

Council staff decide against Peninsula land sale

Central Coast Council staff have recommended the council “discontinue the consideration for sale” of all but one of its proposed land sales on the Peninsula.

The recommendation will go to tomorrow night’s council meeting (Tuesday, July 27) for adoption.

The exception is the sale of part of the Austin Butler reserve in Woy Woy to Peninsula Plaza.

Staff have recommended that Council reclassify part of the reserve from community to operational land and to sell it for not less than the market value.

Removed from the sale list are the Bullion St carpark in Umina and the manufactured home park land in Fassifern St, Ettalong.

Also removed are the “pocket parks” at Memorial Ave, Brisbane Ave and Angler St.

The staff recommendation does not provide the rationale from removing these properties from the list.

A community consultation report noted arguments put by respondents included loss of green

space, loss of parking and over-development.

It quoted examples: “Loss of these natural areas in our local area would be loss of habitat for many of our fauna species and of samples of remaining vegetation species and have a negative effect on the well-being of community and individuals.

“Loss of these well-loved spaces, as proven by the past (2015-16) reaction to proposed sell-offs, and the current concern, indicates their value to the community.”

“The sale of community land is actually a sale of amenity land.

“This land has attributes and values that make a positive contribution to people’s quality of life.”

“These small parcels of green space are so important in high density housing areas such as the Peninsula.

“The small gain achieved from the sale is far outweighed by the benefit to local families by having a small relief from concrete and

gives the opportunity to plant shade.”

“The community will be impacted by the loss of community and green space in favour of development and short-term financial gains.

“We can never get these spaces back again and we do not consent to the sell off of our assets.”

It also reported that a petition of 875 people opposed the sale of the Bullion St carpark and another petition of 96 people opposed the sale of the Brisbane Ave reserve.

The consultation report included a council staff response to the themes of the submissions.

However, the responses seemed to justify the inclusion of the properties in the list, rather than any explanation of the ultimate recommendation to exclude particular properties.

Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch put it down to weight of numbers opposing the sales and “people power”.

SOURCE:
Central Coast Council agenda 2.1, 27 Jul 2021

Central Coast Ferries has reduced its weekday timetable until Friday, July 30, due to the current coronavirus restrictions.

The ferry runs cancelled were the 5:55am from Central arriving 6:20am at Woy Woy; the 6:30am Woy Woy to Central; the 5:15pm from Central arriving 5:40pm at

Woy Woy; the 5:50pm Woy Woy to Central; the 6:15pm from Central arriving 6:40pm at Woy Woy; the 6:50pm Woy Woy to Central.

The situation will be reassessed on July 30.

SOURCE:
Social media, 19 Jun 2021
Central Coast Ferries
Photo: Frank Wiffen

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All the news that didn’t fit in print

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

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

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.

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 are always welcome.

SOURCE:
Mark Snell, 25 Jul 2021



Peninsula News EXTRA
Be notified. SCAN here.



Next issue: Monday, August 9

Email: contributions@peninsula.news

Council to consider sale of reserve land to shopping centre

Central Coast Council will consider a staff recommendation tomorrow to sell part of the Austin Butler reserve in, Woy Woy to the Peninsula Plaza shopping centre.

If approved, the council would reclassify the council land from community to operational land.

It is proposed to be sold “for not less than the market value as

determined by an independent valuer”.

The sale would be conditional on there being no reduction in car park spaces and access through the site to the existing car parks at Austin Butler Oval remaining.

Subject to signing a “Deed of Option to Purchase Agreement”, the council would consent to Peninsula Plaza lodging a planning proposal for an amendment to the Gosford Local Environment

Plan for the land to be included in “Schedule 1 Additional Permitted Use”.

The council would also agree for Peninsula Plaza to lodge a development application for the subdivision of the land as well as alterations and additions to the Plaza.

SOURCE:
Central Coast Council agenda 2.1, 27 Jul 2021

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.

Survey fails to find koalas at Pearl Beach

A regional survey by Central Coast Council has failed to find any koalas at Pearl Beach.

Koalas were detected in the Mangrove Creek Dam catchment and Watagan Mountains.

Council environment and planning director Mr Scott Cox said council staff had also looked at Brisbane Water National Park and Council's Coastal Open Space System lands as potential koala habitats.

He said a combination of phone surveys, postal surveys and an ecological study using song meters

was used.

"Phone and postal surveys were used to help record any community koala sightings and song meters were deployed in 58 potential koala habitat locations to record the bellows of male koalas during the breeding season.

"Koalas were recorded at nine sites in the far west of the region.

"While no koalas were recorded on other sites, it doesn't mean that they are not there in low numbers," he said.

SOURCE:
Media release, 16 Jul 2021
Scott Cox, Central Coast Council

Research funding secured

The University of Sydney has advised the Pearl Beach Arboretum that funding has been secured to study the potential for koala translocations.

"One of the key priority areas is the Brisbane Waters-Pearl Beach area, building on the work the Arboretum has done," said Arboretum vice-president Ms Ann Parsons.

"The university is in the process of employing someone to run this research."

SOURCE:
Social media, 14 Jul 2021
Ann Parsons, Pearl Beach Arboretum

Bid to repair whale tail sculptures

Whale tail sculptures at the entrances to the Peninsula Recreational Precinct at Umina oval are now 11 years old.

The Rotary Club of Umina Beach was involved with Gosford Council in their installation with the opening of the area in 2010, said club president Mr Bruce Croft.

Now in need of repair, the club is seeking to have them repaired.

It has approached Member for Robertson Ms Lucy Wicks to make representations to Central Coast Council.

The council has told the club it will not put money towards their



repair, but "would support a any funding request", according to Mr Croft.

Club member Mr Pat Lewis "is

following this up", he said.

SOURCE:
Newsletter, 21 Jul 2021
Bruce Croft, Rotary Umina Beach

Car boot sale set to resume in August

Woy Woy Peninsula Lions Club has cancelled its car boot sale and barbecue that was due to be held on July 25.

The next event is scheduled for Sunday, August 29.

"Monthly car boot sale and barbecue events are held on the last Sunday of each month except December," said organiser Mr

Greg Head.

"Stallholders can start to set up at 6am.

"There is no booking. Just arrive and you will be directed where to park .

"Cost is \$20 per car space and this amount will be collected by a member of our club during the day.

"We also now have a mobile coffee truck which serves great

coffees and selection of cakes and slices."

Mr Head suggested that stallholders and patrons check the website or call the club's mobile 0478 959 895 for updates a couple of days before the event.

SOURCE:
Website, 20 Jul 2021
Greg Head, Woy Woy Peninsula Lions Club

Dry July is drier than usual

The Peninsula has had less than half its average July rainfall three weeks into the month.

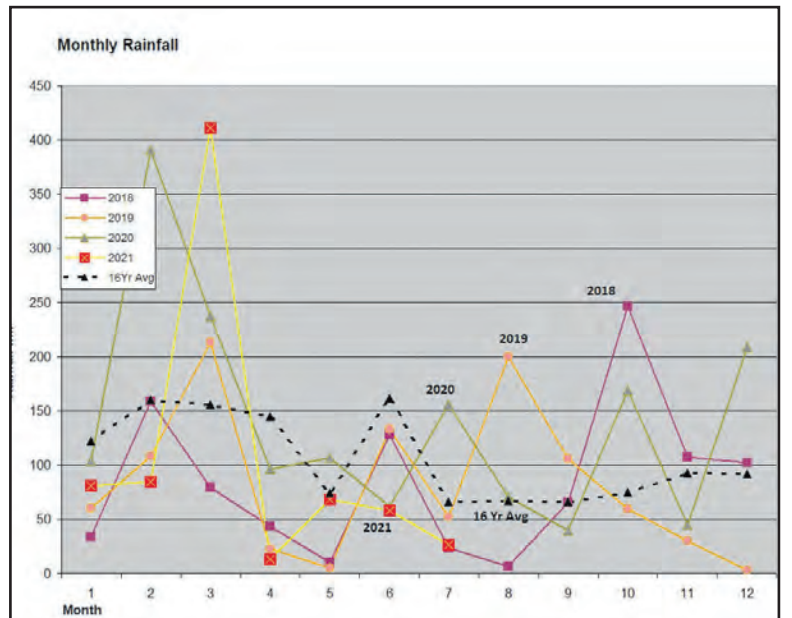
A total of 26.7mm has fallen on the Peninsula as at 9am on Friday, July 23, according to Mr Jim Morrison of Umina.

The July average monthly rainfall is 66mm.

The driest July in the last 16 years was in 2017 with just 2.5mm.

The cumulative total for the year to date is 742.7mm which is 16.1 per cent less than the end-of-July average of 885mm.

SOURCE:
Spreadsheet, 23 Jul 2021
Jim Morrison, Umina



Mt Ettalong Reserve Masterplan up for adoption

The Mt Ettalong Reserve Masterplan will be adopted tomorrow, if a council staff recommendation is approved.

The \$1.7 million plan will see a renewal of the reserve as funds become available.

A community consultation was undertaken from February 24 to July 16 last year.

Consultants Beveridge Williams prepared a draft masterplan for Mt Ettalong Reserve located between Umina Beach and Pearl Beach.

A staff report for tomorrow's council meeting said inspections identified safety risks associated with the existing lookouts.

"These inspections also identified other aspects of the reserve that required improvement." The master plan aimed to ensure a coordinated approach to upgrading the reserve that best considered the needs and expectations of the community, according to the staff report.

"The draft masterplan proposed upgrades to existing reserve infrastructure including lookouts, the carpark, access trail and picnic furniture."

Community feedback stated



that improvements should be made with minimal impact to existing reserve.

"Most responses received during both consultation phases expressed support for the proposal.

"The key items identified for improvements were the carpark and access, repairs to the eastern viewing platform, additional rubbish bins and improved security.

"A quantity surveyor's estimate to implement the Mt Ettalong Masterplan is \$1,711,657 inclusive of GST.

"Mt Ettalong is a Crown reserve located on Patonga Dr that is managed by Central Coast Council as a natural reserve.

"Reserve picnic tables and lookouts that provide views across Broken Bay were constructed

several decades ago and now require upgrading to provide a positive visitor experience.

"The carpark that services the reserve and the 450-metre-long access trail to the lookouts also requires upgrading.

"The draft masterplan proposed upgrades to existing reserve infrastructure including lookouts, the carpark, access trail and picnic furniture.

"Key items raised by the community included the retention of the natural bushland setting, the restoration of the eastern viewing platform, improvements to the carpark, signage and information-education boards, and seating and tables where appropriate."

SOURCE: Central Coast Council agenda 2.4, 27 Jul 2021



Mr Young on Education Live

Woy Woy South Public School teacher Mr Mark Young was "disco master" on the NSW Education Department's Education Live stream on Friday, July 16.

He provided the "Disco Live" segment of the program which was streamed for NSW primary school

students.

"All the essential worker kids joined in at school," said principal Mr Matt Barr.

"We are so lucky and proud to have Mr Young at our school."

SOURCE: Social media, 16 Jul 2021
Matt Barr, Woy Woy South Public School

Dominic is appointed as law firm partner

A Woy Woy law firm has continued a 60-year family tradition with the appointment of a third generation of the one family as a partner.

Mr Dominic Tonkin is the third member of his family to be appointed as a partner in Tonkin Drysdale Partners.

Grandson of the firm's founder, Dominic is a litigation lawyer with extensive civil claims and dispute resolution experience across a number of practice areas, said his father, managing partner Mr Paul Tonkin.

"Dominic is also experienced in estate planning, commercial and property matters.

"In his time with TDP, Dominic has earned a strong reputation for his ability to provide clear, practical advice and excellent support to clients.

"Not only renowned for his law skills, Dominic is also a member of the Australian Lawyers Cricket Council and represented the winning Australian team at the 2019 Lawyers Cricket World Cup in New Zealand.

Mr Paul Tonkin said Dominic's appointment was a proud day for him and for the firm.



"I was admitted as a partner 30 years ago, on the same day as the retirement of my father, so it is a proud day for me as I now welcome Dominic to the partnership," he said.

"I speak on behalf of each of my partners when I say we have enjoyed watching Dominic's development over recent years.

"Legal skills aside, he has shown great care for our clients, investing in building strong relationships.

"We look forward to Dominic's ongoing contribution to supporting our clients, our local community and the growth of the firm."

SOURCE: Media release, 22 Jul 2021
Alison Steele, Brilliant Logic

Residents decide to proceed with association

An initial meeting has been held by people interested in forming a Peninsula Residents Association.

A group of 10 people met online on Friday, July 16, and decided to proceed with forming an association.

They had responded to an article in Peninsula News which invited anyone interested in forming an association to contact the newspaper.

More than 20 people had contacted the newspaper expressing interest in joining or supporting an association to represent the Peninsula community, said Peninsula News editor Mr Mark Snell.

He said those people who had responded represented a broad cross-section of the community.

Among those attending the initial meeting were representatives of the three local planning interest groups: Residents for Responsible Ettalong Development, Save our Woy Woy and Save Woy Woy Waterfront.

The Grow Urban Shade Trees group and the Rotary Club of Woy Woy were also represented.

The meeting decided to gather suggestions for a draft charter for the association.

Mr Snell said it was agreed that the Peninsula needed a well-organised residents' association to speak on behalf of the community

across a range of issues.

It was suggested it could be an incorporated association with regular open democratic meetings.

Mr Snell said such an association could be well placed to propose actions to protect and enhance the Peninsula, and not simply oppose council actions that threatened residents' quality of life.

The group would like to hear from other residents who were interested in being part of the association.

Anyone interested may contact the group by email to editor@peninsula.news.

SOURCE: Media release, 24 Jul 2021
Mark Snell, Peninsula News



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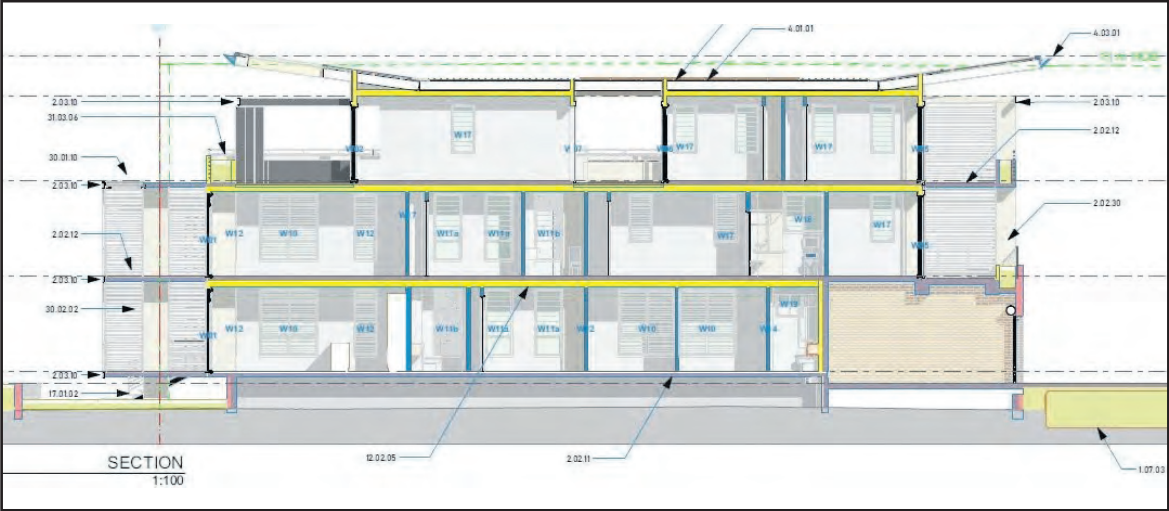


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Kilcare, Daley's Pt, Ettalong, Umina and Pearl Beach, Patonga and Woy Woy



Planning



Three storeys ‘better than generic, bland gun-barrel’, says consultant

A leading Peninsula planning consultant has stated that “gun-barrel” developments were “considered somewhat generic, bland and uninteresting and entail minimal deep soil zones or soft landscaping opportunities”.

The consultant, Clarke Dowdle and Associates, made the statement in support of a proposal to build a three-storey six-unit block of flats in Brickwharf Rd, Woy Woy, describing it as preferable to a “gun barrel” development.

An example at 73 Railway St, Woy Woy, was described as a development that “incorporates on-grade parking with a ‘gun barrel’ driveway with no landscaping along the sides of the built form”.

Clarke Dowdle and Associates has successfully submitted many applications for multi-unit developments on the Peninsula with a gun-barrel driveway running the length of the site.

“Council has accepted non-complying setbacks with the two-storey residential flat buildings with minimal site landscaping.”

The proposal at 75 Brickwharf Rd is for a \$2.944 million three-storey building with car parking located within garages located to the rear of the site.

Pedestrian access from street level will be provided via a dedicated centrally-located lobby leading to a lift.

A stairwell is also proposed to



“maximise permeability through the building”.

The proposal does not meet requirements to provide 25 per cent of communal open space.

The application argues that no communal open space is needed because the site is “within immediate vicinity of Austin Butler



Recreation Reserve that includes large recreational areas”.

“Further the site is located opposite Woy Woy foreshore reserve and is within cycling distance of the and Peninsula Leisure Centre for active recreational pursuits.”

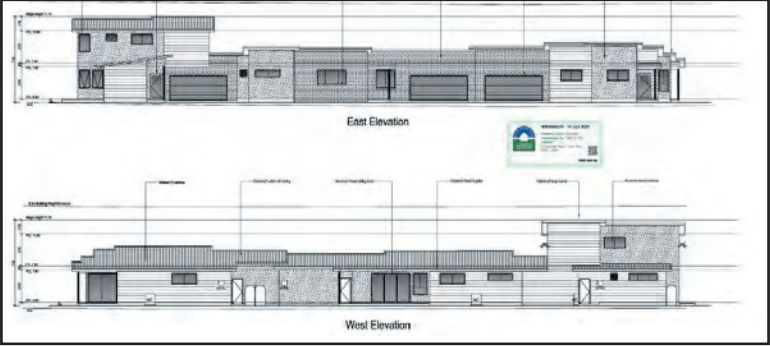
The proposal fails to meet side and rear boundary setbacks specified in the SEPP 65 Apartment Design Guide and those in the Gosford planning provisions.

It a height of 11.3 metres, it exceeds the height limit of 11 metres specified in planning provisions.

It also exceeds the specified maximum floor space ratio of 0.6:1 for the site, having a proposed ratio of 0.65:1.

SOURCE:

DA Tracker, 23 Jul 2021
DA 61806, Central Coast Council



Three-unit proposal for Bowden Rd

Central Coast Council has received a development application for the erection of two single-level units and one two-storey unit at 16 Bowden Rd, Woy Woy.

The \$600,000 development would replace an existing dwelling and ancillary buildings on an 18.3 metre wide block of 940.8 square metres.

Vehicular access is proposed via a common driveway to separate garages provided for each unit.

Setbacks do not comply with planning provisions.

Side boundary setbacks are as little as one metre, rather than the required 3.5 metres.

Rear setback is 1.36 metres, rather than the required six metre setback.

The 50 metre length of the

building exceeds the maximum of 25 metres, and the external wall length exceeds the maximum of eight metres.

The application states that the proposal would require the removal of some exotic trees along the edge of the site.

“Given the allotment entails a building entitlement within a medium density zone, the retention of the trees is unrealistic,” the application stated.

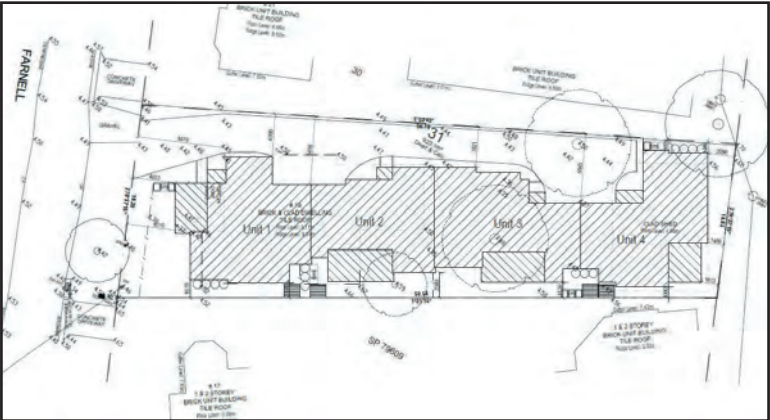
“Otherwise, the site would be sterilised regarding the ability to develop the site.”

“The trees are not regionally or ecologically significant and replacement street trees can be provided if required.”

Public comment is open between July 16 and August 13.

SOURCE:

DA Tracker, 22 Jul 2021
DA 62214, Central Coast Council



Proposal for four two-bedroom units in Farnell Rd

A development application has been lodged with Central Coast Council for four two-bedroom villas to be built at 19 Farnell Rd, Woy Woy, at a cost of \$600,000.

Vehicle access to all four units is proposed via common driveway to separate garages provided for each unit.

The proposal does not comply with planning provisions for a minimum side setback of 3.5 metres, with a proposed side setback as little as one metre.

It also does not comply with a rear setback of six metres, with a proposed rear setback being as little as 1.48 metres.

It does not provide the parking required by planning provisions, offering only four car spaces, compared to a requirement for six.

The application states:

“In regards to visitor parking, unrestricted on-street parking is safely available within 60 metres of the development to cater for the occasional visitor to frequent the site via private transport.”

At 50.25 metres in length, the building exceeds the maximum building dimension of 25 metres.

Three of the units do not meet the minimum open space requirement of 50 square metres, having only 40 square metres each.

The application provides 19 examples of “recent approvals of multi-unit development with the same design scale, height, setbacks, site cover and parking”.

The public comment period extends from July 30 to August 27.

SOURCE:

DA Tracker, 21 Jul 2021
DA 62394, Central Coast Council

Resident submission leads to comment period extension

Central Coast Council has extended the public comment period for a development proposal for a \$3 million six-unit block of flats in Brickwharf Rd, Woy Woy, for a month.

The extension is the second time the council has extended the advertising period for a multi-unit development on the Peninsula in the last two months.

In both cases, submissions from residents claimed anomalies existed in the council's planning

portal.

In this case, the public comment period for the development at 75 Brickwharf Rd was advertised as between Friday, June 18, and Friday, July 16.

Mr Frank Wiffen of Woy Woy made a submission on July 13 stating: “There are no documents online on which to base a submission.”

Mr Wiffen provided a screenshot of the council's planning portal.

“The Peninsula News also reported this situation on June 25,” he said.

“Please put the documents online and re-advertise.”

The following day, July 14, Mr Wiffen was advised: “The documents are now available on Council's website and the advertising period extended for another 28 days, with the end date now being August 13.”

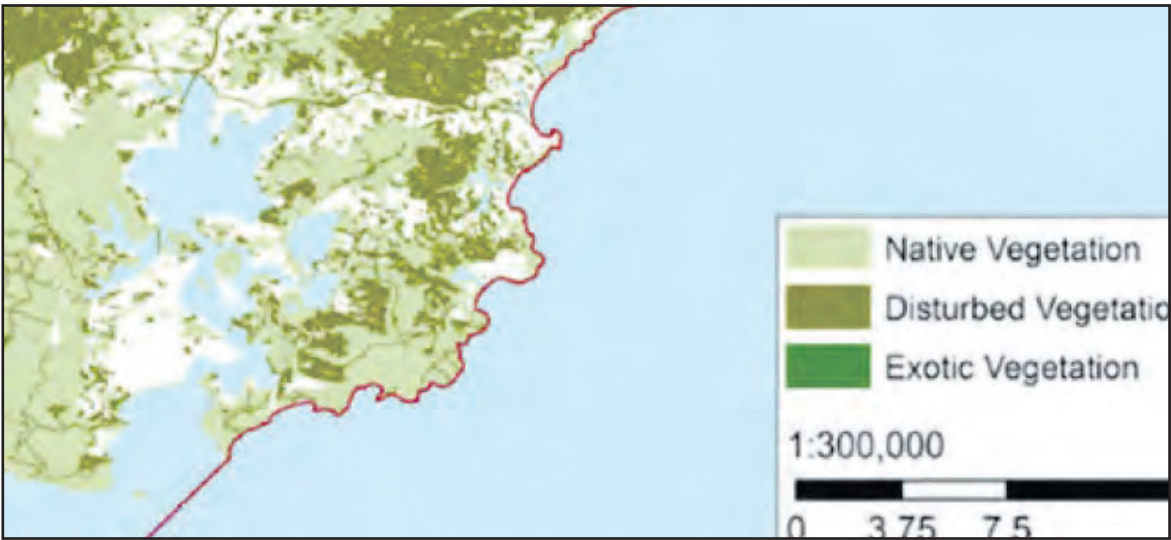
While the public comment period has been extended, Mr Wiffen's submission does not appear on the planning portal.

SOURCE:

DA Tracker, 23 Jul 2021
DA 61806, Central Coast Council



Three “pilot projects” are included in the strategy for Woy Woy, covering carparks and the oval forecourt area. Carpark designs incorporate permeable paving, medium-size shade trees and large feature trees.



Adoption of Greener Spaces Strategy is recommended

Council staff have recommended the adoption the Central Coast Greener Places Strategy at tomorrow’s council meeting.

“The draft strategy addresses the maintenance and management of urban greenspace on the Central Coast, with a strong focus on addressing urban heat island effects and improve liveability,” according to the staff report for the council meeting.

The strategy identifies the Peninsula as suffering significantly from the “heat island” effect, where temperatures are more than four degrees higher than other, vegetated areas of the Coast.

It is recommended that the council monitor the implementation of the actions in the strategy with annual reporting to the council over the next decade.

It is also recommended that the council implement the framework within the Central Coast Greener Places Strategy within future strategic and operational planning documents.

The key objectives of the strategy include “aligning Council processes for planning, project delivery and management, and to improve greening resulting from private development”.

“It is intended that the strategic directions will make the Central Coast an even better place to live and visit.

Actions in the strategy have been ranked according to the ability to implement within available funds.

“Those ranked high being those that can be completed within current resourcing, while those ranked low or medium priority will require additional resourcing including grant funding.”

High priority has been given to “development of planning controls for urban greening (for example, DCP changes) and other guidance and design documents such as water sensitive urban design guidelines and the Central Coast street design manual”.

“No further financial resources will be required to implement these actions.

“Moderate priority will only be completed once council’s financial situation improves or if external funding (grants and contributions) becomes available.

“These actions include urban greening projects or canopy tree replacement and embellishment.”

SOURCE:
Central Coast Council
agenda 2.3, 27 Jul 2021

Maps within Central Coast Council’s draft Greener Spaces Strategy show the relationship between lack of vegetation on the Peninsula and the “heat island effect”.

The Peninsula is shown to be more than four degrees hotter where vegetation does not exist than baseline temperatures on hot summer days.

“For example, the forest within Blackwall Mountain is more than four degrees Celsius cooler than nearby urban housing in Ettalong Beach,” the strategy states.

“An urban heat island occurs

when the urban area is significantly warmer than the surrounding less developed areas.

“Heat islands develop due to urban materials such as concrete, asphalt, tiled roofs and gravel absorbing rather than reflecting heat which occurs when the area is more heavily vegetated.

“The concept of the urban heat island has been in existence for over 50 years.

“However, as society becomes more urbanised, greater emphasis needs to be placed upon the effect during urban planning.

“Houses and other buildings will

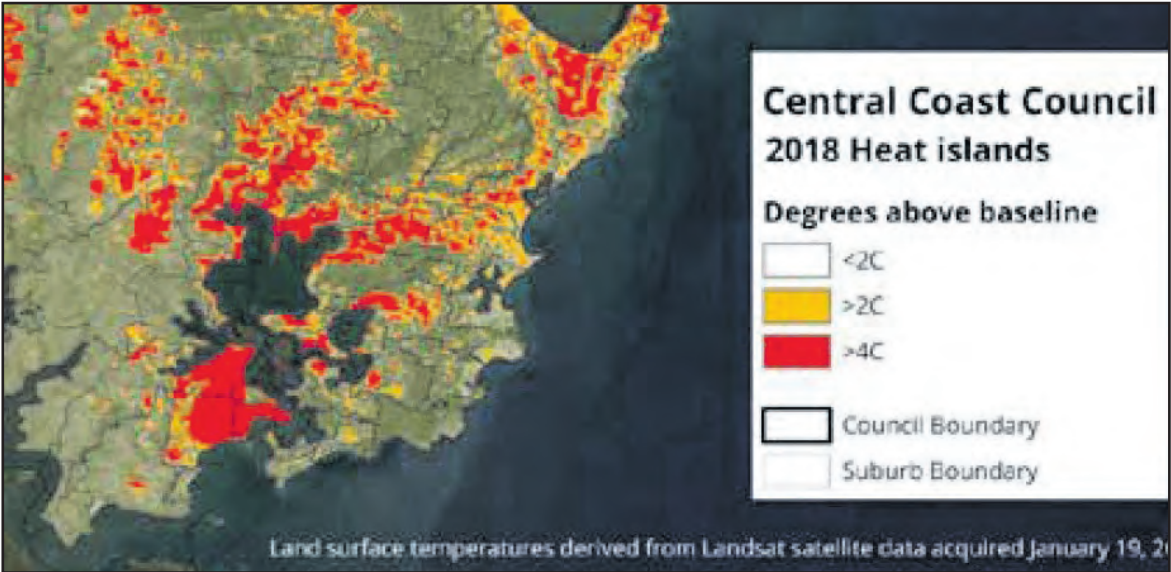
be hotter in areas where the heat island effect is operating.”

The strategy said this would result in higher cooling costs or less comfort indoors.

Taking a walk outdoors on hot days would also be less comfortable than if canopy cover was present.

If left unabated, “the effects of the Urban Heat Island will continue and possibly intensify as a result of continued development intensification of the urban centres,” the strategy stated.

SOURCE:
Central Coast Council
agenda 2.3, 27 Jul 2021



Woy Woy is ‘case study’

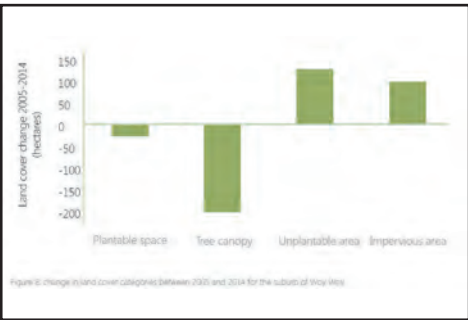
The draft Greener Spaces Strategy includes a “case study” for Woy Woy, showing the change in tree canopy cover and number of impervious surfaces at Woy Woy between 2005 and 2014.

“Over this time, canopy cover declined by 173 hectares, while the area of impervious surface increased by 84 hectares and unplantable space increased by 113 hectares,” the strategy states.

It said the effect may be difficult to counteract as the area of plantable space had decreased by 24 hectares.”

The strategy included a number of possible pilot projects for Woy Woy focussed around the oval and Austin Butler reserve.

They include an “integration of town centre and Oval Ave with Woy Woy oval”, “integration of trees and water sensitive urban design in the existing surface car park”



and “integration of trees and understorey planting along tennis courts”.

The carpark plans show the planting of medium-sized shade trees and large feature trees, as well as the use of “a three metre wide centralise strip of permeable paving”.

The strategy is on the agenda for adoption at tomorrow’s council meeting (Tuesday, July 27).

SOURCE:
Central Coast Council agenda 2.3, 27 Jul 2021

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Health



Members of the patchwork group at the Ettalong Beach Arts and Crafts Centre have been working from home during the pandemic.

Take up a hobby, CWA branch suggests

The Woy Woy branch of the Country Women's Association is suggesting residents take up a new hobby during lockdown.

"Lockdown can be distressing," said branch president Ms Jane Bowtell.

"The uncertainty and stress means many of us are struggling with feelings of isolation and overwhelm.

"We may find that we have more time on our hands, but aren't exactly sure how to spend it. "There is only so many movies you can watch, or social media you can

scroll through, before it becomes tedious," said Ms Bowtell.

"Now may be the perfect time to pick up a hobby," she said.

"It could be something you've tried before but didn't have the time to pursue, or a brand new pastime.

"Thanks to the internet you can easily engage in most hobbies from home.

"Equipment can easily be ordered online and there are countless instructional videos for almost anything."

SOURCE:
Social media, 17 Jul 2021
Jane Bowtell, CWA Woy Woy

Doctor's advice is to get vaccinated

A local doctor has given a presentation to Woy Woy aged care staff about the benefits and risks of vaccination.

Dr Jeevaka Samarasinghe of BlueSky Medical in Vidler Ave, Woy Woy, gave a presentation to staff at Blue Wave Living on July 15.

BlueSky Medical is asking local residents to get vaccinated against Covid-19.

"Covid-19 vaccination slows both infectivity, by the Covid virus being killed quicker in the vaccinated, and morbidity - the effect of significant illness

- including severe respiratory distress and post-infection problems such as 'long Covid syndrome'," according to a social media post by the clinic.

Vaccination also slows clotting disorders, which "are many more times likely with covid infection than with vaccination".

"Ultimately mass vaccination makes the environment for the infection to thrive less favourable and its population effects become less of a problem.

"This gives us the time as populations to allow natural viral mutation towards a more benign state to eventually make the virus less of a problem.

"Vaccine hesitancy is entirely understandable. There are some risks.

"What is important is to weigh up the risks and benefits from information given by your qualified health practitioners tailored to you and come to an informed decision.

"These choices are made so much more difficult however by anti-vaccination misinformation.

"It is hard to sift through this and the trolling associated with it, but for those of us who want to get back to a more normal world listen to the mainstream health advice."

SOURCE:
Social media, 16 Jul 2021
Blue Wave Living

Local hospital sponsors mental health art competition

A local hospital is sponsoring a mental health art competition to be exhibited at the Gosford regional art gallery in October.

Brisbane Waters Private Hospital is sponsoring the Young Persons Award and the Pride in Diversity Award in the Mental Health Art Works Awards, run by Erina service provider Coast and Country Primary Care.

"For many people in the Woy Woy community, art is a medium

that can help to heal, express and illustrate the diversity of experience that comes with having lived experience of mental ill-health," said hospital chief executive Ms Debbra Ritter.

"It is also one of the reasons why art therapy is used at our Central Coast Clinic, which is largest private mental health hospital on the NSW Central Coast.

"We are proud to be associated with these awards which provides people whose lives have been

affected by mental illness the opportunity to use art as a form of expression and to help the community to develop a better understanding of mental health issues."

Entries close on Sunday, August 29.

More information is available at <https://ccpc.com.au/mhaw/>

SOURCE:
Social media, 21 Jul 2021
Debbra Ritter, Brisbane Waters Private Hospital

Forum

Austin Butler oval sale offers no quick fix

I wish to express my confusion and concern as to why, at the next council meeting, there is a proposal to sell off part of Austin Butler Oval: Item 2.1 Council's Asset Sales Program (Tranche 3) - Outcome of Community Consultation.

In the same meeting, there is a proposal to adopt the Greener Spaces Strategy (Item 2.3 Adoption of the Greener Places Strategy), which has two pilot projects to plant trees in the very same Austin Butler Oval.

While it is wonderful to see the Greener Spaces Strategy finally up for adoption, and pilot projects to green spaces and reduce the heat sink effect, surely it is a contradiction to have a pilot project in the same park where there are stately melaleucas and swamp mahoganies, which will be removed for development.

Surely it would be prudent to retain the trees in the park as these melaleucas and swamp mahoganies already provide shade for those walking through

the park as well as shade for those wanting to "take shelter" during our hot months while watching a game. These magnificent endemic trees offer a natural green buffer in a very well used and traversed area, while creating a suitable natural green zone between the car park and the oval.

Additionally, the trees provide an excellent food source for the grey-headed flying foxes and other native flying creatures.

While I am well aware of the council's desire to dispose of assets, this "slicing off" of a nicely-treed public space offers no "quick fix" for the council's desire for cash which was the clearly-stated intention of the land sales strategy.

I note the proposal is listed to proceed with a Deed of Option to Purchase Agreement.

This deed will offer no quick fix, nor any guarantees of rezoning or guaranteed sale.

This sell off and possible waste of council's time and money needs to be reconsidered.

SOURCE:
Email, 23 Jul 2021
Joy Cooper, Green Point

Referendum is a serious affront to democracy

Unlike other citizens across the state, residents of the Peninsula are not entitled to vote to select who will represent us on Council on September 4.

Instead we are to be offered a "referendum" about the number of councillors.

What a joke.

Under Commonwealth Law, a referendum is a vote used to approve a change to the Australian Constitution.

The rules are set out in Section 128 of the Constitution.

Importantly, the referendum question must start as a bill (ie, a proposed law) that is presented to the Australian Parliament.

If, and only if, the bill is passed by the Parliament can the proposal then be presented to Australian voters as a referendum.

To succeed, the vote must be passed by a double majority: a majority of the voters in a majority (at least four) of the states.

Voting is compulsory, and can only take place after the Australian Electoral Commission has ensured that a statement of the proposed change and an authorised summary of both the "Yes" and "No" cases has been sent to every Australian on the electoral roll.

On the Central Coast, there has been no bill passed by elected representatives.

There has been no debate by councillors.

There has been no call from the population for changes of the kind set out in our proposal.

No, this measure was decided entirely without public debate or consideration by any elected representatives whatsoever.

The scheduled referendum is not likely to save money, nor will it even be conducted by the NSW Electoral Commission.

Rather it is to be managed by a private company for a cost to ratepayers of almost \$2 million, far exceeding any annual savings in payments to councillors.

This is a serious affront to democracy.

If it's not corrupt, it certainly has the feeling of a corrupt and dodgy deal about it.

Something that one might expect in a poor third world country with a failed state rather than a democratic system of government.

It's time for ordinary people to have a chance to elect representatives we choose ourselves.

We want a proper democratic process.

We want to vote and have a say in any reforms to council.

Is there anyone who would prefer a system in which the powerful manipulate rules and procedures to their own benefit, while ordinary people pay increased rates for the privilege of paying for expensive "referendums"?

That's a question we should be putting to the vote in September.

SOURCE:
Email, 23 Jul 2021
Michael Fine, Woy Woy



Snow trip cancelled for second year

The Umina campus of the Brisbane Water Secondary College has cancelled its annual Year 9 snow trip for the second year in a row due to the coronavirus pandemic. “We are very disappointed to announce that as a result of

the current Covid lockdown and unfolding situation, we have had to cancel the Year 9 Snow Trip for 2021,” said campus principal Ms Kerrie O’Heir. “We would like to apologise to all students who have missed out two years in a row but we must ensure the health and safety of

students and staff and adhere to all NSW Health guidelines and directives. “The school will be organising refunds.”
SOURCE:
Social media, 15 Jul 2021
Kerrie O’Heir, BWSC Umina

Woy Woy South Kindergarten open day cancelled



School office is temporarily relocated

Umina Beach Public School has temporarily relocated its school office while the current office is renovated. “Our front office is getting a makeover in the coming months,” said relieving principal Mr Chad Tsakissiris. “This is very exciting but has meant we have had to clear out the admin area for the renovations to

begin. “Our front office is now located at the back of the admin building close to the gate on Sydney Ave and Kindergarten classrooms. “Construction fences will be erected around the main entry gate over the coming weeks.”
SOURCE:
Social media, 13 Jul 2021
Chad Tsakissiris, Umina Beach Public School

Woy Woy South Public School has cancelled its first Kindergarten Open Day on Wednesday, July 21. “We hope that restrictions will be lifted in time for our second Kindergarten Open Day on Wednesday, September 1,” said principal Mr Matt Barr. He said that the school would make an announcement if it became apparent that the school could hold its second Kindergarten Open Day.
SOURCE:
Social media, 14 Jul 2021
Matt Barr, Woy Woy South Primary School

Artwork submitted in secondary school artists competition

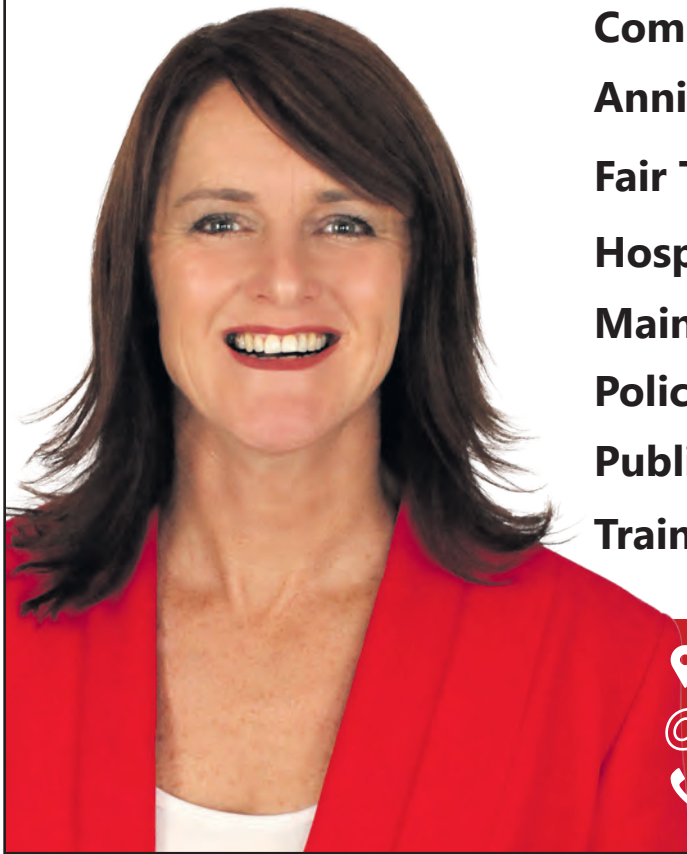
An artwork from Brisbane Water Secondary College Umina campus student Kahlia Williams has been submitted into the Secondary School Artists of the Year competition. “Kahlia created this artwork from a collaborative process between Ms Mason’s Year 9 visual art class and Ms Kitson’s English AVID class,” said campus principal

Ms Kerrie O’Heir. “Students used nonsensical sentences as a stimulus to create a surrealist-inspired artwork. “Kahlia responded to a sentence written by Jake Wall: The horse’s fire burns hot but is nothing like the evening swan’s.”
Votes may be cast at <https://gleam.io/g/gWhTO>
SOURCE:
Social media, 21 Jul 2021
Kerrie O’Heir, BWSC Umina



Liesl Tesch MP
Member for Gosford

How can I help?



- Schools and education
- Community Recognition Awards
- Anniversary & birthday messages
- Fair Trading
- Hospitals and health
- Main roads
- Police and Emergency Services
- Public housing
- Trains and public transport

📍 20 Blackwall Road, Woy Woy NSW 2256
@ Gosford@parliament.nsw.gov.au
☎ (02) 4342 4122



Southern Spirit seeks players for coming season



Southern Spirit Cricket Club is seeking senior men and women as well as junior players to register for the coming cricket season.

New players of all ages and cricketing abilities are wanted in addition to returning players.

Senior men play on Saturdays in a range of grades and formats.

Phoenix women's cricket teams play Saturdays 2-4pm in T20 games where everyone gets a go.

Junior cricket registrations are taken for girls and boys aged nine to 16 years, catering for varied cricket skills and abilities playing in real games of cricket.

Senior men may register now at <http://ow.ly/jjbg30rNHig>.

Women may register to play at <http://ow.ly/wrNs30rNH1u>.

With inquiries for senior men's or women's competition, contact Sean on 0421 802 070.

Junior players may download Active Kids vouchers at <http://ow.ly/432t30rNH7I> before registering at <http://ow.ly/9wjf30rNH7Z>.

With inquiries about junior competition, contact Jeff on 0419 982 103 or Bec on 0404 017 897.

SOURCE:
Social media, 13 Jul 2021
Southern Spirit Cricket Club

Bowls club postpones Kingfisher carnivals

Umina Beach Bowling Club has postponed its Women's, Mixed and Men's Kingfisher Carnivals.

"As the current NSW Health Covid-19 related lockdown has

been extended indefinitely, we have unfortunately had to postpone the carnivals," said men's club secretary Mr Peter Springett.

"The Kingfisher Carnivals will take place later in the year, at a

date yet to be agreed."

Mr Springett said that those who had registered would be contacted once a new date had been set.

SOURCE:
Social media, 13 Jul 2021
Peter Springett, UBMBC



Impressive sight at tennis

Clouds over the Woy Woy Tennis Club courts created an impressive sight in the afternoon sun on July 20.

Club members commented that they felt lucky to still be able to play and coach "in these most difficult times".

However, due to the extended

lockdown club membership renewal days have been postponed.

New dates will be advised when they are rescheduled.

SOURCE:
Social media, 20 Jul 2021
Woy Woy Tennis Club
Photo: Steve Dagger

MP has Paralympic memories



Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch has making social media posts recognising Australia's achievements at the Olympic Games in Tokyo.

Her posts acknowledged the 4 x 100m women's freestyle gold medal, Australia's soccer win against Argentina and the Boomers basketball win over Nigeria.

She also celebrated Brisbane's successful bid for the 2032 Olympic Games.

She commented: "It makes me think back to my Paralympic memories over the years."

SOURCE:
Social media, 25 Jul 2021
Liesl Tesch, Member for Gosford

Bridge club closed for lockdown

The Brisbane Water Bridge Club has closed for the lockdown period.

It will not operate at least until Monday, August 2, with all scheduled events postponed.

The club will not re-open until after the lockdown is lifted and will publish a revised calendar "when we can see a clear path".

SOURCE:
Website, 14 Jul 2021
Brisbane Water Bridge Club

Cycle Tour de Central Coast 'placed in hibernation'

Central Coast Bicycle User Group's Tour de Central Coast has been placed in "hibernation" as of Sunday, July 18, due to the Covid-19 lockdown restrictions being extended.

"Any rides carried out and recorded in Strava before July 18 will be counted," said group president Mr Alan Corven.

"Once the lockdown is unlocked,

we will allow a short period for remaining rides to be completed.

"We will arrange several group-led rides for Cruise riders," he said.

"In the meantime, do continue to get out and ride your bicycles while complying with NSW Health regulations - for your physical and mental health."

SOURCE:
Social media, 17 Jul 2021
Alan Corven, CCBUG

Netball Koori gala day

Woy Woy Peninsula Netball Association is planning to host a Koori Gala Day on Sunday, August 22.

"Koori Gala Days are free family fun days that bring the community together through sport and culture," said.

Information and registrations through the Netball NSW website at <https://nsw.netball.com.au/news/netball-nsw-koori-gala-days> and at <http://bit.ly/KooriGala-Rego>.

SOURCE:
Website, 21 Jul 2021
WWPNA

Nominated as youth volunteer of the year

Peninsula Junior Touch Association member Mason Colwell has been nominated as youth volunteer of the year in the NSW Touch Awards..

The date for a Virtual Awards Night has not yet been announced.

The association is currently accepting registrations, which can all be completed via its website.

Registrations close at 5pm on Sunday, August 8.

SOURCE:
Social media, 20 Jul 2021
Peninsula Junior Touch Association

