



Woy Woy wharf approaches completion - a view from the water. Photo: Frank Wiffen.

## Tesch welcomes decision to keep council land

**Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch has welcomed the recommendation by Central Coast Council staff to remove important community infrastructure and green space from sale following community outcry.**

Council had initially proposed selling off of community assets under Tranche 3 of the Asset Sales Program which included the Umina town centre carpark behind West St, the Ingenia affordable housing estate in Ettalong, green space along Memorial Ave, Blackwall, lots on Angler St, Woy Woy, and the community park on Brisbane Ave Umina.

"All of these have now been removed from sale."

Ms Tesch said a petition she launched to stop the sale of the Umina carpark was signed by more than 2000 local residents and was supported by many of the local businesses across West St.

She also supported the community in protesting the sale of the park in Brisbane Ave, Umina and the Ingenia estate.

Ms Tesch says that people power has triumphed over Council's ill-conceived fire-sale.

"This decision demonstrates that people power across our community can make a difference" said Ms Tesch.

"In particular, the potential loss of the Umina car park would have been devastating to many of the local businesses who are located

along West St.

"Many of their customers use this car park and the laneway access is used regularly by trucks to restock these local shops".

"I want to congratulate the good people across our community who protested, signed petitions and made submissions to Council especially while we don't have democratically-elected representatives to hold them to account."

In the absence of elected councillors, Ms Tesch said she would continue to work to make sure the voice of our community was heard at local government level.

**SOURCE:**  
**Media release, 22 Jul 2021**  
**Liesl Tesch, Member for Gosford**

## Peninsula News not acknowledged

**Council staff have failed to acknowledge Peninsula News when reporting media coverage of the council's proposed land sales in a report to tomorrow's council meeting.**

The staff report lists more than 100 reports under the heading "media coverage achieved".

No Peninsula News report was included in the list.

The list included 58 radio

reports on ABC, MMM, Star and Hit radio.

It included 45 print and online reports by the Daily Telegraph and Central Coast Newspapers, The Grapevine and The Weekly Source.

It also listed four television reports by NBN and 7News.

No explanation was given of the omission of Peninsula News, which has been the Peninsula's own newspaper for 22 years.

The council media unit has

previously advised Peninsula News that it will not provide information to Peninsula News, while the newspaper maintains its policy of requiring attribution of statements to an identified individual.

Peninsula News was told that the Council required statements to be attributed to "a spokesperson" and would not name the person responsible for the statement.

**SOURCE:**  
**Central Coast Council**  
**agenda 2.1, 27 Jul 2021**

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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**



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**Next issue: Monday, August 9**

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



Peninsula News  
Community Access

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

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.

Art exhibition planned for Coastal Twist festival

The Coastal Twist festival is planning to hold an art exhibition from September 29 to October 7 at Jasmine Greens kiosk in Umina.

The exhibition will include painting, photography, printmaking, collage, ceramics, drawing, and sculpture.

It will be curated by photographer C.Moore Hardy.

Festival organisers are now calling for gender and sexually

diverse artists to submit their work or idea for possible inclusion and sale by the deadline of August 30.

Festival director Ms Glitta Supernova said that the Coastal Twist Art Exhibition was designed to showcase gender and sexually diverse Central Coast artists.

The artists would be expressing their interpretation of the "Be the change" festival theme in "a curated exhibition that's going to reflect some of the diversity of our

lives". The response to date has been overwhelming

"We are trying to create amazing experiences for all ages, family types, abilities and this arts exhibition will launch out this year festival."

Applications may be made at <https://coastaltwist.org.au/2021callout>

SOURCE: Media release, 23 Jul 2021 Glitta Supernova, Coastal Twist

Rotary club announces board



The Rotary Club of Umina Beach has announced its board and other roles for 2021-2022.

The board is comprised of president Mr Bruce Croft, president-elect Mr Wayne Dowdle, secretary Mr Mike Curley, treasurer Mr Glen Scorer, club service director Mr Peter Doherty, youth director Mr Rob Meyer, community service director Mr Steve Hall and international director Mr Rouel Vergara.

Non Board Roles are club sergeant Mr Jim Chamberlain,

club corporal Mr Pat Lewis, Foundation representative Mr Mike Dwyer, charity box co-ordinators Mel Dodds and Rob Jennings, Red Shield co-ordinator Mr Tom O'Connor, publicity Mr Pat Lewis, Torque magazine editor Ms Claire Paton, welfare officer Mr Jim Chamberlain, and Top Blokes liaison Mr Paul Quinn.

"The board and other roles are largely unchanged for 2021-2022," said president Mr Bruce Croft.

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

Dry July is drier than usual

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

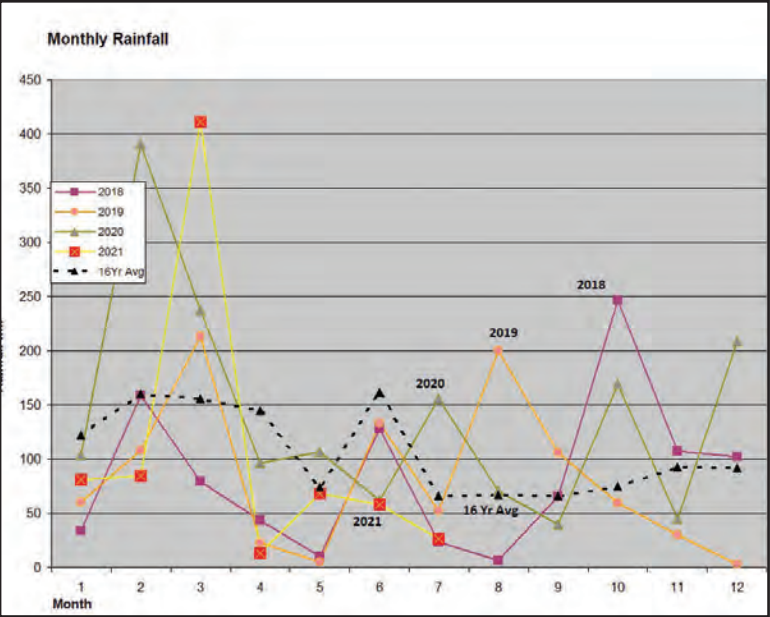
A total of 26.7mm has fallen on the Peninsula as at 9am on Friday, July 23, according to Mr Jim Morrison of Umina.

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



TIDE TIMES and Heights

Thu, Jul 29	Sun, Aug 1	Wed, Aug 4	Sat, Aug 7	Tue, Aug 10
0646 0.10	0208 0.69	0004 0.26	0225 0.15	0418 0.08
1240 0.81	0838 0.17	0538 0.60	0805 0.70	0955 0.80
1832 0.24	1510 0.84	1113 0.22	1337 0.17	1546 0.11
	2139 0.32	1750 0.98	1959 1.14	2200 1.18
Fri, Jul 30	Mon, Aug 2	Thu, Aug 5	Sun, Aug 8	Wed, Aug 11
0033 0.88	0310 0.63	0100 0.22	0303 0.12	0455 0.08
0720 0.12	0926 0.20	0639 0.63	0841 0.74	1034 0.84
1326 0.81	1606 0.88	1203 0.22	1420 0.14	1632 0.12
1925 0.28	2257 0.30	1835 1.04	2039 1.18	2242 1.14
AT ETTALONG	Tue, Aug 3	Fri, Aug 6	Mon, Aug 9	Thu, Aug 12
Sat, Jul 31	0423 0.60	0145 0.18	0341 0.10	0531 0.09
0116 0.78	1018 0.22	0726 0.67	0917 0.77	1117 0.87
0756 0.15	1700 0.93	1252 0.20	1503 0.12	1722 0.15
1415 0.82		1918 1.09	2118 1.19	2326 1.07
2027 0.31				



# Association seeks \$20,000 in donations for hall

**The Pearl Beach Progress Association is seeking help from residents, visitors and friends of Pearl Beach to help cover the costs of the Pearl Beach Memorial Hall.**

“We are asking for \$20,000 in donations to allow us to finish the Hall upgrades,” said association publicity officer Ms Lynne Lillico.

“We would be so grateful if you could help us ensure the Memorial Hall can continue to play the vital role in our community that was always intended.

“Covid-19 and its continuing restrictive influence on our lives has placed a great strain on the finances of the Pearl Beach Progress Association, which is responsible for the Memorial Hall’s upkeep, operations and finances.

“In addition to this, the cost of

the much-needed renovation to the hall’s back deck has also exceeded initial budget calculations.

“This is substantially due to skyrocketing building material costs and delays encountered during these Covid times.”

The Memorial Hall was built in 1948 by the residents of Pearl Beach on land purchased in 1943.

“Dedicated to those who served their country in World War II, the hall is undoubtedly the epicentre of community life,” said Ms Lillico.

“Not only does it host many community events, but it also offers event space for the general public for weddings and celebrations, and is a facility for civic events such as polling and community meetings.”

**SOURCE:**

**Website, 22 Jul 2021**

**Lynne Lillico, Pearl Beach Progress Association**



# Online shopping increase during lockdown

**Online shopping has increase by between 26 and 30 per cent on the Central Coast during lockdown, according to one online shopping site.**

The increase was seen in shopping data for the lockdown period between June 26 to July 11 compared to figures from the previous two weeks, June 10 to 25.

An increase of 30 per cent at Gosford and of 26 per cent was seen at Wyong and Tuggerah.

The figures were “similar to trends seen during other lockdowns”, according Ms Sophie Onikul of eBay Australia.

“Shoppers are updating work-from-home setups and revisiting much-loved hobbies, as they make the most of the additional downtime.

“This time we’re also seeing a rise in collectors with Beanie

Babies in high demand and others counting down the time with new watches.”

Comparative figures for the Peninsula were not available.

However, a total of 151 items were purchase in the 2256 postcode area and 69 items were purchased in the 2256 postcode area.

**SOURCE:**

**Media release, 23 Jul 2021**

**Natasha Moate, Puls**

# Shade trees group joins environment group

**The Grow Urban Shade Trees group has joined the Peninsula Environment Group.**

It will join the Woy Woy Community Garden as a sub-group of the environment group.

The tree group was previously auspiced by the Umina Community Group.

“We would like to thank the Umina Community Group for their

support over the past four years which helped GUST complete several grant projects for street tree planting,” said group member Ms Melissa Chandler.

She said the environment group’s focus aligned with the tree group’s activities.

“PEG’s focus is sustainable living in the Peninsula areaf.

“We feel inspired by what PEG members have achieved by way

of caring for our local environment and being a voice for local issues that threaten our landscape and way of living.

“Thank you PEG for being the tree that strengthens our growth.”

As a result of the move, the tree group has a new email address: [gust@peg.org.au](mailto:gust@peg.org.au).

Ms Chandler said that now was the season to be planting trees.

“Summer feels like a distant memory but to establish shade trees for the future, we need to be planting now.”

She said: “GUST is nothing without the support of the community, so please get in touch if you are looking to plant a tree in your verge.”

**SOURCE:**

**Social media, 18 Jul 2021**  
**Melissa Chandler, GUST**

# Art trail scheduled for long weekend

**The Pearl Beach Art Trail is being scheduled again for the October long weekend, on Saturday, October 2.**

It will run from 10am to 4pm.

A map will be available closer to the date.

For further information, contact Mr Malcolm Davison on 0407 100 120 or Ms Cecile Ferguson on

0412 141 721.

**SOURCE:**

**Website, 21 Jul 2021**

**Pearl Beach Progress Association**



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## Planning

### More staff and technology for major project assessment

**Central Coast Council will employ more staff and improve technology in an attempt to reduce development assessment times for major projects by 25 per cent, according to Central Coast Parliamentary Secretary Mr Adam Crouch.**

He said the NSW Government was providing \$350,000 for a new pilot program.

"This will enable large and

complex projects to get up and running more quickly by cutting determination times from an initial baseline of 366 days to 275 days within two years," Mr Crouch said.

"More often than not the planning process is far too slow and this is why the pilot program will focus on expediting the assessment of 'regionally significant' development applications.

"The Government and Council need to be in lockstep with each other to create more housing and

infrastructure in our region, which will create new jobs and help the Central Coast bounce back from Covid-19."

Development is considered of regional significance when the value is more than \$30 million, or more than \$5 million in cases where it is Council-related or lodged on behalf of the Crown.

**SOURCE:**

**Media release, 13 Jul 2021  
Adam Crouch, Central Coast PS**

### Wicks seeks review of Central Coast's regional status

**Member for Robertson Ms Lucy Wicks has written to the Assistant Minister to the Prime Minister and Cabinet, Mr Ben Morton, seeking a review of the Central Coast's status as a region.**

She has asked that the Government's Deregulation Taskforce "investigate the inconsistent classifications of the Central Coast and its impacts".

"The Central Coast needs to be declared a stand-alone region with Gosford as its capital city, not as part of the Greater Sydney, Newcastle or Hunter regions."

In her letter, she said: ""

"I have been overwhelmed with support to make the Central Coast a stand-alone region.

"This issue touches on the sense identity and pride we have for our region, and as such, I think it should be brought to the attention of all levels of government.

"I will also be writing to the

NSW Premier in relation to making the Central Coast a stand-alone region.

"There's no single consistent definition applied to the Central Coast region that I can see, except on a map and the name of our Council.

"That is why the Central Coast needs to be declared a stand-alone region with Gosford as its capital or true city.

"While we know the Central Coast was declared a region some years ago, there is a lot of confusion as to what that actually means or how it is applied by government bureaucracy.

"We are a region which is regularly lumped in with Greater Sydney, the Hunter and Lake Macquarie.

"We are not consistently recognised as a unique region, causing confusion and resulting in us being left behind.

"A quick survey across 22 different government departments

and agencies in all three levels of government reveals the Central Coast region is lumped in twice as often with other regions as it is referred to in its own right.

"These classifications are important.

"They determine which government programs Central Coast businesses, community organisations and residents are eligible for.

"There are numerous examples of how we have missed out on funding opportunities because of an inconsistent application of definitions.

I'm calling for the Central Coast region to receive similar government investments to what cities like Parramatta, Newcastle or Wollongong receive.

"It's time for the Central Coast to come into its own."

**SOURCE:**

**Social media, 20 Jul 2021  
Lucy Wicks, Member for Robertson**



### CEN questions basis of Austin Butler land sale

**The Community Environment Network has questioned the basis of Central Coast Council's proposed sale of part of the Austin Butler Reserve to Peninsula Plaza.**

Network chair Mr Gary Chestnut said the sale reneged on an undertaking given by Administrator Mr Rik Hart not to sell "community" land.

"Mr Hart has given multiple assurances to the public that he is not interested in selling community assets at this stage," he said.

According to Mr Chestnut, community land cannot be sold before it is first reclassified as "operational".

Mr Chestnut said that, if the council was to take this action, it should go through the reclassification and rezoning process, before the council committed itself to selling the land.

He said that the council report also suggested the sale of community land may not be required to address the council's financial position.

He said the report stated: "In some cases, the decision to rezone and reclassify land is not a

consequence of Council's financial situation but to release the site's full potential for the community better realised by the private sector."

"This statement contradicts everything the community has been told since October about the purely financial need to sell assets and suggests a broader privatisation agenda exists within Central Coast Council."

Mr Chestnut said the Network was also concerned with the sale process.

"We are concerned that only five properties out of the 19 remaining for sale are to be sold on the open market. How can this maximise the financial benefit of asset sales?"

"CEN questions why so many sales are being made subject to a Deed of Option to Purchase which gives significant power to the purchaser-developer."

Mr Chestnut said the Council report stated that Council could enforce sale conditions.

"Once a property is sold, what stops the land being sold to another party which council has no contractual arrangements?"

**SOURCE:**

**Media release, 26 Jul 2021  
Gary Chestnut, CEN**

### Coast is already stand-alone region, says Crouch

**Central Coast Parliamentary Secretary Mr Adam Crouch appears to have repudiated calls by Federal Liberal Member for Robertson, Ms Lucy Wicks, for the Central Coast to be declared a "stand-alone region".**

Mr Crouch said: "The Central Coast's identity as a stand-alone region with Gosford as its capital city has been enshrined in law, thanks to changes in NSW legislation made in 2020."

He said all agencies and departments of the NSW Government now formally recognised the Central Coast as a stand-alone region.

"I've worked hard to ensure our region receives and retains its own Local Health District,

a district within the Rural Fire Service, standalone Police Districts, Education Department directorates, and dedicated teams of staff within the departments of Regional NSW and Planning, Industry and Environment," Mr Crouch said.

"Central Coast Council is already reaping the rewards of our regional status having received tens of millions of dollars of grant funding that is not available to metropolitan areas like Newcastle and Wollongong, and on my watch this will continue."

Minister for Planning and Public Spaces Mr Rob Stokes had said the Central Coast region was its own region, separate from the Greater Sydney or Hunter regions, according to Mr Crouch.

He reported Mr Stokes

saying: "Last August, I signed a Ministerial Order declaring the NSW Government's nine regional boundaries – including Central Coast as its own region.

"This boundary for the Central Coast is consistent with the boundary used in the Central Coast Regional Plan released in 2016, which also recognises Gosford as the capital of the region."

Mr Crouch said: "To support the region's future, the NSW Government will soon be releasing a first-of-its-kind Central Coast Strategy and the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment is currently developing a new Central Coast Regional Plan."

**SOURCE:**

**Media release, 14 Jul 2021  
Adam Crouch, Central Coast PS**



# Apply for government support - Tesch

**Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch is urging local businesses affected by the lockdown to apply for payments for which applications open today, Monday, July 26.**

"The NSW Government's lockdown on construction across the Central Coast is hitting our local tradies hard," said Ms Tesch.

"Small businesses across our community are getting hit too.

"I am urging anyone who is currently impacted to apply for the Service NSW financial support payments, two in particular which open for applications on July 26."

She said the Covid Disaster Payment from Service NSW was a one-off payment to help businesses, sole traders or not-for-profit organisations impacted by the current Greater Sydney Covid-19 restrictions.

"Grants between \$7500 and \$15,000 are available to eligible businesses depending on the decline in turnover experienced during the restrictions."

Micro-business Covid-19 Support Grants also open today, July 26, with Service NSW.

Ms Tesch said this was a fortnightly payment for businesses with a turnover between \$30,000 and \$75,000.

Applications also open today with Services Australia for Jobsaver payments.

Ms Tesch said these were fortnightly payments to help maintain employee headcount as at 13 July and to provide cashflow support to businesses.

Ms Tesch said: "These support payments aren't enough for the people who fall between the cracks and Labor is still calling on the Morrison Government to reinstate JobKeeper to support businesses.

"If you are a small business earning less than \$35,000, I would like to hear from you."

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 21 Jul 2021  
Liesl Tesch, Member for Gosford



## 'Bring back JobKeeper payments'

**Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch is calling on the Federal Government to bring back JobKeeper payments.**

"New restrictions introduced today mean all construction must be paused and non-urgent maintenance, including cleaning services and repair work on residential premises is to be paused, adding more financial stress for thousands of local families," she said.

"I have received so many calls

today, and since the restrictions began, from people struggling to pay their rent, their mortgage, provide food for their family and keep up with other day to day expenses," Ms Tesch said.

"I want to assure the community that I feel your stress and I am working hard to push this Government to reintroduce JobKeeper."

With the restrictions being the strictest restrictions in NSW since the pandemic began, Ms Tesch

said JobKeeper was necessary.

"NSW is reeling from one of the toughest restrictions we have been given to date."

"We need Government support and we need it now.

"I hear you loud and clear and I will keep on representing your voice to this Government to ensure you are given what you and your family deserve."

**SOURCE:**  
Media release, 19 Jul 2021  
Liesl Tesch, Member for Gosford

## More uses for native trees

**The Grow Urban Shade Trees group has revealed more uses made of local native trees.**

A group member came across a person harvesting young eucalypt shoots from a mature tree that the

group monitors in Brisbane Ave.

The man was from the Wires wildlife rescue service out in the wild weather finding food to feed rescued possums.

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 17 Jul 2021  
GUST



**Liesl Tesch MP**  
Member for Gosford

## How can I help?



- Schools and education
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- Anniversary & birthday messages
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- Public housing
- Trains and public transport

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@ Gosford@parliament.nsw.gov.au  
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News



Guyangil Park



Vernon Park

Three playground projects are ‘completed’



Anderson Park

Central Coast Council has announced that it has completed playground projects at Guyangil Park in Australia Ave, Umina; at Vernon Park in Ryans Rd, Umina; and at Anderson Park in the Boulevard, Woy Woy.

Council director Ms Julie Vaughan said the new playgrounds had “been guided by community feedback as part of Council’s recently adopted Central Coast Playspace Strategy”.

“All of these new areas are safe, inclusive and accessible for the whole community to enjoy.

“Most importantly, they have been shaped as a result of valuable community feedback to ensure we deliver spaces that reflect the needs and wants of local residents.”

The director’s statement seems to contradict the council staff assessment of feedback from Peninsula residents at the time.

No comments from Peninsula residents were incorporated into the strategy at the time.

Submissions from Peninsula

residents were 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.

The requests 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.

Another 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.

Council Administrator Mr Rik Hart said: “This new infrastructure supports Council’s vision to have a network of high quality playspaces which support social engagement, are creative, enjoyable, appropriately sited, equitably distributed and sustainably managed.

“The heart of any neighbourhood, playspaces are important community hubs where people of all ages and interests can connect, socialise, learn and lead active lifestyles,” Mr Hart said.

He said each of the three Peninsula playground projects had been funded from council infrastructure reserves with contributions from development charges.

He said that, in relation to Pelican Park in Woy Woy, “Council is listening to the community and acknowledges the community’s concerns and questions around the playspace and other projects as part of Woy Woy’s masterplan, which will be addressed as part of upcoming engagement to consult with the broader community.

“More information and details of the timing for the consultation will be released soon and all opportunities for community participation in engagement activities will be promoted.”

SOURCE:  
Media release, 26 Jul 2021  
Julie Vaughan, Central Coast Council

Forum

You don’t know what you’ve got ‘til it’s gone

“They paved paradise and put up a parking lot.”

Please save Austin Butler for community recreation.

SOURCE:  
Email, 27 Jul 2021  
Stephanie Short, Woy Woy



Our joy at saving the trees at the reserve at Memorial Av, Blackwall, is tempered by learning that Austin Butler reserve is still in grave danger.

The promise of future jobs must be taken with a grain of salt: Woolworths is notoriously understaffed, and it is a moot point whether a new carpark will inspire them to take on 25 more employees.

Cutting down trees in a climate emergency is just wrong.

During the age of the developer,

which thankfully is drawing to a close, concrete was good, green was irrelevant, and money was God.

The planet is imposing a new ethos: Reduce global heating, or go up in flames. Look after the planet, stop trashing it.

Sell off the publicly owned reserve, and you cut off food supply for the grey-headed flying fox, food and shelter for a beautiful community of native birds, and oxygen for all of us.

Plus, the beauty of those trees, their place in nature, their shade and coolness will be gone forever.

On the other hand, if you leave the trees alone, you will have struck a blow against climate heating.

However undeserving we are, it is a public reserve.

No matter how useful these trees are in feeding the wildlife and cooling the planet, they deserve to exist just for their beauty.

If parking is such an issue, why don’t Peninsula Plaza, Woolworths and the Chamber of Commerce build a multi-storey carpark over the existing one?

SOURCE:  
Email, 27 Jul 2021  
Jane Hendy, Blackwall



## Past Rotary president talks about aged care home

**Past president of the Rotary Club of Woy Woy Mr Ross Pearce has given a talk to the club about the Blue Wave Living aged care home in Woy Woy.**

Mr Pearce is currently chairman of Blue Wave Living, which was formerly called Woy Woy Community Aged Care, and is owned by the community.

He said money was raised by community donations, cake stalls and chocolate wheels.

The centre was opened in May 1989 by the then Federal Health Minister Mr Peter Staples.

Woy Woy Rotary gave \$10,100 to the original fundraising and still has a close connection with the centre.

Some of the club's members who have served on the board were Mr Clem Morrell, Mr Albert Quilkey, Mr Ted Watson, Mr John Greenway, Mr Charles Brock and Mr Ross Pearce.

Woy Woy Community aged care and Boronia Court are now merged and are treated as one site.

A long lease from Central Coast Health means they can now embark on a building project.

He said Blue Wave was about to embark on a building project that would introduce "house mode".

This is a series of units that will contain one kitchen and lounge room with eight bedrooms coming off this area, he said.

There is also a hidden nurse's station.

Mr Pearce said Blue Wave had the best activities team: "You do not want to spend the last years of your life sitting in a chair doing nothing."

He thanked Woy Woy Rotary for the donation of hearing buds.

The residents used them for



television or their mobile phone.

They were also used for music, usually music of the 50s and 60s.

Mr Pearce said one of the major issues facing aged care was lack of staff.

There was a shortage of nurses generally and the bad publicity of the last few years and low wages has put people off a career in aged care.

He said there was a lack of Government funding and charges to the residents are fixed by government regulation.

It was difficult to get a return on residential age care deposits.

Mr Pearce said there was now a new governance system, with an independent inspector general and a new serious incident reporting system.

He said that aged care providers now needed to report unreasonable use of force; unlawful sexual conduct; psychological or emotional abuse; unexpected death; stealing or financial coercion; neglect; physical or chemical restraint; unexplained absence from care.

There was a greater need for support for dementia sufferers and mandatory training for frontline staff.

**SOURCE:**

Newsletter, 20 Jul 2021

Julie Jones, Rotary Woy Woy



## CWA thanks wharf contractors

**The Woy Woy Branch of the Country Women's Association has thanked the contractors constructing the new Woy Woy wharf for their co-operation.**

Branch president Ms Jane Bowtell said they had ensured "that our members and hall hirers have been able to safely access

the hall during this time".

"They also worked closely with us to accommodate the BreastScreen NSW bus and make sure they were able to successfully set up on our grounds."

Ms Bowtell said: "We had originally planned on having a morning tea in the hall with the Michilis team and our members,

but current Covid restrictions have prevented us from doing so."

Instead, the branch dropped off a package of scones and other treats for the team to share over morning tea.

"This is the next best thing."

**SOURCE:**

Social media, 12 Jul 2021  
Jane Bowtell, CWA Woy Woy



## Tower is part of emergency communication network

**An emergency communications tower at Castle Circuit, Umina Heights, is one of five new radio sites constructed for the Public Safety Network over the last few months on the Central Coast, according to Central Coast Parliamentary Secretary Mr Adam Crouch.**

The other towers were located at Boomerang Ridge, Mt Elliott and Copacabana, with the most-recently completed at Green Point, he said.

"Alongside the triple zero hotline, the Network is our State's most critical

communications network," Mr Crouch said.

"It provides emergency services organisations with a single, integrated network upon which they can exchange information even when 'normal' mobile towers are out-of-range or damaged.

"This capability was crucial for the Rural Fire Service, Police Force, Fire and Rescue, Ambulance and State Emergency Service during the 2019-20 Black Summer of bushfires as well as during the flood event earlier this year."

**SOURCE:**

Media release, 14 Jul 2021  
Adam Crouch, Central Coast PS

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Education

## School staff limit

**Umina Beach Public School will limit on-site staffing to two to five people each day, including teaching, administration and support staff.**

“School principals have been directed to ensure that only the minimum number of staff are on the school site at any time,” said relieving principal Mr Chad Tsakissiris.

“We have planned to follow this advice as closely as possible.

“The small number of teachers at school will not be providing explicit teaching instruction to students who attend school.

“They will provide supervision for students to complete the exact same units as the ones being completed by students at home.

“We strongly urge all students to learn from home where possible.

“We know home schooling is tough and we know that it can cause stress and angst.

“However, it is critical at this time to follow the restrictions and stay at home for the safety of everyone.

“Many thanks to parents for assisting us with these measures.”

**SOURCE:**  
**Social media, 19 Jul 2021**  
**Chad Tsakissiris, Umina Beach Public School**



## Patchwork group shows term’s work

**Members of the patchwork group at the Ettalong Beach Arts and Craft Centre have brought in the products of their labours over the last term.**

One member pinned a quilt

top. Another showed “bright and beautiful” quilt blocks.

A third member brought in a foundation-pieced block, while a fourth brought in a completed “beach huts” wall hanging.

Another member brought in her

baby quilt, while another brought her completed folded pin wheel quilt top to pin.

**SOURCE:**  
**Social media, 21 Jun 2021**  
**Peter Mulholland, EBACC**

## Suggested home learning times

**Ettalong Public School has circulated suggested home learning times.**

Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 were expected to be learning from home for about 2.5 hours per day, plus additional activities, according to relieving principal Ms Jodie Campbell.

She said this would include 45 and 60 minutes of English activities, 30 and 45 minutes of Mathematics activities and 30 and 60 minutes of activities across other key learning areas, including creative arts, HSIE, PDHPE and science-technology.

For Years 3 and 4 and Years 5 and 6, home learning was about

three hours per day, plus additional activities, she said.

This may include 45 to 60 minutes of English activities, 30 to 45 minutes of Mathematics activities and one to 1.5 hours of activities across other key learning areas, including creative arts, HSIE, PDHPE and science-technology.

“The school may also organise other activities such as wellbeing and physical activities,” Ms Campbell said.

**SOURCE:**  
**Newsletter, 20 Jul 2021**  
**Jodie Campbell, Ettalong Public School**

## Exercise program for women

**A free one-hour group exercise program for women running every week from Wednesday, October 20, for nine weeks is to be held in Woy Woy.**

The program offered by Diabetes NSW and ACT includes an additional 30-minute health education session every fortnight.

“This fun, social and motivating program incorporates many of the

factors that contribute to women’s health – exercise sessions, tips to eating healthy, techniques to relieve stress and anxiety, and an opportunity to connect with other women,” said Diabetes NSW marketing co-ordinator Ms Loni Pettett.

“The program is delivered in a safe, non-judgemental and comfortable setting, by qualified exercise physiologists who have experience working with groups of

women in all different stages of life.

“This initiative is aimed at all women in the community – unlike many of our other programs, you do not need to be diagnosed with diabetes to join.”

Registrations can be made at <http://movewithwomen.com.au/> classes or by phone on 1800 328 951.

**SOURCE:**  
**Media release, 24 Jul 2021**  
**Loni Pettett, Diabetes NSW and ACT**

## Ettalong undergoes ‘external validation’

**Ettalong Public School has undergone an “external validation”.**

“This process occurs every five years in all NSW schools,” said relieving principal Ms Jodie Campbell.

“The last time that we had this validation was in 2016 and we were one of the first schools to go through the process.

“The process has changed significantly and we are now one of the first school to go through the new process.

“The process includes our staff

completing self-reflective tasks and using our current practices to record ourselves against the School Excellence Framework document.

“It is used to celebrate the achievements of our students and staff and to also ascertain future directions in our teaching and learning.”

Ms Campbell said the panel met via Zoom with external validators from around the state.

**SOURCE:**  
**Newsletter, 20 Jul 2021**  
**Jodie Campbell, Ettalong Public School**



## Zoo excursion is rescheduled

**The Ettalong Public School Year 2 and 1/2A excursion to Sydney Zoo has been rescheduled.**

It will be held on Thursday, November 25, in term four week eight.

Detailed information will be provided to parents closer to the time.

**SOURCE:**  
**Social media, 20 Jul 2021**  
**Jodie Campbell, Ettalong Public School**

## Recognised by British ‘twin club’

**The Rotary Club of Brisbane Water has been recognised by its “twin club” in the United Kingdom.**

“The Rotary Club of Wendover and District sent us a certificate to acknowledge the special twin club arrangement we have with them,” said Brisbane Water club president Ms Cherie Simpson.

“We appreciate the great friendship we share with the members of Wendover and District.”

She said, along with the certificate, the club sent pictures of its recent activity.

Ms Simpson said that Wendover and District Rotarians had recently donated big boxes of chocolate

buttons to several clinics and hospitals.

This was “in appreciation of their work supporting and protecting the most vulnerable members of their community during the pandemic”.

**SOURCE:**  
**Newsletter, 15 Jul 2021**  
**Cherie Simpson, Rotary Brisbane Water**