fortnight.

"This fun, social and motivating program incorporates many of the factors that contribute to women's health – exercise sessions, tips to eating healthy, techniques to relieve stress and anxiety, and an

opportunity to connect with other women," said Diabetes NSW-ACT marketing co-ordinator Ms Loni Pettett.

"Unlike many of our other programs, you do not need to be diagnosed with diabetes to join."

She said that participants who registered for the Move with Women program would receive a one-on-one goal-setting consultation with an exercise physiologist, booklet which includes fun activities and health information for women, and a resistance band to use during the program and afterwards.

There would be a final assessment, wrap up and plans for a future catch-up with an exercise physiologist

**SOURCE:**  
Media release, 22 Dec 2020  
Loni Pettett, Diabetes NSW and ACT

### Peninsula loses free immunisation

**The Peninsula will lose its free childhood immunisation drop-in clinic "until further notice", Central Coast Local Health District has announced.**

The drop-in clinic was scheduled to start last Tuesday, January 5, at Woy Woy.

The clinic will now be held at the Gateway Child Health Centre, Level 1, 237 Mann St, Gosford, from 9am to midday.

No reason was given for the move, which was announced through social media.

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 4 Jan 2021  
Kate Lyons, CCLHD

### Two visitor a day limit

**Residents of a local aged care facility may only have two visitors a day, its chief executive has advised relatives.**

In a social media post, Blue Wave Living chief executive Mr Matt Downie said they should co-ordinate with their own family and friends, as people would be turned away should a resident have already had two visitors for the day.

"Visitors must only visit residents in their private bedroom, or another space as nominated by staff.

"Visitors are not to interact with other residents within BlueWave, nor stay in common areas within the building."

He said visitors and staff must continue to wear a mask while in BlueWave Living and ensure social distancing is maintained at all times.

"Temperature checks and screening questions for all visitors will be required."

He said visiting hours were 9am to 4:30pm Monday to Friday, and 10am to 4pm Saturday and Sunday and public holidays.

"Please remember that video chats and phone calls remain an option."

He said video chats could be booked either email or by phone, or arranged by the residents themselves.

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 7 Jan 2021  
Matt Downie, Blue Wave Living

## Forum

### Does council give credence to inaccurate traffic studies?

**When the government-appointed administrator Mr Dick Persson gave his much-anticipated 30-day interim report on December 2, he mentioned that some councillors had complained that they were denied information by council staff.**

Mr Persson went on to explain that councillors "have ample powers" to obtain this information and the possibility that they did not know this or did not know how to use these powers was irrelevant.

Fast forward a few days to the Public Forum preceding the Council meeting of December 14 and what do we see? A clear example of the way council staff respond to questions when they don't want to give a straight answer.

Mr Norman Harris asked a question about the council's use of "fake" traffic studies.

He also asked why the council

had failed to respond to his seven previous attempts to obtain information on this matter.

When Mr Harris's question was put to Mr Scott Cox, Director of Environment and Planning, the response was blatantly evasive.

Anybody who wishes to verify this should watch the recorded live stream of the meeting online. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4MVOFY\\_NELU&t=1846s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4MVOFY_NELU&t=1846s)

After the "non answer", Mr Persson sympathised with Mr Harris saying that he suspected that Mr Harris would not be happy with Mr Cox's answer, regretting that he could not be of further assistance.

What is the point of a so called Public Forum if ratepayers who ask a legitimate question can be treated in this fashion?

Don't forget these are the same ratepayers who are going to be charged an extra 10 per cent on their rates to help pay council staff.

As for the question itself, there are many residents who deplore the ever-increasing congestion on Blackwall Rd.

There is a general perception that this is being aggravated by over development.

Mr Harris was challenging the relevance of the Traffic Study for DA54551 as a case in point.

How can four hours of traffic data collected on a single day in 2018 be used to accurately predict the traffic flows several years later when the development is actually built?

No attempt was made to modify the figures for projected traffic growth taking into account other development projects in the

pipeline.

As Mr Harris says it is logically impossible for this traffic study to be accurate.

Surely the public has a right to know if the council is actually giving credence to this and other "traffic studies" of the same ilk.

**SOURCE:**  
Email, 5 Jan 2021  
Frank Wiffen, Woy Woy

### Elderly forced to stand outside

**The Rocks Arcade, Ettalong Beach, is home to pathology service.**

The arcade is a dingy, badly-lit and somewhat untidy place.

It also houses a coffee shop almost directly opposite the pathology service.

The coffee shop has installed several plastic tables and chairs in the area between it and the

pathology service, some directly opposite and in front of the service's entry door

Patients, up to a dozen at times, some of them elderly carrying walking aids and awaiting treatment are required, subject to the service's rules, to wait outside on foot and enter only four at a time.

Should any of them occupy a

vacant chair owned by the coffee shop, they are quickly approached by a coffee shop employee and told to vacate.

Would not State, or Federal health regulations be breached here and perhaps also Central Coast Council bylaws?

**SOURCE:**  
Email, 17 Dec 2020  
David Draper, Umina

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## Church reviews religious education

**Ettalong Baptist Church has signalled it is reviewing its involvement in the Special Religious Education program at Brisbane Water Secondary College.**

"The Program is changing," the congregation was told in the church's December 24 newsletter.

"The school is asking us to go to a seminar-style program.

"We believe this would not provide a quality opportunity to

share the gospel and have one to one opportunities as needed as it has been until now."

The newsletter asked readers: "Please pray for ... those making the decisions and for the possible changes."

The program has been provided by YouthLife, formerly known as the Religious Education Ministries, since 1989.

Participating churches include Ettalong Uniting Church, Umina

Uniting Church, Hardys Bay Community Church, Hope Church Central Coast (Umina), Woy Woy Anglican Church, Umina Anglican Church, Umina Salvation Army, Woy Woy Presbyterian Church and St Matthews Lutheran Church, as well as Ettalong Baptist Church.

Youthlife operates an opportunity shop in West St, Umina.

**SOURCE:**  
Newsletter, 24 Dec 2020  
Ettalong Baptist Church

## Students offered tertiary places

**Brisbane Water Secondary College has acknowledged 18 of its Year 12 graduates on being offered tertiary places.**

Leon Capra and Samantha Windley were both offered places in the Bachelor of Arts course at Macquarie University.

Other students to be offered places at Macquarie were Breanna Liley (Bachelor of Psychology) and Holly Yuile (Bachelor of teaching/psychology).

Four students were offered places at the University of Newcastle.

Jackson Quinell and Tess Richmond-Yunn were both offered places in the Bachelor of Exercise and Sports Science course.

Tess deferred her place in the course, as she was auditioned for and accepted a place in Diploma in

Dance (Elite performance) course at Dargie Entertainment dance studio.

Also at the University of Newcastle, Ayva Marshall was offered a place in the Bachelor of Primary Education and Dylan Dawson in Aerospace engineering.

Sally Tranter was offered a place in the Bachelor of Health Science course at the University of Western Sydney.

Grace Mitchell was offered a Classical Music place at the Australian Institute of Music.

Some students were offered places at several institutions.

Lizzie Gilchrist received offers from five institutions in science, bioscience, agriculture, environmental science and education.

Tahlia Campbell received offers

from three institutions in medical sciences, advanced science and law.

Lily Fowler received offers from UNSW in politics, philosophy and economics and at Macquarie University for a Bachelor of Economics.

Two other students received offers for bachelor degree courses.

They were Ellen Lopez, in Secondary Education Science, and Scarlett-rose Maitre in Science.

Tasma Smith was offered a place in the Diploma of Dance (elite performance) course at Brent St, Sydney.

Courtney Lee Apps was offered a scholarship to the TAFE Diploma of Early Childhood.

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 18 Dec 2020  
BWSC Woy Woy



## Shade trees planted outside school

**Families from Umina Beach Public School have planted 12 trees on Melbourne Ave, adjacent to the school.**

The planting was support by the Grow Urban Shade Trees group, the school's parents and citizens'

association, a local hardware supplier and parents from the school who helped pay for the trees.

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 17 Dec 2020  
P and C, Umina Beach Public School

## Graffiti removed from artwork

**Graffiti has been removed from an art work at Umina Beach just days after its installation.**

Central Coast Council installed two large chairs at Woy Woy and Umina waterfronts as public artworks on December 17.

Graffiti was seen on it and removed by artist Ms Jo Brannigan, Scarlet and Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch on December 30.

The chairs were constructed by the Men's Shed at The Entrance and painted by a team from Fairhaven's Australian Disability Enterprise team at Pt Clare.

No Peninsula community groups appear to have been involved in the project.

Despite this, Council director Ms Julie Vaughan claimed the project "has brought the community together".

"I'm excited to see a project from Council's eMerge youth program in partnership with community groups come to life.

"This program supports has provided an opportunity for participants to explore their creativity and showcase their talents to the wider community," Ms Vaughan said.

The chairs have been installed on the "Woy Woy wharf foreshore" near the playground in Brick Wharf Rd and next to Umina Surf Life Saving Club in Sydney Ave, Umina.

Ms Vaughan said: "The artists from Fairhaven drew inspiration for the Big Chair artwork design from the natural surroundings of Woy Woy and Umina including the unmistakable identity of the waterways that land lock this peninsula.

"The water graphic consistently identified as the strongest common element across the whole Peninsula is embedded in the area's identity - the wharf in Woy Woy sits



calmly on the shores of Brisbane Water.

"Umina Beach is all about fun in the sun, surfing the waves and enjoying life.

"The essence of the Central Coast - freedom - is depicted through the fluidity and connection of the graphics."

Council administrator Mr Dick Persson said it was great to see "this creative endeavour come to fruition by the community despite the interruption by Covid restrictions this year".

"The Big Chair art program has not only provided a creative outlet and important social connection for the creators but has also delivered an engaging art installation for the rest of the community and visitors to enjoy," Mr Persson said.

**SOURCE:**  
Media release, 17 Dec 2020  
Julie Vaughan, Central Coast Council  
Social media, 30 Dec 2021  
Liesl Tesch, Member for Gosford

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## Sport

# Donations wanted for new soccer clubhouse

**Southern and Ettalong United Football Club is seeking donations and sponsorship "for a few items that will provide improved facilities for all our members".**

Club president Mr Glen Balneaves said: "With our new clubhouse alterations and additions nearing completion, we are seeking assistance and

sponsorship for a few items."

They included four trees, costing \$900, to provide shading to our new awning area.

They also included a stove and oven costing \$850 and a dishwasher costing \$800 for the canteen.

Sponsor was wanted for signage and whiteboards, costing \$850.00, for the dressing rooms.

A painter was wanted to paint six doors and jambs, and a carpenter was wanted to install shower partitions.

Anyone who can assist or would like to discuss sponsorship has been asked to contact Mr Balneaves on 0407 454 963.

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 27 Dec 2020  
Glen Balneaves, SEUFC



## Bunnies ask junior players to register

**Umina Bunnies Junior Rugby League Football Club is calling for players to register for the coming season.**

The club advertises itself as "a family-orientated club" which gives "our players and their families a heap of fun as the boys and girls enjoy themselves while play rugby league".

There are Minis and Mods sections for boys and girls turning

five to 12 this year.

International sections for boys turning 13 to 17 and for girls under-13, -15 and -17 for league tag or tackle.

Registration is accepted through [playrugbyleague.com](http://playrugbyleague.com).

For further information, phone Cae on 0410 433 112 or email [caeburgess64@optusnet.com.au](mailto:caeburgess64@optusnet.com.au).

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 5 Jan 2021  
Cae Burgess, Umina Bunnies

## Women's soccer coach sought

**Umina United Soccer Club is seeking expressions of interest for a Reserve grade coach for our Women's Premier League squad.**

"The squad has seen success in past years, including the 2020 champions in first grade and the 2019 champions in reserve grade," said head coach Mr Steven Donaldson.

Anyone interested should contact Mr Donaldson on 0432 614 445.

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 5 Jan 2021  
Steven Donaldson, Umina United

## O'Farrell scores 111 for Southern Spirit

**Southern Spirit's First Grade opening batsman Liam O'Farrell scored 111 runs of his team's total of 9/267cc in its defeat of Warnervale, all out for 176, in a two-day game at the weekend.**

Results of games played by Southern Spirit over the weekend were:

First Grade: Warnervale 176 (LA Bull 3/44) def by Southern Spirit 9/267cc (LM O'Farrell 111).

Second Grade: Southern Spirit 10/137 (KJ Handley 34) v Warnervale 5/230cc (NP Pavitt 2/23).

Third Grade: Southern Spirit 5/206cc (S Dickson 7/10) def by Northern Power 7/207cc (BK Buchanan 3/31).

Male Youth League: Southern Spirit 5/112cc (AP Cutting 54) def by The Entrance 4/116.

Fourth Grade: Northern Power drew Southern Spirit.

Fifth Grade: Narara 9/173cc (C Johnston 3/15) def Southern Spirit 9/82cc (D Hancock 29).

Eighth Grade: Southern Spirit White 77 (J Skinner 27) def The Entrance Blue 75 (L McDonald 4/17).

Northern Power 4/107(cc) D Palmer 2/20 def Southern Spirit Purple 5/106cc (MJ Donnelly 28).

Womens T20 A Grade: Southern Spirit 5/86 def Lisarow Black 3/84cc.

Womens T20 B Grade: Narara 6/99cc (K Bosley 2/14) def Southern Spirit 7/86cc (J Doran 27\*).

In games played by Southern Spirit on December 19, the results were:

Under 16: Kincumber Red 8/79cc (H Beaton 2/4) def by Southern Spirit 5/80 (JD Johnston 34\*).

Under 12a: Terrigal 96 (A Tod 3/14) def Southern Spirit 74.

Under 14c: Southern Spirit drew Warnervale.

Under 11: South Southern Spirit drew Brisbane Water.

**SOURCE:**  
Website, 10 Jan 2021  
Southern Spirit Cricket Club

## Year's first red point bridge event

**The Brisbane Water Bridge Club has held its New Years Cup, the first red-point event of the year, on Monday, January 4.**

It was contested in two sections, Open and Novice Under 50MPt, under the direction of George Boettiger.

All players were required to wear face masks.

Winners of the Open Section were Jaan Oitmaa and Sylvia Foster with what was described as "an eye-watering 70.9 per cent".

The best of the novices were John Aldersley and Carolynne Mucharsky.

Open section results were:

1. 268.0 (70.90 per cent) Jaan Oitmaa - Sylvia Foster (2), 0.80 Red points.

2. 219.0 (57.94 pc) Felicity Fane - Heather Brown (6), 0.56 pts.

3. 218.0 (57.67 pc) Jorgen Boettiger - Pam Gowthorp (16), 0.40pts.

4. 215.0 (56.88 pc) Joan Walsh - Julie Teague (15), 0.27 pts.

5. 200.0 (52.91 pc) Carol Anderson - Jenny Buckley (13), 0.20 pts.

6. 198.0 (52.38 pc) Hope Tomlinson - Barry Foster (7), 0.16 pts.

7. 189.0 (50.00 pc) Christine Hadaway - Robin Vaughan (10), 0.13 pts.

8. 180.0 (47.62 pc) David Howells - Sue Eastman (1), 0.11 pts.



Open and Novice section winners

9. 179.0 (47.35 pc) Edith Marshall - Hilary Owen (3).

10. 178.0 (47.09 pc) Carol Long - Faith Ross (5).

10. 178.0 (47.09 pc) Lorraine Lindsay - Cathy Russell (9).

12. 174.0 (46.03 pc) David Bowerman - Dasha Brandt (12).

13. 160.0 (42.33 pc) Karen Ody - Jurate Laisve (14).

14. 159.0 (42.06 pc) David Snow - Martin Johnson (8).

15. 155.0 (41.01 pc) Peter Hume - Elaine Hume (11).

16. 154.0 (40.74 pc) Pamela Joseph - Susan McCall (4).

Novice section results were:

1. 126.8 (58.68 pc) Carolynne Mucharsky - John Aldersley (4), 0.25 pts.

2. 119.3 (55.21 pc) Graham Woof - Chris Spikesman (10), 0.18

pts.

3. 112.8 (52.20 pc) Caroline Nichols - Wendy Byrne (3), 0.13 pts.

4. 111.0 (51.39 pc) Denyse Stephens - Fay Cole (1), 0.08 pts.

5. 110.0 (50.93 pc) Judith Lambkin - Connie Lewis (7), 0.06 pts.

6. 109.8 (50.81 pc) Beryl Lowry - Bob Lowry (5).

7. 108.8 (50.35 pc) Linda Cunningham - Jo Ampherlaw (2).

8. 103.3 (47.80 pc) Blair Glass - Ian Newton (9).

9. 98.8 (45.72 pc) Helve Beale - Dieter Mucharsky (6).

10. 79.8 (36.92 pc) Robyne Reeves - Sandy Shapley (8).

**SOURCE:**  
Website, 6 Jan 2020  
Brisbane Water Bridge Club

## Virus restrictions change Pennants Trial

**Umina Beach Men's Bowling Club has changed its Pennants Trial, due to recent changes in coronavirus restrictions.**

"We are unable to have 48 players, four teams of 12 players, on the green at one time," said club secretary Mr Peter Springett.

"As we can now only have a maximum of 30 players on the

green at one time, the selectors have decided that the first two grades will play against each other on Saturday, January 9, with a 12.45pm roll up and 1pm start.

"The third and fourth grades will play against each other on Sunday, January 10, also with a 12.45pm roll up and 1pm start.

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 5 Jan 2021  
Peter Springett, UBMBC