



Accident in the wet

Over the last week, the Peninsula received more rain than in the whole of January. This accident at the corner of George St and Victoria Rd, Woy

Woy, happened during one of the showers on Friday.

SOURCE: Picture, 4 Feb 2022 Frank Wiffen, Woy Woy

More medium and high density housing proposed for the Peninsula

An increase in medium-density and high-density housing on the Peninsula is proposed for Central Coast Council's housing strategy, in a discussion paper released by the council for comment.

The paper includes a map which "shows that areas with significant additional net dwelling capacity are around the existing centres of ... The Peninsula".

Throughout the document, the Peninsula is identified as a "population centre".

The document states: "Medium density housing is the fastest growing housing type in the local government area, with townhouses and villas gaining particular popularity in existing urban areas."

"Well-designed medium density housing uses land more efficiently and can cater for a range of household types and sizes."

"This housing type can be



advantageous in providing housing in areas of higher amenity, which can include transitional areas on the fringe of high density centres, as well as areas in walking distance of local shopping and service centres."

The document also suggests "high density development" is being considered for the Peninsula.

"Locating higher density housing in established centres means residents will have good access to shops, services, public transport and recreation."

High density housing is defined as "residential flat buildings or shop-top housing of over three storeys".

"These buildings typically have more complex site requirements, but can provide for significantly more dwellings on a site and potentially cater for a wider range of residents and household types."

"While high density housing requires areas with excellent amenity, opportunities exist within existing centres with existing high amenity."

"Housing that generates an uplift in density also presents an opportunity to enhance local and regional infrastructure and amenity through contributions from the development."

Feedback will be accepted by Central Coast Council until February 28.

SOURCE: Website, 1 Feb 2022 Draft Local Housing Strategy, OurVoiceYourCoast

Discussion paper: the questions

Central Coast Council's housing strategy discussion paper contains 12 questions.

They are:

Should Council require some apartments to be developed as accessible dwellings (suited to older people and people with a disability)?

What should Council do to facilitate the provision of more affordable housing?

Should Council encourage the redevelopment of more medium density dwellings, including townhouses and retrofitting secondary dwellings?

As working from home becomes more common, do we need to design our homes differently to provide workspaces, or are our

existing dwellings adequate?

Which areas do you think are well-suited to additional housing?

Do you agree with this vision for housing on the Central Coast in the future?

What types of housing do you think are most beneficial to the wider community?

What can be done to ensure that housing is sustainable?

Have you been able to find a dwelling that meets your needs? Do you think you will need a different type of dwelling in the future?

Should housing development be contained to the existing urban area to protect land for agriculture and to maintain the scenic qualities for the Central Coast, or should we

allow the urban area to expand into the rural area?

How can we better balance the challenges of the Central Coast's growing population whilst at the same time protecting the natural environment and neighbourhood character of our existing residential areas?

Which centres do you think are suitable for higher density housing?

Answers to these questions and feedback will be accepted by Central Coast Council until February 28.

SOURCE: Website, 1 Feb 2022 Draft Local Housing Strategy, OurVoiceYourCoast

MORE DETAILS: Page 6

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.

Supporting the Peninsula

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Planning our future

In this issue, Peninsula News gives extensive coverage to 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.

We support this meeting and urge readers to attend.

Look out for our electronic supplement Peninsula News EXTRA for more.

Mark Snell, 6 Feb 2022



Peninsula News EXTRA
Be notified. SCAN here.



Next issue: Monday, February 21

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.

EMAIL ISSUES?

When emailing us, you will note that the domain name is PENINSULA.NEWS only. There is no .com or .com.au. If your email bounces or does not appear to have reached us, please check the address and try again. If this still does not work, try our old fallback address or call us by phone and leave a message.

Fallback email address: editor@peninsulanews.asn.au

Editorial policy and guidelines

At its heart, Peninsula News is a community effort.

It welcomes and relies on the contributions provided voluntarily and at no cost by local organisations, groups and residents.

The newspaper aims to be accessible to the community - both through making its columns accessible to community groups and by having copies available in accessible locations, including through its website.

The following policies and guidelines are designed to support the aims and standards of the newspaper.

Locality

The newspaper's editorial policy reflects a desire to reinforce the Peninsula's sense of community.

To qualify for publication, articles must have specific relevance to the Peninsula. For example, they must be about activities or events happening on the Peninsula or be organised by or involving Peninsula people.

The newspaper is not regional or national in nature, so regional or national issues will not be canvassed except as they affect the Peninsula.

Regional sports will only be covered from the perspective of Peninsula clubs. Regional plans will only be aired in the context of their ramifications for the Peninsula.

Peninsula News aims to be inclusive of as much of the Peninsula community as possible.

Readability

To ensure that the newspaper serves its purpose, it must be readable and represent the interests and activities of the community in its content.

Contributions to the paper are edited to consistent standards of readability. Guidelines are available for intending contributors.

All items will be dated. They must contain the name of the author to whom the contribution may be attributed, with their first name spelt out, along with their suburb or organisation. Anonymous contributions will not be accepted.

Forum letters

The Forum section provides the opportunity for readers to express their views on any aspect of Peninsula community life, with the aim of reflecting the community's diversity of opinion.

Nevertheless, letters may be edited for readability, including for length, spelling and grammar, and to avoid legal liability on the part of the newspaper, or they may be declined altogether.

Contributors are asked to keep their

contributions to the matter at hand, and to focus on the issues and not abuse or insult others.

Other than in the case of holding public figures to account, criticism of others (as opposed to criticism of particular opinions) is unlikely to be published in the interests of facilitating the expression of a diversity of views.

All letter writers need to supply name, address and contact details. Only name and suburb will be published.

Contributors who do not wish the wording of their letter to be changed at all should make a note to this effect when submitting their letter. In some cases, this may result in the letter not being published.

Corrections

We try to be as accurate as possible. However, mistakes can still slip through.

If you believe we have got something wrong, whether an error of fact or interpretation, we ask that you write to us by email with details for publication. These corrections may appear as Forum letters or as news items and should conform to our requirements for news and Forum contributions.

Source lines

Peninsula News includes "source lines" at the end of each article which aim to provide readers with information about where and how we came across the information, so that they might judge for themselves the veracity of what they are reading.

It should not be assumed that the article is a verbatim reproduction of the source. Similarly, it should not be assumed that any reporter listed is necessarily responsible for writing the whole news item. Source lines are not by-lines.

Often articles come from a number of sources. They are edited for readability and reader interest and given different headings, and consequently can be expressed quite differently from the source material.

Peninsula News usually receives its information in three ways: It is sent to us by someone wanting to promote their activities; it is sent to us in response to our inquiries; or it comes from a newsletter or other document to which we have access.

Sometimes we may interview a person or report what they said at a meeting.

The following descriptions are used:

Media Release - unsolicited contributions.

Media Statement - sent in response to our questions. **Website** or **Social Media** - information published online. **Newsletter** or **Report** - published in print or online. **Interview** or **Meeting** - statements recorded by a reporter.

Forum contributions may be: **Email** if sent electronically and **Letter** if written on paper.

Christmas lights raise \$2600 for charity

A Christmas lights display in Booker Bay has raised \$2600.65 for Vision Australia.

Ms Shirley Crockett of Booker Bay Rd said she and her husband Noel had been putting on the display for 20 years.

"This year is the best that we have had."

She said this year's contribution was the result of generosity shown by "our family, friends, neighbours and the general public".

"We had lots of friends come for a Christmas drink and the next morning I would count the money and I always found some very generous notes in the charity box."

"I would text my friends to thank them."

"One reply was that it is for a good cause and I totally agree."

"We were asked by a woman who is involved with Vision Australia if we were going to support the same charity in 2022 and I said yes."

"She is totally blind and she asked if she could come with some of her other friends perhaps one night in Christmas week and have the children describe the display to them as they cannot see the lights."

Ms Crockett said: "I cannot imagine how sad it would be to have a disability but to be blind is something that I do not think I could cope with."

"So I am very excited about this

event."

Ms Crockett said another comment came as a result of her giving lollipops to visiting children.

"I was out in my Christmas outfit a couple of nights before Christmas Eve and I was giving out more lollipops."

"One sweet little girl came up to me and told me that they were not lollipops they were candy canes."

"My apologies to all the children."

Ms Crockett said, that despite being aged 80 and her husband 84, the display would be on again next year.

"See you all in December."

SOURCE:
Media release, 3 Feb 2022
Shirley Crockett, Booker Bay

The Bays Hall
maintenance appeal
collects \$2000

An appeal for donations to help maintain The Bays Community Hall has raised more than \$2000.

The Bays Community Group launched the appeal after income from hall hire and other events fell due to the coronavirus pandemic

"We must say a big thank you to everyone who responded to our appeal for donations," said community group president Ms Gwynneth Weir.

"To date we have received an amazing \$2121.15."

"We have traditionally ploughed back any surpluses into improving and maintaining the hall to make it

a great place for our community to meet.

"As a result, we do not have significant reserves in the bank to fall back on."

"If we could double that amount, it would really help to secure our hall over the coming year," Ms Weir said.

"Please help if you are able."

Ms Weir also reminded members that their annual fees were now due.

"Just \$20 for the whole household for the year."

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

Bingo raises \$2500 for Rotary

The Rotary Club of Umina Beach has raised more than \$2500 for the club through bingo sessions in January.

Club president Mr Bruce Croft said the sessions were held at

Umina Beach Holiday Park.

"The Holiday Park has extended an invitation to our Rotary Club to partner in future projects," he said.

SOURCE:
Newsletter, 4 Feb 2022
Bruce Croft, Rotary Umina Beach



Ferry diverted

The Palm Beach ferry to Ettalong has been diverted to Patonga for four days, including today (Monday, February 7).

In a "Ferry Diversion Notice" posted to social media late on Thursday night, ferry operator Fantasea Palm Beach Ferries said the diversion was "due to inclement sea conditions".

"The Palm Beach-Wagstaffe-Ettalong ferry service will be diverted to Patonga due to inclement sea conditions for Friday, February 4; Saturday, February 5; Sunday, February 6, and Monday, February 7."

SOURCE:
Social media, 3 Feb 2022
Fantasea Palm Beach Ferries

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.

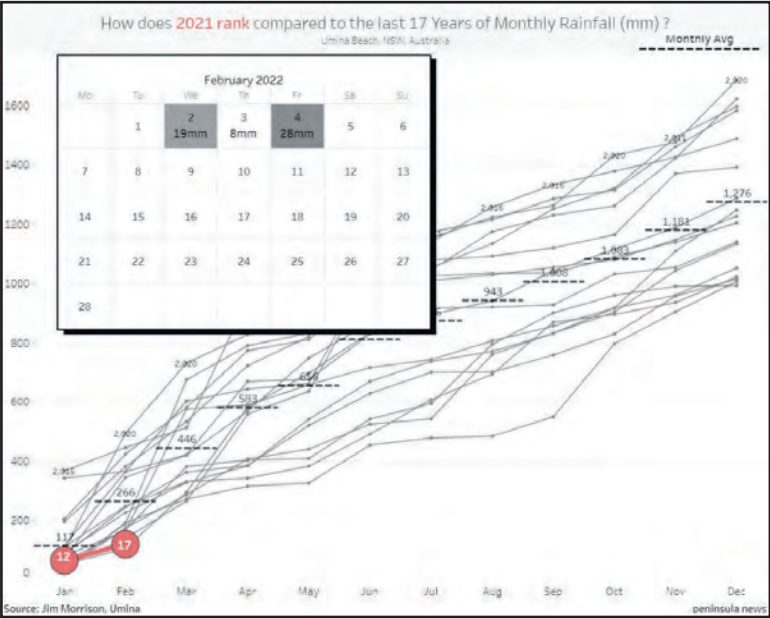
Rainfall of 28.4mm was recorded on Friday morning and 18.6mm on Wednesday.

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

The average for February is 155mm.

The cumulative total for the year stands at 119.8mm.

SOURCE:
Spreadsheet, 4 Feb 2022
Jim Morrison, Umina





Whale sculptures restored

One of the three groups of "whale tail" sculptures in the recreation precinct near Umina oval has been restored and repainted, according to Umina Rotary club secretary Mr Mike Curley.

"Umina Rotary arranged the financing of the original whale tails," said Mr Curley.

Mr Curley said that originally the tails were all tiled.

"Sadly, they had fallen into disrepair over the years."

Many of the tiles had fallen off.

After negotiations with Central Coast Council and the involvement of the Umina Community Group, the repairs were commissioned by Central Coast Council under the supervision of its cultural development worker Ms Charlotte

Hilder.

Mr Curley said the restored whale tails "were painted so that kids could climb on them and they would be easier to maintain"

He said he was not sure whether the other two groups of whale tails would be painted or retiled.

Umina Community Group director Mr Tony Winch said: "It's terrific to see that the whale tails have been restored and returned to their home at the precinct."

"Thank you to Central Coast Council for completing the restoration and to the volunteers who assisted."

SOURCE:

Newsletter, 5 Feb 2022

Mike Curley, Rotary Umina Beach

Social media, 4 Feb 2022

Tony Winch, Umina

Community Group

Details of new ambulance station operation 'inadequate', says Tesch

Details about the proposed Woy Woy ambulance station provided by the NSW Government were inadequate, according to Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch.

Ms Tesch said she asked 22 questions in November which have now been answered by Health Minister Mr Brad Hazzard with less than 500 words.

She said this showed lack of regard for our community and our health professionals. Ms Tesch had queried staff numbers at the new station, and the effects of the relocation on wait-times, traffic flow and the current site at Ettalong.

Mr Hazzard's answers did not rule out loss of local paramedics' jobs, she said.

He said that the staffing allocation at the new facility was



"still being assessed".

Ms Tesch called on the NSW Government to guarantee that the paramedics who work at Ettalong Station will keep their jobs as part of the transition.

"In the middle of this pandemic,

Dominic Perrottet is putting local paramedics on notice that their jobs are on the line" said Ms Tesch.

In his answers, Mr Hazzard revealed that \$185,000 had been spent in 2019 refurbishing the Ettalong site.

Ms Tesch also discovered that the current staff at the Ettalong Station were given less than five days' notice that their facility would close, before the announcement was made by the Member for Terrigal Mr Adam Crouch.

She said the Health Minister refused to answer questions about whether Health Department officials had met with the station staff about the change.

Instead he seemed to indicate that they were informed by giving staff a pamphlet, she said.

SOURCE:

Media release, 31 Jan 2022

Liesl Tesch, Member for Gosford

Rotary club celebrates 46 years

The Rotary Club of Umina Beach has celebrated its 46th birthday.

The club was chartered on February 6, 1976, by the Rotary Club of Woy Woy.

"It has thrived ever since, providing service locally as well as internationally," said club publicity officer Mr Pat Lewis.

"International projects have been carried out in Bali, South Africa, the Philippines twice, and Papua New Guinea twice involving eye health, clothing for babies, school hall building, electricity and water infrastructure, and school

learning resources.

"Locally the club has a strong emphasis on supporting our young people through sponsoring them to international youth exchange, Rotary leadership courses and academic programs, and provision of learning resources to their schools."

"The club is also a very strong supporter of the outstanding Agriculture and Cattle Showing programs at Brisbane Water Secondary College which both develop sound leadership, independence and resilience in participating students."

"In the wider community, the

club is active in supporting our local age care and community care facilities, recognises outstanding individuals in community and their vocational services.

"In recent years, the club has travelled to hard-hit country regions to spend money and support businesses."

Mr Lewis said the club was eager to attract new members.

"If all of this sounds like something you would like to be involved in, see our website at uminabeachrotary.com."

SOURCE:

Media release, 5 Feb 2022

Pat Lewis, Rotary Umina Beach

Community views about local newspapers surveyed

A Federal Parliamentary Inquiry into Australia's regional newspapers has a survey for the community to have their say about local newspapers, including Peninsula News, according to State Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch.

"Australia's regional newspapers are the backbone of regional communities but in recent years their future has been under threat," she said.

Ms Tesch said: "Local newspapers are the way our issues are broadcast, our voices are heard and our local events are advertised."

"They are at the heart of our community and they should be supported."

"We know that regional media outlets throughout Australia have been forced to limit their publications or shut down completely in response to the changing face of the media."

"It is crucial we all have our

say in the survey to ensure our perspective is taken into account in the survey."

"I know that for many of us without our local news we would be well and truly lost."

"The survey also gives the opportunity to speak about what you think is affecting the regional news services," she said.

The survey closes on February 11.

It is available on the parliament website at https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/House/Communications/Regionalnewspapers.

SOURCE:

Media release, 1 Feb 2022

Liesl Tesch, Member for Gosford



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Planning



Residents object to Timbertop Dr tree removal

Residents of Timbertop Dr, Umina, have lodged objections to a development application for a property in the adjacent Corrong Cl because it would remove four large trees.

The application prepared by AJ Lewis of Wagstaffe would see alterations and additions to the ground floor level of an existing house, a new first floor and a new detached Colorbond garage with "concrete driveway and crossover" to Timbertop Dr.

"Access to the site is currently gained via number 1 Corrong Cl, Umina Beach.

"Due to this access being very tight, it is proposed that a new garage and access be constructed in Timbertop Dr."

Plans submitted with the application show the removal of four large trees for the double garage, two within the property and two on the council road reserve on Timbertop Dr.

The garage would have a setback of only 1.31 metres from the road reserve, where planning provisions require a six metre setback.

The application concedes the garage setback from Timbertop Dr does not comply with planning provisions.

However, it states: "There is 12 metre distance between the boundary of the subject property and the kerb side of Timbertop Dr."

The road reserve is wider along the back of this property than elsewhere along Timbertop Dr.

"Due to the steep nature of the sites along Timbertop Dr, there are numerous examples of non-compliance with regards to front boundary setbacks, especially garages for vehicle parking," the application states.

Despite the council's planning

portal stating the application status was "Notification-Advertising", Timbertop Dr neighbour Ms Jennifer Bedford said she had not been notified and discovered the proposal "by pure accident".

She said she was hoping to save the stand of four very large gums.

"Apart from losing these valuable trees, this will impact on the native wildlife that calls our street home.

"Timbertop Drive is a haven for many native animals.

"Currently an echidna lives just 40 metres from where this garage will be built.

"There are several lyrebird families here, wallabies, snakes, lizards and possums all making their homes here and are sighted regularly.

"There is a large goanna regularly spotted, along with tawny frog mouths and a powerful owl.

"These trees are well established and destroying them is not in line with the Council's recently released Greener Places Strategy which states that older trees have greater habitat value than younger trees in the urban forest."

Ms Bedford said the development would "also change the face of our beautiful street where the reason most of us live here is to enjoy the nature and peace and quiet."

The application states: "The enhancements to this property will not only improve the aesthetics of the site but will also greatly improve the functionality as well.

"Only a very minimum amount of cut and fill is required for the proposed development."

The closing date for submissions is Friday, February 11.

SOURCE:
DA Tracker, 4 Feb 2022
DA63926, Central Coast Council

The Central Coast Council has received an application to build four "penthouse apartments" at 117 The Esplanade, Ettalong.

The development would have two levels with basement parking for eight vehicles underneath.

The application stated that strata subdivision would be applied for at a future date.

The proposal includes the demolition of an existing timber framed, fibro-clad residence and outbuildings.

The application prepared by SJH Planning states: "Each individual apartment will comprise similar inclusions such as sunroom, kitchen, dining room and lounge room orientated to take optimum advantage of both northern sun and views generally to the south.

"Ground floor apartments incorporate private pools in their private open space while all apartments have integrated and conveniently accessible terrace space capitalising on views or orientation for winter sun."

"Incorporation of the lift well with an architectural roof feature affords shared access to all residents and guests to the lighthouse, an



architectural roof feature located central to the building.

"That roof feature provides architectural interest and utility in terms of access for lift and roof mounted solar panel maintenance.

"Additionally, that architectural feature provides residents with access to the extraordinary views which extend from that level from Wagstaff in the northeast, the Killcare Peninsula, Half Tide Rocks, Lobster Beach, Box Head, Broken Bay, Lion Island, Barrenjoey Headland, Pittwater and Mt Ettamylong and the ridge extending to the west, being the headland separating Umina Beach from Pearl Beach."

The application contains

information about beach stabilisation works carried out over the years such as after the storms in 2015.

There are also several photographs, including one of Ettalong Beach in 1920.

The application admits to non-compliance in roof height by an unspecified amount and a possible non-compliance in floor space ratio, depending on whether the council designates the "lighthouse" as floor space.

The Clause 4.6 application is said to be "attached" but does not appear in the list of documents available for public scrutiny.

SOURCE:
DA Tracker, 4 Feb 2022
DA2017/2021, Central Coast Council

New Ferry Rd plan lacks documents

A development application for the corner of Ocean View and Ferry Rd that was refused by the Local Planning Panel in October has been resubmitted with changes.

The application is for the partial demolition of existing structures and construction of a mixed-use building containing shop-top housing, retail premises, serviced apartments and associated works.

The Council's planning portal states the application status of the proposal for 302, 306 and 308 Ocean View Rd is "Notification-Advertising" and submissions may be made.

However, the only documents for this newly-submitted development application on the Council website are the amended plans.

There is no Statement of Environmental Effects to describe the proposal and its compliance with planning provisions.

From the plans, it can be seen



that a number of changes have been made.

A new set of five steps has been inserted at car parking level (RL3900) linking it with Unit 1 level (RL4700).

This new set of steps will be located in the vicinity of the "store cages" area of the car park.

The total number of car parking spaces has been reduced from 23 to 22.

The existing retail area to be retained has been reduced from

143.361 square metres to 132.165 square metres, reducing car parking requirements from four spaces to three.

Other changes include sliding solar screens on the western elevation to replace the previous fixed screens and two new floor plans, at least for public scrutiny, which show the layouts of "Levels 2 and 6" and "Levels 3 and 9".

SOURCE:
DA Tracker, 4 Feb 2022
DA59732, Central Coast Council

Portal problems acknowledged

Central Coast Council's acting Environment and Planning director Mr David Milliken has acknowledged that the council has had problems with its planning portal.

"The business support team are telling me there was an issue that has since been resolved," he told a Peninsula resident who raised the issue.

The resident said that people were reporting inconsistencies, including that no documents were being displayed, or only a partial listing, and that documents were very slow to start to download.

"We have had a lot of issues with the planning

portal," said Mr Milliken.

"When (the Department of Planning) implemented the portal, it didn't speak to Council's systems.

"So we undertook an upgrade over the summer holidays to fix that.

"It appears the issue you had is related to that upgrade.

"If you could check if the issue is still occurring and let me know that would be much appreciated."

SOURCE:
Email, 3 Feb 2022
David Milliken, Central Coast Council

Aged care home has staged re-opening

Blue Wave Living aged care home is coming out of lockdown in stages after residents who returned positive antigen tests mid-January were now testing negative.

"We have completed another round of testing in our Covid-impacted areas, Anzac Wing, including The Cove," said chief executive Mr Matt Downie.

"There has been no new cases identified in Anzac.

"All existing cases across both areas are now testing negative."

"However, there is one more positive case in The Cove – our high-care memory support unit.

"This resident was in close proximity to other positive residents over the past week.

"This does mean this wing will remain in lockdown.

"However we believe we will be able to come out of full lockdown across the rest of the facility.

"We have been staging reopening to group activities in other wings across our facility this week, given no new cases.

"This has been a very positive experience for our residents."

"We now have sufficient stock of rapid tests to screen all staff prior to commencing their shift as well, which has been in place since Monday.

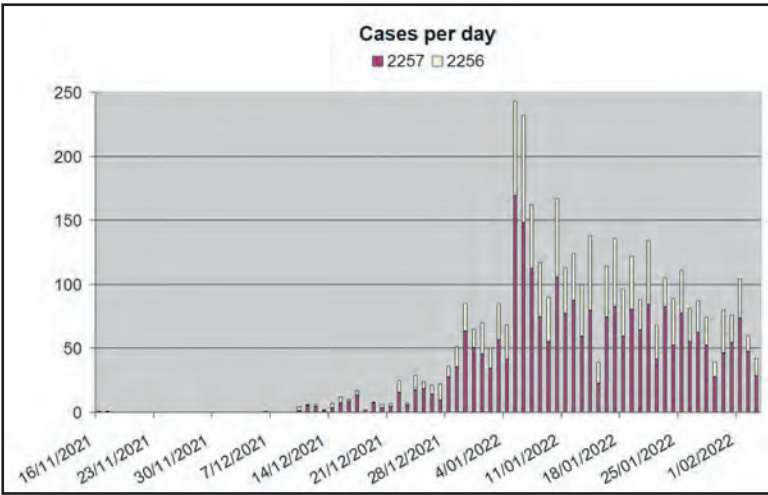
"The same requirement will apply for visitors.

"From Monday, February 7, we will plan to reopen to general visitors."

Special requirements are in place.

"All residents in care with us are well," said Mr Downie.

SOURCE:
Social media, 3 Feb 2022
Matt Downie, Blue Wave Living



Active cases stay over 1000

The Peninsula had 1150 active coronavirus cases on February 3, according to daily count figures on the NSW Government Covid website.

Another page on the website states 641 cases were identified by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests.

There were 780 active cases in the 2257 postcode area, of which 372 were identified by PCR tests.

There were 370 cases reported in the 2256 postcode area, with 199 PCR positive tests.

The PCR results were shown on a page showing the number of active cases on any one day.

The webpage warns: "Cases in the statistics above refer to cases identified via PCR tests only."

"Information on positive rapid antigen tests (RATs) will be updated shortly."

The figures show the number of cases identified through rapid tests is growing to be close to the same as through PCR tests.

For example, positive tests recorded at the Blue Wave Living aged care home in Woy Woy over the past couple of weeks were detected by rapid antigen tests, and so would not be included in the PCR figures.

Central Coast hospitalisation numbers, which were briefly published in January, no longer appear to be available.

SOURCE:
Website, 6 Feb 2022
Covid data and statistics, NSW Government

Umina Beach branch of the Country Women's Association held its cooking competition on January 29.

It was judged by Ms Marie Bradbery.

The Date and Walnut Roll competition was won by Ms Fiona Duckworth.

In the Steamed Fruit Pudding section, first was Ms Kay Kennaugh and second Ms Lin Griffiths.

In Rich Dark Fruit Cake, first was Ms Kennaugh, second Ms Griffiths and third Ms Louise Johnson.

Sultana Cake was won by Ms Celia O'Meara.



Shortbread was won by Mr Tony O'Meara, second Ms Duckworth and third Ms Griffiths.

The Coconut Ice section was won by junior member Brock De Silva.

For Sweet Mustard Pickles, first was Ms Duckworth, second Ms O'Meara and third Ms Griffiths.

Assorted Biscuits was won by Ms Griffiths.

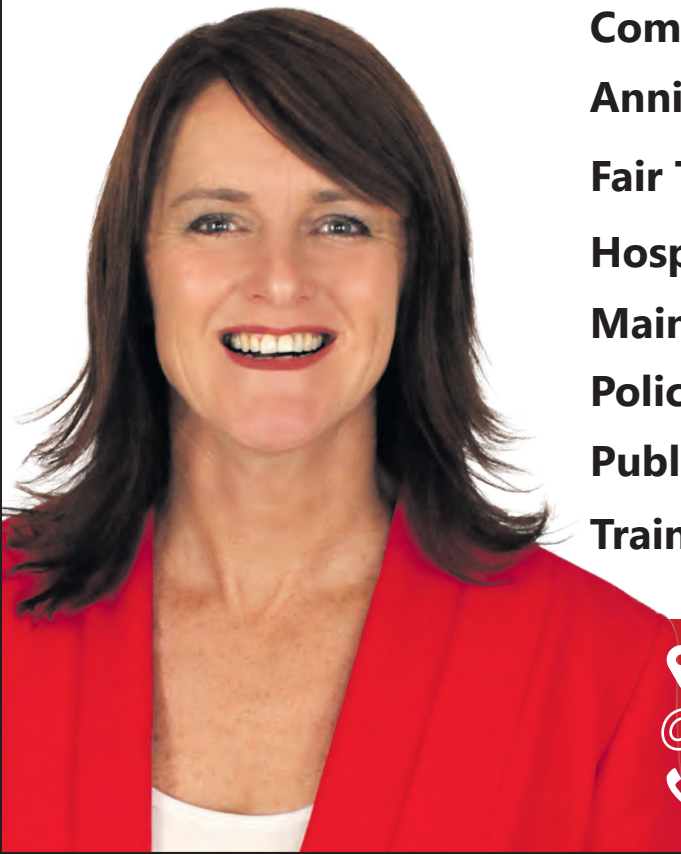
For Apricot Jam, first was Ms

SOURCE:
Social media, 5 Feb 2022
CWA Umina Beach



Liesl Tesch MP
Member for Gosford

How can I help?



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

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Housing

Better options than increasing Peninsula housing density?

While the possibility of increasing medium and high density housing on the Peninsula is canvassed in Central Coast Council's housing strategy discussion paper, it is not the only option.

The accompanying Existing Conditions Report says: "Most capacity is located within and near existing centres where

appropriately zoned, although the presence of strata and more recent development provides limitations.

"In the current market, take-up of land that is zoned for shop top housing and residential flat buildings is experiencing relatively low levels of take-up.

"Consequently, while there is available capacity, it does not mean it will necessarily be taken up in the market."

In the case of the Peninsula, it estimated a "theoretical capacity" of 11,577 homes, but predicted take-up of between 1663 and 2352.

The report says there may be better options: "Districts with the largest populations are Peninsula and Coastal.

"Notably, these locations are not near the major centres of employment or service delivery of

Gosford, Tuggerah, Wyong and Erina, requiring populations to travel to access work and services.

"Opportunities to deliver housing closer to jobs and services is likely to offer benefits for future residents and the Local Government Area in general.

"This could include more housing within Gosford as the regional centre."

The report also noted: "Council

previously amended the controls on the Peninsula to promote density and amalgamation.

"However, with the introduction of the Low Rise Medium Density Housing Code saw development revert to multi-dwelling and dual occupancies on existing lots."

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

Report provides Peninsula profile

The Central Coast Housing Strategy Existing Conditions Report used the council's "social planning districts", of which the Peninsula is one, "where local analysis has been undertaken".

Details provided in the report provide a profile of the Peninsula, both in its own right and in comparison to other areas of the Central Coast.

The report is currently open for comment.

The report identified the Peninsula as one centre where the elderly population is "most concentrated".

"Residents aged 50 years and older are the fastest growing age group, which made up 33 per cent of the Central Coast population in 2001, growing to 41 per cent of the population in 2016.

"This population was most concentrated in the Peninsula (among other) areas.

"Data available from Inside AirBNB indicates that there are significant volumes of larger residences in coastal areas being used as short-term rental accommodation, which would further exacerbate occupancy rates.

"The impact of this is most pronounced in the Coastal, Peninsula and Then Entrance districts."

"Those dwellings identified as unoccupied were significantly clustered, with four districts recording occupancy rates above the average, the Coastal District (21 per cent unoccupied), The Entrance (20 per cent unoccupied), Mountains (18 per cent) and

Peninsula (14 per cent) and are likely to be associated with holiday accommodation and second homes."

The report noted: "At the 2016 Census, the largest social planning district by population was The Peninsula (36,119 residents).

The Peninsula was not shown as among the most densely populated, perhaps because around half the district included Brisbane Water National Park which is unpopulated."

The Peninsula shared a high median age of around 46 with three other districts.

"Residents aged 65 and older were most concentrated in the Toukley (27.9 per cent), Northern Lakes (26.9 per cent) and Peninsula (26.5 per cent) districts.

"The concentration in The Peninsula district was matched by the highest total of 1345 residents aged 65 and over requiring assistance with core activities.

"Medium density dwellings ... are found in established centres along the coast and inland, most significantly in Gosford Central (34 per cent), The Entrance (30 per cent) and The Peninsula (29 per cent)."

Medium density dwellings were defined as "all semi-detached, row, terrace, townhouses and villa units, plus flats and apartments in blocks of one or two storeys, and flats attached to houses".

"Gosford Central recorded the highest proportion of lone person households, with 35.6 per cent of all households, followed by the Peninsula, The Entrance and Toukley districts all on approximately 31 per cent, above the LGA average of 28.3 per cent.

"There was extreme divergence in median household incomes between the districts.

"Toukley (\$954), Gorokan (\$1,024) and the Peninsula (\$1,049) districts recorded the lowest median household incomes.

"Some districts medians were more than twice that of others, reinforcing the very different socioeconomic natures of their respective communities.

"The social planning districts with the most significant proportions of rental dwellings were Gosford Central (30 per cent), The Entrance (29 per cent) and the Peninsula (27 per cent).

"Of these, Gorokan recorded the highest proportion (42 per cent) of rental properties in stress.

"The Peninsula and Toukley districts were slightly below on 40 per cent.

"These were all well above the Central Coast average of 36 per cent."

The report used liveability measures which showed "a notable preponderance of areas with high liveability scores in the Peninsula".

"This district is an established urban area, with a relatively (even?) distribution of services and centres of various sizes over its area, affording good access to services and amenities overall.

"The area benefits from access to significant waterways, beaches and other natural assets."

Feedback will be accepted by Central Coast Council until February 28.

SOURCE:
Website, 1 Feb 2022
Draft Local Housing Strategy,
YourVoiceOurCoast

Housing strategy aims for 25 per cent dwellings increase

The Central Coast Local Housing Strategy Discussion Paper says that the aim of the housing strategy is to accommodate a 25 per cent increase in the number of dwellings.

"It is projected the Central Coast will need 199,150 dwellings by 2036, an additional 41,500 dwellings above 2016."

It notes: "The draft Central Coast Regional Plan 2041 includes statements in relation to higher population density targets than previously included in the current plan, or this discussion paper."

The paper says that the Local Housing Strategy is being prepared "to support the goals" of the Local Strategic Planning Statement which "emphasises housing growth being focused in areas with high levels of liveability and occurring in a way that reinforces lifestyle and amenity in the region" and of the Community Strategy Plan which "nominates access to services, housing affordability, diversity and choice as key indicators of community wellbeing".

As well as the 14-page discussion paper, the council has released a 162-page Existing Conditions Report that "details the current state of population and housing on the Central Coast and projected housing needs for the future".

Although not mentioning the

Peninsula, the discussion paper acknowledges: "The region has consisted of smaller communities distributed in clusters, some of which have grown over the years into more contiguous conurbations, while others have remained discrete, offering a 'small town' lifestyle."

It states: "Areas with higher levels of disadvantage are concentrated in populated centres like ... Woy Woy.

"Rental vacancies on the Central Coast are at an all time low and social housing has wait periods exceeding 10 years.

"Modelling indicates that low income Central Coast households would be largely priced out of the Central Coast housing market."

The discussion paper states: "The Central Coast continues to have greenfield housing capacity in the northern release areas, with further capacity for infill development around existing centres.

"The many natural constraints of the land on the Central Coast mean that there is a finite volume of land suitable for additional housing, mostly located in the north."

Feedback will be accepted by Central Coast Council until February 28.

SOURCE:
Website, 1 Feb 2022
Draft Local Housing Strategy,
OurVoiceYourCoast

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

Cnr. Ocean Beach Road Woy Woy

Always Last Sunday

(no events in April or December)

Enq: 0478 959 895

COVID SAFE

Roll Up Roll Up Roll Up

Woy Woy Bowling Club

Every Saturday @ 12:45pm

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

Monthly car boot sale planned

Woy Woy Peninsula Lions Club will hold its car boot sale and barbecue on Sunday, February 27.

"Due to council demolishing the demountable toilets and building a new amenities block, we have lost about 30 per cent of our car spaces," said club president Mr Greg Head.

"We now have access to the brick amenities block in the middle of Rogers Park.

He said the monthly car boot

sale would now continue on the last Sunday of each month, except December.

There was no booking for stallholders and they could just arrive and be directed where to park on arrival.

The cost was \$20 per car space, which was collected by a member of the club during the day.

SOURCE:
Website, 2 Feb 2022
Greg Head, Woy Woy
Peninsula Lions Club

Karen Wardlaw takes on principal role at Umina

Ms Karen Wardlaw is the new principal of Umina Beach Public School.

Shortly before starting, Ms Wardlaw said that she "cannot wait to step into the position of principal".

She said her first priority at the beginning of term was keeping children safe from Covid-19.

In a video for parents, she gave details of rapid antigen tests and some of the precautions the school was taking to protect the school community.

Ms Wardlaw was previously principal at Pretty Beach Public School.

SOURCE:
School Website, 24 Jan 2022
Karen Wardlaw, UBPS



Relieving principal continues

Ms Jodie Campbell will continue as relieving principal at Ettalong Public School, parents have been told.

"Our principal, Ms Lynn Balfour will be taking some more leave throughout this year," Ms Campbell said.

"Mr Adam Penberthy will continue to relieve as deputy

principal."

Ms Campbell said there had been "quite a few changes" to staff, and the school was "hoping to have a full list of staff" available for parents.

SOURCE:
Newsletter, 1 Feb 2022
Jodie Campbell, Ettalong Public School

Drive through collection for rapid tests

The Woy Woy campus of Brisbane Water Secondary College set up a drive through collection point for rapid antigen tests.

"We're open and ready to rock 'n' roll," campus principal Ms

Rebecca Cooper said on January 31.

"Please be patient with us today as we work through handing out thousands of tests.

"Our SASS staff have put in a massive shift and will continue to

support you with any questions you may have.

"It's going to be a big day but a smile and thank you goes a long way."

SOURCE:
Social media, 31 Jan 2022
Rebecca Cooper, BWSC Woy Woy

New staff at Woy Woy South

Woy Woy South Public School has had a number of new staff start in Term 1 at the school.

They are assistant principal for Learning and Support Ms Jacqui Clayton, teachers Ms Jessica Ogden and Ms Natalie Dwyer and

student learning support officer Mr Joseph Jesus.

Principal Mr Matt Barr said "A very warm welcome to you all.

"We look forward to having you in our school community."

SOURCE:
Newsletter, 2 Feb 2022
Matt Barr, WWSPS

Swimming carnival Wednesday

Woy Woy South Public School will hold its swimming carnival on Wednesday, February 9, at the Peninsula Leisure Centre.

Spectators will need to follow the school carnival rules imposed by the centre.

Face masks must be worn by everyone indoors over the age of 12, except when exercising,

swimming, eating or drinking.

All parents spectators must QR check in on entry and exit.

Parents spectator area will be on grassed side of building separate from school students Spectators should come prepared for all weather conditions.

Spectator entry will cost \$3.80.

SOURCE:
Social media, 31 Jan 2022
Woy Woy South Public School

Umina Beach Public School was advised twice last week that a member of the school community had recently tested positive to Covid-19.

On Thursday, February 3, the school was advised students in Stage 3 (Years 5-6) and staff who worked with this group of students may have had contact with a person who was infectious with Covid-19.

On Friday, February 4, the school was advised students in

Stage 1 and staff who worked with this group of students may have had contact with a person who was infectious with Covid-19.

"While testing and isolation is no longer mandatory for exposures in school settings, NSW Health has provided advice on testing and isolation recommendations for the community following exposure to Covid-19 that should be considered when making decisions for your child and family," said principal Ms Karen Wardlaw.

"You are reminded that staff and students cannot attend school if they are showing any symptoms of Covid-19.

"These include fever, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, runny nose, loss of smell or taste, muscle-joint pains, diarrhoea, nausea-vomiting, extreme tiredness, unexplained chest pain or conjunctivitis (eye infection)."

SOURCE:
Website, 4 Feb 2022
Karen Wardlaw, Umina Beach Public School

Year 7 camp is postponed

Brisbane Water Secondary College has postponed its Year 7 camp at the Great Aussie Bush Camp until later in the year.

"Regrettably, we are unable to proceed with the Year Seven camp scheduled for this term," said campus principal Ms Kerrie O'Heir.

"This is due to our absolute commitment to ensuring the safety of our students and staff, and is in line with current Department of Education guidelines.

"We are hoping to secure a booking later in the year at the Great Aussie Bush Camp if Covid restrictions allow.

"No further payments are required at this stage."

The Umina campus will proceed with its swimming carnival on Wednesday, February 16, but it will be for competitors only.

SOURCE:
Social media, 4 Feb 2022
Kerry O'Heir, BWSC Umina

Housing discussion paper deserves factual response

The discussion paper for a Local Housing Strategy is now posted for comment by Central Coast Council.

Assuming that the strategy, when it finally emerges, is not just the usual collection of platitudes and unachievable goals so common to council documents, this would be the most important statement of purpose that most residents of Central Coast will ever see.

The whole future form and fabric of Central Coast will be shaped by what is spelled out in the

strategy, and every neighbourhood environment will be affected by the provisions of the strategy.

Anybody who is concerned about the quality of life in Central Coast over the coming quarter-century should note what is proposed and take the opportunity to express an opinion on the contents of the discussion paper.

For the easiest avenue, there is an online questionnaire that can be filled out in a few minutes.

However, as with most questionnaires, particularly those used by Council, many of the questions are slanted to give an

answer that is suggested (or even required) by the wording.

Accordingly, anyone who wants to express a nuanced view will have to formulate a specific e-mail submission for which there is a provision.

Of course, there is nothing to inhibit an interested person in doing both, and this might be the best approach.

If there are few submissions, this will be used by council as evidence that the vast majority are happy with the directions suggested by the paper, so the opportunity to comment should be

taken seriously.

It will be no use complaining afterwards, if policies are adopted that don't meet community wishes.

The paper contains a wealth of information (it is one of the few worthwhile council documents that I've seen) that should be studied carefully.

Anyone making a submission should, if possible, refer to specific facts given in the paper and not make general assumptions that can be contradicted by evidence.

This kind of careless rendering of unsupported opinion can be used to discredit the usefulness of

community participation which is already in danger at both council and state levels.

It is clear that the intention of the state government is to whittle away the role of local government in development planning, so a strong Local Housing Strategy would be a protection against this trend.

The state's Central Coast Regional Plan is innocuous enough to be tolerated but we could be lumbered with much worse, if we don't protect ourselves now.

SOURCE:
Email, 31 Jan 2022
Bruce Hyland, Woy Woy.

Sport



Brisbane Water wins interclub bridge event

The Peninsula's Brisbane Water Bridge Club has won a day-long interclub teams bridge event held in Gosford on Thursday, February 3.

Twelve teams representing Gosford CCLCBC, Bateau Bay Community Bridge Club and Brisbane Water entered the event at Central Coast Leagues Club.

Brisbane Water's Team Tomlinson took first spot with a 5-0-1 score card.

The winning margin was a slender one-point win over their nearest rivals, Gosford Team Mills.

Brisbane Water Bridge Club fielded four teams all keen to improve on their last Gosford outing.

Team Foster finished fourth disappointed not to repeat their winning ways from previous years.

Team Hume slipped to eighth

after holding second place at the end of round four.

The event was directed by Mr Ronnie Ng.

The Gosford club supplied drinks and nibbles at the close of play.

The Brisbane Water team results were:

1. Tomlinson: Chris Hasemore, Barry Foster, Hope Tomlinson and Martin Johnson.

4. Foster: Lorraine Lindsay, Chris Hannan, Jaan Oitmaa and Sylvia Foster.

8. Hume: Felicity Fane, Heather Brown, Elaine Hume and Peter Hume.

9. Van Der Walt: Kathy Ivits, Alma Van Der Walt, Marcelle Goslin and Ron Meaney.

SOURCE: Website, 3 Feb 2022 Brisbane Water Bridge Club



A gala day of bowls, barbecue and raffle

Woy Woy Bowling Club celebrated Australia day on the bowling green with "a gala day of bowls, barbecue and raffles".

"Before the event began, Renette Burgess acknowledged

the Darkinjung people as the traditional custodians of the land," said publicity officer Mr Patrick Croke.

"The bowls results were a mixed bag of good luck and skill with every one enjoying the day.

"Woy Woy Bowling Club

members and visitors can look forward to many more special events throughout the year," Mr Croke said.

SOURCE: Media release, 30 Jan 2022 Patrick Croke, WWBC

Southern Spirit cricket results

Results from games played by Southern Spirit Cricket Club over the past week were:

T20: Southern Spirit 2/48 (LM O'Farrell 31*) def Northern Power 47 (LE Cork 4/13, HS Jaenke 2/12).

Second Grade: Southern Spirit 3/184cc (BN Weir 89, S Dickson 69) v Brisbane Water 106 (M Bursle 5/22, JD Johnston 2/24) and 5/121 (M Bursle 3/12).

Masters - Over 40s: Northern Power 9/129 (PA Melville 3/21, JG Corbett 2/12, S Higgins 2/22) def by Southern Spirit 144 (S Dickson 36, M Austin 32).

Fourth Grade: Southern Spirit 8/158cc (M Scanlan Jr 45, C Handley 29*) v Lisarow 4/160.

Male Youth League: Southern Spirit v Lisarow 6/128cc (RD Sharma 3/9).

Under-16: Brisbane Water 51 (JD Johnston 2/0, H Tomlinson 2/4, K Warner 2/13) def by Southern Spirit 3/57.

Under-14b: Northern Power 5/108cc def Southern Spirit 8/53.

Sixth Grade: Southern Spirit 8/149cc (BJ Handley 55, M Roberts 28) def The Entrance 89 (BJ Handley 4/5, JA Wilson 2/18).

Seventh Grade: Southern Spirit 5/74 def Terrigal 73 (H Tomlinson 4/1, N Willoughby 2/13, K Warner 2/21).

Eighth Grade: Southern Spirit 121 (S Collins 31, A Zadravic 25) def Lisarow White 9/90 (MJ Donnelly 3/8, AA Downey 3/11, G

Simon 2/22).

Under-12b: Lisarow 2/79 def Southern Spirit White 75.

Southern Spirit Purple 35 def by Central Coast Grammar School 5/143cc.

Ninth Grade: Southern Spirit 5 def by Northern Power 0/6cc.

Womens 2nd Grade: Narara 5/43cc def by Southern Spirit 4/115cc.

SOURCE: Website, 6 Feb 2022 Southern Spirit Cricket Club



Milestones

Two Southern Spirit Cricket Club members have reached significant milestones.

Ben Willoughby has played his 100th game for the Spirit.

William Slater has made 500 runs for the club.

SOURCE: Social media, 29 Jan 2022 Southern Spirit Cricket Club

Discounts for board riders

Umina Boardriders is asking competitors to register before February 13.

The club offering family discounts for registration with the club, with \$100 for the first person, and \$50 per person after that.

The divisions are: Socials, Ladies, Opens, Over-40s, Over-50s, Cadets (boys under 21) and Grommets (Girls under 16).

Online registrations are taken at <https://liveheats.com/uminaboardriders/series/1412/sign-on>.

Members are asked to register before the first competition which is on Sunday, February 13.

"This will make check in on the day way quicker."

SOURCE: Social media, 1 Feb 2022 Umina Boardriders



Bunnies hold junior registration

Umina Bunnies Junior Rugby League Football Club registration days will be held at Ettalong Diggers club between 10am and 3pm on February 12, 19 and 26.

Registration for Minis and Mods boys and girls under-5 to under-12 costs \$160.

Other sections are International boys 13 to 17, Girls Tackle under-13, under-15 and under-17, Girls League Tag under-14 and

under-16.

The price includes shorts, socks, polo shirt and all insurance.

New players are asked to bring their original birth certificate or passport.

For further information, contact Ms Cae Burgess on 0410 433 112 or email uminabunnies@outlook.com.

SOURCE: Social media, 2 Feb 2022 Umina Bunnies JRLFC

Jacob's best

Jacob Falconer representing Woy Woy has swum two personal best times at the NSW Senior State Age Championships held January 20-25.

He swam a national qualifying time of 2:20.95 in his heat of the boys 13-14 200m backstroke.

He then went on to place sixth in the final with and another national qualifier and a new personal best of 2:18.61.

SOURCE: Social media, 21 Jan 2022 Peninsula Leisure Centre



Men's Fours championship won

Lee Cribbs, Shane Waddell, Glen Simington and Tony Potter have won the Umina Beach Men's Bowling Club's 2022 Fours Championship.

They defeated Garry Arnold,

Grant Watson, Arthur Glynn and Paul Maher, 22-12.

"This was a great final," said club secretary Mr Peter Springett.

SOURCE: Social media, 6 Feb 2022 Peter Springett, UBMBC