



Walk-in Pfizer clinic at Woy Woy hospital

A walk-in Pfizer vaccination clinic will be held at Woy Woy Hospital this Friday, October 22.

The clinic conducted by Central Coast Local Health District will be held at the hospital in Kathleen Street, near the hydrotherapy pool in the Community Rehab building.

No booking is needed.

Anyone aged 12 years or over may attend, although children aged 12 to 15 must attend with their legal guardian, who will need to provide consent before vaccination.

Those attending are asked to bring their Medicare card, some ID and a mobile phone if they have one.

Member for Gosford Ms Liesl

Tesch said: "I strongly encourage anyone not yet vaccinated to get vaccinated to protect yourself and the community from Covid-19."

AMA (NSW) Council chair Dr Michael Bonning told Peninsula News: "While NSW is coming out of lockdown, it's still incredibly important that everyone who can get vaccinated does so."

"It will reduce your risk of serious illness and death and helps protect those around you who are too young to get vaccinated or unable to for medical reasons."

SOURCE:
Social media, 15 Oct 2021
Central Coast Local Health District
Media statement, 14 Oct 2021
Andrea Cornish, AMA (NSW)

CWA installs second footpath library

The Woy Woy branch of the Country Women's Association has installed a second "footpath library" on its front boundary at 30 The Boulevard, Woy Woy.

"Due to the overwhelming and overflowing success of our first

footpath library, we have decided to install another," said club president Ms Jane Bowtell.

It is installed next to the existing library.

"Now there is even more space to share your favourite reads with the community."

"This would not have been possible without our community behind us."

"Thank you for supporting us in everything we do."

SOURCE:
Social media, 10 Oct 2021
Jane Bowtell, CWA Woy Woy

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Back to normal fortnightly issues

This issue of Peninsula News resumes our normal fortnightly publication schedule.

This issue comes just one week after the previous issue, number 529, due to editor Mr Mark Snell taking some time off to recover from a hospital procedure, leaving three weeks between issues 528 and 529.

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

Volunteer help and support are always needed and welcomed.

A variety of roles is available from newsgathering and photography, to support services such as marketing and bookkeeping.

-SOURCE:
Mark Snell, 17 Oct 2021

EXTRA news

With the community coming to life after lockdown, there is expected to be more to report on the Peninsula.

We're hoping soon to resume publication of Peninsula News EXTRA, our electronic supplement, as the lockdown restrictions are lifted..

Peninsula News EXTRA
Be notified. SCAN here.



Next issue: Monday, November 1

Email: contributions@peninsula.news

Labor candidate calls for release of skate park money

Labor Candidate for Robertson Dr Gordon Reid has called on the Federal Government to release \$8.25 million for the Umina skate park announced by Member for Robertson Ms Lucy Wicks in March 2019 in the lead-up to the Federal election.

"Almost three years after being promised, the Umina Recreation Hub Project has not yet attracted a single cent from the Federal Government," he said.

"The project will involve a complete redevelopment of the Umina skate park, a BMX track, a new football clubhouse for Umina United, and a community integrated facility for the cricket, rugby league and Umina Tennis clubs, as well as the Umina Men's Shed."

"The funding was promised to upgrade the existing skate park to provide facilities for all ages and

skills, with shade, seating, a water fountain and lighting, and build a modern BMX Pump Track.

"It will provide a new outdoor basketball court, provide parking, deliver walking tracks and an exercise station, and build barbecue and viewing areas."

Dr Reid said these infrastructure upgrades were important to our community.

"So many of our local community clubs were counting on these upgrades, particularly the sporting clubs which have been fielding frequent complaints due to their ageing drainage and facilities," he said.

"Our people, especially our children, desperately need safe, community-based recreation activities."

"Access to this funding would unlock important opportunities for the people of our community."

"At present, we do not have the infrastructure to meet these

growing needs."

State Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch and Dr. Reid have launched a petition calling on Ms Wicks and Scott Morrison to deliver the money.

They have also released a video about the issue.

Ms Tesch has written a letter to Prime Minister Mr Scott Morrison and Ms Wicks asking for this funding to be delivered.

Ms Tesch said: "We are sick of politicians flying into our community with big fake cheques promising the world and delivering nothing."

"Whether it's the commuter car park or the level crossing, the Liberals have a track record of all talk and no action when it comes to our community."

SOURCE:
Media release, 13 Oct 2021
Gordon Reid, Labor
candidate for Robertson
Liesl Tesch, Member for Gosford

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.

Car boot sale cancelled until next year

The Lions Club of the Woy Woy Peninsula has decided to cancel its car boot sale and barbecue until next year.

A combination of coronavirus restrictions and the demolition of the toilet blocks at Rogers Park have led to the decision.

"Central Coast Council has,

without consultation or notice to us, demolished the toilet blocks we have had access to for the past years," said club president Mr Greg Head.

"They have also fenced off the area and encroached into the car park.

"That has cost us at least 15 to

20 car spaces for our stall holders.

"That would be bad enough under normal operations but, with the four square metre or even the two square metre rules, we do not have enough space to operate."

SOURCE:
Media release, 15 Oct 2021
Greg Head, Woy Woy Peninsula Lions Club

Historic ferry soon to return

The historic ferry The Codock will soon be "purring around the waterways again".

Central Coast Ferries proprietor Ms Bets Conway said its engine was "nearly completely rebuilt".

She said it would not be long before the ferry was back in service.

SOURCE:
Social media, 3 Oct 2021
Bets Conway, Central Coast Ferries



Online fundraiser is now open

The Pearl Beach Progress Association's online fundraising competition "The Price Is Right" is now open.

The association is offering a luxury collection of 26 items as the prize for guessing the total recommended retail price.

Guesses are being accepted in the range between \$2200 and \$2615, at a cost of \$5 for one guess or \$20 for five guesses.

The competition closes at the end of October, unless sold out sooner.

The collection includes Moores gin, Winton Road wine, Moogoo Skin Milk, framed painting by Marijke Greenway, sculpture by

Gaby Porter, champagne, Black Label whiskey, glass jar candle, Givenchy aftershave, Guylian chocolates, Waterman pen, Raffaello chocolates, Victor Rolf perfume, Chanel perfume, herbal candle, luxury soaps, luxury chutneys, Mugler Body Cream, bath salts, Indian scarf, Indian purse, Orotan necklace, pilates gift card, herbal tea, Night Tea and ball, and cookie bowl by Margaret Westcott with cookies.

The competition can be found at <https://pbpfundraiser.wixsite.com/thepriceisright>

SOURCE:
Website, 14 Oct 2021
Pearl Beach Progress Association

Umina CWA resumes meetings

Umina Beach branch of the Country Women's Association has met in person for the first time since the lockdown on Wednesday, October 13.

"It's great to be finally able to meet," said publicity officer Ms Margaret Key.

The branch has scheduled a book club meeting for 10am on Monday, November 1.

It will discuss Tell No One by Harlan Coben and The Minds of Billy Milligan by Daniel Keyes.

SOURCE:
Social media, 13 Oct 2021
Margaret Key, CWA Umina Beach

Thunderstorm brings 28mm of rain

Rainfall of 28.1mm accompanying the thunderstorm on Thursday, October 14, brought the October total to 58.4mm by last Friday, halfway through the month.

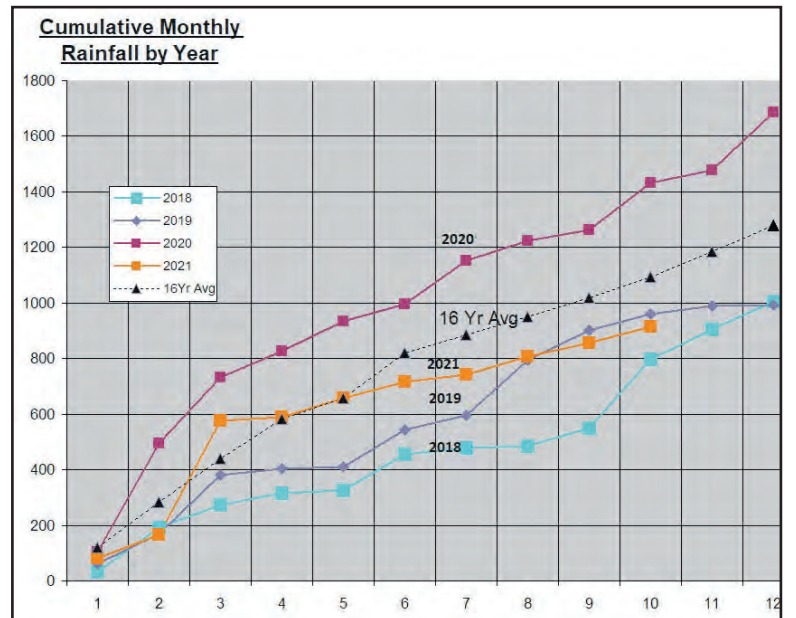
The fall followed four days with 3.6mm of rain.

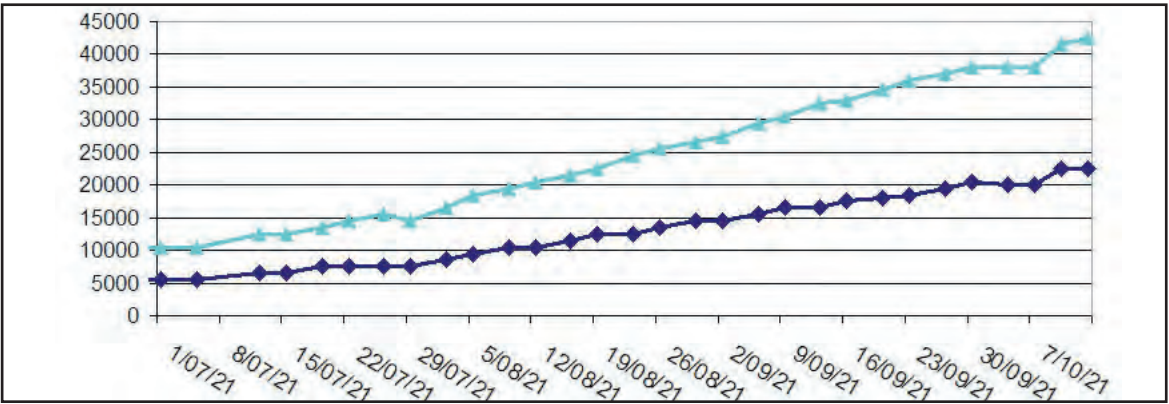
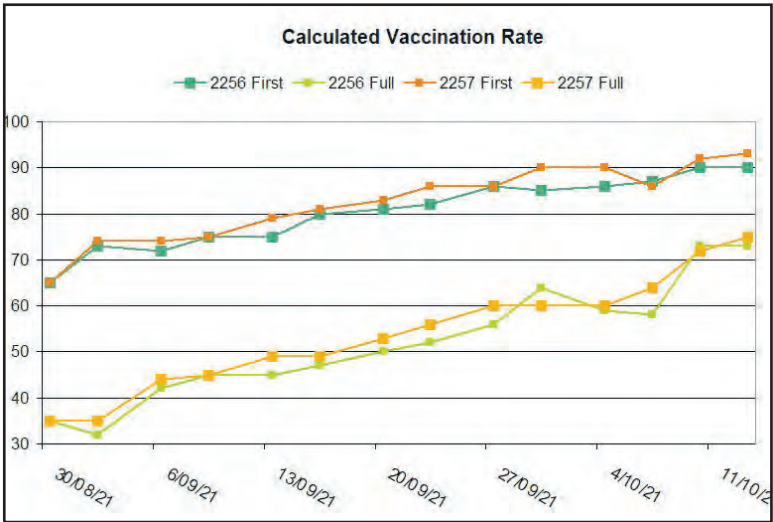
The second highest fall was of 15.2mm recorded on October 13, according to figures supplied by Mr Jim Morrison of Umina.

Average rainfall for October is 75mm.

The cumulative total rainfall for the year stands at 914.4mm, which is 16.3 per cent less than the end of October average of 1093mm.

SOURCE:
Spreadsheet, 15 Oct 2021
Jim Morrison, Umina





Close to 75 per cent fully-vaccinated

The NSW Government has released figures showing the Peninsula is close to 75 per cent fully vaccinated, with first vaccinations close to 93 per cent.

Analysis of the October 13 figures showed that only under-50s in the 2256 postcode area were struggling to reach those rates.

That group was close to 70 per cent fully-vaccinated, with first vaccination rates of 86 per cent.

Earlier in the week, the NSW Government Covid Data and Statistics page showed vaccination rates had been revised down by 10 per cent since September 30.

The October 10 figures reduced the total vaccination numbers by 5000 (2000 for 2256 postcode and 3000 for 2257), implying a full vaccination rate on the Peninsula in the low 50s (52 to 54 per cent), 20 per cent below the State average.

These figures were published more widely, including on the social media page of Central Coast Parliamentary Secretary Mr Adam Crouch.

However, with the release of the October 13 figures, the October 10 figures were corrected to figures closer to the State average.

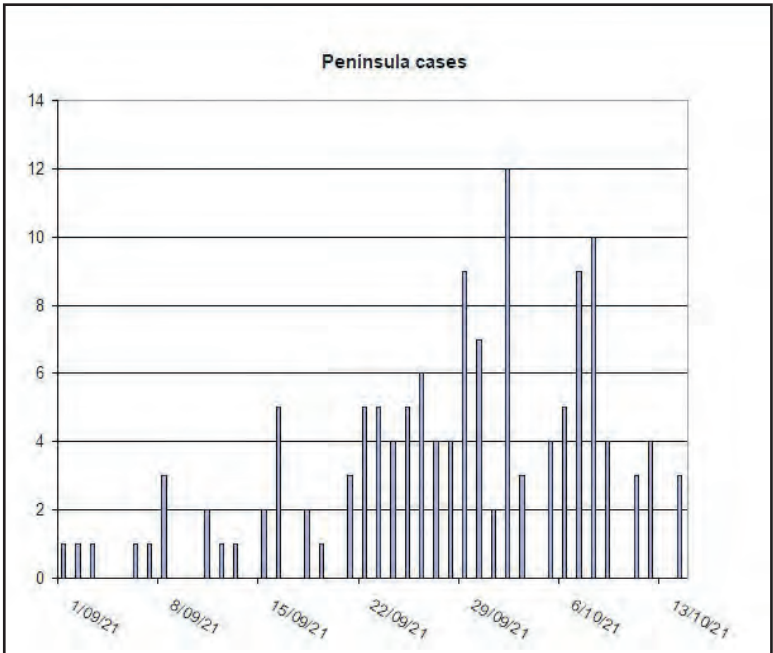
Figures which show no vaccination of Peninsula residents for several days in the previous week were not corrected.

NSW Health told Central Coast Local Health District that there were a number of reasons why anomalies may occur.

These included changes to address data, data quality checks removing duplicate records and delays in uploading data to the Australian Immunisation Register.

SOURCE:
Website, 13 Oct 2021
Covid Data and Statistics,
NSW Government

Population	2256	2257
Eligible	13766	25357
> 50 years	7900	15000
< 50 years	5800	10300
Injections		
Total	22500	42500
> 50 years	13500	25250
< 50 years	9000	17250
Doses/person		
> 50 years	1.71	1.68
< 50 years	1.55	1.67
Percentages		
> 50 years		
One dose	94	93
Two doses	77	75
< 50 years		
One dose	86	93
Two doses	69	75
All ages		
One dose	90	93
Two doses	73	75



Overseas trips are imagined

Residents at a Umina aged care home have been taking imagined overseas trips as part of organised activities at the home.

"Air Pozieres stewardesses" are pictured welcoming Peninsula Villages residents for "an all-inclusive trip to Papua New Guinea".

The residents have "passports" which are stamped for each "journey".

SOURCE:
Social media, 15 Oct 2021
Peninsula Villages



Woy Woy Bay wharf repairs

Repairs will be made to the Woy Woy Bay Wharf, starting in November, according to The Bays Community Group.

The group has been told that Central Coast Council will repair the seawall and do some work on the foreshore as well as repairing the wharf itself, according to group president Ms Gwynneth Weir.

"To complete the work it will be necessary for the boats that are stored on the foreshore at the end of Bassan St to be moved.

"The Council has requested that, if at all possible, owners move their boats onto their own properties while the work is being completed.

"Otherwise, the boats do

need to be moved away from the foreshore."

Ms Weir said the Rural Fire Service had also expressed concern about the number of boats that are on the foreshore.

"This area is the place of last resort in the event of an emergency.

"The fire service is concerned that the number of boats currently located there could impact on the safety of residents in the event of an emergency.

"The council and the fire service do need our cooperation to allow them to improve our environment and keep us safe."

SOURCE:
Newsletter, 15 Oct 2021
Gwynneth Weir, The Bays
Community Group



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Planning

Booker Bay site to be levelled for dual occupancy

Central Coast Council has received an application for a four-bedroom “dual occupation development” at 40 Webb Rd, Booker Bay.

The structure would be a mixture of single and double storey with a cost estimate of \$950,000.

The application prepared by Ms Sandra Trad of Apple Design states that a variation is sought for a “minor” departure from the building envelope requirements of the planning provisions.

All buildings occupying the site will be removed as they have no “significant architectural merit or historical significance and are currently in a level of disrepair”.

There are a number of trees also to be removed, according to the site works plan.

These include a large angophora floribunda, two large jacaranda trees and three crepe myrtles.

The application concludes by stating that “The proposal is commended on its effort to provide a development that embraces the objectives of the planning



instruments and control measures, and to understand the objectives when considering variations.

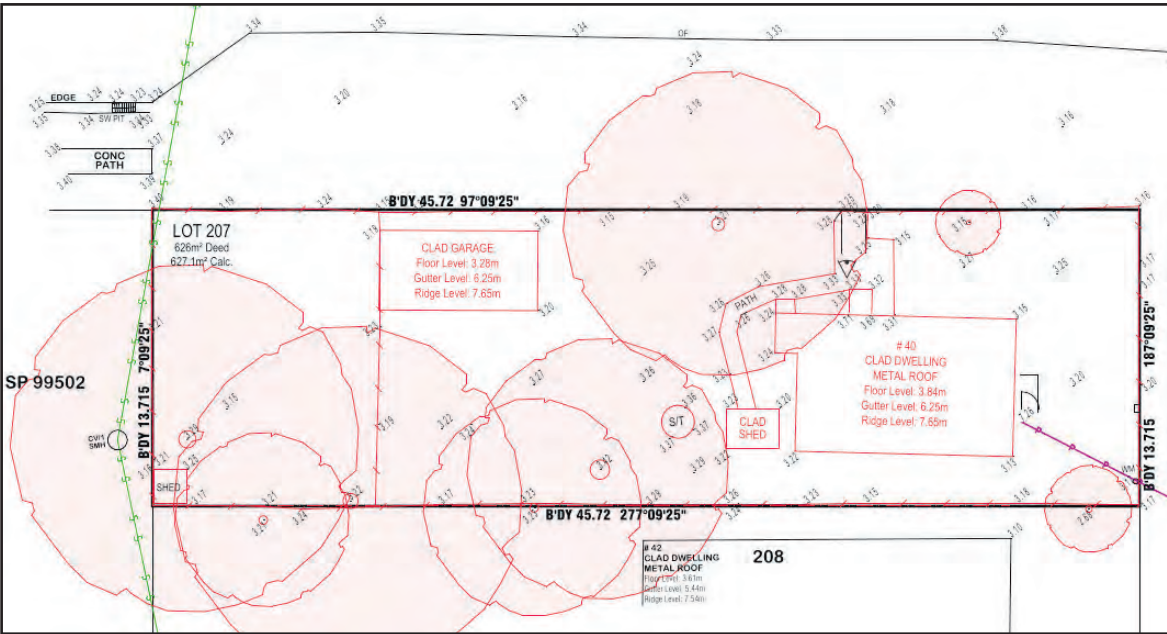
“The design employs with effectiveness the design guidelines of the Development Control Plan to create a functional development with high levels of amenity both for the end user and those it neighbours.

“This dual-occupation development is in a precinct well

served by daily requirements of the resident, is well served by public transport, places no stress on public services and is rightfully in the public interest.”

The application is exhibited for public submissions until November 5.

SOURCE:
DA Tracker, 12 Oct 2021
DA63281, Central Coast Council



First rapid antigen tests arrive on the Peninsula

A local aged care organisation has secured its first delivery of rapid antigen tests for Covid-19.

The delivery has arrived “significantly earlier than the nation-wide rollout which was expected to happen in November”, according Peninsula Village chief executive Mr Fred JP Van Steel.

“The 9000 rapid antigen tests will be made available to all direct care staff across Peninsula Villages’ three residential aged care facilities prior to every working shift.

“The roll-out will commence from the first shift Monday, October 18.

“Peninsula Villages is currently delivering the mandatory training to 28 registered staff nurses to distribute the tests to employees when commencing their shift, providing an extra layer of protection of their vulnerable residents.

“With many people now entering aged-care facilities daily, rapid antigen testing will greatly reduce the prospect of Covid-19 outbreaks at Peninsula Villages.

“Rapid antigen testing of visitors to residential aged care facilities is currently under discussion and consideration, awaiting further guidance on risk assessments.”

Mr Van Steel said: “Peninsula Villages moved to immediately acquire the rapid tests after former NSW Premier Ms Gladys Berejiklian announced region-wide lockdowns would conclude on October 11, after the state reached 70 per cent of its eligible population becoming fully vaccinated, and in advance of visitors being welcomed back to the facility. “Rapid antigen tests provide results in just 15 minutes and will provide further assurance for high-risk residents as lockdown eases.”

He said: “It is our obligation to make the testing accessible through our registered nurses, to help identify Covid cases as early as possible.

“Being a leading aged care provider, we want to provide the greatest level of protection for our residents and staff, and lead the way for others in the community.”

In August, Peninsula Village opened a vaccination hub for all local aged care staff to assist with the mandated vaccine rollout.

For more information, visit the Peninsula Villages website at peninsulavillage.com.au or phone 02 4344 9199.

SOURCE:
Media release, 14 Oct 2021
Emily Miller, Brilliant Logic

Inquiry submissions made available

Peninsula Residents Association secretary Mr Julian Bowker has successfully sought the release of submissions to the Public Inquiry into Central Coast Council.

The 111 submissions include a number made by Peninsula residents.

Mr Bowker said the submissions

were released at a cost of \$30 for the Government Information Public Access (GIPA) request.

“I must say the Office of Local Government GIPA officer had put in an amazing amount of effort and consideration.”

They are available at <http://bit.do/inquirydocs>.

SOURCE:
Media release, 15 Oct 2021
Julian Bowker, Peninsula Residents Association

Petition on Ettalong building height presented to Minister



Overshadowing of the Esplanade would extend to Picnic Pde with rezoning to increase building heights to five storeys.

A petition with more than 1500 signatures has been delivered to the NSW Minister for Planning Mr Rob Stokes, objecting to Central Coast Council’s proposal to increase the foreshore building height at Ettalong Beach.

Member for Terrigal Mr Adam Crouch delivered the petition to the Minister on behalf of the community group Residents for Responsible Ettalong Development on Tuesday, October 1.

The group has been campaigning against the proposal from Council to increase the foreshore building height limit from 11.5 metres to 17 metres – an

increase from three storeys to five storeys.

“The proposal to rezone the foreshore height limit was approved by the Local Planning Panel in an agenda item not advertised, or otherwise disclosed, to the public,” said group president Mr Peter Gillis.

“Council administrator Mr Rik Hart endorsed the proposal and submitted it to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment as a ‘gateway proposal’.”

The group’s petition seeks a decision by the Minister to reject the proposal.

“This is a sensitive foreshore location with major beach erosion issues, and the proposal would

make way for additional high rise over-development on Ettalong Beach,” Mr Gillis said.

“There are already 52 units under construction within one block of the beach, with over 100 units approved or pending in other developments nearby.

“This proposal will have a massive impact on the village of Ettalong Beach, its infrastructure, amenity, and services.”

The group is still accepting signatures for the petition, which can be found at the website change.org by searching for Ettalong.

SOURCE:
Media Release, 13 Oct 2021
Peter Gillis, RRED



Thank you!

Dear Central Coast Community,

The last several months have been extremely difficult for our community and we would not be where we are today without everyone playing their part and supporting one another. Thank you.

The unprecedented restrictions and rules we’ve experienced during this pandemic have turned our lives upside down. We haven’t been able to do things we take for granted like, visit family or friends or go to school or work and this has taken a significant mental and emotional toll on everyone.

The Central Coast community have done everything that has been asked of them and for that we thank you.

When you were asked to stay at home, you did.

When you were asked to get tested, you did.

When you were asked to isolate, you did.

When you were asked to get vaccinated, you did.

You did this to keep everyone safe. This truly demonstrates the close community bonds that define our region.

Thank you to all our local business owners, we appreciate how difficult the past few months have been with many businesses struggling to keep afloat. We encourage everyone to shop local and get behind our great local businesses.

As we move towards resuming our daily lives, things like school and work, sport and fun it’s important to remember, none of this would have been possible without the hard work of each and every one of you and for that we say, **thank you.**

Kind Regards,



David Harris MP
Member for Wyong



David Mehan MP
Member for The Entrance



Liesl Tesch MP
Member for Gosford



Yasmin Catley MP
Member for Swansea

Forum

Inquiry's anticipated scenario playing out?

The Inquiry into the Central Coast Council fiasco got off to a bad start.

Any organization that can't set up a simple Zoom connection must be at the bottom of the range for incompetence, so the beginning didn't bode well for a good outcome.

For my 90th birthday, my daughter in New Jersey was able to set up three separate Zoom meetings with friends around the world, including speaking with one participant riding on a train in Oslo, so it's not that hard.

Perhaps, we can see the problem as symbolic of the whole breakdown of management ability within the Council, during the three years or so that councillors led us into the Slough of Despond from which Administrator Greatheart is going to extract us.

When the inquiry did finally get under way, the evidence presented was a good deal less than edifying. Ex-councillors had hardly anything more to say than that they didn't know nuthin', which we could easily guess without their having to tell us so, and, if any of the testimony helped in uncovering the reasons behind Council's failure, it wasn't readily apparent.

Also, whining that other councillors were rude to you doesn't fit with the purpose of the

inquiry: I've had councillors be rude to me, but you shouldn't be there, if you're so fragile that that behaviour interferes with your doing your job.

If what we've heard so far is a good sample, my suggestion would be that other ex-councillors do themselves a favour and not appear.

It was always obvious, from the start, that the terms of reference were designed to prevent any inquiry from undertaking a serious investigation.

When you add the confusion over who will give evidence and the see-sawing pronouncements about access to written submissions, the whole operation suggests a rudderless craft with no identifiable destination and a crew haplessly bailing just to keep it afloat.

The Commissioner must be desperately regretting her unfortunate decision to shoulder this undertaking and wondering how she can emerge with a shred of credible reputation left.

Still, perhaps it was always intended that the inquiry end in confusion and chaos, so we're only seeing the anticipated scenario played out.

SOURCE:
Email, 13 Oct 2021
Bruce Hyland, Woy Woy.

Pearl Beach Environment Group claims planning provisions are ignored (Peninsula News 529) and is seeking a meeting with Central Coast Council Administrator Mr Rik Hart.

Their concern is maintaining the "tree canopy for the village".

Hopefully Mr Hart will know that the village has several groups of volunteers focused on looking after the nature attributes of the village: the Arboretum team, bush care, dune care and the Progress Association which with the aid of the Council have achieved great results and a beautiful environment.

The writer has been a resident for 35 years and is a bush lover.

If one scans back to aerial photos of Pearl Beach from current to say 30 years ago, the increased tree canopy enveloping the village is clear to see.

In fact if Ausgrid didn't trim trees on the roadside to protect power cables, today the roads would not be visible from the air, like many of

the homes.

For years Pearl Beach was a village of beach cottages and tiny fibro shacks plus two or three small farms.

Overtime these have naturally been upgraded to more suitable modern homes, which naturally cover a larger area of the site – but not excessively – so some trees have to be removed.

Potential bush fire risks can be seen in the aerial photos of the National Park, Council and Arboretum areas and the village itself, which has a single road access.

Crown fires or ground level fires present a massive challenge to the village and more with the increased bush coverage.

Then add global warming.

There has to be sensible limits for bush coverage in residential areas.

Trees and plants in close proximity to dwellings rain leaf litter onto roofs.

Does this environment group consider safety issues?

The Council require one to obtain a permit to remove a tree on your own property, but you can plant trees without one.

How sensible is that, in terms of a safety zone?

Trees are regularly planted on streetscapes by locals, on the edge of intersections and tight corners, impairing driver visibility.

Planted in the path of pedestrians, they push them onto the road way.

They can also interfere with services, when planted under power lines and over underground service connections.

Let's stay with sensibility, safety and balance and focus more on the issues of village safety and preparedness for climatic challenges.

The village requires a sensible balance of natural bush and nature with a strong reality of risk management and accompanying limits.

SOURCE:
Email, 15 Oct 2021
Vic Brown, Pearl Beach

When Open Forum is not open

Addressing council can be a daunting thing to do.

You need be motivated, passionate or upset on a subject to cross the threshold from "There is nothing I can do" to "Yes, I want to make a difference".

You ruminate about it, jot down some notes, decide not to and then finally look up the way to apply.

Surprisingly, you can apply to address council meeting up to 10am on the same day of their fortnightly meeting - impressive.

So having honed my speech I submit.

"This is being reviewed in relation to Open forum requests," I get in reply.

Then a few hours later: "You are not approved to speak tonight."

"There is not an opportunity to appeal" was the final ruling.

I did get a call and finally manage to speak to a council manager a few days later, who

apologised and was able to explain the rules.

It seems the title of my speech contravened one of the guidelines.

Of the 12 guidelines, the two key ones are:

2. In Public Forum, you can only speak about an item that is listed on the agenda.

3. In Open Forum, you should not speak on items that have previously be determined by Council or which are currently on public consultation or exhibition.

Number two I understand, but number three ... really ?

The Administrator has commented he wants more public feedback, but how are we to allow open debate when we are limited?

In my opinion, rule three should be modified or scrapped.

I did change the title and was allowed to submit my speech and this time was allowed to speak.

I did have great support from

council staff who made time for a quick practice session to ensure the technology would work.

So on the night after my nervous three minutes, it was response time.

I did get an on-air reply from director Cox, who acknowledged that the public are currently excluded from commenting on height rezoning, something impacting the delicate Ettalong foreshore.

However, he did manage skip over the fact that public consultation showing 89 per cent of respondents did not want to change the path at Mt Ettalong.

For a \$1.7m project, you could probably save \$400,000, just by listening to the public you are there to serve.

And we wonder why the council are in so much debt.

SOURCE:
Email, 15 Oct 2021
Julian Bowker, Umina

College elections in progress

The election process is now under way for next year's school captain and student representative council at the Umina campus of Brisbane Water Secondary College.

Forms were provided online for students in each year to nominate for the following year positions.

A form was provided for Year

8 students to nominate for school captain.

Nominations closed last week.

A vote for school captains and the "SRC team" is expected occur online within the next few weeks.

Nominees will be advised by email of the outcome.

SOURCE:
Social media, 11 Oct 2021
Kerry O'Heir, BWSC Umina

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Two plays presented online

Woy Woy Little Theatre presented two short plays “virtually” on last Wednesday night, October 13.

The plays were presented via Zoom, breaking a long drought caused by Covid.

They were watched live by an audience of more than 30

The first play was the premiere performance of “One of Us” written by John Fraser, originally for the Flash Festival where the theme was Fire.

The play was not performed in the festival as John had submitted other plays as well.

Director Mr Graham Vale said:

“It’s about some volunteer fire fighters talking about a lost mate.

“It seems to work really well as a Zoom playread.

“Some of the cast from Spirit Level have been rehearsing and having some fun with it.”

Frank Wiffen played Glenn, the not so eloquent firefighter.

Judi Jones played Kate, the volunteer firechief.

Jenna Arnold played Alana, the firefighter.

The second play was “Rinse the Blood off my Toga” written by Johny Wayne and Wayne Shuster.

With the theme of ancient Rome and surrounds, the cast of Ben Hur

performed this classic “who-dun-it”.

Terry Matthews played Flavius Maximus, private Roman eye.

Greg Buist was Brutus.

Jake Cain-Roser played Mark Antony, Claudius the bar tender and Tiberius.

Rebecca Bright played Secretary and Calpurnia (Mrs Caesar).

“It was quite a revelation to see just how well the plays worked in the Zoom environment,” said actor Mr Wiffen.

“When using Speaker view, it is almost like having your own in house camera crew switching between actors with the flow of the dialogue.”

Source:
Media release, 15 Oct 2021
Graham Vale, Woy Woy Little Theatre



Unicycle club to meet at community centre

Central Coast Lions Unicycle Club will meet at the Peninsula Community Centre in McMasters Rd, Woy Woy, on Saturday, October 30.

The event starts at 9:30am and is open to anyone “to ride or learn

to ride a unicycle”.

Unicycles are available for loan. For details, visit the website <https://www.roundaboutcircus.com/>

SOURCE:
Social media, 14 Oct 2021
Central Coast Lions Unicycle Club

Doors and windows opened

Umina Beach Public School will keep classroom doors and windows open to reduce the risk of spreading the coronavirus.

“We will also be using ceiling fans to move the air around,” said relieving principal Mr Chad Tsakissiris

“This maximises natural airflow and reduces the risk of spread of covid-19.

“The weather is predicted to remain cooler than usual and so we would encourage students attending onsite to bring a school jumper or jacket to keep warm

throughout the day.”

Mr Tsakissiris said the action was “in line with advice from NSW Health and the NSW Department of Education guidelines”.

“Our aim is to keep everyone safe whilst here at school,” he said.

“There will be plenty of changes and modifications to the way we do things here at school for the remainder of this term and we ask families to be understanding of these changes.”

SOURCE:
Social media, 13 Oct 2021
Chad Tsakissiris, Umina Beach Public School

Shortlisted for Victorian Premier’s history award

Woy Woy author Mr Richard Turner is in the running for a history award from the Victorian Premier.

The shortlist includes his book Made in Lancashire: A Collective Biography of Assisted Migrants from Lancashire to Victoria 1852-1853.

His book describes how, at the height of the Victorian gold rush,

between July 1852 and June 1853, hundreds of government-assisted migrants from Lancashire, England, made their way to Australia and disembarked in Victoria.

“They were part of a huge flood of such migrants who poured into the new-born colony as the colonial administration scrambled to cope with the gold rush,” he said.

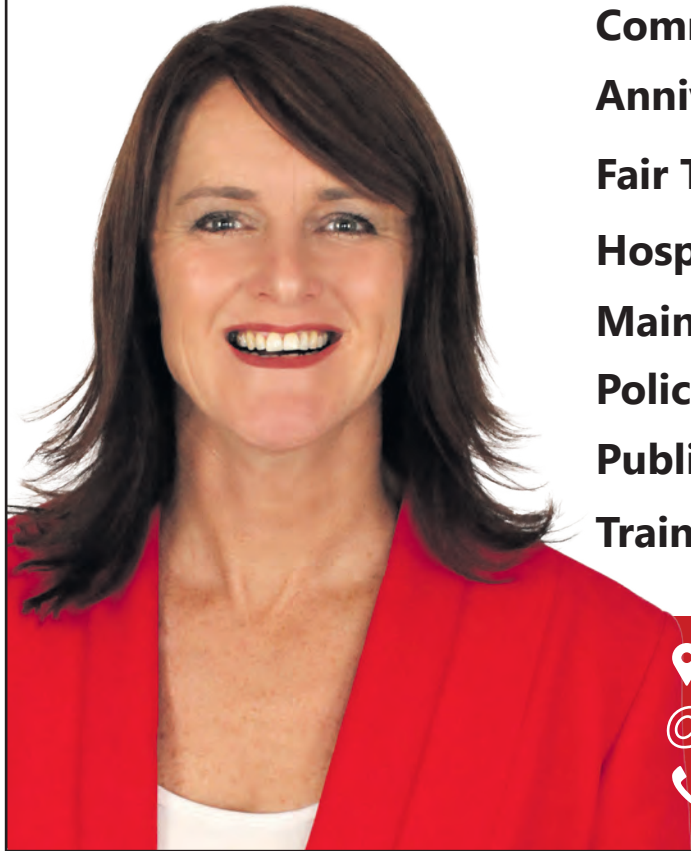
“Made in Lancashire is a collective biography that explores in detail who these Lancashire assisted migrants were: their origins, why they migrated, where they went on arrival in Victoria, and what they made of their lives.”

SOURCE:
Media release, 12 Oct 2021
Tara Oldfield, Public Record Office Victoria



Liesl Tesch MP
Member for Gosford

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News

Players wanted for all girls' cricket

Southern Spirit Cricket Club is seeking girls aged 10 to 12 years to play in its teams for the All Girls Sixers League competition.

The T20 matches are played on Saturday mornings, with modified rules and formats.

No experience is needed.

A soft cricket ball is used in the non-contact games, with everyone getting to bat, bowl and field.

The club describes the competition as "a league for girls to develop their skills and progress along their cricket pathway have fun, be active and have plenty of opportunities to learn through play".

The cost is \$180, including playing shirt, cap and training shirt.

Active Kids Vouchers are accepted.

For further information, phone 0404 017 897.

SOURCE:

Social media, 12 Oct 2021
Southern Spirit Cricket Club

Junior cricket launch

The "junior season launch" for the Southern Spirit Cricket Club will be held at Umina Oval from 10am on Sunday, October 24.

The morning will include "a fun training session, followed by the biggest backyard cricket match".

Sausage sandwiches, chips and drinks will be available, as well as entry into a lucky door prize.

SOURCE:

Social media, 16 Oct 2021
Southern Spirit Cricket Club

Free shirt and cap for men's softball players

Peninsula Ducks Softball Club is offering a free playing shirt and cap to all men who play for the club.

"We would really love to field our own men's team this coming season," said club president Ms Barrymore.

The season starts on Saturday, December 4.

Registrations are open and the club is looking for players of all ages, boys, girls, men and women.

No experience is necessary, and all skill levels are welcome, said Ms Barrymore.

SOURCE:

Social media, 10-12 Oct 2021
Di Barrymore, Peninsula Ducks Softball

Athletics uniform recycling encouraged

Woy Woy Peninsula Little Athletics is encouraging parents to recycle uniforms with the theme: "Recycling is good for the environment and good for the pocket!"

In a social media post, the organisation stated: "There are opportunities to buy, swap and sell uniforms."

It provided a link to a listing of second-hand items and encouraged parents to post comments about their needs and surplus uniforms "in good condition".

The association will be selling and taking orders for new uniforms

at its registration night which will be held on Friday, October 22, from 6pm at McEvoy Oval, Umina.

New uniforms may also be ordered online.

The association's first competition night is Friday, November 5, for fully-vaccinated competitors.

Competitors under 16 years old are taken to have the same vaccination status as their parent or guardian.

The competition will open to all from December 3, "in line with Government health guidelines".

SOURCE:

Social media, 13-14 Oct 2021
Woy Woy Peninsula Little Athletics

Umina men's bowling club annual meeting

Umina Beach Men's Bowling Club will hold its annual general meeting on Sunday, December 5.

The meeting will start at 10am in the Club Umina auditorium.

"We invite all members to consider getting nominated for the 2021-2022 committee," said secretary Mr Peter Springett.

"We have a range of positions, which suit a variety of skills."

Positions to be filled include president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer, as well as bowls secretary, assistant bowls secretary, chairman of match and one other committee position.

SOURCE:

Social media, 14 Oct 2021
Peter Springett, UBMBC



Flags donated by politicians

Local politicians Member for Robertson Ms Lucy Wicks, Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch and Senator Deborah O'Neill have all donated flags to the Ettalong Bowling Club.

"They can all be seen at the front of the club," said vice-president Mr Ken Dixon.

"These are the flags of Australia, NSW, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islands.

"The Ettalong Bowling Club is open and welcomes all members and visitors seven days a week," he said.

SOURCE:

Media release, 14 Oct 2021
Ken Dixon, Ettalong Bowling Club

Women's bowling club AGM

The Ettalong Women's Bowling Club held its annual general meeting on November 15.

The meeting was held at

the Ettalong Bowling Club from 9:15am.

SOURCE:

Social media, 12 Oct 2021
Ettalong Women's Bowling Club

Roster for greens use as bowls resumes

Umina Beach Bowling Club has announced a roster of greens use, as it resumes play.

"At the moment, we are allowed to have 30 bowlers on green one, with green two being renovated," said club secretary Mr Peter Springett.

Women's bowls will be played on Tuesday mornings and afternoons, with "roll ups" when they have finished.

On Wednesdays, men's, women's and mixed bowls will be played, with Lemons in the afternoon.

Men's bowls will be played on Thursdays and mixed bowls on Friday afternoons.

On Saturdays, coaching and roll-ups will be held in the morning,

and men's championships and social bowls in the afternoon.

Men's championships and social bowls will also be held Sunday morning, with mixed bowls held in the afternoon.

The greens will be closed on Mondays for maintenance.

"The objective of the above availability is to get bowlers back on the green and give everyone an opportunity to play," said Mr Springett.

"We will review playing numbers and then decide which playing sessions to keep and cancel."

"Don't forget to take your 'double Covid Vaccination Certificate' to get into the club."

SOURCE:

Social media, 12 Oct 2021
Peter Springett, UBMBC



Netball 'clubhouse pack-up' starts

Woy Woy Peninsula Netball Association is clearing out its old clubhouse in preparation for the building

of a new clubhouse at its Lemon Grove courts.

A small team of volunteers started the "clubhouse pack-up" on

Saturday (pictured).

SOURCE:

Social media, 16 Oct 2021
Woy Woy Peninsula Netball Association