



Rally attracts 50 people in the rain

A rally at Austin Butler Reserve in Woy Woy on Saturday morning opposing the sale of a treed part of the reserve to Peninsula Plaza attracted around 50 people despite the rain, according to organisers.

"It was a good turn out despite the weather," said Australian Conservation Foundation Central Coast branch president Mr Mark Ellis.

The rally was addressed by speakers, including Ms Zena Harije from the Community Environment Network, Ms Kiara L'Herpinere and Mr Louis O'Neill from Wildlife Arc and Ms Jenny Wilder from the Grow Urban Shade Trees group.

Mr O'Neill said: "Wildlife habitats are quickly disappearing all over the Peninsula and this is one more of them."

"We are the ones who see the aftermath of tree lopping and it's horrendous for the wildlife."

Ms Wilder said: "Data and research on the value of green infrastructure suggests that Peninsula Plaza could capitalise by incorporating these cool endemic trees into future upgrades."

Mr Ellis urged people to email their views to david.farmer@centralcoast.nsw.gov.au and liesl.tesch@parliament.nsw.gov.au.

SOURCE:
Social media, 27 Nov 2021
Mark Ellis, ACF Central Coast

Level-crossing accident should be wake-up call – Tesch

A level-crossing accident at Woy Woy last Wednesday should be a wake-up call for the NSW Government to replace it with an underpass, according to Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch.

Police Inspector Scott James of Brisbane Water command said no-one was hurt or injured in the accident, including the car driver, the train driver and the guard.

He said a female driver was attempting to cross the level crossing in traffic when the boom gates came down as she was waiting to complete crossing the railway line.

The train collided with the front of her car and pushed it.

The car was a write-off, he said.

Inspector James said there were more than 70 people on the train at the time.

The accident caused significant delays to train services, he said.

The incident was being investigated by the Police

Transport Command.

Ms Tesch said she was grateful no one was harmed.

"It's been a decade since the NSW Liberal Government promised to fix this level-crossing."

"This is a wake-up call that we need to fix this for the safety of our community," said Ms Tesch.

Ms Tesch said she had written a letter to the NSW Transport Minister asking for an update about the 2011 NSW Government commitment and what plans Transport for NSW had to make the level-crossing safer.

She said she had already raised concerns with Council administrator Mr Rik Hart about the level-crossing and will again urge Council to work with the NSW Government to prioritise investment for an appropriate solution.

"I hope the Minister will understand the Woy Woy level crossing is an urgent safety concern for residents."

Ms Tesch said the NSW

Liberal Government made the commitment to fix the dangerous level crossing in 2011 during the State election campaign.

She said then Opposition Leader Mr Barry O'Farrell flanked by former Liberal candidate for Gosford Mr Chris Holstein announced a \$30 million commitment to fix Woy Woy Rd including the Rawson Rd Level Crossing and the underpass.

"In 2016, the NSW Liberal Government walked away from the commitment due to cost blowouts and disagreements with the former Gosford Council," she said.

"A decade later, the deadly level-crossing remains in place and the NSW Liberal Government still has no plan to fix this chronically dangerous part of our transport system."

SOURCE:
Interview (Liz MackDacy), 25 Nov 2021
Scott James, NSW Police
Brisbane Water
Media release, 24 Nov 2021
Liesl Tesch, Member for Gosford

The Woy Woy branch of Country Women's Association will hold its last market of the year at 10am on Sunday, December 5.

"We will have a range of items available, including handmade clothing, homewares, plants, jams, pickles and relishes as well as local honey," said branch president

Ms Jane Bowtell.

"There will also be a sausage sizzle with a vegan option available."

"This is a Covid Safe event with check-in and proof of double vaccination required."

"As our grounds are not classified as a public space, we are unable to allow admission

without proof of vaccination.

"This is the perfect opportunity to finish. or start, your holiday shopping."

"Pick up some unique gifts for family and friends, all while supporting your local community."

SOURCE:
Social media, 22 Nov 2021
Jane Bowtell, CWA Woy Woy

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SOURCE:
Mark Snell, 28 Nov 2021



Peninsula News EXTRA
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Next issue: Monday, December 13

Email: 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.

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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.

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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.

Propagation shed at arboretum opened

The new propagation shed at Pearl Beach Arboretum was officially opened on Sunday, November 21.

Member for Robertson Ms Lucy Wicks officiated.

"It was a wet and wild day but around 20 people came out to meet Ms Wicks," said Arboretum secretary Ms Mary Knaggs.

"The propagation area consists of a purpose built propagation shed clad with polycarbonate and contains a heat bed, specially designed propagation pods with an impregnated growing medium, automatic watering system, stainless steel preparation benches, sink and storage.

"This shed leads into a hardening off area with automatic overhead sprinklers, a tank system, outside storage for pots and benches for plants which are being acclimatised before planting out."



Ms Wicks said the new propagation shed was funded by a \$20,000 grant under the Federal Government's Community Environment Program.

"The new shed will enable the Arboretum to continue the important work they are doing to propagate and plant more koala trees in the local area and also preserve over 40 threatened plant

and tree species, including the Central Coast's very own Gosford Wattle."

Ms Wicks thanked "the passionate volunteers at the Arboretum" for their work and care for our environment and community.

SOURCE:

Social media, 22 Nov 2021

Lucy Wicks, Member for Robertson

Christmas cake stall

Woy Woy Peninsula Lions Club ran a stall in Woy Woy on Friday selling their Christmas cakes and puddings.

They will have another stall next Friday and Saturday, December 3 and 4.

Pictured are club members Mr Ian Taylor and Mr Martin Williams.

Cakes and puddings start at \$13 each.

SOURCE:

Media release, 6 Nov 2021

Greg Head, WWP Lions



Christmas trees

Rotary Club of Woy Woy will hold its annual Christmas tree sale for the first two weekends in December.

"It will be at Woy Woy, southern end of the commuter car park," said club president Ms Julie Jones.

The club plans to sell trees from 7am on the weekends of December 4 and 5 and December 11 and 12.

SOURCE:

Newsletter, 9 Nov 2021

Julie Jones, Rotary Woy Woy



Raffle for wheelchair ramp

Umina Beach branch of the Country Women's Association is running a raffle with three prizes to be drawn on December 18.

Tickets are for sale outside Stephenson's Real Estate, West St, Umina, every Saturday morning until it is drawn.

"All money raised to enable the CWA Umina hall to be made

wheelchair friendly with a ramp and disabled toilet," said branch president Ms Rikky McIntosh.

"This will also enable the hall to become an evacuation centre should the need arise."

The branch's Giant Christmas Craft Fair will be held at the hall next Saturday, December 4.

SOURCE:

Social media, 20 Nov 2021

Rikky McIntosh, CWA Umina Beach

Wet week doubles month's rainfall

Six days of wet weather starting on November 21 have resulted in a total of 81.3mm being recorded on the Peninsula last week.

Rain recorded on Monday and Friday comprised almost two thirds of this total, with falls of 26.3mm and 22.1mm respectively.

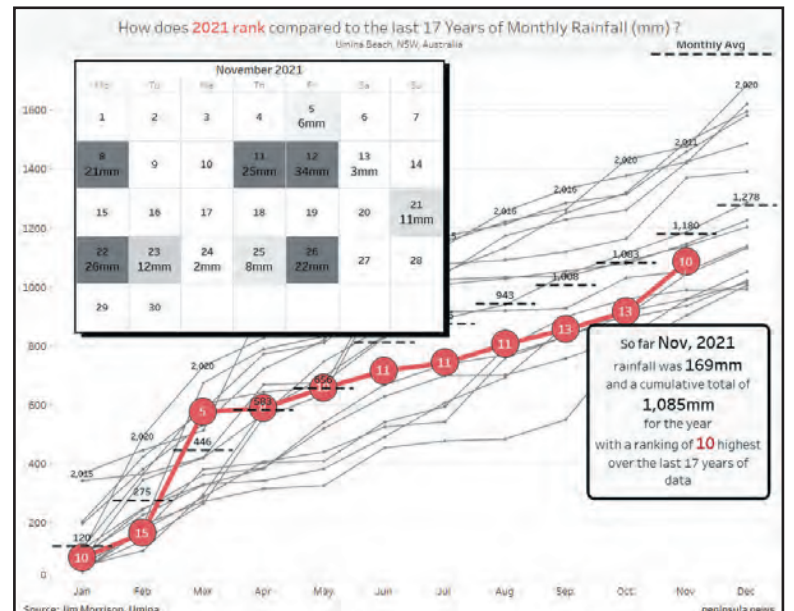
The wet week brings the total for the month to 168.8mm, 81.5 per cent above the month's average of 93mm, according to figures supplied by Mr Jim Morrison of Umina.

The total rainfall for the year is now 1085.2mm, close to average, after four months of being around 16 per cent below average.

SOURCE:

Spreadsheet, 26 Nov 2021

Jim Morrison, Umina



Blackwall Rd intersection plans released for comment

New plans for the intersections of Blackwall Rd with Allfield and Farnell Rds have been released for public comment.

Comments will be accepted until midnight on Wednesday, December 22.

"The community and stakeholders are invited to have their say on a concept design and the Review of Environmental Factors for the intersections," said Central Coast Parliamentary Secretary Mr Adam Crouch.

Previously, Transport for NSW prepared "proposed strategic designs" to upgrade four intersections along Blackwall Rd and Memorial Ave.

These were circulated to neighbouring properties in March last year.

In an exercise that received little media coverage, community feedback was invited but only 30 responses received.

"Of the 30 responses, 16 were in relation to the Farnell and Allfield Road intersections," a new leaflet by Transport for NSW states.

"This has allowed Transport to progress to the next stage of the design, taking community feedback into consideration."

The leaflet states that, since last year's display, further planning and design work has resulted in four changes to the design.

A shared pathway on Farnell Rd has been relocated to the southern side.

The right turn bay northbound on Blackwall Rd into Allfield Rd has been lengthened.



A footpath on Allfield Rd has been extended to the Burge Rd corner.

And the northbound right turn bay from Blackwall Rd into Farnell Rd has been removed with the right turn not permitted.

The plans see no access out of Allfield Rd (east), with all hardware store traffic being forced to return to Blackwall Rd via Farnell Rd or to take another "back block" route.

A bus route would also be rerouted down Farnell Rd.

Farnell Rd would be resurfaced with kerb and gutter and footpaths on both sides of the road.

Mr Crouch said the NSW Government was providing up to \$19 million "to improve travel time, reliability and safety for road users on the Woy Woy Peninsula by upgrading several

key intersections".

He said: "Blackwall Road is used by up to 18,000 motorists each day and provides an essential link between Woy Woy and Memorial Ave.

"This area continues to grow and attract new residents, which is why we have acted now to improve safety and traffic flow for road users.

"Upgrading these intersections will reduce peak time congestion and encourage people to walk and ride by providing safer pedestrian and cyclist facilities.

"Both sets of upgraded traffic lights will be coordinated to allow traffic to flow smoothly along Blackwall Road."

The Transport for NSW leaflet an online information session would be held in late November



where the community would have the opportunity to discuss any questions or concerns with the project team.

"The community will be informed of the date and time via the project webpage and social media."

However, as of yesterday, with only two days remaining in the month, this does not appear to have happened.

The leaflet does not say whether previous plans to upgrade the McMasters Rd intersection and the intersections of Memorial Ave with Gallipoli Ave and Maitland Bay Dr will proceed.

The concept design and Review of Environmental Factors are available to view at nswroads.work/blackwall-road-intersection-upgrades.

Feedback may be submitted

via email at central.coast.office@transport.nsw.gov.au.

Mr Crouch said: "Transport for NSW will carefully consider all feedback and will prepare a report detailing submissions and responses to be published in early 2022.

"The community and stakeholders will be kept informed as the project progresses."

Construction is expected to start in 2023 and take around 12 months to complete, weather permitting.

Pictured above: Residents talk about the plans with Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch and Labor candidate for Robertson Dr Gordon Reid in Farnell Rd last week.

SOURCE:

Media release, 16 Nov 2021
Adam Crouch, Central Coast
Parliamentary Secretary

More in Peninsula News EXTRA

Peninsula News EXTRA is our electronic supplement. Published on Thursday, the EXTRA contains those articles we cannot fit in the print edition. This week:

NEWS

- Community group to install signs at Runway Park
- No community development grants for the Peninsula.
- Two Peninsula infrastructure funds "repealed"
- Council wants Woy Woy Rd reclassified
- Two directors leave council

PLANNING

- Council reinstates redacted submission.
- Application for second house to create dual occupancy.
- Manufactured home at Patonga.

ARTS

- Coastal Twist announces performers, seeks volunteers.

Power outages to affect 350 households

Around 350 households on the Peninsula are scheduled to suffer power outages over the next two weeks.

About 200 households will be without power for seven or more hours, while the rest will have power cuts of less than four hours.

The outages will allow repair and replacement of electrical equipment, mostly electrical poles.

They will be spread over six days between today, Monday, November 29, and Thursday, December 16.

This morning, electrical pole replacement or repair in Melbourne

Ave, Umina, will affect less than 10 households.

"Critical maintenance to high voltage electrical equipment" will affect 26 households in Abelia Pl and Neera Rd, Umina, on Wednesday morning and 70 households in Albany Rd, Dora Rd and Kallaroo Rd, Umina, on Wednesday afternoon.

On Thursday, 165 Woy Woy households will be without power for eight hours from 8am for electrical pole replacement or repair.

Streets affected will be Byron Cl, Dulkara Rd, Grafton Ave,

Lismore Ave, Macleay Ave, Nagari Rd, Nambucca Dr and Shoalhaven Dr.

On Tuesday, December 7, less than 10 households in Ocean Beach Rd, Woy Woy, will be affected.

On Thursday, December 9, 33 households in Timbertop Dr, Umina, will be without power for seven hours.

The following Thursday, December 16, 39 households in Carpenter St and Veron Rd, Umina, will be affected.

SOURCE:

Website, 27 Nov 2021
Power outages list, Ausgrid



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RRED discovers proposal for Ettalong foreshore

Central Coast Council has submitted a major development proposal as part of its Ettalong foreshore rezoning application, the Residents for Responsible Ettalong Development group has discovered.

The proposal was made on behalf of a western Sydney developer Parform Pty Ltd to the Department of Planning Industry and Environment.

When Central Coast Council and the Local Planning Panel considered it, the application was listed as a rezoning of land at 43-46 The Esplanade, Ettalong Beach, without any indication of a specific development being proposed.

However, the council has submitted a full planning proposal to the department for a five-storey, 38-unit high-rise block, said Mr Peter Gillis, convenor of the Residents for Responsible Ettalong Development community group.

The 19 documents submitted included development timeline, site plans, retail assessment, traffic analysis, and shadow diagrams.

The submitted documents are accompanied by an 83-



page document from the Council planning department supporting the development.

The documents show that the Council has been in discussion with the developer since at least August last year, said Mr Gillis.

The application was only revealed after the Local Planning Panel had approved the rezoning at its June 10 meeting, and not in the meeting agenda disclosed to the public.

At the June 29 Council meeting,

administrator Mr. Rik Hart decided to submit the "Gateway Proposal" to the department, despite objections from the residents' group.

Mr Gillis said the administrator told the meeting that the process did allow for full community submissions at that point in time.

The department also had no process for handling public submissions, Mr Gillis said.

He said: "The public will have an extremely limited opportunity

to object to this foreshore development."

There would have to be enough submissions to trigger a Regional Planning Panel hearing for them to be considered.

Mr Gillis said a 1500-signature petition against the rezoning had been forwarded to NSW Planning Minister Mr Rob Stokes and the group had made representations to local members, with no response yet.

The planning proposal was sent

to the department on September 13, and was listed for consideration October 22.

Mr Gillis said the full extent of the proposal was only revealed when the residents' group asked the department for information on the Council submission.

The department subsequently posted all Council documents on its website on Thursday, November 4.

The documents were withdrawn from the department website on about November 12, but have been saved by residents and are now available at <http://bit.do/Ettalongforeshore>.

The submitted plans show a ground floor occupying most of the block, three levels of 10 units each, and a top floor with four large units.

Mr Gillis said: "The concept is two towers, but it appears as a high rise unit block with a chasm in the centre, at the base of which is a swimming pool.

"The pool will see little sunlight in summer, and the centre chasm will be a wind tunnel in winter.

"The shading diagrams show a complete shadow over the beach to the water line in mid-winter."

SOURCE:

Media release, 19 Nov 2021
Peter Gillis, RRED

Umina Men's Shed gets go-ahead for new premises

Umina Beach Men's Shed has been issued with a construction certificate which allows it to build its new premises on council land in Osborne Ave, Umina, two years after it lodged its development application.

It is understood that an agreement between the council and the funding body, facilitated by Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch, has broken a 15-month deadlock that prevented the group from building its new Shed.

Central Coast Council issued the Men's Shed with development approval in August last year.

However, the non-profit voluntary community group was faced with losing a grant for the building, because the council did not have a "plan of management" in place.

The Men's Shed was told the council could not offer it a lease for the building until a plan of management was formalised, and that the lease was required as a condition of the grant.

Council staff told the Men's Shed a plan of management could not be prepared until March this year.

However, in June, the group was told that the plan and lease could take another year.

Men's Shed secretary Mr Vic

Brown said at the time: "The position we find ourselves in is extremely disappointing."

In September, council staff said that the plan of management and lease would not be ready before the end of next year.

"The situation has an obvious impact on the shed and associated funding," Mr Brown stated.

The group stood to lose its funding and the prospect of having its own new premises.

Mr Brown said that on November 6, there was "finally some good news".

"While the council is still constrained, it made an offer to the department which looks after our grant and, with assistance from our State Member Ms Liesl Tesch, the offer was accepted.

"We have applied for and gained an extension for completion of the new shed as part of the conditions we are required to complete the work by May 31.

"So now we have to receive the necessary occupation documents from council then we should be able to start work.

"The committee is now obtaining updated quotes," he said.

Central Coast Council issued the construction certificate last Monday, November 22.

SOURCE:

Website, 6 Nov 2021
Vic Brown, Umina Beach Men's Shed

Panel decision expected on proposal with 48 objectors

The Central Coast Local Planning Panel is expected to announce its decision this week about a proposal to build a five-bedroom house 36 Coral Cr, Pearl Beach.

The Panel considered the development application after the council received 48 submissions from the public about proposal.

The only registered speaker for the Panel meeting on Thursday, November 25, was applicant Ms Trish Affleck, but she notified the panel that she would not be appearing.

Under conflict of interest rules, two members of the panel declared a non-pecuniary past or occasional professional association with the applicant's planning consultant Mr Michael Leavey, who is a past member of the Regional Planning Panel.

They were chair Ms Kara Krason and expert member Ms Sue Francis.

The meeting closed less than 30 minutes after it started, with Ms Krason stating that the Panel's decision would be posted later on the Central Coast Council website.

Among the objections to the proposal was a 16-page submission prepared by planning consultant Robinson Urban Planning on behalf of a neighbour.

The main themes of the objections were that the development was not within the Coastal Building Line, that its



bulk and scale were excessive, that it removed native trees and replaced them with hard surfaces, and that the development was a de facto dual occupancy.

Most objections mentioned that the proposed development was not within the Coastal Building Line.

One comment was: "Why should a new owner have this privilege when all other owners have respected the designated building line however wealthy?"

Many submissions said the bulk and scale were out of character with the rest of the street, overbearing and ugly.

One objector commented: "If you keep allowing houses like this to be built, you are taking away the beauty and uniqueness of Pearl Beach, which can then never be restored.

"You are benefiting one house and stealing from the rest of the community.

"This is not right."

Other submissions objected to the removal of native trees including a street tree gum.

One person said: "The street

scape is adversely affected with the loss of a mature tree and bus stop, being replaced with concrete block side-to-side wall and three driveways and garage doors, plus one inappropriate jacaranda."

Several people objected to the application on the basis that it was surreptitiously creating a dual occupancy which was not allowed in an R2 zone.

One commented: "When the plans were shown to me by the owner in November 2020, the first floor 'rumpus room and bar' were noted on plan as kitchen and dining-lounge rooms.

"This was described to me as a separate two-bedroom, two-garage apartment, as part of a dual occupancy.

"The apartment is totally separate once one door is sealed, a two-bedroom apartment: dual occupancy by another name."

The council's planning assessment report recommended approval of the application.

SOURCE:

DA Tracker, 26 Nov 2021
DA604106, Central Coast Council

Council to buy paint shop for intersection upgrade

Central Coast Council will buy the “paint shop” building at the corner of Ocean Beach Rd and Rawson Rd, Woy Woy, as a “works compound” for its construction of a new \$32.6 million intersection.

Last week’s council meeting also decided to compulsorily acquire parts of 14 other allotments fronting Ocean Beach Rd, Rawson Rd and Mutu St to accommodate an expanded intersection.

The building which has housed a paint store and a cabinet-maker for many years is pictured.

Just 140.6 square metres will be taken for the intersection.

The remaining 1672.8 square metres will be sold after the intersection is completed.

The work will also require relocation of the Shell service station awning and bowisers.

The council adopted a five-lane signalised design, which is expected to reduce “traffic wait time” by two-thirds and queue length by 360 metres.

It is expected to reduce the risk of traffic accidents and improve pedestrian and cyclist safety.

Previously, budgeted as a four-year project, a report to the council now anticipates expenditure over five years with construction expected to commence mid-2024

and the project completed in 2026.

A total of \$930,000 is expected to be spent this financial year, with \$5.28 million, \$8.38 million, \$7.1 million and \$10.87 million being spent in each of the four following years.

The report said “the infamously congested road intersection” with its single-lane roundabout was inadequate.

“The intersection is the main entrance to the Peninsula and coastal suburbs for commuters coming from the M1 motorway.

“Upgrade of the intersection is identified in the Woy Woy Development Contribution Plan as being essential to growth and development in the region.”

The council is still waiting for the release of funding by the Federal Government.

The council resolved: “That subject to the approval of the grant funding, Council resolve to acquire all or some of the portions comprising the land by compulsory process in accordance with the requirements of the Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991, in the event that negotiations for the acquisition of all or some of the portions comprising the Land with the relevant property owner or owners cannot be satisfactorily resolved at the end of the minimum

statutory requirement of six-month negotiation period to meet grant funding time commitments.”

It also resolved: “That comprehensive engagement be undertaken with affected property owners and to the broader community to investigate concerns, noting this may result in some alteration to the proposed concept design.”

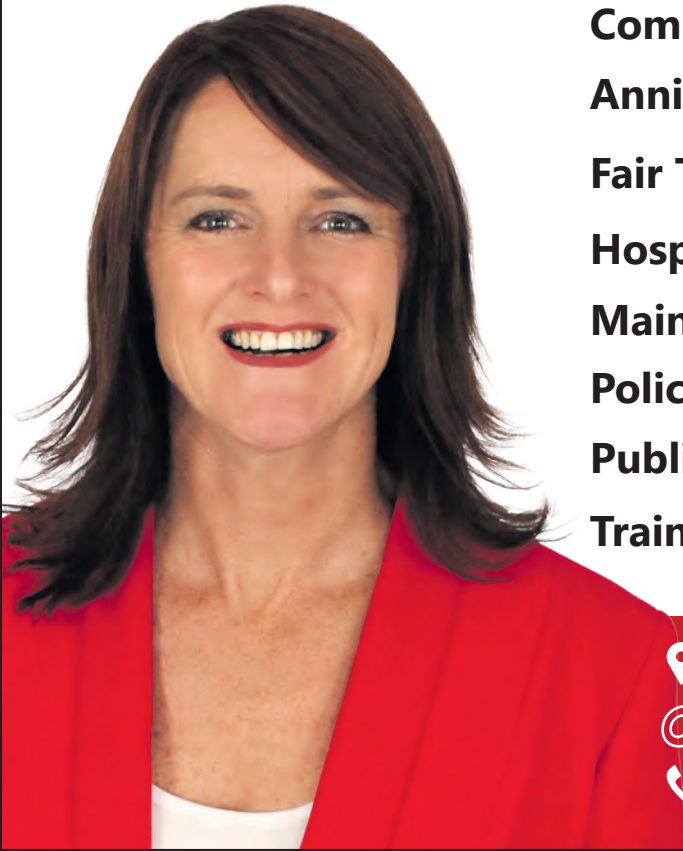
The report noted: “The project is anticipated to generate widespread interest given the critical impact the intersection has on congestion on the Peninsula.”

SOURCE:
Central Coast Council
agenda 2.14, 23 Nov 2021



Liesl Tesch MP
Member for Gosford

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Forum

Doctor retires after 40 years

In a very short time Peninsula residents will be celebrating another Christmas.

However I'm sure they will be saddened by the news that one of our dedicated doctors will be taking down his shingle in an effort to join the realms of the retired.

General practitioner Dr. Harvey Wai Shing will be leaving his practice in Oscar St, Umina, where he has practiced for approximately 40 years.

It is no doubt that his long hours, five days a week, driving daily from his northern suburbs home, for so long would ultimately take its toll.

It could not be denied that Dr Harvey has served his many

patients so well for so long.

His medical knowledge and compassionate care over the many years since he came to Umina has been second to none, and there are many who would certainly claim that they would not be alive today without his expertise and care.

The Wai Shing practice is scheduled to close this Christmas.

I am sure all of his patients will miss him and his wife Denise, but will also wish them both a happy and healthy retirement for many years to come.

SOURCE:
Email, 22 Nov 2021
Bill Balneaves, Umina

None of that 'leafy suburb' nonsense wanted here

Whenever I look at the Peninsula in satellite view on Google Maps I am stunned by how many trees there are left.

One can hardly see a single block without the odd smudge of green. There must be dozens of them.

Now I know the council are doing their best to eradicate this menace by way of their "scorched earth" planning policy, but the public aren't exactly helping.

Take the recently approved Development Application DA60350 (25 Warrah St), for instance.

Some residents had the temerity to complain that the large gum tree on this site is home to nesting rainbow lorikeets and other bird and animal species including possums.

Rainbow lorikeets indeed!

Do these people not realise the

danger that these large trees pose to low flying aircraft?

Of course the council responded to these petty complaints fully and adequately in their assessment report by stating: "The tree removal will destroy the rainbow lorikeets."

"Comment: There are two trees to be removed which is supported by council's Tree Assessment Officer." (Yes this is verbatim.)

Why the council should have to spend so much time and energy investigating, and explaining in detail, their reasons for such routine decisions is beyond me.

I'm sure that when Peninsula residents look at an aerial view of the Peninsula they only want to see tile, concrete and asphalt.

None of that "leafy suburb" nonsense here.

Fire up the chainsaws!

SOURCE:
Email, 26 Nov 2021
Frank Wiffen, Woy Woy

Finish the Rawson Rd level crossing project

I am saddened and upset to hear of the shocking accident at the deadly Rawson Rd level crossing in Woy Woy, on November 24.

Police reported that a car stopped on the railway tracks at the level crossing before a train clipped the car.

This death trap on the Peninsula is an appalling state of affairs.

It is dangerous for those of us who walk and drive over this level crossing on a frequent basis, for car passengers and pedestrians at the intersection of Rawson Rd and Railway St, and also for visitors to the area, and of course for the train drivers and guards and passengers on the trains that go through this level crossing.

It is 10 years now since the NSW Government made its commitment, in 2011, to replace the level crossing, and five years since the same Government reneged on its commitment to replace the Rawson Rd level crossing with a pedestrian underpass at the intersection of Rawson Rd and Railway Sts, a vehicle underpass at the base of

Bull's Hill and a widened vehicle underpass at Shoalhaven Dr.

I call on our State Member of Parliament, Ms Liesl Tesch, to work with the State Minister for Regional Transport and Roads, along with Central Coast Council to see this essential Project completed.

The pedestrian underpass has been completed.

This was achieved after years of consultation and planning.

Now, please finish the job and complete the next two stages of the project on which so much money, millions of dollars, have been spent: to complete the vehicle underpass at the base of Bull's Hill, and to widen the current vehicle underpass on Shoalhaven Dr.

That is the easiest and safest solution, instead of wasting many more years and many more dollars on consultation, planning and assessments.

The NSW Government should live up to its promise.

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

Come on, Council, supply and install the seat

Come on, Council.

For council to approve the installation of a seat to commemorate the life of a long-serving volunteer Mr Malcolm Waters at Dark Corner, Patonga, is a wonderful tribute to this very giving man.

But I read with dismay (Peninsula News 532) that the seat is to be purchased, installed and maintained by Mrs Waters.

I think council could supply the seat and have it installed.

I think Mrs Waters would maintain it without question.

Come on, council, do the right thing: supply and install the seat.

A couple of other seats wouldn't go astray around there either.

SOURCE:
Email, 19 Nov 2021
Carl Veugen, Umina

Blow the whistle to restore confidence

Blow the whistle on council:

Broken promises and unfulfilled undertakings. Delays, denials, dishonesty. Facilities, projects that benefit minority groups and/or favour small, special interest groups who are "in the know".

Meanwhile our infrastructure goes from insufficient to unsatisfactory and unacceptable. Pot-holed roads, blocked gutters and drains, or no gutters or drains or footpaths.

Council-government land unkempt with weeds and rubbish, services delayed and denied.

Unwanted, unnecessary and detrimental development, asset sales without adequate consultation and even against community wishes.

And all we do get is continuing

mistakes and mismanagement which are continually blamed on "the previous council", among other excuses.

A council which hides behind bureaucratic barriers and will not be open, transparent or honest with us.

A council that does not seem to understand that it is our money, resources, facilities, estate and assets that they are meant to be managing to meet our requirements.

The fundamental requirement is to benefit most of the people most of the time and to provide us with value for our money!

All this from too many privileged and protected council employees who remain unaccountable to the community - we the public - who

they are employed to serve.

And no longer can they blame interference from councillors.

Some will just not accept or admit they got it wrong before and are still getting it wrong now.

However, there are others who do know the story, who do want to get things right.

How about you get in touch with your local newspapers and community groups and "blow the whistle"?

Hold the guilty who are ripping us all off to account.

Let's work together to get some confidence back into the community.

SOURCE:
Email, 19 Nov 2021
Ian Weekley, Umina Beach

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Plan to move ambulance to Woy Woy

A new ambulance station has been announced plans for Woy Woy Hospital to replace the Ettalong ambulance station, as part of the NSW Government's Rural Ambulance Infrastructure Reconfiguration Program.

Central Coast Parliamentary Secretary Mr Adam Crouch said the new station would ensure local paramedics have the latest facilities to best deliver local emergency care needs.

"The new station will replace the existing Ettalong Ambulance Station.

"NSW Ambulance and Health Infrastructure worked to identify the location using best practice modelling software to determine the most suitable location for mobile emergency care in our region," Mr Crouch said.

The software was designed to identify the best location to respond to the greatest number of cases in the shortest amount of time.

The software determined that the current Ettalong station site was located outside of this area.

Mr Crouch said: "The new



station will feature internal parking for up to 10 emergency ambulance vehicles, administration and office areas, training and meeting room, external wash bay, external on-site staff parking, logistics and storage area and gym.

"I encourage local construction companies to participate in the tender process, which is due to commence early 2022."

Next steps include community engagement, design development and securing planning approval for the new station, said Mr Crouch.

The NSW Government's \$232 million Rural Ambulance Infrastructure Reconfiguration Program is the single largest investment in regional NSW

Ambulance's 126-year history, he said.

NSW Health Infrastructure is expected to commence the planning approval process for the new ambulance station in the coming weeks.

The new station is expected to be operational in early 2023.

The existing Ettalong ambulance station will remain operational until the new station at Woy Woy is complete.

The future purpose of the Ettalong site will be assessed at this time.

SOURCE:
Media release, 25 Nov 2021
Adam Crouch, Central Coast
Parliamentary Secretary



New ambulance station will undergo 'rigorous planning'

The new ambulance station proposed for Woy Woy will undergo rigorous planning by design consultants, according to a leaflet prepared by NSW Health Infrastructure.

This will "ensure it is built in the best location to meet future demand, includes the required facilities, and is designed with input from local paramedics to ensure it best supports their operational needs," it states.

"A landscape plan identifies

trees and landscaping to be retained or established, both of which assist with aesthetics of the building, streetscape and any acoustic impacts of the station.

"The identified placement of the building on the allotment is fundamental to the effective operations of the station and the high quality mobile emergency care that will be provided by NSW Ambulance paramedics operating from their new base."

SOURCE:
Leaflet, 23 Nov 2021
NSW Health Infrastructure

Upgrade Ettalong station, says Tesch

Ettalong Beach Ambulance Station should be upgraded, rather than moved to Woy Woy, according to Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch.

"The closure will add minutes to emergency ambulance wait-times in Ettalong Beach, Umina Beach, Pearl Beach and Patonga," she said.

"A minute in traffic for an ambulance could be the difference between life and death."

Ms Tesch said there were unanswered questions about what the plan meant for staffing of paramedics, traffic concerns on Ocean Beach Rd and travel-time differences from Woy Woy compared to Ettalong Beach.

She said she would pursue them in State Parliament.

Ms Tesch said staff at the Ettalong station were blindsided

by the relocation and only found out when community members received a letterboxed handout from NSW Health.

"It's completely unacceptable that our hard-working paramedics who were championed by this Government during the pandemic weren't told about this change," she said.

Labor candidate for Robertson Dr. Gordon Reid joined Ms Tesch in opposing the move, saying that "proximal ambulance stations" were essential to the community.

"In life-or-death circumstances, it is absolutely critical that emergency services are located at reasonable distances.

"With this decision to relocate Ettalong Beach Ambulance Station into Woy Woy Hospital, we will see paramedics having to navigate the busy Ocean Beach Rd corridor

and potentially adding minutes to a call-out."

SOURCE:
Media release, 24 Nov 2021
Liesl Tesch, Member for Gosford

Canteen operator

Southern and Ettalong United Football Club is seeking a canteen operator for 2022.

The opportunity requires Saturday and Sunday trading in a "new canteen now fully fitted out ensuring a fantastic working environment".

The club executive is calling for expressions of interest", closing December 31.

For more information, email secretary@seufc.com, or phone Kylie on 0433 117 280.

SOURCE:
Social media, 14 Nov 2021
SEUFC

Two coronavirus cases in November

Only two coronavirus cases have been recorded for the Peninsula this month.

The two cases were in the 2256 postcode area, recorded on Tuesday, November 16, and Wednesday, November 17.

The previous case in 2256 was recorded on October 22, and in 2257 was on October 31.

Figures on the NSW Covid data web page show no difference in vaccination rates for the 2256 postcode, but an increase for 2257.

A Peninsula News analysis of the figures shows the first dose rate for 2257 jumping from 94 per cent on November 13 to 97 per cent on November 27.

The fully vaccinated rate has increased marginally from 92 per cent to 93 per cent.

SOURCE:
Website, 27 Nov 2021
Covid data, NSW Government

Population	2256	2257
Eligible	13607	25002
> 50 years	7900	14000
< 50 years	5800	11000
Injections		
Total	25500	47500
> 50 years	14750	27250
< 50 years	10750	20250
Doses/person		
> 50 years	1.87	1.95
< 50 years	1.85	1.84
Percentages		
> 50 years		
One dose	94	99
Two doses	93	95
< 50 years		
One dose	93	94
Two doses	92	90
All ages		
One dose	94	97
Two doses	93	93

Art trail features 28 artisans

The Pearl Beach Art Trail will be held from 10am to 4pm on Saturday, December 11.

The trail features 28 artists and craftspeople in Pearl Beach who will open their studios for the day.

Works on show and for sale will include painting, handcrafts, sculpture, crochet, jewellery and pottery.

A map is available on the Pearl Beach Progress Association website, giving details of the artists and their locations.

Some participants will also open their galleries on Sunday, December 12.

For further information, contact Cecile Ferguson on 0412 141 721or Malcolm Davison on 0407 100 120.

One of the artists Ms Marijke Greenway

will also hold an open air exhibition at the Pearl Beach Arboretum over December 3-5 near The Cottage.

The works being exhibited were painted in the Arboretum "en plein air".

"I pulled my trolley with my easel and canvas until I came across a subject that appealed to me," she said.

"The arboretum is naturally messy with branches and leaves and palm fronds wherever they fall.

"That is the difference between an arboretum and a botanic garden. It is wild, totally natural, apart from small paths that give us access to enjoy this pleasure place."

SOURCE:
Website, 22 Nov 2021
Pearl Beach Artists

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Sport

Southern Spirit cricket results

Results of games played by Southern Spirit Cricket Club over the weekend of November 21-22 were:

First Grade: Southern Spirit 181 (LE Cork 70, S Higgins 37, LA Bull 28) def The Entrance 7/165cc (HS Jaenke 2/27)
T20: Southern Spirit 5/120cc (LM O'Farrell 52, LE Cork 29) def Terrigal 10/87 (R Watson 3/8, LE Cork 3/14, ES Jones 2/3).
Glenn Rowlands Shield: Narara v Southern Spirit.
Second Grade: The Entrance 6/84 (O Martyn 4/29) def Southern Spirit 83.
Fourth Grade: Southern Spirit drew Brisbane Water.

Male Youth League: Terrigal 0/0 v Southern Spirit 115 (SR Sharma 58).
Under-16: Lisarow 8/113cc (C Hubbard 2/6, H Tomlinson 2/10, JD Johnston 2/23) def by Southern Spirit 5/130cc (K Warner 37).
Under-14b: Southern Spirit 7/161cc (A Cattley 50*, L Papps 33) def Northern Power 151 (L Taylor 2/16).
Sixth Grade: Warnervale 152 (JA Wilson 2/21, M Channon 2/26) def by Southern Spirit 4/243cc (J Channon 104*, M Roberts 70, BJ Handley 38)
Seventh Grade: Wyong 9/138 BT Higgins 3/27 T Fry 2/23 N Willoughby 2/29 def Southern

Spirit 8/137cc (N Willoughby 51*)
Eighth Grade: Southern Spirit 5/139cc (A Zadavic 51*, S Collins 33) def Terrigal 7/138cc (AA Downey 4/16, S Markham 2/33).
Under-12b: Southern Spirit Purple 71 def by Terrigal Maroon 7/72 (J Golds 2/6).
Ninth Grade: Southern Spirit 6/161cc (C Allister 32*, AR Witten 27, R Sullivan 25) def by Lisarow 8/162 (MJ Henderson 2/9, C Hubbard 2/19, C Allister 2/24)
Womens 2nd Grade: Southern Spirit 1/76 (J Moody 25*) def Northern Power Orange 6/73cc (D Harris 2/11).

SOURCE: Website, 23 Nov 2021 Southern Spirit Cricket Club



Brisbane Water Bridge Club results

Results of games played by the Brisbane Water Bridge Club were:

In Upside Down Pairs, played on November 18, North-South results were:
1. Marcelle Goslin, Tracey Dillon 235.0 (54.40 per cent), 0.27 green points. 2. Felicity Fane, Helen White 232.0 (53.70), 0.19. 3. Ron Meaney, Edith Marshall 230.0 (53.24), 0.14. 4. Barry Foster, Geoffrey Maltby 228.0 (52.78), 0.09. 5. Hope Tomlinson, Suzanne Harrison 227.0 (52.55). 6. Martin Johnson, Robyn Hardy 226.0 (52.31). 7. Karen Ody, Vicki Halliday 202.0 (46.76). 8. Noel Crockett, Graham Woof 191.0 (44.21). 9. Robyn Scahill, Ian Newton 173.0 (40.05).
East-West results were:
1. Linda Brown, John Aldersley 267.0 (61.81), 0.27. 2. Ed Vaughan, Tom Tomlinson 245.0

(56.71), 0.19. 3. Jaan Oitmaa, Heather Brown 244.0 (56.48), 0.14. 4. Chris Hasemore, Alison Mackey 220.0 (50.93), 0.09. 5. Robin Vaughan, Dee Logan 214.0 (49.54). 6. Susan McCall, Chris Spikesman 208.0 (48.15). 7. Sylvia Foster, Beryl Lowry 199.0 (46.06). 7. Shirley Crockett, Fay Cole 199.0 (46.06). 9. Janette Kukura, Helen Cashman 148.0 (34.26).
In AGM Open Pairs played on November 22, North-South results were:
1. Christine Hadaway, Robin Vaughan 184.2 (61.40 per cent), 0.30 red points. 2. Marcelle Goslin, Ron Meaney 169.0 (56.33), 0.21. 3. Martin Johnson, David Snow 155.2 (51.73), 0.15. 4. Faith Ross, Carol Long 151.2 (50.40). 5. Alison Mackey, Helen White 126.2 (42.07). 6. Peter Hume, Elaine Hume 114.2 (38.07).
East-West results were:

1. Noel Crockett, Shirley Crockett 176.8 (58.93), 0.30. 2. Jaan Oitmaa, Sylvia Foster 172.8 (57.60), 0.21. 3. Jan Davis, Lorraine Lindsay 157.8 (52.60), 0.15. 4. Hope Tomlinson, Barry Foster 142.8 (47.60). 5. Susan McCall, Pamela Joseph 136.8 (45.60). 6. Julie Teague, Jorgen Boettiger 113.0 (37.67).
Results of AGM Under 70MP Pairs played on November 22 were:
1. John Erikson, Ed 57.5 (57.50 per cent), 0.15 red points. 2. Graham Woof, Carolynne Mucharsky 54.0 (54.00), 0.11. 3. Caroline Nichols, Connie Lewis 52.5 (52.50), 0.08. 4. Blair Glass, Ian Newton 50.5 (50.50). 5. Helve Beale, Roz Harvey 46.0 (46.00). 6. Linda Cunningham, Michael Cunningham 39.5 (39.50).
SOURCE: Website, 22 Nov 2021 Brisbane Water Bridge Club

New head coach in time for outrigger titles

Central Coast Outrigger Canoe Club has appointed a new head coach in time for the State Outrigging Titles on April 9 on the waters off Patonga.

The Central Coast club will host the event which will be open to all 29 clubs in the NSW Zone.
Races will be organised for six-person canoes, called OC6, over varying distances.
The new head coach is Jim Bowie who joined the club in 2019, after several years as a coach of the Adelaide Outriggers and Adelaide Sea Dragons, including preparing the Adelaide Subsonix Dragonboaters for national competitions.
He said he wanted to see the

club's current paddlers "grow and challenge themselves" as well as to introduce newer paddlers to the world of competitive outrigger canoe racing.
New members welcome.
"Come and give it a go," he said.
"Not only will you find outrigger a great way to keep fit, it is also an opportunity to learn about the traditions and customs of the sport, mainly originating from the Hawaiian culture."
For further information, email centralcoastocc@gmail.com or visit Central-Coast-Outriggers on Facebook.
SOURCE: Media release, 21 Nov 2021 Debbie Sunartha, Central Coast Outriggers Canoe Club

Education

Precautionary lockdown at Umina campus

Brisbane Water Secondary College Umina campus had a precautionary lockdown on Thursday, November 18, as a result of "an isolated incident on-site that was a potential safety risk".
"As part of our emergency plan, I made the decision to implement a precautionary lockdown," said campus principal Ms Kerrie O'Heir.

"This meant that students and staff remained in their timetabled rooms and learning spaces.
"Police were notified and attended quickly and we were given the all clear to end the lockdown.
"Students and staff assembled and were informed of the fact that the lockdown was not a drill but a safety response to a potential risk."
Ms O'Heir said: "I want to

commend our students and staff for their understanding and compliance in this situation.
"They were phenomenal.
"Our regular drills around emergency responses ensured today's incident was quickly resolved."
SOURCE: Social media, 18 Nov 2021 Kerrie O'Heir, BWSC Umina

School collects 17 bags for charity

Woy Woy South Public School has collected 17 bags of toiletries including shampoo, conditioner, toothbrush, soap and personal hygiene products as part of the "It's in the Bag" charity event organised by Share the Dignity Charity.
Principal Mr Matt Barr said the school collected bags for Share The Dignity, a charity that helped women experiencing homelessness or fleeing domestic violence.
He suggested students fill bags with toiletries "and maybe even a little note or drawing" to bring a smile to someone doing it tough at Christmas.
"The school is very proud of its achievement so far for this



important initiative that helps improve the lives of homeless girls and women who menstruate."
SOURCE: Social Media, 18 Nov 2021 Matt Barr, Woy Woy South Public School

Permission needed for swimming carnival

Ettalong Public School will hold its swimming carnival at the start of next year.
The school has sent information and permission notes for the carnival to parents.
"As this will take place at the very start of the 2022 school year, notes have gone home,"

said relieving principal Ms Jodie Campbell.
"Only competent swimmers, who can confidently and independently swim 50 metres, who sign up to participate in events will be attending the carnival."
Children eight and older can sign up for events.

"This includes current Year 1 students who will be turning eight in 2022.
"If you're able to assist on the day with time keeping, please complete and return the note."
SOURCE: Social media, 23 Nov 2021 Jodie Campbell, Ettalong Public School