

Ettalong channel decision long overdue, says Tesch

The decision of the State Government to take responsibility for the Ettalong Channel is long overdue, according to Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch.

"While this is a huge win for the community, I am extremely disappointed in the Liberal Government's slow decision-making process when it comes to our vital and pristine waterway."

After years of campaigning, the Ettalong Channel has been declared a "key investment location" by the State Government meaning dredging the area will become a responsibility of the NSW Government, she said.

"This means the long-standing controversy concerning who should foot the bill for the dredging

has been settled – determined to be no longer the responsibility of Central Coast Council.

"The dredging disasters in 2017 had devastating effects on our community by severely cutting our tourism in Ettalong and consequently causing financial stress for so many local businesses."

"Our ferry commuters were also left stranded with hundreds who usually travel to work and to school unable to do so."

Central Coast Council was forced to close the channel in 2018 and in 2019 as they struggled to finance the dredging due to the NSW Liberal Government only offering half the cost.

The NSW Liberal Government's renege of responsibility and

inaction during that period Ms Tesch said was still being felt today.

"After 10 years at the helm, the NSW Liberal Government has finally recognised it has left our community behind with its complete lack of responsibility on dredging."

"Our Council is still reeling from their failed forced amalgamation by this Government."

"While this is a positive step for our community, there's a lot more work that needs to be done by this Liberal Government to repair the cost-shifting harm they've imposed on Central Coast Council which our community will now have to pay for."

SOURCE:

Media release, 1 Apr 2021
Liesl Tesch, Member for Gosford



Storm clean-up continues

The flood clean-up continued last week with Clean4Shore collecting tonnes of debris.

Last Thursday, 2.32 tonnes was collected by the group and picked up by trucks supplied by Central Coast Council, according to Clean4Shore coordinator Mr Graeme "Jono" Johnston.

Debris collected included a spa, a large chair, fridge, mattress, buckets, drums, poly cladding,

pallets and four bags of plastic bottles.

"The bulk truck team allowed Clean4Shore to double the load that came out of the water," Mr Johnston said.

"Clean4Shore will be back at Mooney Mooney on Tuesday with schools from Green Point Christian and Gosford High in."

SOURCE:

Social media, 1 Apr 2021
Graeme Johnstone, Clean4Shore

Two-year delay in dredging decision announcement

The State Government accepted responsibility for dredging the Ettalong Channel two years ago when it adopted the NSW Coastal Dredging Strategy 2019-2024.

However, it failed to advise Central Coast Council until discussions were held on October 30 last year, when it provided the strategy document dated March 2019.

And it has only made a public announcement about it in the last month.

The Council's catchment committee for Brisbane Water was told that council staff met with State representatives about the "responsibility for dredging in Brisbane Water" where they learnt that the State now "manages dredging" at Ettalong under the Coastal Dredging Strategy.

The committee resolved on November 24 to "seek written confirmation of meeting discussions held" on October 30, according to the committee meeting record.

The strategy document states: "The Coastal Dredging Strategy identifies the state government as being responsible for the dredging of navigational channels identified in the Maritime Infrastructure Plan (Key Investment Locations)."

A table in the document lists the "key investment location" as Lower Hawkesbury, Pittwater and

Brisbane Water.

The dredging need is listed as "Entrance to Brisbane Water (Ettalong Channel)" and nourishment potential as Ocean/ Umina Beach.

"The NSW Government is committed to taking a strategic and proactive approach to delivering dredging for coastal communities in regional NSW," according to the document.

"Fourteen strategically significant locations have been identified based on waterway user activity, existing infrastructure and broader economic performance in combination with how these locations align with broader NSW Government priorities as described in the Management Infrastructure Plan."

"The Coastal Dredging Strategy is coordinated by Maritime Infrastructure Delivery Office to help collate market information, refine the planning and regulatory approval processes and monitor relative performance and longevity of dredging works."

"The Strategy aims to maximise the sustainability and value of dredging by working with nature to best utilise our limited sand resources for the benefit of coastal communities."

"The Office will establish a waterway monitoring framework at key locations that complements existing data programs."

The Maritime Infrastructure Plan lists five priorities "to support

current demands and future growth of recreational boaters, the commercial fishing industry and tourism in Pittwater, Brisbane Water and the Lower Hawkesbury River".

The first priority was "clearly marked and accessible navigation channels for recreational and commercial vessels, particularly at Brisbane Water".

The second was "sufficient on-water and land based storage capacity that meets demand for local recreational and commercial vessels in addition to recreational vessels visiting by sea".

The third was "sufficient fuel, sewage pump-out and vessel maintenance and repair facilities that meet needs of recreational, tourism and commercial fishing vessels".

The fourth was "modern boat ramp infrastructure with capacity to meet demand from recreational boaters during peak periods".

The fifth was "suitable wharves for recreational and commercial vessels to tie up to and load and unload passengers".

The 2019 Plan stated: "Recent investments include over \$1 million under the Coastal Dredging Strategy to improve boating access at the mouth of Brisbane Water (Ettalong Channel)."

SOURCE:

Website, 24 Nov 2020
Catchments and Coast Committee, Central Coast Council

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Peninsula News – now a supplement

For each issue of Peninsula News, we have more news than we have room to print.

This issue we had 82 articles, of which we were able to fit 35 into the printed edition.

Those articles not in the print edition are always included on our website.

Now, we have also started Peninsula News EXTRA to take these articles.

This is another eight pages in electronic form, produced as a PDF, which will be published on the Thursday following the print edition.

Peninsula News EXTRA will be emailed to local organisations, inviting them to print them out and/or distribute them by email to their members. If you would like a copy, please email distribution@peninsula.news with the request.

Peninsula News is owned and operated by a voluntary non-profit association, The Peninsula's Own News Service Inc.



Volunteer help and support are always needed, and community involvement is welcomed.

SOURCE:
Mark Snell, editor
4 Apr 2021

Our next issue:

**Monday,
April 19**

NEWS email: contributions@peninsula.news

COUNT THE NEWS: This issue contains 35 articles

... and another 47 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.

Headsets provided for music therapy

A Woy Woy aged care provider has received 50 headphones as part of Music as Medicine for Dementia program.

Woy Woy Rotary Club president Ms Joan Redmond said the handover of headsets to Blue Wave Living, Woy Woy, completed phase two of the club's Music Therapy for Dementia project.

"Blue Wave Living was grateful to receive 50 sets of headphones for our residents," said chief executive Mr Matt Downie.

The project was jointly funded with the Everglades Country



Club, Deepwater Older Women's Network and Charles Brock.

Ms Redmond said the headsets would "help enrich the lives of their residents living with dementia by reviving fond memories of times past".

"Each bluetooth headset allows a patient to have a personal playlist of favourite music and melodies," she said.

SOURCE:
Social media, 24 Mar 2021
Joan Redmond, Rotary Woy Woy

Help wanted to restore folding bikes

The Umina Beach Men's Shed is looking for someone to help restore two folding collapsible bikes.

"The idea is to get them into a saleable condition, sell them, and put the funds back into the Shed," said Shed secretary Mr Vic Brown.

Mr Brown said he had put a call out to members looking for somebody to take up the project of detailing them, giving them some TLC and fresh air in the tyres.



"No members came forward to tackle the project."

So he was putting out a second

call.
"If you need a little project, how about having a go at this one?"

Mr Brown said, in the event of nobody coming forward, "we will likely move them off to another Shed to undertake the detailing task and on sell them and benefit from the funds".

SOURCE:
Newsletter, 31 Mar 2021
Vic Brown, Umina Beach Men's Shed

Raffle tickets and auction bids are still available

The Rotary Club of Brisbane Water's Titanic Dinner will be held next Saturday, April 10, at Pearl Beach Hall.

The night is a sell-out.

"During the night our guests will have the opportunity to bid on some fabulous silent auction items and buy raffle tickets for the chance to win some wonderful prizes," said club president Mr Peter Mote.

Now the club is offering the opportunity to others to buy raffle tickets or to bid in the silent auction.

Among the items for silent auction are a painting of The James Craig by Pearl Beach artist Ms Marijke Greenway, a three-

piece copper-based saucepan set, a four-hour barbecue boat cruise, a \$200 meal voucher, a saucepan casserole and a model of the Titanic.

Among the raffle prizes are a silver necklace with white sapphires, a dinner for two, a family pass to Western Plains zoo, cinema tickets, an aquarium shop voucher, Titanic coins, a set of six mugs and a scented candle.

To place a bid in the silent auction or to buy raffle tickets, contact Cherie on 0425 222 778 or Jayne on 0405 714 289.

SOURCE:
Newsletter, 1 Apr 2021
Peter Mote, Rotary Brisbane Water

Expired flares collected

Expired boating flares will be collected at Lions Park boat ramp in Woy Woy from 7:30am to 10am on Saturday, April 17.

"The expired flares collection program provides the boating community with an opportunity to safely dispose of their out of date flares at no cost," said Marine Rescue Central Coast unit commander Mr Duncan Coles.

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

"Flares contain explosive matter which makes safe and legal disposal difficult."

SOURCE:
Social media, 30 Mar 2021
Jimmy Arteaga, Marine Rescue Central Coast

Third wettest month in 16 years

March was the third wettest month on the Peninsula in 16 years.

A total of 410.7mm was recorded for the month by Mr Jim Morrison of Umina.

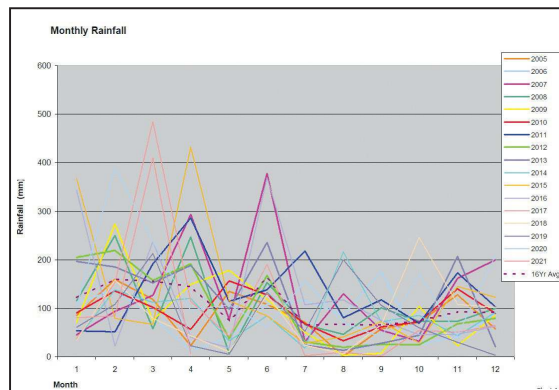
More than 80 per cent (339.6mm) of this came in the week between Thursday, March 18, and Wednesday, March 24.

The most substantial falls were recorded on March 19 (89.3mm), March 20 (48.0mm), March 21 (98.5mm), March 22 (44.0mm) and March 23 (38.6mm).

The wettest month in the last 16 years was March 2017, which recorded 485.2mm, and the second wettest was April 2015, which recorded 431.9mm.

Seven of the eight wettest months in the last 16 years have been in the last six years.

All have been falls of more than



340mm. the average for March being 156mm.

All other monthly totals have been less than 300mm.

The Peninsula's average monthly rainfall is 106.5mm, with

SOURCE:
Spreadsheet, 2 Apr 2021
Jim Morrison, Umina

New mural at Woy Woy South

Woy Woy South Public School has a new mural.

"Our beautiful new wall mural has been completed near the K-2 play equipment," said school principal Mr Matt Barr.

"It was designed to be bright, happy and vibrant – just the way we want our school to be."

Mr Barr said he was thankful for the vision and flexibility of artist Ms Angela Clark.

Ms Clark said she could hardly believe the project was finished.

"The early starts and ladders are all forgotten, and all I feel is grateful and happy - happy that what started as an idea has become something more tangible with so much potential to impact people I will never know."

"What will remain firmly in my mind is the little hearts, and big too, that expressed their joy to me every time they looked at their mural, especially a beautiful young teacher who made a point of telling me that, whenever she saw it, it made her happy too."

"It's little exchanges like that



that probably seem minor or inconsequential, but to me are the greatest compliment and assurance that what I do matters."

"If she's happy that's gonna impact her students and colleagues and we're all one step closer to creating that happy place where good things happen."

SOURCE:
Newsletter, 31 Mar 2021
Matt Barr, Woy Woy
South Public School



Residents 'should reclaim standing' in planning process

Peninsula residents may need to join together to "reclaim their standing" in the planning process, a leading town planner said last week.

Mr Mike Day, a partner in award-winning town planning firm Hatch Roberts Day, said "the community has a right to be heard", particularly in areas subject to growth pressure.

Residents should be provided with the opportunity to "advise the changes they want to see to create a town they are proud of and will love to continue calling home".

Designer of the Perth suburb of Ellenbrook, Mr Day said regional areas and those like the Peninsula "are expected to grow further as the work-from-home trend and affordable housing is seeing more residents leave the metropolitan cities".

The community had to make itself heard if it did not want to "lose the essence of what makes these towns so attractive in the first place", he said.

"Developers and planners must ensure they maintain the character and sense of place in these towns and villages, or face local community backlash."

He said there were advantages for councils, planners and developers if they gained the support of the community.

"Councils, planners and developers must get feedback from the community at all stages of planning and development."

"Interactive mapping and community forums provide locals with the opportunity to voice their opinions and achieve built form outcomes they feel meet local needs."

Mr Day said that, to be persuasive, the community needed to find "exemplars" of the sorts of developments and redevelopments that would like to see locally, if it did not like those being proposed.

It also needed "champions" within the planning process to ensure there was engagement



with the community.

Mr Day said: "When local residents are involved early in the planning process, they can provide feedback and advise the changes they want to see to create a town they are proud of and will love to continue calling home."

"Councils and planners can get meaningful input from the community through engaging with residents, planning design forums where the community and stakeholders explore solutions and design ideas through interactive workshops, and social media."

"By capturing residents' feedback, designers and planners can ensure the community's views are reflected in the design and development of any future projects."

Among Mr Day's recommendations to councils, planners and developers were: developing codes and guidelines which respected local settings, engaging and consulting early, creating local jobs, reinforcing walkable neighbourhoods, providing housing diversity and maintaining community engagement in perpetuity.

Mr Day said he would like to "reinstate the art of town planning" in an industry dominated by "policy and process planners".

SOURCE:
Media release, 25 Mar 2021
Mike Day, Hatch Roberts Day

Minimal feedback sought on intersection plans

Transport for NSW sought feedback on its Blackwall Rd intersection plans from less than 15 per cent of the Peninsula's population and less than a quarter of the numbers of people it claims use the road each day.

The State Government department now also seems to be reneging on its stated intention to "continue consultation with the community ... throughout the next planning stages".

The statement was made in a community consultation report issued in September.

The report stated that only 4200 people had been invited to provide feedback in February last year while claiming that 18,000 motorists used the road every day.

The Peninsula has an approximate population of 40,000 people.

No media release was issued to Peninsula News about the intersection plans at the time.

The report said that the consultation aimed to seek community feedback and "to build a database and knowledge of community members and stakeholders for Transport for NSW to engage with through the development and delivery of the intersection upgrade".

However, it appears resident groups were not contacted.

Save Woy Woy Waterfront community group president Mr Ross Cochrane said he had not heard from Transport for NSW.

Transport NSW media manager Mr Wade O'Leary said last week that the intersection plans published in the last issue of Peninsula News were based on information that was over a year old.

These are the most recent plans

published on the department's website.

He said the consultation report summarised 30 submissions received in response to last year's consultation exercise.

He also implied that the department was not interested in further feedback until "later this year", despite the consultation report recommending that consultation continue "throughout".

Submissions considered would be limited to those covered in the report.

"Transport for NSW will consider this feedback while developing the concept designs and carrying out the environmental assessment," he said.

"More information is expected to be provided to the community later this year."

SOURCE:
Media release, 30 Mar 2021
Wade O'Leary, Transport for NSW



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Three-townhouse gun-barrel development proposed

A development application has been submitted to Central Coast Council to build three two-storey townhouses at a cost of \$600,000 at 18 Warrah St, Ettalong Beach.

At one place, the application says that all units will have three bedrooms. At another, it says there will be two three-bedroom units and one four-bedroom.

This application was prepared by planning consultants Clarke Dowdle and Associates, based on the plans and information provided by Knight Mapleton Design Partners.

The development would be in a "gun barrel" configuration with vehicular access proposed via a common driveway to separate garages provided for each of the three dwellings.

"The proposed dwellings provide ground floor private open space areas with plunge pools, internal

storage and a space to locate waste collection bins away from the street and clothes drying areas that would be screened from other dwellings and the public domain," according to a statement provided by the planning consultants.

The proposal does not comply with minimum lot size or height requirements of planning controls for the site.

The lot size is 727.1 square metres compared to a minimum of 750, while the proposed height is 8.853 metres compared to a maximum of 8.5 metres.

The proposal does not comply with setback requirements, with side setbacks varying to as little as 1.13 metres where 3.5 metres is required, and rear setback being 3.05 metres where 6.0 metres is required.

The depth of the building is 38.8 metres, where the planning provisions allow a maximum of 25

metres.

The dimensions of open space for two of the three units are also non-compliant.

The consultants provided a litany of other non-compliant developments on the Peninsula as justifying precedents for this application.

Among the list are two others at 20 Warrah St and 32 Warrah St.

The council's planning portal also shows what appear to be similar developments submitted by the same applicant at 19 Warrah St, approved in 2019, at 21 Warrah St, submitted on March 23, and at 25 Warrah St, which is currently awaiting council assessment.

Another three townhouse development at 2 Warrah St was approved in 2019. It also had a lot size of 727 square metres.

SOURCE:
DA Tracker, 26 Mar 2021
DA 61194, Central Coast Council



Save Our Woy Woy group objects to Farnell Rd DA

The Save Our Woy Woy community group has submitted an objection to a new application for 18 units over five house lots at 8 Farnell Rd, Woy Woy.

It stated that continuing approval of developments of this style would "create an environment that would make the Peninsula virtually unliveable".

A previous application for 34 units was approved for the site in May 2019, despite objections from local residents.

The group has objected to the new application on the basis that it does not meet minimum standards in the State Government guidelines for "Low Rise Housing Diversity Design".

In particular, the group said that the internal laneway design did not meet the standard for safe pedestrian and vehicle movements.

"With virtually no overwatch, no separate pedestrian walkways and vehicles frequently reversing from both directions, this 'running the gauntlet' will be extremely hazardous, especially for young children," the submission stated.

The group also objected on the grounds of non-compliant setbacks, a non-compliant floor space ratio, car-parking encroaching into setbacks, unarticulated buildings, a wasteful use of space, and "too many units and cars – not enough landscaping".

The group said the application was based on an invalid traffic report and an outdated

arboricultural report, and was not in the public interest.

"If the 18 units planned for this site are all fully occupied, the human population could be as high as 75.

"It is extremely likely that the total number of cars owned by residents will be well in excess of the number of resident car parks provided (29)," the submission stated.

"It is not logically possible for such mass injections of extra vehicles to be repeated ad nauseam down the length of Blackwall Rd without major infrastructure improvements well in excess of the tweaking of a few intersections."

The submission stated: "The suggested common areas for residents and landscaping are token affairs when compared to the huge area devoted to cars.

"The laneway down the middle of this development will be stark and sterile with one line of garages facing another line of garages across a 6.26 metre wide laneway that runs the

entire length of the site. "We already have one of the hottest suburbs in NSW due to the lack of shade trees.

"We are in grave danger of creating an environment on the Peninsula that is virtually unliveable.

"Where are our priorities?" the submission concluded.

SOURCE:
DA Tracker, 25 Mar 2021
DA 060666, Central Coast Council

Subdivision recommended for Mrs Wilson's Shop site

The Central Coast Local Planning Panel will consider a recommendation on Thursday to approve a strata subdivision of a mixed-use development from one lot into three.

The application is for a 472 square metre site at 68 Railway St, Woy Woy, on the corner of Charlton St, which includes a two-storey heritage building known as Mrs Wilson's shop.

The development application has been referred to the Local Planning Panel as the proposal creates lots less than "the minimum subdivision lot size development standard".

The land is zoned R1 General Residential with a minimum lot size of 550 square metres and a minimum width at the building line of 18 metres.

The variations listed from the standard are: Lot 1 of 155 square metres, 71.8 per cent; Lot 2 of 139.8 square metres, 74.8 per cent and Lot 3 of 178 square metres, 67.6 per cent.

The minimum lot width is 5.8 metres is a variation of 68 per cent.

The shop "is being restored and conserved in accordance with DA48230/2015 for retail and commercial use and verandah with attached two side-by-side two-storey residential units (approved 18 May 2016) which front Railway St," according to a report to the Panel. "Construction of the development has commenced.

"Vehicular access to the site is provided from Charlton Street to car parking via a driveway



behind the heritage building and residential units."

No public submissions were received about the proposal.

The report concludes that the application by Bruce Kerr Pty Ltd is in the public interest.

"The proposal will continue

to provide for the restoration, conservation and adaptive re-use of a heritage item and provide for the housing needs of the community and additional housing on the site consistent with the zone objectives.

The proposal will not impact on the character of the area or the character of the approved development.

"It is not expected to have any adverse social or economic impact."

SOURCE:
Central Coast Local Planning Panel agenda 4.2, 8 Apr 2021

Group rallies submissions on design and place policy

The Residents for Responsible Development community group has urged residents to have they say on the proposed Design and Place State Environmental Planning Policy.

In a social media post, the group said: "This SEPP would allow for native trees and the canopy, and habitat they provide, to be removed and then replaced or offset with green roofs and small trees and shrubs.

"Is this an equal trade?"

"Does it replace the benefits mature trees provide?"

"Does it help us create a leafy suburb with tree lined streets providing canopy shade and habitat for wildlife or does it create a city scape?"

NSW Planning claims the policy "is part of a broader review of all our SEPPs and aims to simplify and consolidate how to deliver good design in NSW".

"The Design and Place SEPP puts place and design quality at

the forefront of development," the department claimed.

"Our shared responsibility to care for country and sustain healthy, thriving communities underpins the policy.

"The SEPP spans places of all scales, from precincts, significant developments, and buildings to infrastructure and public space."

Submissions may be made until April 28.

SOURCE:
Social media, 2 Apr 2021
RRED

Comment on nothing?

Central Coast Council is seeking comments on an amended application for a residential flat building at 145 Blackwall Rd, Woy Woy (DA 55285/2018).

The development is beside St Luke's Anglican Church in Woy Woy.

Despite a public comment period advertised of April 1 to May 5, no detail of the proposed changes is displayed on the council website.

SOURCE:
DA Tracker, 4 Apr 2021
DA 55285, Central Coast Council

Comment sought on Esplanade shared zone design

Public comment is being sought on the design of a "shared zone" for The Esplanade, Umina, between Ocean Beach Rd and Trafalgar Ave.

Central Coast Council has released a concept design which includes traffic calming measures and streetscaping "to enhance the amenity for the many users of this area".

The aim of the project was to provide a safer environment for all users with a focus on a pedestrian priority, project documents state.

"An effort being made to remove non-essential vehicle travel through the laneway to increase safety for pedestrians and cyclists. "Vehicular access will not be removed.

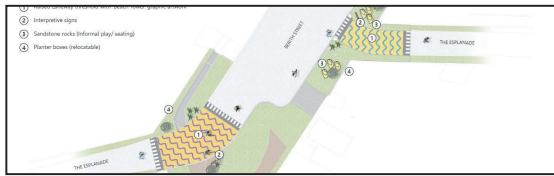
"However, a lower speed limit of 10km/h will apply while travelling through this area."

Drivers must give way to pedestrians at all times.

Vehicles can only stop in a Shared Zone if they obey the parking signs and park in marked bays, if they are provided.

This project was developed after "numerous requests to slow traffic and improve pedestrian safety".

Council has received a grant



of \$327,528 under the Streets as Shared Spaces program, which provides one-off funding to support councils to pilot innovative ideas for streets as safe, shared public spaces.

The design includes pavement stencilling and artwork, seating, landscaping, signage and related infrastructure.

Regulatory signage and pavement markings will be included.

Project documentation states that the design ensure there is minimal disturbance to residents in this area.

"Streetscape elements have

been designed to minimise impact on adjoining property owners."

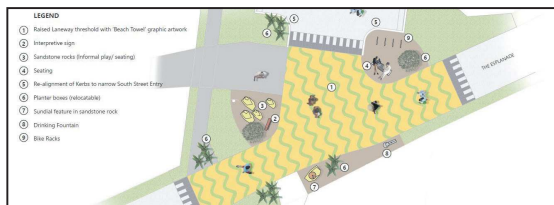
Access to private properties will not be restricted.

Construction is anticipated to start in May and is anticipated to be completed by September.

The comment period closes on April 26.

Council traffic team leader Mr Scott Stapleton has been named project contact and may be emailed at trafficcontrol@centralcoast.nsw.gov.au.

SOURCE:
Website, 31 Mar 2021
Scott Stapleton, Central Coast Council



Ephemeral art entries close on Monday

Entries for the Pearl Beach Ephemeral Art Trail at Pearl Beach Arboretum will close on Monday, April 12.

Organisers are seeking proposals for sculptures to be installed in 20 sites within the arboretum, preferably made with materials that are at hand.

Artists are invited to submit expressions of interest online or by post.

The Art Trail will take place over three weeks in June, starting on the June long weekend and going to the end of the first week of the public school holidays on Sunday, July 4.

There will be a \$500 cash prize arising from "People's Choice" voting.

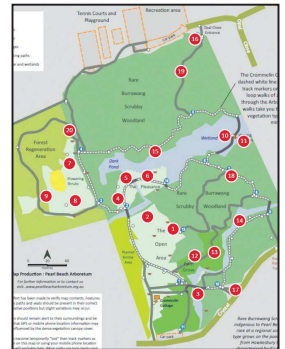
Arboretum secretary Ms Mary Knaggs said there were a number of guidelines for entries.

They should be inspired by the arboretum and inspire nature conservation and respect for the environment, she said.

They should be high quality and of artistic merit; be innovative, engaging and convivial; and be suitable for the intimacy of the arboretum and for viewing by the general community.

Ms Knaggs said there were a number of protective measures.

They should be a risk to the



flora or fauna of the Arboretum or to visitors.

Their construction and removal should not destroy native bushland or the removal of live plant material in the arboretum.

They should use mostly biodegradable materials, preferably materials found on the forest floor of the Arboretum.

They should not contain material bought from outside the arboretum unless it has been thoroughly washed in warm soapy water to remove pathogens.

The artists will be responsible for installation and removal.

SOURCE:
Media release, 23 Mar 2021
Mary Knaggs, Crommelin Native Arboretum



Liesl Tesch MP
Member for Gosford

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Health



Hospital walls decorated with colouring-in

A local hospital has decorated its walls with the results of a children's Easter colouring competition.

Brisbane Waters Private Hospital encouraged its youngest patients and the children of staff to participate in the competition.

Entries have been placed along the ward hallways.

"This is just one of a number of activities that are done to support our littlest of patients," said hospital chief executive Ms Deb Ritter.

The competition was part of the hospital's Caring for Kids program.

SOURCE:
Social media, 23 Mar 2021
Deb Ritter, Brisbane Waters Private Hospital

Another sold-out concert at the Troubadour folk club

The Troubadour Folk Club had a sold-out concert on Saturday, March 27, with We Mavericks the featured performers.

Club president Mr Michael Fine described it as "an impressive and inspiring performance".

"Victoria Vigenser's beautiful voice and powerful guitar playing were matched by Lindsay Martin's fabulous harmonies and his strong mandolin, fiddle and guitar accompaniments." They were supported by floor spots by local performers the Troubalukers, Sweet Songs and Soft Guitar, Mick Kelso, Miguel Heatwole, and Mary O'Mahony and Michael Fine.

Finger-style guitarist Michael Fix and songwriter Mark Cryle will present Time Lines: Australian Stories in Song at the Troubadour



Folk Club's next concert on Wednesday, April 21.

The concert will be held in the auditorium of the Everglades Country Club.

Mr Fine said the duo would "create a unique musical perspective on Australian history with a catalogue of important original songs".

He said Michael Fix was winner of three Golden Guitar awards at Tamworth Music Festival.

"His virtuosity, style and great laid back humour have been acknowledged here and on numerous European tours."

Mr Fine said Mark Cryle was a historian and verse writer as well as "an extraordinary musician" from Queensland.

He said the pair were among the country's best writers of song and verse, were bringing "this unique new body of work" to Woy Woy as part of a live tour of NSW.

Booking is required. For further information, visit the club's website www.troubadour.org.au or phone 4342 6716.

SOURCE:
Social media, 28 Mar 2021
Michael Fine, Troubadour Folk Club

Forum

Stop the sham of 'public exhibition'

At the last Council meeting the Administrator, who for the moment is the Council, expressed surprise at the lack of any speakers at the Public Forum, except one who appeared at the last moment.

To me it's a clear case of the public "voting with their feet".

Surely it's time to end this pretence of involving the community in decisions that affect them.

For years we've had to put up with a Council whose meetings resembled, at times, The Mad Hatters Tea Party; culminating in the arrival of the schoolmasterly figure of Mr Persson to put a stop to all the nonsense.

Almost unnoticed, the planning situation has gone from bad to worse with some truly bizarre decisions being imposed on the community.

The Hillview Nursing Home is one example, where a decision by one planning officer was inexplicably reversed by another.

No explanation to the community

as to how or why.

Now it seems that developers merely have to wave a list of "precedents" in the council's face to be granted permission to break virtually every rule in the LEP and DCP and concrete over the landscape to their heart's content.

There's been much criticism of certain overseas authoritarian regimes in the media comparing them unfavourably with Australia's democracy.

However at least these overseas regimes are honest.

They don't pretend to give the community a say.

For a while now, it's been quite obvious that state and local governments are hell bent on "expediting" their own agenda by limiting community involvement.

The so-called Low-Rise Housing Diversity Code is a clear example of this.

This not so hidden agenda is based on the conviction that the Australian economy should be based on mass immigration and housing.

No less a person than Bob Carr has described this as a crazy

idea but the bureaucratic machine grinds on.

At a local government level, we can see the effects of this in various ways.

One is the pathetic pretence at "public exhibition" of major development applications.

DA060666 is a current example.

This is a "second bite at the cherry" application for a site comprising five formerly separate properties located at the intersection of Blackwall and Farnell Rds.

Like the successful Hillview St nursing home application, it is based on outdated documents that no longer apply.

The situation will gradually get worse as developers realise they can get away with it.

It can only be stopped by the community telling Council loudly and clearly to either stop the sham of "public exhibition" completely or to make sure it's done properly.

SOURCE:
Email, 3 Apr 2021
Frank Wiffen, Woy Woy

Editor's note: This is the part of a much longer letter.

The second part of the letter, which comments on the detail of the Farnell Rd proposal in DA 060666, can be found in Peninsula News EXTRA.

Peninsula News EXTRA is an electronic supplement to the print edition of Peninsula News, which can be found from Thursday at <http://peninsula.news/Extra.pdf>.

Consult on parking meters proposal

I'm writing to express my concern at the secret parking meters proposal for the Peninsula put forward by council staff (Peninsula News 515).

Council released a car parking study and implementation plan last year for public consultation.

No mention was made of

parking meters.

If council want to introduce this, then the administrator needs to obtain community consultation first, much like has occurred with the projected rate rise.

I've got no problem at all with parking meters provided each bedroom per household is provided with a parking exemption permit for anyone in the 2256 and 2257 post

codes. Eg a three-bedroom house gets three parking permits.

No resident on the Peninsula should have to pay to park in the foreshore areas.

Slug tourists. They're the ones creating the rubbish and using ratepayers facilities free of charge.

SOURCE:
Email, 23 Mar 2021
Luke Chell, Woy Woy

Bookkeeping



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the CWA Hall Woy Woy,
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Wicks joins in bush project

Member for Robertson Ms Lucy Wicks has joined Umina Beach Public School students in their project to restore a patch of Umina Coastal Sandplain Woodland next to the school.

"This project is not only helping to restore the woodland, but it is teaching students and the wider

community about how to protect our environment," she said.

The bush reserve in the Peninsula Recreation Precinct is being regenerated with funding from the Communities Environment Program.

SOURCE:
Social media, 30 Mar 2021
Lucy Wicks, Member for Robertson

Free skateboard building workshop

Central Coast Council is holding a free skateboard building workshop on Wednesdays at Woy Woy Oval's community arts space, starting this week.

Over the six-week program, young Peninsula residents aged 12 to 18 years will be guided through building a skateboard and creating their own artwork for the new "custom deck" that they can keep.

Once the skateboards are built, participants will take part in a free skills development workshop with our partners Slam Factory at Umina Skate Park, to test-run their new boards and develop their riding skills.

Woy Woy Oval Community Arts Space, 51 Chambers Pl Woy Woy
The workshop will be held at the arts space between 3:30pm and 5pm on Wednesdays between April 7 and May 5 and at the Umina skate park from 3:30pm to 4:30pm on May 12.

Spaces are limited and must be booked.

SOURCE:
Website, 3 Apr 2021
Central Coast Council



Historic first student win in annual volleyball tournament

Students have had a historic first victory in the annual Staff versus Students Volleyball Tournament at the Woy Woy campus of Brisbane Water Secondary College.

Michael Weathers led his student team to the victory in the final against Globo Gym, comprising teachers from the PE faculty.

In the semi-final, the unbeaten Science Superstars were dispatched by the PE faculty.

In the other semi-final, Michael Weathers and Co, also undefeated in the group stages, won against

the staff team "Friendies Fiends", made up of a group of teachers from different faculties.

The final was an intense affair with both sides making impressive blocks and shots, according to the school's social media post.

Each team displayed its signature move, the "Weather Whip" and "Myzskowski Spike", drawing "oohs and aahs from the energetic crowd".

Pictured is the Myzskowski Spike in action.

SOURCE:
Social media, 1 Apr 2021
Rebecca Cooper, BWSC Woy Woy



Students attend young leaders' conference

Woy Woy Public School school leaders attended National Young Leaders Day conference at the Darling Harbour convention centre on March 25.

Teacher Ms Louise Rayner said: "The day is organised around guest speakers that are invited to share their remarkable journeys through their chosen careers and aspirations."

First was NSW Police Commissioner Mr Mick Fuller.

"He spoke about his policing experiences and how he developed leadership opportunities and ambitions throughout his life.

"Through question and answer time, he shared how difficult decision-making is as the commissioner, especially most recently through the Covid crisis."

Second was Mr Lachlan Smart who became the youngest pilot to fly solo around the world at the age of 18.

"Lachie spoke about self-motivation, resilience and adversity.

"His experiences were incredible, from raising vast sums of money as a 16-year-old to flying the globe in a small single-engine aircraft."

Finally, memory trainer Anastasia Woolmer spoke to the students.

"She spoke of not achieving well at school and then training in classical ballet.

"Through hard work and

application, she danced around the world in her early years. "Anastasia then became interested in memory training.

"She has since won the world title twice in memory competitions.

"She taught us a few tricks to try to improve our working memories."

SOURCE:
Newsletter, 31 Mar 2021
Louise Rayner, Woy Woy Public School

Parents' group elects new committee

The Parents and Citizens Association at Woy Woy South Public School has announced the results of elections held at its annual general meeting.

The meeting elected Mr Keiran Dearing as president, with vice-presidents Ms Leah Downey and Ms Sarah Stewart.

Treasurer is Ms Lori Prouse and secretary Shannon Conroy.

Uniform shop co-ordinator is Ms Belinda Lake and canteen convenor Ms Belinda Barnes.

Fundraising co-ordinator is Ms Briana Church and social media co-ordinator is Ms Elle Rushton.

The next P and C meeting will be held on Thursday, April 22, at 7pm in the school library.

SOURCE:
Newsletter, 31 Mar 2021
Matt Barr, Woy Woy South Public School

School disco

More than \$1740 has been raised for Woy Woy South Public School in a disco held at the school.

School principal Mr Matt Barr described it as "a successful night", with 426 tickets sold.

A number of teachers stayed back to supervise, including Mr Mark Young who showed "his amazing disc jockey skills".

SOURCE:
Newsletter, 31 Mar 2021
Matt Barr, Woy Woy South Public School

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Sport



Unicycle hockey team starts in Woy Woy

A unicycle hockey team has started as an offshoot of the Woy Woy Unicycle Club at the Peninsula Community Centre.

The team is growing in size and is aiming to compete at a national level.

"We started with lots of keen people who had unicycles but only a handful knew how to ride them," said coach Mr Andy Long.

"We are making great progress every week and have a wide range of ages and abilities, with people aged from 11 to 53 years.

"The only current qualification to join the team is a willingness to give it a go."

"There are some unicycles for you to try in all sizes if you don't have your own."

The club meets from 9:30am to 10:45am on Saturdays at the community centre in McMasters Rd, Woy Woy.



Netball teams make it to Hunter League finals

Two Woy Woy Peninsula Netball Association teams have made it to the finals of the Hunter Regional League played at Maitland on March 28.

The Opens team took out third place in Division 1, while the 17s team were runners-up in Division 4.

In the Opens finals, Newcastle

defeated Woy Woy, 48-23, and Woy Woy defeated Maitland 51-31.

In the 17s finals, Woy Woy defeated Port Stephens, 51-24, and Muswellbrook defeated Woy Woy 44-35.

SOURCE:

Social media, 28 Mar 2021
WWPNA

Cricket awards

Three Southern Spirit Cricket Club players have been recognised at the Central Coast Cricket Association's presentation night.

Liam "Baz" O'Farrell was named in the Central Coast First Grade Team of the Year, while Sally Oman and Leisel Collins were named in the Central Coast Women's T20 Team of the Year.

Liam O'Farrell also won the award for the highest first grade score with 111 runs.

SOURCE:

Social media, 25 Mar 2021
Southern Spirit Cricket Club
Photo: Nick Friend, P Wright



Umina bowls results

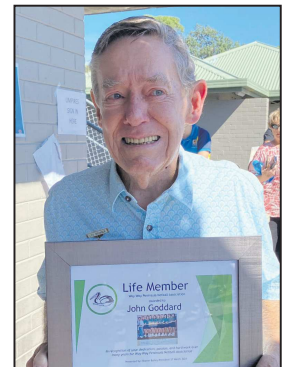
Results from the Umina Beach Men's Bowling Club championship games played on March 28 were:

In Major Singles competition, Allan Rhodes defeated over Martin O'Malley, Shane Waddell defeated Rob Andersen, and Geoff Godwin defeated Mark Hogden.

In Major Pairs, Grant Ambrose and Brian Harrison defeated Gary Yates and Brian Peck, and Sid Stokke and Mark Harrison defeated Brian Butterworth and Wally Pawelko.

SOURCE:

Social media, 28 Mar 2021
Peter Springett, UBMBC



Netball results

Results of Woy Woy Peninsula Netball association round two games played on March 27 were:

In Senior Blue grade, TKT Ruby Reds defeated EE Harriers, 46 -29. UB Stingrays defeated Margaritas, 22-17. Fever defeated BW Swordfish, 53-15. UB Rosellas defeated EE Spirit, 42-29.

In Senior Green grade, Panthers were defeated by BW Dolphins, 12-34. Lions drew with EE Carawas, 0-0.

In Senior White grade, TKT Pearls defeated BW Sharks, 28-25. TKT Diamonds were defeated

by EE Falcons, 34-36.

In IJ Blue grade, TKT Sapphires were defeated by EE Osprey, 33-45.

In IJ Green grade, UB Echidnas were defeated by EE Imperials, 18-25. WWPNA 11's Development drew with Tigers, 0-0. TKT Gems defeated Lynx, 45-7.

In Junior Blue grade, Pumas defeated EE Aquila, 39-8. Pride defeated EE Flyers, 41-0. UB Devils were defeated by 29 EE Stellars, 6-29.

SOURCE:

Website, 28 Mar 2021
WWPNA

John Goddard awarded life membership

Woy Woy Peninsula Netball Association has presented Mr John Goddard with life membership for "dedication, passion and hard work over many years".

If was presented by fellow life member Ms Marg Thoms.

SOURCE:

Social media, 27 Mar 2021
WWPNA



Touch players make NSW Catholic championships

Peninsula Junior Touch players Zane Smith, Keiran Diamond, Sean Bullen, Sam Flakus and Tyrone Dorrell, pictured, were selected to play in the NSW Combined Catholic Colleges touch championships last week.

The championships were played at Nelson Bay on Wednesday.

The boys, all students at St Edward's College, East Gosford, won their way through to the championships, having played with successful teams from the college

in the Broken Bay Secondary Schools Sports Association competition.

St Edward's College was champion in the Open Boys section and runner-up in the Under-15 Boys section.

Zane, Keiran and Tyrone were selected to represent Broken Bay in the Open Boys championships, while Sean and Sam were selected to play in the Under-15 Boys championships.

SOURCE:

Social media, 31 Mar 2021
Peninsula Junior Touch

Novice bridge championship results

The Brisbane Water Bridge Club's novice teams club championship was held over two sessions on March 17 and 24.

Eight teams competed in the championships.

Overall results were:

1. Helve Beale, Ian Newton, Jo Ampherlaw, Linda Cunningham, Harry Haberlin 116 IMPs, 104.31 VPs, 1.15 green points.

2. Suzanne Harrison, Jann Small, John Aldersley, Beryl Lowry 125, 102.29, 0.93.

3. Fay Cole, Denyse Stephens, Wendy Byrne, Caroline Nichols 83, 94.09, 0.82.

4. Marcelle Goslin, Meg McGregor, Tony Langmead, Connie Lewis 21, 77.01, 0.38.

5. Carolynne Mucharsky, Kathleen Bromley, Graham Woof, Chris Spikesman 9, 67.54, 0.29.

6. Vicki Halliday, Cesca

Hannigan, Brian Pickering, Liam Hannigan -33, 61.30, 0.29.

7. Sandy Shapley, Coral Erikson, Mona Maher, Cheryl Pearce, Jan Mower -94, 40.79, 0.10.

8. Jan Mower, Jenni Murray, Fiona Galea, Maureen Lockwood, Sandy Shapley, Robyne Reeves -227, 12.67.

SOURCE:

Website,
Brisbane Water Bridge Club