



Car fire

Umina firefighters put out a car fire (pictured) on the Peninsula on January 24. Firefighters from the Umina station put out another car fire at Blackwell Point on February 4.

SOURCE: Social media, 25 Jan 2022
Station 340 Umina, Fire and Rescue NSW

Banner policy move follows Australia Day request

Central Coast Council will develop a “banner policy” after complaints that Australian flag banners were not displayed in West St, Umina, on Australia Day, according to Member for Robertson Ms Lucy Wicks

“I have been in touch with Central Coast Council Administrator Mr Rik Hart as to why Australian flag banners were not being displayed along the main street in Umina Beach this Australia Day, as per the request from the Peninsula Business Chamber.

“The Administrator has confirmed that the Australian flag will be displayed at all official ceremonies.

“He has also indicated to me that, moving forward, Central Coast Council will develop a banner policy.

“I would urge Council to incorporate the official use of the Australian flag and the Aboriginal Flag on occasions such as Australia Day.

“Flying the Australian flag celebrates our rich national history and gives us all the opportunity to take a moment to reflect on what it

represents.

“I believe the Australian flag should be flown across our region, on our national days such as Australia Day and Anzac Day.

“I also want to acknowledge the important announcement that, from today, Australians can freely display and use the Aboriginal Flag to celebrate indigenous culture, following the Government securing copyright of the flag.

“These flags belong to everyone and deserve to be flown with pride.”

SOURCE:
Social media, 25 Jan 2022
Lucy Wicks, Member for Robertson

Council defends its use of the Australian flag

Central Coast Council has defended its use of the Australian flag, despite the fact it did not display banners featuring the flag for Australia Day in West St, Umina.

However, council general manager Mr David Farmer has defended the move saying: “Council has not stated that it will not be flying the Australian Flag on Australia Day.

“The banners that line West St in Umina commemorate 100 years of Ocean Beach Surf Club; a significant milestone that acknowledges Ocean Beach Surf Club’s contributions to the community for the last century.”

He said Council did fly the Australian Flag on Australia Day, and “proudly displays the Australian Flag at the Wyong administration building year-round, alongside the Australian Aboriginal Flag, Torres Strait Islander Flag, New South Wales State Flag and the Central Coast Council Flag.

“Council has an annual program of installing banners in our town centres,” Mr Farmer said. “These banners comprise of various designs which acknowledge some significant national occasions, including Anzac Day and Naidoc Week;

“They acknowledge and support significant local occasions and events, including Ocean Beach Surf Club Centenary;

“They support local businesses, including Council’s Buy Local campaign;

“They also celebrate our towns’ unique identities using bright colours and the town’s name.

“Council recognises the historical significance of Australia Day, and delivers annual, inclusive events that invite the whole community to come together.

“Unfortunately, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, Council’s 2022 Australia Day events at The Entrance foreshore and Woy Woy foreshore were cancelled due to public safety concerns.”

SOURCE:
Media release, 25 Jan 2022
David Farmer, Central Coast Council

Residents to discuss planning strategies

Central Coast Council’s draft housing strategy and the draft Regional Plan will be discussed at a meeting of residents at Club Umina on Tuesday next week, February 15, at 6pm.

Organised by the Peninsula Residents Association, the meeting will include speakers from the Central Coast Community Better Planning Group and Central Coast Friends of Democracy and will allow residents to share their views with each other and the association.

With a topic of “Woy Woy Peninsula: Heat Island or Green Townships?”, the meeting will review two draft planning documents currently open for the comment: the draft Local Housing Strategy to 2036 and the Central Coast Regional Plan 2041.

Association secretary Mr

Julian Bowker said the meeting would encourage local community members to ask: “What do we, residents of the Peninsula, want for our future?

“How do we want to live?

“What can we do to keep our Peninsula a liveable, sustainable, social, and an environmentally-friendly place?”

Mr Bowker said the meeting would be held in line with Covid-safe practices, and would be a free ticketed event.

Tickets could be booked through the residents’ association website at <https://www.peninsularesidents.org.au>.

“Join us to have your say and find out more. “You are welcome to contact us with your thoughts if you cannot attend.”

SOURCE:
Media release, 1 Feb 2022
Julian Bowker, Peninsula Residents’ Association.

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Planning our future

In the printed issue of PeninsulaNews is extensive coverage of Central Coast Council’s housing strategy discussion paper, which together with the draft Regional Plan is currently open for public comment.

These planning documents are likely to shape the future of the Peninsula and could change its nature.

The Peninsula Residents Association is holding a meeting on Tuesday next week which gives the community the opportunity to find out more and for residents to share their wishes for the Peninsula’s future.

This issue of Peninsula News EXTRA continues the coverage on page 4, with an extract from the report, stating “bonus” heights in town centres “may not have the desired outcome”.

Mark Snell, 6 Feb 2022



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Next issue: Monday, February 21

NEWS: 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.

Sandstone block arrives for Anderson Park

The Rotary Club of Woy Woy's sandstone block arrived at Anderson Memorial Park in Woy Woy on Friday, February 11.

It has been placed in position, but needs to be rolled off the pallet and onto its base.

The Rotary Wheel etching and original plaque are currently on the top and, once rolled, be on the front.

When this is done, the club will arrange a date for the dedication ceremony, said club president Ms Julie Jones.

SOURCE:
Newsletter, 13 Feb 2022
Julie Jones, Rotary Woy Woy



Mingaletta supported playgroup

A new supported playgroup has started at Mingaletta in Sydney Ave, Umina.

Described as a series of welcoming friendly and relaxed playgroups for families with children aged 0-6 years, it will run from 9:30am to 11am during the school term only.

Anyone interested should contact 4340 1111 for details from Coastwide Child and Family Services.

SOURCE:
Social media, 31 Jan 2022
Mingaletta ATSC

Parent information

Woy Woy South Public School will hold parent information evenings on Monday to Thursday this week, February 14, 15, 16 and 17.

Principal Mr Matt Barr said there were new staff commencing this year.

These included assistant principal Ms Jacqui Clayton who would be class teacher for 5/6C, Ms Jessica Ogden who would be class teacher for 2O, Ms Natalie Dwyer who would be RFF class teacher and student learning support officer Mr Joseph Jesus.

SOURCE:
Newsletter, 4 Feb 2022
Matt Barr, Woy Woy South Public School

Church service online

The worship services of the local Uniting Church can now be seen on its website.

"Last Sunday's worship service can now be seen on the church website," according to a social media post by the Broken Bay Parish.

It can be found at <https://www.brokenbayunitingchurch.com/a-message>

SOURCE:
Social media, 17 Jan 2022
Broken Bay Parish, Uniting Church In Australia

Rain over three days nears January total

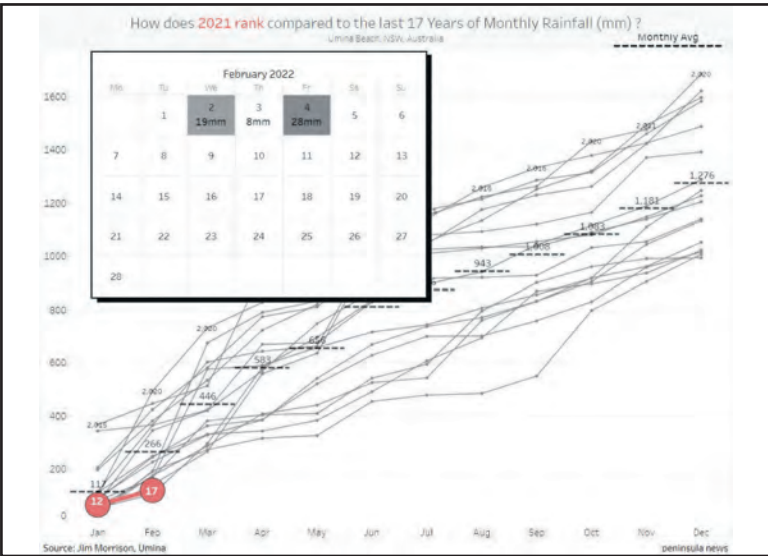
The Peninsula has recorded almost as much rain in the first four days of February as in the whole of January.

A total of 55mm fell in the three days until Friday, February 4, after a total of 64.8mm for January, according to figures supplied by Mr Jim Morrison of Umina.

Rainfall of 28.4mm was recorded on Friday morning and 18.6mm on Wednesday.

The January total was just over half the January average of 120mm.

SOURCE:
Spreadsheet, 4 Feb 2022
Jim Morrison, Umina



TIDE TIMES and Heights	Sat, Feb 12	Tue, Feb 15	Fri, Feb 18	Mon, Feb 21	Thu, Feb 24
	0635 0.96	0224 0.18	00430 0.11	0033 0.91	0315 1.01
	1350 0.22	0845 1.10	1040 1.14	0647 0.18	1009 0.26
AT ETTALONG	Sun, Feb 13	Wed, Feb 16	Sat, Feb 19	Tue, Feb 22	Fri, Feb 25
	0047 0.23	0307 0.14	0514 0.12	0120 0.94	0424 1.06
	0723 1.00	0924 1.13	1119 1.11	0744 0.22	1132 0.24
	Mon, Feb 14	Thu, Feb 17	Sun, Feb 20	Wed, Feb 23	Sat, Feb 26
	0138 0.21	0348 0.12	0559 0.14	0213 0.98	0535 1.11
	0805 1.05	1001 1.15	1200 1.04	0850 0.25	1248 0.19
	Sun, Feb 13	Wed, Feb 16	Sat, Feb 19	Tue, Feb 22	Fri, Feb 25
	1512 0.15	1657 0.09	1838 0.11	1433 0.78	1828 0.72
	2057 0.69	2236 0.81		2037 0.22	2358 0.25



Ocean Beach Surf Life Saving Club members Louise and Peter Lambeth visited Pearl Beach on Australia Day to spread a surf safety message. "Education is one of the top drowning prevention strategies," said Ms Lambeth. **SOURCE: Social media, 26 Jan 2022 Ocean Beach Surf Life Saving Club**

Council to pursue special rates variation application

Central Coast Council will formally apply to the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal to maintain rates at their current levels for additional seven years, 10 years in total to 2031.

Administrator Mr Rik Hart said the "temporary Special Variation of 15 per cent determined by IPART in May 2021 is already included in the rates which have been applied for the 2021-22 financial year".

"Maintaining the rates at current levels means Council can maintain services, continue productivity improvements and meet debt repayments," Mr Hart said.

"It is clear from consulting with residents and ratepayers that they want services maintained, and in many instances expect Council to invest more in services," Mr Hart said.

Mr Hart said: "Extensive community consultation about the proposal has been undertaken since the end of September.

"Over the last four months ratepayers and residents have been engaged via stakeholder meetings, direct submissions, a Community Reference Group and surveys exploring usage and satisfaction in services.

"We had no choice but to place Council's key strategic documents

on public exhibition over the Christmas and New Year holiday period, due to the timeframes and required actions that from part of the submission process," Mr Hart said.

"The community has had multiple opportunities to comment over the past 12 months and will have further opportunity to have their say through the IPART consultation process that follows Council's submission, as well these important strategic documents will be re-exhibited in April to allow for further comment," Mr Hart said.

SOURCE: Central Coast Council agenda, 3 Feb 2022

Council's public forums not to be covered by Code

Public forums will no longer be covered by Central Coast Council's Code of Meeting Practice according to a draft that is open for comment until Monday, February 21.

Although standard practice, the code did not previously compel the council to hold public forums.

A note on the council website stated: "The Public Forum is intended to continue, but in a forum immediately prior to the Council meeting.

"The Public Forum will be specified by a separate policy that will be considered at the same time as Council considers the Amended Code of Meeting Practice."

A draft of the Public Forum Policy has not been released on the council website.

All reference to public forums is deleted from the proposed Code of Meeting Practice including a whole section headed Public Forums, containing 24 points.

Other changes made to the draft were made "to incorporate the changes made to the Model Code of Meeting Practice for Local Councils in NSW by the NSW Office of Local Government," according to the website.

One of these changes was to

include a point stating: "Business papers for all Ordinary and Extraordinary Meetings of the Council and Committees of the Council must contain a statement reminding Councillors of their oath or affirmation of office made under section 233A of the Act and their obligations under the Council's Code of Conduct to disclose and appropriately manage conflicts of interest."

The draft Code also changes Council meetings dates so they would be conducted monthly on the fourth Tuesday of the month.

The draft also includes an additional 15 points, formulated by council staff, in relation to meetings held by audio-visual link.

The draft code was advertised over the Christmas break: "The community were invited to have their say on the Amended Code of Meeting Practice between December 22 and February 7."

However, the website stated: "Council will receive a further report for consideration of any direct submissions received in respect of the Code up until February 21."

SOURCE: Website, 24 Dec 2021 YourVoiceOurCoast, Central Coast Council

Woy Woy man on drink charges after falling overboard

A Woy Woy man has been charged with operating a vessel under the influence of alcohol after falling overboard and being rescued by police.

The man was in an aluminium runabout in Brisbane Water off Koolewong, when he reportedly fell overboard while on a video call with family at about 5pm on Wednesday, February 2.

Emergency services were notified and officers from Brisbane Water Police Area Command responded.

With the assistance of a member of the public, police boarded his vessel and "conducted a large water search with the assistance of the Marine Area

Command".

The 26-year-old man was "located adrift" in water off Point Clare.

He was rescued and subjected to a breath test, returning a positive result.

The man was arrested and taken to Woy Woy Police Station, where a breath analysis allegedly returned a reading of 0.168.

He was issued a court attendance notice for operating a vessel with a high range PCA and is due to appear at Gosford Local Court on April 7.

SOURCE: Media release, 3 Feb 2022 Media unit, NSW Police

The Bays group to hold annual meeting

The Bays Community Group will hold its annual meeting the Community Hall at 19 Woy Woy Bay Road at 7pm on Wednesday, February 16.

"All committee members will stand down and nominations will be sought for the new committee," said president Ms Gwynneth Weir.

"Eight members of our current committee have indicated that they will be standing again which is great news.

"However, four members have said that they will not be standing

again.

"New blood is so important to the success of most committees so, whether you have been living in The Bays for many years or just a short time, please consider giving back to our beautiful Bays in this way and put yourself forward for the committee.

"As many of you already know, I will not be standing for the new committee.

"I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as president and it has been a real privilege to contribute to our

very special community in this way.

"I have been incredibly fortunate to have been supported by a committee full of enthusiasm and new ideas and I am very grateful to each and every one of them for all their contributions and hard work.

"But now it's time to allow someone else with new ideas to take the lead which, I am sure, will be done with great gusto," said Ms Weir.

SOURCE: Newsletter, 2 Feb 2022 Gwynneth Weir, The Bays Community Group



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Bonus height provisions ‘may not have desired outcome’

Bonus provisions of the Central Coast’s draft planning scheme may not achieve their desired outcome, according to a report accompanying the council’s Housing Strategy Discussion Paper.

The Existing Conditions Report, prepared by Hill PDA Consulting, says the provisions allow greater height and floor space in town centres, based on site area and frontage.

“Bonus provisions can be useful for encouraging consolidation of sites or specific planning outcomes.”

The report said that the draft

town centre bonuses had “the result of reducing the mapped height of building by 2.75 metres on all smaller sites and increasing it on very large sites (two storeys more than smaller sites)”.

Under the provisions, buildings in Woy Woy could be 19.75 metres high, in Ettalong 17 metres and in Umina 14.25 metres, when the site is greater than 1000 square metres and the frontage greater than 20 metres, according to the report.

The floor space ratio in Woy Woy could be 2.3:1 where the site is greater than 1500 square metres and the frontage greater than 20 metres.

The floor space ratio in Ettalong

could be 2:1 and in Umina 1.8:1, where the site area was greater than 1000 square metres and the frontage greater than 20 metres.

The report also refers to bonuses for residential flats and multi-dwelling housing having floor space ratio bonuses in “LGA South” Area 1 and Area 2, but does not define these areas.

“Overly complicated bonus provisions have a risk of reflecting very specific built form outcomes that may become out of date over time, or otherwise stifle innovation,” the report stated.

“The margins may be too fine to result in the desired outcome consistently.”

“These clauses are positive in that aim to encourage site consolidations by offering benefits for built form outcomes that can be achieved on larger sites.

“There is a potential that these types of provisions, if not executed well, may unnecessarily complicate the planning rules for a site without achieving significant benefits.

“A more straightforward approach could be beneficial, such as ... a scaling bonus on floor space ratio based on site area.

“This approach acknowledges that site consolidation is a positive outcome, with scaling bonuses anchoring final built form controls to the local context.

“A review ... may reveal that a similar approach would be suitable in other areas.

“This could have benefits in building the expertise of developers, land owners and builders when consolidating sites.

“It could also help define best practice outcomes in different local contexts for Council’s planners, encouraging those best practices to be reflected in the LEP and the assessment process.”

SOURCE:
Website, 1 Feb 2022
Draft Housing Strategy,
Central Coast Council

Pearl Beach secondary dwelling set back from lagoon

Central Coast Council has received a development application for the erection of new secondary dwelling, deck and swimming pool with associated barrier fencing at 9 Beryl Boulevard, Pearl Beach.

The application prepared by BuildCert Planning states: “The secondary dwelling is proposed with a simple yet functional layout including one bedroom, a combined kitchen and living area and bathroom.

“Access will be provided from the east side of the building, through bifold doors.

“The deck is proposed attached to the east elevation of the building, including swimming pool and barrier fence.”

Setbacks listed for the secondary dwelling are west side boundary 1.1m, east side boundary 10.36m, south rear boundary 11m and existing dwelling (north) 3.0m.

Swimming pool and deck setbacks, measured from the water edge, are east side boundary 3.26m, south rear boundary 13m and existing dwelling (north) 8.2m.

“In consideration of the sloping nature of the site,

earthworks are considered minor with excavation is limited to concrete pads for piers and for the installation of the swimming pool.

“Despite being proposed upon the deck, a maximum 600mm cut is required to facilitate the proposal on the site.”

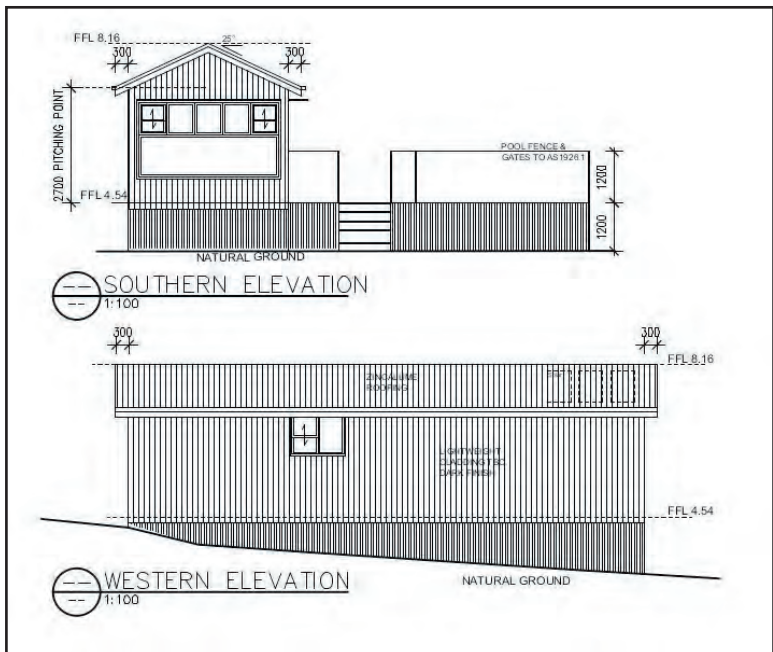
“Although unlikely to be visible from outside of the site, the secondary dwelling will present an exterior that is sympathetic to the style of the existing dwelling, yet discernible as a new contemporary building form on site.

“External cladding and a gabled roof will materialise the aesthetic.”

The application states: “The proposal will be located to the rear of the existing dwelling at the southern portion of the site, and plans do not indicate removal of vegetation is required.”

No closing date is given on the Council website for submissions.

SOURCE:
DA Tracker, 6 Feb 2022
DA63962, Central Coast Council



Dual occupancy open for comment without plans

Central Coast Council has classified an application to build a dual occupancy at 57 Ridge St, Ettalong Beach with a status of public advertising, open for public comment.

However, while a number of documents are available through the council’s planning portal, the council has not displayed the “public notification plans”.

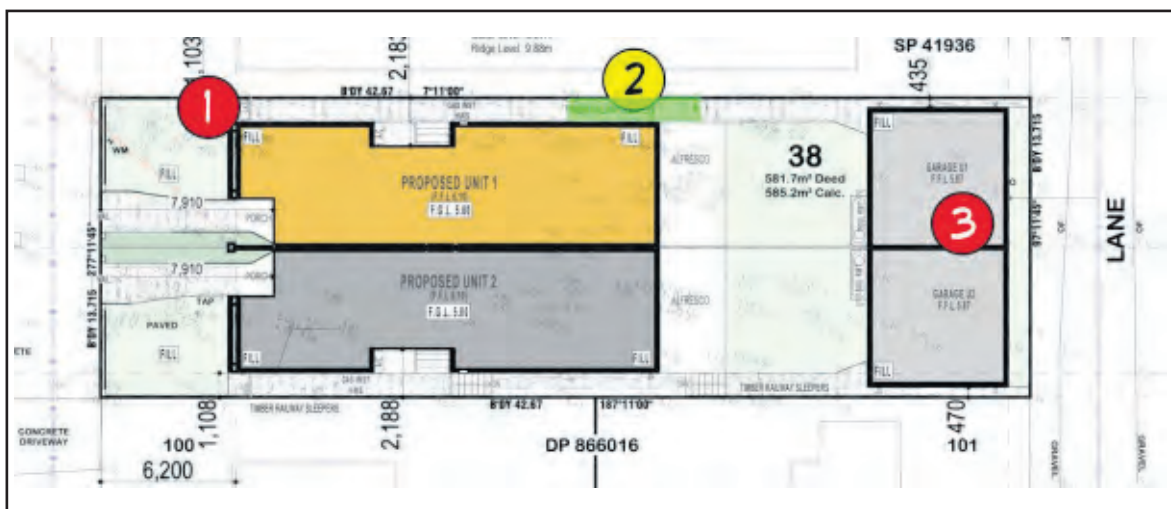
The basic layout can be gleaned from the arborist report prepared by Russel Kingdom for Red Apple Design.

This also shows two trees for removal, a frangipani and a rough-barked apple (angophora floribunda) with one tree, a mango on a neighbouring site, being retained.

The application prepared by Red Apple design says an existing timber-frame, single-storey dwelling would be demolished for the development.

“Existing improvements on the site have no significant architectural merit or historical significance and are currently in a level of disrepair,” it states.

“The proposed development



features two double-storey units articulated in a mix of single and double storey design.

“The envelope is well modulated and the facade articulated to eliminate long runs of blank wall.

“No large gable ends are utilized.

“Eave depths are 450mm throughout to provide shadow casts and further contrast to the facade.

“Units 1 and 2 are provided with north facing courtyard areas at ground level, featuring a mix of hard and soft finishes to enhance

their livability.

“These courtyards are each accessible and mated to their corresponding living areas.”

“To the street frontage, mixed material screen fencing is set back behind semi transparent plantings and articulated to avoid long, flat runs. Waste bin storage is screened from the street and entry.”

The proposal does not comply to building height requirements.

The application states: “The maximum building height proposed is 8.815.”

The site in question is flood prone.

“While the minimum floor level indicated in the report is 5.51m AHD, the storm water report prepared by Halcrows Engineers, has specified a minimum floor level of 6.1m AHD when considering the neighbours siting and the natural topography of the land.

“The result of this has in effect raised the building height to beyond the maximum allowance by .315m.”

Another non-compliance is with the building envelope.

The application states: “The proposal seeks variation for east and west side boundaries.

“This encroachment has been limited and mitigated by reduced side setbacks north and south of the dwellings.”

It is argued that strict compliance is unnecessary.”

The application does not state that the proposal fails to comply with private open space provisions, but states: “The private open spaces provided are designed with consideration to the ultimate liveability of the dwellings.

“Each private open space allocated features a hardstand terrace sized to provide outdoor functions and is covered with a shade filtering pergola.

“All residual areas are to be available for soft landscaping by way of lawn and deep soil planting in accordance with the landscape principal plan.

“It is demonstrated these solutions achieve amenity equal to or exceeding the cause of the numerical standard.”

SOURCE:
DA Tracker, 6 Feb 2022
DA63702, Central Coast Council

‘Opera’ tickets still available

Tickets are still available for Opera in the Arboretum, according to Woy Woy Rotary’s event convenor Mr Wayne Jennings.

The event will be held from 3pm on Saturday, March 12, at the Crommelin Native Arboretum in Pearl Beach.

Singers will include Tenor Mr Rosario La Spina, soprano Ms Jane Ede, baritone Mr Jose Carbo and soprano Ms Clarissa Spata performing arias and duets from La Boheme (Puccini), Marriage of Figaro (Mozart), Pagliacci (Leoncavallo), along with much loved favourites such as Un bel

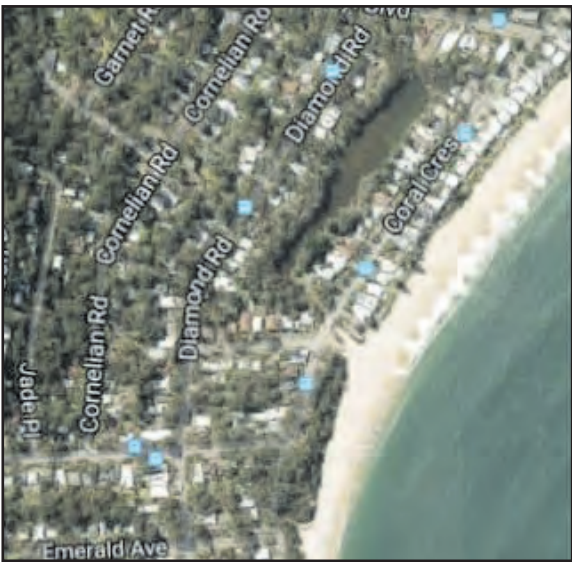
di, The Pearl Fishers Duet and Libiamo.

Opera in the Arboretum is the major fund raiser for the Rotary Club of Woy Woy and “a chance to promote Rotary to the community”, said club president Ms Julie Jones..

“Funds raised will allow our club to donate to various local organisations.”

Ticket prices range from \$40 for high school students to \$85 for adults. Entry to the arboretum will be from Opal Close, Pearl Beach.

SOURCE:
Newsletter, 11 Jan 2022
Julie Jones, Rotary Woy Woy



‘Look around Pearl Beach,’ GUST urges

The Grow Urban Shade Trees group has urged Peninsula residents to look around Pearl Beach to see the benefits of tree canopy.

“The bountiful dappled shade enjoyed at Pearl Beach is not cast by shrubs or small trees but by taller trees, the heavy-lifters lining the streets and gardens,” said group member Ms Jen Wilder.

“The real heroes at Pearl Beach are the tall and abundant angophora floribunda.

“Angophora costata, coastal banksia, paperbark and southern mahogany are there helping too, amongst others, but its the large quantity and size of the angophora floribunda that add the most shade

and value to this highly desirable location.

“There is even a plaque labelling one spectacular specimen on Diamond Road.

“The collective effect of so many taller trees speaks for itself.

“Is it any wonder why experts call for at least 40 per cent urban canopy cover?

“Take a walk around Pearl Beach or look at realestate.com if you need proof of the value of canopy,” she said.

“Here at GUST, we are not scientists but we do listen and learn from those who understand the science.

“We have learned that:

“Without trees, surface runoff

and soil evaporation are high.

“With trees, water is collected and stored. This stored water is then released into the atmosphere from the leaves.

“Through this transpiration, the surrounding air is cooled as water changes from liquid to a vapour resulting in a cooling effect.

“Standing under a tree on a hot day cools us.

“If we had hundreds of trees along our streets, our whole suburb would be cooler in summer.

“Let’s make the most of this rain and plant a tree.”

Pictured, above left, Pearl Beach and, above right, Umina.

SOURCE:
Social media, 2 Jan 2022
Jen Wilder, GUST

Liesl Tesch reveals her musical taste

Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch has revealed her taste in music in a social media post.

She listed her votes for ABC radio Triple J’s Hottest 100.

They include Believe Anything by Holy Holy, Move by Flight Facilities featuring Drama, Stay by The Kid Laroï and Justin Bieber, Apple Crumble by Lime Cordiale and Idris Elba, Waiting for Nothing by Hayden James featuring Yaeger, Elephant by The Wiggles

(Triple J Like a Version), Takeover by Ngaiire, Love Tonight by Shouse (David Guetta remix), RU High by The Knocks featuring Mallrat and Josh by Peach PRC.

Ms Tesch said: “It’s been a tough year for local artists so remember to support them.”

The Triple J Hottest 100 was won by The Wiggles’ cover of Lame Impala’s song Elephant.

SOURCE:
Social media, 16 Jan 2022
Liesl Tesch, Member for Gosford



Liesl Tesch MP

Member for Gosford

How can I help?



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Health

Hospital prepares for expansion of services

Brisbane Waters Private Hospital has launched a recruitment drive for staff in preparation for expansion.

The recruitment drive came as the hospital prepared for a resumption elective surgery from February 7 and with its plans underway for a \$9m development to expand its mental health services.

The hospital is seeking to expand, and reinforce its team of more than 200 staff, with a diversity of roles available, according to chief executive Ms Debbra Ritter.

"We know there are skilled, highly trained clinical and non-clinical professionals on the Central Coast and we are committed to retaining and attracting new talent to the area," she said.

"Every staff member has a role to play in contributing to each step

of the patient journey which is why we are looking for empathetic, diverse and compassionate members of the community to join our team.

"By providing employment opportunities locally, we are striving to keep our talented and skilled community here on the Peninsula, providing care for patients at every age.

"Whether you are a registered nurse, an endorsed enrolled nurse, or an occupational therapist, a psychiatrist, a chef, an administration or a catering-cleaning professional, we have a range of career opportunities available at Brisbane Waters Private Hospital."

SOURCE:
Website, 3 Feb 2022
Debbra Ritter, Brisbane Waters Private Hospital

Dentists offered implant program locally

Dental clinicians can now build on their implant skills locally.

Brisbane Waters Private Hospital claims to be the first to host a non-university live-patient program within an Australian hospital setting.

Central Coast dental surgeon Dr Ned Restom of Australasian Implant Academy is leading the program alongside Dr David Bassal and Dr Dean Licenblat.

According to Dr Restom, the training means that clinicians don't need to travel overseas to attend foreign institutions in order to get the best training and approach to implant surgery.

"The participants benefit from conducting their training on live patients in the most safe, sterile and supportive environment possible.

"They have access to a full band of clinical experts such

as registered anaesthetists, specialists, surgical nurses and other surgical staff."

With approval from the Australian Dental Association and accredited through Academy of General Dentistry, the courses are also endorsed by the International Congress of Oral Implantologists.

SOURCE:
Website, 25 Jan 2022
Debbra Ritter, Brisbane Waters Private Hospital

Rotary appeal takes Tonga donations

Rotary has set up a Tonga Appeal for donations to support the people of Tonga affected by the volcanic eruption and ensuing tsunami, according to Woy Woy Rotary president Ms Julie Jones.

She said a relief fund had been established by Rotary Australia World Community Service to provide funds for humanitarian programs to assist the people in

Tonga recover from the volcano and tsunami disaster.

It was accepting public donations.

"The effects of the volcano and tsunami on January 15 will be far-reaching, impacting the Tongan community for months, possibly years to come.

"Communication remains problematic with international and inter-island call still not possible due to the damage to the undersea cable.

"Rotary Australia World Community Service will be working with Rotary New Zealand and the Rotary Club of Nuku'alofa in Tonga in providing aid and assistance to the affected communities' and restoring their livelihoods."

Rotary Australia is seeking financial assistance from Rotary clubs, the public and private sector.

Donations to the relief Fund are tax deductible.

SOURCE:
Newsletter, 5 Jan 2022
Julie Jones, Rotary Woy Woy

Forum

Nature's forces give a glimpse of the future

This week, nature's forces have combined to give a glimpse into the future.

Tide and a modest breeze have joined forces to spray the utility path that serves pedestrians and cyclists at Tascott.

While the council focuses on supporting more development, nature's forces continue without any human intervention.

This is an inevitable traffic risk in progress, destined for action, such as signs and warning lights in the future, leading to closure of Brisbane Water Dr.

No amount of development can change the inevitable, but only add to the infrastructure problem.

Will this flooding and inundation problem be rated as a priority by the Council's senior staff, and will

it be another case of too little too late?

The thousands of motorists that daily use Brisbane Water Dr should familiarise themselves with the changing conditions for their convenience and safety.

I recommended to Gosford City Council years ago that a climate change section be established at or above director level with the power to overrule directors.

This action if adopted is still years away for the bureauacrats at Central Coast Council.

There needs to be an audit of the Council's staff to determine if the staff have the qualifications to carry out their duties.

Change is certain. Action is not.

SOURCE:
Letter, 1 Feb 2022
Norm Harris, Umina

Fast train: Keep election promises within cooe of reality

I don't think we need to get too excited about Labor's announcement of a fast train between Sydney, Central Coast and Newcastle ("No mention of Woy Woy in Labor fast rail announcement", PN 535).

Announcements of a fast train always come thick and fast in election lead-ups, but these engineering masterpieces have yet to show up in the real world where, if anything, trains are slower than ever.

Nobody is going to build a fast train between Newcastle and Sydney, because the engineering problems are enormous, the costs

would be astronomical and the low level of patronage would require fares so expensive that nobody could afford them.

Surely, even the most gullible voter must realize by now that these promises are completely meaningless, particularly when associated with a notional allocation of a derisory \$500 million for a project that would run into the multi-billions.

A fast train isn't something you can build a piece at a time: it either exists or it doesn't.

You either commit to it and budget for it or you don't.

On the flimsiest possible analysis, somebody has decided

that this ephemeral train will only stop at Ourimbah in Central Coast, so it is hardly surprising that Woy Woy is not mentioned in the Labor announcement.

Of course, if anyone can show me an affordable fast-train alignment that connects Newcastle to Sydney via Ourimbah, I'll make sure he gets the engineer-of-the-year award (make that engineer-of-the-decade).

Let us recall, also, that the State Government has already closed the old line between Hamilton and Newcastle, so that Newcastle no longer has any train connection at all: where will a fast train go to terminate at Newcastle?

Statements that a fast train would "include stops in the Central Coast ... (with) Gosford and Wyong ... obvious possibilities" verge on the moronic.

The engineering requirements of a fast train are such that stations so closely spaced are impossible: the absolute minimum distance between stations is 50 km., and this is far from optimal, as every start-stop movement detracts from the efficiency of the system.

Dr. Reid's magic train that is going to achieve speeds "over 250 kph" between Gosford and Wyong only exists in comic books: let us try to keep election promises somewhere within cooe of reality.

SOURCE:
Email, 25 Jan 2022
Bruce Hyland, Woy Woy

Public Notices

Car Boot Sale

Woy Woy Peninsula Lions Club

Feb 27

7am to 1pm

Great variety of stalls - BBQ, Tea & Coffee.

Vendors Welcome - \$20 per car

Now at Dunbar Road Car Park

NB stall sites not open until 6.00am

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For a fun day of bowls

Cash prizes, trophies, tipping, competitions, refreshments, BBQ

All at

Woy Woy Bowling Club

North Burge Rd, WOY WOY

Contact Patrick 0411 085 633



Bridge club holds red point events

Brisbane Water Bridge Club attracted 13 pairs to contest its Australia Day Pairs competition, the first red point event of the year.

Numbers were down on the record achieved in 2020 when 80 players attended.

Christine Hadaway and Jackie Wilson (pictured above) handled the play best, scoring a comfortable two per cent win.

Wednesday morning regulars Carol Anderson and Edith Marshall finished an impressive second, edging out Martin Johnson and Chris Hasemore by a small margin.

There were not enough numbers to run a novice section.

Summer Pairs competition was played on January 29 with 14 pairs.

East-West players Richard Carter and Lorraine Lindsay (pictured below) were on fire, winning by an incredible eight per cent.

The battle for North-South was a much closer affair.

Saturday stalwarts Sylvia Foster and Jaan Oitmaa squeezed out a win by a single percentage point.

To make the day interesting there were a couple of slams available and a few hands with opposing long suits that made bidding, at times, very competitive.

The club's next red point event is Valentine's Day Pairs.

Results of the Australia Day Pairs competition played on January 26 were:

1 Christine Hadaway - Jacqueline Wilson 164.3 (60.83 per cent), 0.70 red points. 2 Carol Anderson - Edith Marshall 159.0

(58.89) 0.49. 3 Martin Johnson - Chris Hasemore 156.0 (57.78) 0.35. 4 David Bowerman - Dasha Brandt 151.9 (56.25) 0.23. 5 Hope Tomlinson - Barry Foster 150.8 (55.83) 0.18. 6 Ed Vaughan - Robin Vaughan 147.4 (54.58) 0.14. 7 John Aldersley - Beryl Lowry 141.8 (52.50). 8 Helen Cashman - Hilary Owen 140.6 (52.08). 9 Bobbie Lyons - Julie Teague 126.0 (46.67). 10 David Adams - Jorgen Boettiger 118.0 (43.70). 11 Denyse Stephens - Fay Cole 115.0 (42.59). 12 Tony Langmead - Peter Wheatley 96.8 (35.83). 13 Felicity Fane - Heather Brown 86.6 (32.08).

North-South results of Summer Pairs played on January 29 were:

1 Sylvia Foster - Jaan Oitmaa 187.0 (55.65) 0.35. 2 Judy Wulff - Susan McCall 183.0 (54.46) 0.25. 3 Barry Foster - Hope Tomlinson 179.0 (53.27) 0.18. 4 Andrew Grace - Bill Wilmott 169.0 (50.30). 5 Peter Hume - Elaine Hume 166.0 (49.40). 6 Felicity Fane - Heather Brown 150.0 (44.64). 7 Christine Hadaway - Marcelle Goslin 142.0 (42.26).

East-West results were:

1 Richard Carter - Lorraine Lindsay 219.0 (65.18) 0.35. 2 Martin Johnson - Jim Routledge 194.0 (57.74) 0.25. 3 Ed Vaughan - Robin Vaughan 163.0 (48.51) 0.18. 4 Jorgen Boettiger - Matt Raj Mal 160.0 (47.62). 5 Julie Teague - Joan Walsh 153.0 (45.54). 6 Edith Marshall - Hilary Owen 148.0 (44.05). 7 Helen Cashman - Robyn Serra 139.0 (41.37).

SOURCE:
Website, 1 Feb 2022
Brisbane Water Bridge Club



Little Theatre plans short play festival

Woy Woy Little Theatre is seeking entries for its Flash Creative Short Play Festival, which will run over three days of September.

The theatre company is looking for original plays from local writers>

The festival was last run in 2019.

This year the theme is "What If?"

Plays may be 15 to 20 minutes

in length, with a maximum cast size of four people.

Each playwright is limited to a maximum of two script submissions, which must be received by March 31.

Directors' expressions of interest also close March 31.

Directors will be appointed by mid-June, and will be allocated a mentor to provide support and assistance during the rehearsal period.

Actors auditions are expected to start on August 10.

Four performances are to be held on September 23, 24 and 25.

The convenor is Ms Fran Armstrong.

Further information may be found on the Little Theatre website <https://www.woywoylt.com/flash-creative-short-play-festival-2022/>.

SOURCE:
Social media, 24 Jan 2022
Woy Woy Little Theatre



Ettalong quilters 'show and tell'

Ettalong Beach Arts and Craft Centre quilters have had "a bumper session" of Show and Tell, according centre president Mr Peter Mulholland.

One member showed "two amazing quilts she has made for two of her lucky grandchildren," he said.

"The quilts have removable pictures, attached with buttons, so the butterflies and stars can be moved as the mood takes.

"She also brought in her completed bright and scrappy quilt."

Another member pinned her beautiful "half square triangle" quilt during the session, also for a granddaughter.

"The colours are wonderful paired with the crisp white."

A third member brought in two finished quilts: "One in a fabulous combination of black and whites fabrics with bright colours, and the second in beautiful Kaffe Fassett fabrics."

SOURCE:
Social media, 2 Feb 2022
Peter Mulholland, EBACC



Bays group gets its own QR code

The Bays Community Group is now registered as a Covid-safe business and has its own QR code.

"As a community hall, there never has been a requirement to officially register as a Covid-safe business or have a QR code," said group president Ms Gwynneth Weir.

"However as time has progressed, and people have become used to signing in using a QR code, the committee decided that for the convenience of those entering the hall it would be good to have a QR code.

"Before we re-opened the hall, we wrote our Covid Safety Plan and submitted it to NSW Services,

as required.

"We hope this will make entering the hall more efficient for everyone.

"If you do not have the app on your phone, you will still be able to enter the hall by signing the book, as before.

SOURCE:
Newsletter, 14 Jan 2022
Gwynneth Weir, The Bays Community Group

Sport

Larry Thomson steps down as rugby president

Former zone president for Central Coast Rugby Union, Mr Larry Thomson, will continue as media contact for the organisation after retiring from the board.

Mr Thomson had spent almost 30 years on the board, the last 16 as president.

"The time was right for a change," he said.

"Tod Wills has stepped up as president of the CCRU for 2022.

"Tod comes with a huge amount of experience, being involved with various clubs on the Central Coast, been a past zone coach, and a

member of the CCRU Board for several years.

"Tod will be assisted in the executive by vice-presidents Kate Thomson and Owen Clark."

Mr Thomson said everybody was hoping for a good start to the 2022 season, "after the most disappointing end to the 2021 season".

"The last two years have been most dramatic during these very unusual times."

The 2022 Central Coast Rugby Union season starts on April 2.

SOURCE:
Media release, 5 Feb 2022
Larry Thomson, CCRU



Major Pairs championship finally played

The Umina Beach Women's Bowling Club's Major Pairs Championship has been won by Yvonne Gordon and Carol Boyd.

The 2021 Major Pairs were finally completed on Friday, January 28, after being delayed due to the lockdown last year and subsequent restrictions.

Runners-up were Lorraine Field and Lynne Gordon.

It was a closely fought game, played on a humid, warm and windy day.

"Yvonne and Carol forged

ahead midway through the match but Lorraine and Lynne fought back and narrowed the gap," said men's club secretary Mr Peter Springett.

"However Yvonne and Carol managed to hold on to win 18 to 15."

SOURCE:
Social media, 29 Jan 2022
Peter Springett, UBMBC

Roosters junior training starts

Training at Woy Woy Roosters Junior Rugby League Football Club starts on Monday, February 14.

The club has four age groups: girls and boys 5-9 years, girls and boys 10-12 years, boys 13-17 years and girls league or tag under13, under15 and under17.

Registration for the 5-9 years

costs \$50 plus an Active Kids Voucher.

All other age groups cost \$75 plus an Active Kids Voucher.

The fee includes playing shorts, socks and club polo shirt.

SOURCE:
Social media, 22 Jan 2022
Woy Woy Junior Rugby League Football Club



Umina Beach First Aid teams win gold

Umina Surf Life Saving Club's two competition First Aid teams have both won gold at branch competition at Killcare on January 29.

Erin Scahill and Maia Darwin competed in the Under-19s and Matilda Lawrence and Kai'zen

Leggett in the under-14s.

The Under-19s achieved the highest point score of the day.

Pam Edmonds volunteered to be the club's assessor to make the day possible.

SOURCE:
Social media, 30 Jan 2022
Umina Surf Life Saving Club

Social members wanted

Umina Boardriders are seeking social members for their club.

"You do not have to surf but you can be a part of the club in many ways

"We would love to see more of our parents, partners and other members of the surfing community joining us in 2022.

"Being a social member means you would get a club shirt, can come to the comps, enjoy the barbecue, watch the surfing, help out in any way you want and, of course, enjoy a couple cold ones with the crew.

"You can come to presentation night which is always the highlight of the year."

Email uminaboardriders@gmail.com for further information.

SOURCE:
Social media, 31 Jan 2022
Umina Boardriders

Boxing is back

Boxing is back at the PCYC at Umina Beach.

Classes start from 4pm.

Contact the PCYC to make a booking.

SOURCE:
Social media, 31 Jan 2022
PCYC Umina Beach



Back in the water for the Iron Series

Umina Surf Life Saving Club member Jemma Smith is back in the water for the final four rounds of the Iron Series.

She represents Newport Kinghorn Surf Racing Academy in competition and is a current patrolling member of Umina.

She also assists coaching the Umina SLSC Nippers when her

busy training and study schedule allows.

Jemma said she was "ready to go" for a big four days of racing coming up at Kurrawa for the Iron Series.

"As always, a huge thank you to those who support me.

"I am so grateful."

SOURCE:
Social media, 3 Feb 2022
Umina Surf Life Saving Club