



GUST sees completion of Guyangil Park project

Objectors to council projects are often characterised as vocal critics who do not undertake constructive projects.

However, the Grow Urban Shade Trees group which opposes the council sale of its pocket parks on the Peninsula can hardly be accused of this.

It has planted more than 500 street trees on the Peninsula and has been instrumental in revitalising Runway Park in Trafalgar Ave, Woy Woy.

Its latest achievement is completion of the upgrade to Guyangil Park next to Australia Ave childcare centre, Umina.

Group member Ms Debbie Sunartha was successful in applying for a grant to turn this almost empty park into a native plant sanctuary.

Central Coast Council stepped in and changed the design, which was difficult and frustrating for the group.

Debbie and her band of volunteers patiently dealt with the "series of challenges and frustrations while they helped this park take shape", according to fellow group member Ms Michelle Chandler.

"No-one can deny that Debbie's efforts to get this project going have resulted in a beautiful space that's

much more attractive for locals and families from the childcare centre to relax and play."

Ms Chandler encouraged other residents to consider taking similar action.

"If you want to save a pocket park near you and show it some love, start by writing to Council with a vision."

She said the lesson from Guyangil Park was; "If you show your commitment and enthusiasm, they will listen."

"It might take time, but it's so worth it."

SOURCE:

Social media, 16 May 2021
Michelle Chandler, GUST



Gabrielle is named Volunteer of the Year

Mary Mac's volunteer Ms Gabrielle Grenier has been named Central Coast Volunteer of the Year.

"We are so proud to work with such a dedicated, incredible, giving woman," said Mary Mac's Place project worker Ms Sally Liedberg.

Ms Grenier is pictured receiving her award from Member for Terrigal Mr Adam Crouch.

Ms Liedberg said Ms Grenier was part of the "wonderful Friday team", which also included Dale, Keith, Betty and James.

"These long standing volunteers have enjoyed coming in and serving our community for many years now and are very well known for their end of week baked dinner which are enjoyed by many locals. "They bring many smiles and



companionship to those who most need it."

SOURCE:

Social media, 27 May 2021
Sally Liedberg, Mary Mac's Place

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Peninsula News EXTRA – the supplement

For each issue of Peninsula News, we have more news items about the Peninsula than we have space to print.

This issue, we have 71 articles, of which we were able to fit 39 into the printed edition.

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

Peninsula News EXTRA is an electronic supplement to printed edition, which contains these extra items.

As you see, this is produced with the same layout as the print edition, but is in PDF form only, published on the Thursday following the print edition.

As advertising support allows, these pages will be included in the print edition.

We expect Peninsula News

EXTRA will normally have eight pages.

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

Offers of assistance in the production of Peninsula News EXTRA would be welcome:

SOURCE:

Mark Snell, editor
19 Apr 2021

Our next issue:

**Tuesday,
June 15**

NEWS email: contributions@peninsula.news

COUNT THE NEWS: The printed issue contains 39articles

... and another 32 articles in this supplement

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.

Editor: Mark Snell
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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.



Rotary Club helps with clean-up

Members of the Rotary Club of Woy Woy gave up their Saturday morning recently to assist with the clean-up at the Blackwall Girl Guides grounds.

Raking the grounds started early and sweeping leaves from

the roof.

Large piles of leaves were picked up to be taken to the tip later in the morning.

Sue Tee gave the gate a fresh coat of rust proofing to make it look new.

"The grounds looked pretty good by the time we had finished,"

said president Ms Joan Redmond.

"A refreshing cuppa, with cake, and a chat around the tea pot, finished a great morning."

The club took 380kg of green waste to the tip.

SOURCE:

Social media, 18 May 2021
Joan Redmond, Rotary Woy Woy



Dying with Dignity

Pearl Beach resident Dr Stephanie Short is the new Dying with Dignity Central Coast co-ordinator.

Long-time co-ordinator Dr Beverley Symons stepped down at an event in Gosford on May 21.

Keynote speaker was Member for Sydney Mr Alex Greenwich, who is drafting a NSW Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill.

Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch, who attended the meeting, said she was happy to co-sponsor the Bill.

She said members of her community had been expressing the importance of voluntary assisted dying law reform since she was first elected.

SOURCE:

Media release, 25 May 2021
Shayne Higson, DWD NSW

Year's rainfall is spot on average

The year's rainfall at the end of May is spot on average, with the total so far this year 657.9mm.

The average total for the first five months of the year is 657mm, according to figures supplied by Mr Jim Morrison of Umina.

Total for the month was 68.2mm as at 9am on Friday, May 28, with only light rain forecast for the weekend.

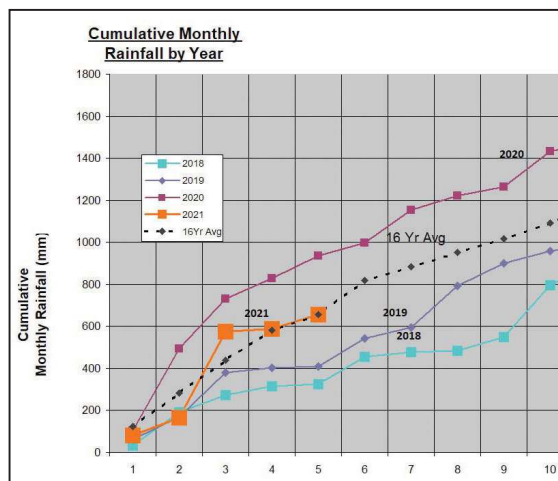
The average May rainfall is 74mm.

Most of May's rain fell in the first two weeks of the month, with only 8.7mm falling in the last fortnight.

June is the Peninsula's wettest month with an average rainfall of 162mm.

SOURCE:

Spreadsheet, 28 May 2021
Jim Morrison, Umina



TIDE TIMES and Heights

	Mon, May 31	Thu, Jun 3	Sun, Jun 6	Wed, Jun 9	Sat, Jun 12
	0608 0.61	0158 1.61	0505 1.67	0153 0.31	0443 0.28
	1207 1.25	0858 0.58	1125 0.40	0751 1.63	1044 1.43
	1726 0.80	1512 1.33	1748 1.72	1343 0.40	1614 0.59
		2043 0.81		2013 2.06	2246 2.01
	Tue, Jun 1	Fri, Jun 4	Mon, Jun 7	Thu, Jun 10	Sun, Jun 13
AT FORT	0000 1.66	0304 1.62	0000 0.51	0249 0.26	0542 0.34
DENNISON	0702 0.62	0950 0.52	0600 1.68	0848 1.57	1143 1.38
	1303 1.24	1609 1.44	1210 0.37	1430 0.45	1709 0.66
	1822 0.83	2154 0.74	1836 1.86	2102 2.10	2341 1.91
	Wed, Jun 2	Sat, Jun 5	Tue, Jun 8	Fri, Jun 11	Mon, Jun 14
High water	0056 1.62	0407 1.65	0057 0.40	0345 0.25	0642 0.42
30 mins	0800 0.61	1039 0.45	0656 1.67	0945 1.50	1244 1.34
Low water	1407 1.26	1700 1.57	1256 0.37	1521 0.51	1807 0.73
40 mins	1929 0.84	2259 0.63	1924 1.98	2154 2.08	

Tesch calls for support for oyster growers

Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch is calling on the NSW Government to "support struggling oyster growers and slash red tape that's hindering them from accessing financial assistance".

She said: "Oyster growing in the Brisbane Water and the Hawkesbury is vital to our waterways and local ecology.

"It supports many local jobs and a number of businesses which have been in our community for more than four generations."

"After speaking directly with each of these businesses, we know that our local oyster industry has been left behind.

"The NSW Liberal Government needs to step up and protect these businesses from ongoing devastation."

Ms Tesch said she had met oyster growers from across the Brisbane Water and Hawkesbury River with Labor's Shadow Minister for Primary Industries Ms Jenny Aitchison on Wednesday, May 26.

Ms Tesch said one of the biggest issues for oyster growers following the March floods was the quality of water, which was essential for oyster production and

pearl culture.

"The devastation came on the back of three years of drought, bushfires and the pandemic.

"Experts have warned it may take up to three years for the industry to recover.

"The Government recently announced primary producer recovery grants but growers said they have been unable to access all or part of the \$75,000 grants due to the complex eligibility requirements."

Ms Aitchison said oyster growers desperately needed fee relief and practical support.

Ms Aitchison is urging the Government to provide an immediate waiver of all government fees payable by oyster growers and relief from the Local Shellfish Program Levy over the next 12 months.

She also wants additional support from the Department of Primary Industries to local oyster growers to assist them in applying for the \$75,000 grants and coordinating restocking.

Ms Aitchison said: "With a small window to catch spat again in June 2021, such assistance is critical."

SOURCE:

Media release, 20 May 2021
Liesl Tesch, Member for Gosford



Local Clean4Shore crews helped with the Hawkesbury flood clean-up

Lion Island penguins benefit from Hawkesbury cleanup

Penguins on Lion Island are among "the main beneficiaries" of clean-up of storm and flood debris from the lower Hawkesbury River, according to the NSW Environment Protection Agency.

An EPA director Ms Arminda Ryan said the clean-up had made waterways safer for the community, but also safer for wildlife with the marine life at Lion Island an excellent example.

"The shorelines of Lion Island in

Broken Bay, home to many native species including threatened penguin colonies, has been cleared of washed-up debris including building materials, broken wood, and contents of sheds," she said.

"With penguin breeding season just around the corner, this clean-up is hugely beneficial for a species that suffers from marine pollution and could always use some help.

"The removal of debris will significantly reduce the possibility of entanglements and ingestion of plastics by wildlife and also allows the penguins easier access to their breeding spots on the island."

In a media release which failed to acknowledge the work of the local bodies such as the Clean4Shore group, Ms Ryan said the work was part of the state's largest ever clean-up of its shorelines, waterways and beaches following severe rain and floods in March.

She said EPA contractors had removed 1650 cubic metres of waste from the Hawkesbury River since clean-up works started in early April.

SOURCE:
Media release, 28 May 2021
Arminda Ryan, NSW EPA

Open space policies under threat, says green group

Central Coast Council's requirements for "economic liquidation" should not override policies which protect the open spaces, trees, reserves, and remnant vegetation of the Peninsula, according to the Central Coast branch of the Australian Conservation Foundation.

Branch president Mr Mark Ellis said the council should remove the land at Memorial Ave from its sale list for this reason.

"Throughout all the Central

Coast council strategic policies, green spaces, liveability, and walkability play a major part in providing lifestyle and amenity to residents," he said.

Mr Ellis said outdated planning was not protecting the Peninsula, "as more people and higher residential densities will inevitably create a demand for local open space".

The changes had meant the loss of private open space in the form of backyards and outdoor entertaining areas and spacious standalone quarter acre blocks were decreasing in number.

"Planning standards for open space derived from the early 20th century do not accommodate the needs of a population in higher density areas now."

Mr Ellis said a study of land use on the Peninsula was used in the Council's draft Greening Strategy as justification of the statement: "If permitted unchecked, the ongoing pattern of land cover change, particularly the significant tree canopy loss, has substantial implications for the future liveability, health and wellbeing of urban environments and communities".

"From the graph it can clearly be

seen the loss of tree canopy, the increase in impervious surfaces, and the rise of unplanted space across the Woy Woy Peninsula which has been exacerbated in the past five years," he said.

"Council has the data on the impact on liveability (a key focus in their strategic planning documents) of the removal of more trees and creation of more hard services, including urban heat island impacts."

SOURCE:
Media release, 28 May 2021
Mark Ellis, ACFFC



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Planning

Strategy lists 21 playgrounds but 20-year wait for others

Central Coast Council adopted its playground strategy at its May 25 meeting with a total of 21 parks listed as playground locations on the Peninsula.

However, submissions from Peninsula residents have been deferred for consideration – in some cases, up to 20 years into the future.

Requests for reinstatement of play equipment at Panorama Park in Kingsview Dr, Umina Heights, and for play equipment at Ettalong Oval will have to wait for up to 20 years.

They were met with the council staff response that they "will form part of the 20-year renewal program", despite the fact that Panorama Park was not listed as playground locations in the strategy.

A request for "spaces with equipment like parkour, ninja course, water elements etc to entice bigger kids, youth, teenagers to engage in outdoor activities" was met with the same response.

A statement was added to the strategy that "Neighbourhood local parks accessible to communities within walking distance will remain as valuable recreation facilities in addition to larger recreational multi-use open space destinations".

Local parks were defined in the strategy as parks within 400 to 800 metres walking distance.

One request for a playground at Panorama Park was met with the response that Vernon Park was "nearby" and that "this will be considered as part of future reviews of the strategy".

Panorama Park is about a 1.5 kilometre walk from Panorama Park.

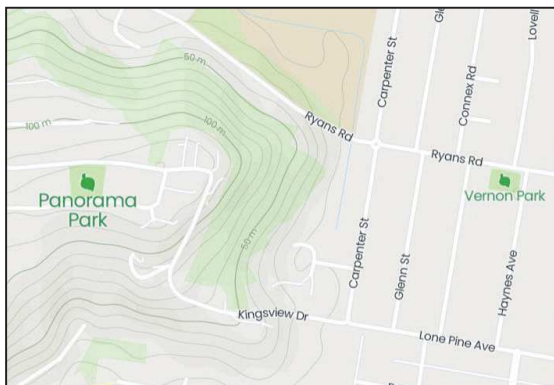
Being in Umina Heights, its elevation is more than 110 metres higher than Vernon Park.

Access to Vernon Park from Panorama Park is via the steep Kingsview Dr, which has no footpaths, and is not practically navigable with a pram.

The strategy identified playgrounds in Umina in Brisbane Ave, Lentara Rd and Cowper Rd, as well as at Guyangil Park in Australia Ave, Vernon Park in Ryans Rd, WL Lloyd Park on The Esplanade, Umina Recreation Area in Ocean Beach Rd, and at Umina Tennis Courts at Umina oval.

Playgrounds were identified in Woy Woy in Nambucca Dr and at Runway Park in Trafalgar Ave, at Woy Woy Lions Park in North Burge Rd, at Stoney Park in Rawson Rd, at Pelican Park in The Boulevard and at Gurdon Reserve at Woy Woy Bay.

Playgrounds were identified in Ettalong at the waterfront reserve in the Esplanade and at Ettalong Oval in Picnic Pde, as well as at



Wallaby Reserve in Memorial Ave, Blackwall.

In Pearl Beach, playgrounds were identified in Pearl Pde and at the Pearl Beach Tennis Courts.

At Patonga, they were identified

at the camping ground and on the foreshore.

SOURCE:
Central Coast Council
agenda 2.7, 25 May 2021

Contribution requirement reduced by \$1200

Conditions of consent for an approval to build a secondary dwelling in Robin Cr, Woy Woy, have been changed to reduce the required developer contributions by \$1200.

Central Coast Council had received an application to remove a condition of consent relating to developer contributions totalling \$8442.

The application was referred to the Council's contribution planner.

The contribution planner commented: "I have reviewed the development contributions levied on DA/60466/2020 and the information provided with the \$4.55 modification; the development contributions condition should be amended to levy development contributions under the section 7.11 Peninsula Contributions Plan No. 31 (B, C and D).

He said the site at 22 Robin

Cr, Woy Woy, was within the "catchment area" of Contribution Plan No. 31.

"Contributions are levied on the assumed occupancy of the development and not by the number of bedrooms.

"Council allocates an assumed occupancy of 3.5 persons for a single dwelling and 1.5 persons for a secondary dwelling (small dwelling unit)."

The previous developer contributions condition was removed from the approval, with a new condition added requiring \$7232 be paid.

Of this, \$448 will go to a roadworks reserve, \$1470 to open space land, \$4094 to open space embellishment, \$72 to community facilities land and \$1148 to community facilities capital.

SOURCE:
DA Tracker, 26 May 2021
DA60466, Central Coast Council

Details of five-storey Umina proposal available

Details of a proposal for a \$5.2 million five-storey shop-top housing development with frontages to Alfred St and West St in Umina have now been provided on Central Coast Council's planning portal.

The council previously classified the application as "invalid", but this classification has been removed and the public now has until June 28 to comment.

The development will consolidate 1-3 Alfred St and 315 West St, Umina Beach.

"The proposal is for a mixed-use development comprising commercial premises on ground floor, including retention of the existing chemist store fronting West St, and 14 shop-top dwellings located in four levels above the retail premises," according to a submission by planning consultant Michael Leavey Consulting.

The shop top housing comprises two one-bedroom units, four two-bedroom units and eight three-bedroom units.

The proposal has a maximum building height of 15.663m, which exceeds the planning provision of 14.25m.

The application stated: "The variation of 9.9 per cent to the development standard is minor, representing less than one storey, and will not result in adverse impacts on the streetscape presentation of the development, or in adverse impacts on surrounding properties.

The proposed commercial premises would face Alfred St



with a glazed shop front, as well as access to the shop-top housing entry lobby.

The commercial premises have a floor area of 582.62 square metres, in two tenancies of about 509 square metres and 74 square metres each.

The proposal retains the existing chemist shop which has a floor area of about 332.46 square metres.

The combined development has a gross floor area of 2646.84 square metres and a floor space ratio of 1.87:1, which exceeds the planning provision of 1.8:1.

The application stated the variation to the floor space ratio of 3.8 per cent was "very minor and is part of a considered design response for the site".

The proposal complies with a wall setback of three metres to Alfred St.

However, "light-weight balcony elements are provided forward of upper level unit walls along part of the Alfred St elevation".

Basement parking is proposed for 35 cars with access to Alfred St, including 14 double-stacked car spaces to park 28 cars, two single car spaces, four spaces in tandem and a disability access space.

The parking meets residential planning provisions but falls short of commercial requirements, with the application claiming the shortfall of seven spaces could "easily be accommodated in kerbside parking" and in the Bullion St carpark.

The application stated: "The

proposal will result in negligible additional shadowing of surrounding streets in mid-winter compared to the development standards applying to the site and adjoining sites, and development likely to occur in the future."

The application proposes internal clothes drying and does not propose wind mitigation measures as "the proposal is only slightly above 14 metres in height, and is not expected to give rise to adverse wind conditions".

"The proposal will provide a quality development that is consistent with the zoning of the land and the site's location in the Umina Village Centre."

SOURCE:
DA Tracker, 26 May 2021
DA61540, Central Coast Council

Arboretum receives 'koala song meter'

The Koala Project at the Crommelin Native Arboretum at Pearl Beach has received a "koala song meter".

The dedicated meter will be used for future koala monitoring, said Arboretum secretary Ms Ann Parsons.

She said the project was still waiting on song meter survey results for the Arboretum and Brisbane Water National Parks.

SOURCE:
Social media, 22 May 2021
Ann Parsons, Pearl Beach
Patonga Koala Group



Coastal Twist Festival preparation starts

Preparation is under way for the 2021 Coastal Twist Festival to be held on the Peninsula from Monday, September 20 to Monday, October 4.

Photo shoots for the Festival campaign have started with

photographer Lisa Haymes.

"These amateur pics from our phones give a sneak peak and inspiration," said organiser Ms Glitta Supernova.

SOURCE:
Social media, 16 May 2021
Glitta Supernova, Coastal Twist

Up to 100 students from Brisbane Water Secondary College Woy Woy campus may be able to complete the Transport for NSW Safer Drivers' Course without charge.

The course is offered through the Umina Beach PCYC and aims to provide learner drivers with the knowledge they need to reduce road risks and prevent accidents

by becoming a safe driver.

Students who complete the course will also receive 20 hours of log book credits.

The cost of the course is being covered by a donation from the Ettalong Beach Community Bank.

Students interested in undertaking the course make inquire through the College.

SOURCE:
Social media, 20 May 2021
Emma Tanner, PCYC Umina Beach

Rotary gala

The Rotary Club of Brisbane Water will hold a "special club presentation evening" on June 3.

"We hope all members will join our special celebration night on June 3," said club president Mr Peter Mote.

"To kick off a special night, we will be serving champagne and canapes from 6 to 6:30pm."

Described as a "big gala night", the formalities will begin at 7pm in the Patonga Room at Ettalong Diggers.

SOURCE:
Newsletter, 20 May 2021
Peter Mote, Rotary Brisbane Water



Liesl Tesch MP
Member for Gosford

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Forum

Council threat to mental and physical health and welfare

When I look at the proposals put forward by the new administrator to get our Council back in the black, I find them not to my liking.

I feel that we, as residents, are being penalised for a crime we have not committed.

According to what I read, there are many Councils which were amalgamated by Mr Baird in 2016, presumably to save money, which are now in a similar position.

I know that we did not misuse the money and we certainly didn't walk away with our redundancy package intact.

This is a problem which belongs to the State Government and it needs to solve it.

Proposals to sell off and reduce library monies mean that the libraries will be used less and less and so inevitably they all will be closed and sold.

Libraries should be exciting places where people can drop in at odd times to get help with assignments or new technology; where people can extend their horizons and expand their vision of society and the world.

It is known that better education leads to higher standards of health and to less crime.

Surely this is what we need on the Central Coast, now the third largest Council in NSW.

We need more money for libraries, universities, the ABC, public education and for our TAFES.

Many of our TAFE faculties are lying idle. Why?

It is believed that the plan is to privatise them. Again Why?

Our TAFE system is or was the envy of many other countries, such as Singapore and South Korea.

Why should we exploit

other countries by inviting their trained citizens to fill the gaps on temporary visas? Why can we not train our own citizens?

Private colleges have failed and wasted a great deal of public money.

We are also the only country I know of which gives public money to private schools, which has led to elitism and a divided society.

Surely a fair civilisation would want the absolute best education for all its citizens.

The selling of any public land on the Peninsula is ridiculous.

The enormous population growth here and the subsequent loss of trees and green space has led to an increase of about two degrees in the temperature as well as very crowded roads, more pollution, more accidents and more flooding.

Our mental and physical health and the welfare of all the other animals which share this land, require more green space and trees not less.

We need to write to the new administrator, Mr David Farmer, as well as to the NSW Minister for Local Government, Ms Shelley Hancock, expressing our disgust at these proposals.

The people on the Central Coast are just as important as the people in her electorate of the South Coast.

SOURCE:

Email, 29 May 2021
Margaret Lund, Woy Woy Bay

Put toll on M1 to pay council's debts

Five years have passed since the amalgamation, and the future is as blurred as it was in May 2016,

The Regional Plan 2016 is based on a population increase of 75000 and a dwellings increase of 41,500.

These projections, ahead or behind schedule, are relevant to the Peninsula.

Each of the three administrators have had unrestricted access to this information.

Residents are concerned for their future as decisions are made which are rejecting the adopted regional plan.

As the administrators believe the sale of Council assets is the appropriate strategy to reduce the Council's debt, further sell-off is a possibility contradicting planning instruments and strategies that have been publicly exhibited and

adopted.

The inept manner the sell-off was orchestrated was overwhelmingly evident on April 27, before and during the Council meeting.

Administrator Hart will not want to refer matters to the public for comment, as he will be very aware of the potential embarrassment.

It should be noted the five year plan has failed.

With the 10-year plan already in the red, I suggest a very small toll be added to the Central Coast section of the M1 to recover some of the Council's debt.

Toll roads are a fact of life, tolerated by motorists.

A small toll will be of immense benefit to the Central Coast Council and residents.

SOURCE:

Email, 27 May 2021
Norm Harris, Umina

Public Notices

Madeline School of Dance

Adult Tap Class
Peninsular

Come and have fun while you learn to dance

CWA Hall

Cnr Ocean Beach Rd & Sydney Ave,
Umina Beach

THURSDAY 9:30am - 11am
Cost \$10

Teacher: Madeline Stephenson
0438 033 039

Woy Woy artist
Yvette Pritchard

In the Bush

A VISUAL DIARY



May 15 - June 20
Gosford Regional Gallery

Tea Cosy Expo

Woy Woy Peninsula Lions Club

Ocean Beach
Surf Club

509 Ocean Beach Rd,
Umina Beach

Saturday, 12 June 1 - 5pm
Sunday, 13 June 9am - 5pm
Monday, 14 June 9am - 4pm

Gold Coin Entry per person
Bric-a-Brac

Tea Cosies and Tea Pots
on display and for sale
Devonshire Teas
COVID SAFE

The Peninsula Day Branch
of the N.S.W. Labor Party

meets the

2nd Monday of each month
from February to December

The meetings commence at
1.00pm and are conducted in
the CWA Hall Woy Woy,
opposite Fishermans Wharf.

The meetings are well conducted
and encourage interesting and
diverse conversations.

All interested persons are
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Teachers

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Emma Kate De Henau 0417 686 665 or
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Crouch: Make submissions

Member for Terrigal Mr Adam Crouch has urged residents to make submissions to the Public Inquiry into Central Coast Council.

"The independent Commissioner is now accepting submissions from local residents, Council staff and suspended

councillors until Monday, June 21," he said.

"The Public Inquiry will hold to account those responsible for the \$565 million financial situation, and will also help to ensure this can never happen again."

SOURCE:

Social media, 25 May 2021
Adam Crouch, Member for Terrigal

Imaginative oversight needed for carpark development

The sale of the Bullion Street carpark is an excellent idea.

In fact, the property was offered for sale some years back but was withdrawn, for reasons that are still unknown.

The Council never revealed why the offer was discontinued and did not reply to a question that I posed on the subject.

The site is large and strategically placed, and is absurdly underutilized as an open car park which is, in fact, a bit of an eyesore as it stands.

Yet, it has the potential to be a landmark development for Umina, although that would depend on imaginative oversight by Council - something that, admittedly, hasn't been widely evident in the past.

The idea that a new development on the site would make West St look "shabby, down-market and uninviting" (as one objector puts it) makes no sense, since West St has already achieved that without any help, and a new development nearby might encourage an improvement in the existing dreary shopping strip.

The objection that redevelopment would interfere with

use of the service lane is patently absurd: if this is the best that sale opponents can come up with, their case is feeble in the extreme.

It is obvious that a condition of the sale should be the widening of the service lane to allow for two-way access along its length, thus improving its utility.

As for the existing parking, the previous offer of the land specified that the same amount of free parking should be maintained for five years, to which I objected, at the time, that the parking should be maintained in perpetuity, since there was no conceivable reason why the residents of the Peninsula should give up an amenity they now enjoyed to fatten the profits of a property developer.

There is no problem in accommodating this requirement on the site, and, with this caveat, the sale is a win/win situation for the community.

However, the Council's promise that the property "will not be sold for less than market value" is highly disturbing.

Why should we have to be assured that the Council will obtain market value for the sale of any of

our assets: surely, that should be taken for granted.

Does it indicate that other properties will be sold for less than market value and that only the Bullion St car park is to be thus protected?

If that is the case, the Council should reveal which properties it is prepared to let go at a discount, so that we know exactly how much loss we are expected to bear.

The whole matter of asset sales has been dealt with arrogantly and clumsily, as seems to be typical of Council, whether elected or under administration, but, perhaps, there is now an opportunity for our Administrator Mark 3 to revisit the process and offer the community the right to participate in the decision-making, so that we can feel satisfied that the best outcome has been achieved.

This will be a good test of the kind of treatment we can look forward to over the next year or so, before there will be another chance for an election.

SOURCE:

Email, 20 May 2021
Bruce Hyland, Woy Woy



Austin Butler land should not be sold

Council land in Austin Butler Place, Woy Woy, should not be sold.

Council should not allow itself to be bullied by Woolworths or fears of their withdrawal from Peninsula Plaza.

This cluster of paperbarks and casuarinas help absorb the wet ground during flooding.

This little block is a migration route for grey-headed flying foxes cited as threatened.

The recovery plan is being ignored by Council in proposing the sale of this land;

Little blocks like this one preserve biodiversity on our hot coastal sand plain.

This little block provides amenity and shade for residents and habitat for animals and insects-pollinators feeding on the endemic trees and shrubs.

Forum

According to the Central Coast Regional Plan, Council is committed to protect and invest in open space action to "enhance the amenity and attractiveness of existing places";

This little grove of trees is a cool haven for locals to walk between the mall and carpark, the oval and onto the waterfront.

For not much cost, this little green space is cheap to maintain as we, the locals, keep it tidy despite the rubbish left by Woolworth's bins.

Lastly, why is Council committing \$5 million for a feasibility study for Warnervale airport.

SOURCE:

Email, 16 May 2021

Lesley Harvey, Ettalong Beach

Petition to save Memorial Ave reserve sent to council

A petition with 271 signatures has been sent to Central Coast Council, urging it not to sell the reserve in Memorial Ave, Blackwall.

The petition stated: "It is only a small area. However, there are over 40 mature trees including blackbutts, melaleucas and swamp mahogany.

"These trees are remnant vegetation of the Endangered Ecological Community existing across the road on Blackwall Mountain, the Narrabeen Coastal Blackbutt Forest.

"On Council's website, this reserve is listed as a bushfire buffer category 1.

"It is marshland, subject to flooding, and the lowest point in Blackwall.

"Selling it for more high density housing will lead to drainage and flooding problems affecting surrounding homes.

"There is no direct access to the reserve except by a narrow, oneway, unnamed laneway.

"The reserve is home to wildlife including microbats, flying fox, channel billed cuckoos, currawongs, magpies, native pigeons, blue tongue lizards, marsupial mice and more.

"The loss of this habitat will mean homelessness and death for many of these animals as this

is the last piece of remnant level forest in Blackwall's residential area.

"The neighbourhood surrounding the reserve has been degraded by lack of planning, overcrowding, and neglect by Council.

"The loss of our greenness, our breathing space, our views of amazingly beautiful trees, will be a clear loss of amenity to the area." "How will we wake up in the mornings without the kookaburra to sing Reveille?"

SOURCE:

Media release, 28 May 2021

Joy Cooper, Green Point

Tree group gives reasons for saving council reserves

Grow Urban Shade Trees has stated its reasons for getting behind efforts to save council reserves on the Peninsula.

"We know how hard it is to find space on public land to plant trees," said group member Ms Michelle Chandler in a social media post.

"We need more space, not less.

"We've been involved in two projects (so far) that transformed 'waste' land into amazing, valued

play areas.

"So we know a dull, blank spot is really a community opportunity waiting to happen.

"We know how hard it is to nurture small trees to maturity, and therefore we see intrinsic value and economic logic in saving mature trees.

"We object to Council raising money when we have no assurance that it will be spent or

invested, wisely."

Ms Chandler said that residents should speak out against the council land sales.

"This is our chance to influence the future.

"Demand thorough consultancy and transparency around future community land sales."

SOURCE:

Social media, 18 May 2021

Melissa Chandler, GUST

Hospital is supported by 17 volunteers

A local hospital has celebrated its team of more than 17 volunteers during National Volunteers Week.

The volunteers perform roles from administration support through to serving as members of our community advisory committees at Brisbane Waters Private Hospital.

Together the volunteers contribute 40 hours of support a week to the hospital, according to

chief executive Ms Deb Ritter.

"With this week being National Volunteers Week, we'd like to share a special thanks to all who contribute to our hospital."

Details about joining the volunteer team can be found at: <https://brisbanewatersprivate.com.au/about/work-with-us/volunteering>

SOURCE:

Social media, 19 May 2021

Debbra Ritter, Brisbane Waters Private Hospital



MP hopeful that doctor shortage is lessening

Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch is hopeful that the doctor shortage on the Peninsula is turning the corner.

With development applications for facilities for medical centres in Umina and a new doctors' clinic a few doors down from her office, Ms Tesch said she was thankful that "residents will finally be able to see a GP".

"The Peninsula has suffered with a doctor shortage for years,

with an aging population being turned away constantly from crucial medical services.

"For years I have experienced and heard of others experiences with trying to find a doctor on the Peninsula, even for the most basic care."

"The calls of many Peninsula locals have finally been answered by these new GPs and I cannot wait for locals to get improved access to doctors."

Ms Tesch said she was thankful that new doctors, such those near

her, were providing more services on the Peninsula.

"I am so incredibly delighted to welcome Perfect Medical Care to the community and thank them so much for bulk billing and ensuring we have better access for everyone in our community.

"I have heard so many times about the people who are struggling to find a GP on the Peninsula and finding the care they need."

SOURCE:

Media release, 25 May 2021

Liesl Tesch, Member for Gosford

Dress rehearsal for dance performances

Woy Woy South Public School dance groups have had their dress rehearsals for their dance performance at the Laycock St Theatre in Gosford.

Both the Year 2 Dance Group and Primary Dance Group went to the theatre for their dress rehearsals.

"They looked absolutely

fantastic on stage," said school principal Mr Matt Barr.

Tickets for the Year 2 show (Show A) are already on sale and tickets for the Primary show (Show F) are expected to go on sale today, Monday, May 31.

SOURCE:

Social media, 28 May 2021

Matt Barr, Woy Woy South Public School

Sport

Hornsby rugby victory in round seven

Hornsby defeated Woy Woy at Mark Taylor Oval by 41 points to 26 in round seven of Central Coast Rugby Union competition on Saturday, May 22.

"Hornsby got away to a great start and they led by 19 points to nil before the visitors were able to respond," said Rugby Union president Mr Larry Thomson.

"Hornsby continued this good form throughout the first half and by half time led by 31 points to seven.

"At that stage, it seemed to be a match winning lead.

"The second half was a much more even affair.

"Woy Woy actually outscored the home team by 19 points to 10 in the second half, but the first half

had set the pattern for the match.

"Hornsby did score seven tries to Woy Woy's four in the match and that is a good indicator of the flow of the match.

"It was an important victory for Hornsby and it was a result that both teams will take a lot from.

"Best players for Woy Woy were Jazper and Zac Doak-Stride."

Contributing to Woy Woy's score of 26 were tries by Miteli Tamani 2, Kabati Matanakilagi and Philip Shaw and three conversions by Corby Delaforce.

In Premier 2, Hornsby 59 also defeated Woy Woy 19.

In women's competition, Gosford-Woy Woy 55 defeated Hornsby 5.

SOURCE:

Media release, 23 May 2021
Larry Thomson, CCRU



Defeated in penalty shoot-out

Brisbane Water Secondary School Under-15 Girls' Bill Turner Trophy soccer team were defeated by Terrigal High School side on Monday, May 24.

The scores were locked at 1-1 after 80 minutes of play.

The Umina campus side, pictured, went down in a penalty shoot-out.

"They played a fantastic game

and should be so proud of their efforts," said campus principal Ms Kerry O'Heir.

SOURCE:

Social media, 25 May 2021
Kerry O'Heir, BWSC Umina

Ducks elect new committee

The Peninsula Ducks Softball Club has elected its 2021-22 committee.

Ms Di Barrymore has been elected as president and registrar.

Ms Hailey Winchester has been elected vice-president and fundraising.

Secretary is Ms Gaye Whelan and treasurer Mr Blake Winchester. Ms Kim Crosby has been elected to assistant treasurer, uniforms and equipment roles.

SOURCE:

Social media, 25 May 2021
Di Barrymore, Peninsula Ducks

PCYC calls for volunteers

The PCYC at Umina Beach put out a call for more volunteers during National Volunteering Australia Week.

"PCYC NSW relies on the efforts of our hundreds of volunteers to help us run our clubs, programs and activities," the club posted to social media.

"The time these volunteers put into our organisation helps us to

concentrate on the core work we do to empower young people and change lives.

"Our volunteers help us by running activities, driving buses, mentoring our young people, helping at events, greeting members and much more."

SOURCE:

Social media, 17 May 2021
PCYC Umina Beach

Three dance groups rehearse

Three dance groups from Woy Woy Public School last week attended a dress rehearsal for their performances at the Laycock St Theatre.

Students in Stage 2, Stage 3 and Aboriginal Dance Groups attended the rehearsal.

"We are so proud of all of the performers and look forward to watching them dance again in June," said school principals Ms Ona Buckley and Mr Dan Betts.

SOURCE:

Social media, 25 May 2021
Ona Buckley and Dan Betts,
Woy Woy Public School



Apply for funding, now, says Tesch

Sporting groups should apply for Stronger Communities Funding, which is now open, according to Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch.

"The funding round aims to enhance experiences in regional communities, is now open," she said.

"This round's funding is directed at enhancements to women's sporting facilities, with \$50 million to be allocated across regional communities."

Ms Tesch said: "Growing up I always played sport, with my wheelchair basketball career beginning in the men's team."

"These experiences made me realise the importance of having female dedicated sports and facilities to ensure our experiences are just as good as the men's."

Ms Tesch's comments come in

the wake of the NSW Parliamentary inquiry into grant schemes where it was found the Stronger Communities Fund had been pork-barrelled with 95 per cent of funds being directed to Councils with Coalition-held or marginal seats in the tied grants round.

Ms Tesch said there was no excuse for this behaviour.

"The inquiry found the Stronger Communities Funding was deliberately used as a means to pork-barrel, with due process and merit assessment severely lacking when it came to applications."

"This fund was supposed to help merged councils, yet instead it just dug our debt a little deeper, by favouring Liberal and marginal seats."

Under the Stronger Communities Funding eleven projects specific for the Electorate

of Terrigal were granted, totalling almost \$4.7 million.

Meanwhile five projects specific to the Gosford electorate were granted which amounted to almost \$2.2 million, despite the Gosford electorate covering over 700 square kilometres more than Terrigal.

"The more community groups we have applying for these grants, the more grants I hope we can get here in Gosford so I really encourage you all to submit an application to ensure our community and our future female sporting leaders are awarded what they deserve."

Applications will close at 12pm on June 25.

SOURCE:

Social media, 24 May 2021
Liesl Tesch, Member for Gosford



A virtual classroom

Year 6 students Umina Beach Public School have used the school's science and technology room as a virtual classroom.

They were joined by a cattle

farmer to explore life on the land and sustainability.

SOURCE:

Social media, 28 May 2021
Chad Tsakissiris, Umina
Beach Public School