

Varroa mite found on the Peninsula

The destructive honey bee parasite varroa mite has been found at Woy Woy, Umina Beach, Horsfield Bay and Koolewong.

The whole Peninsula has been declared an eradication emergency red zone and all managed European honey bee hives within the surrounding area will be euthanased.

Bees and hives must not be moved into, out of, or within the red zone.

The zoning will be maintained until eradication is proven, which is likely to be several years, according to a statement from the NSW Department of Primary Industries.

The Department describes the mite as "the most serious pest of honey bees worldwide".

"Left untreated varroa mite will kill any bee hive it infects. All feral and untreated bee colonies will eventually die."

The mite is spread between hives by drone bees.

The Department's statement said it was acting with "haste in the Central Coast" and called on residents to report feral hives and to offer to host bait stations.

Poison baiting of wild honey bees "will be rolled out first, before managed hives are euthanased".

The Department said the varroa mite does not present a risk to native bees and native bees are not a carrier of the mite.

However, the baiting program may affect them, according to Dr Anne Dollin of the Australian Native Bee Research Centre.

"The use of baits poisoned with Fipronil will impact local native bees and other pollinators.

"Biosecurity NSW is striving to make this baiting program as safe as possible for non-target species, including native bees.

"Fipronil will only be placed in each bait for a short period and then these baits will be closely monitored by an officer, the entire time, to ensure native insects, birds and mammals are not exposed to the chemical.

"Feral European honeybee foragers will visit these baits and take the Fipronil back to their nests, killing the colony.

"However, the honey in all of these poisoned feral European honeybee nests could contain active Fipronil for over two years.

"This eradication effort still could pose substantial risks to native bees that are in, or near to, the red eradication zones."

She said native bees and native



beehives within the red zone can be moved legally in NSW.

"The safest action to take could be to move your hive of native stingless bees completely out of the red eradication zone and adjacent areas.

"Sadly, it will be difficult to help natural nests of native stingless bees that are inside hollow standing trees, because the risk of Fipronil poisoning will continue for up to three years in these areas.

"Similarly, it will be difficult to protect populations of solitary or semi-social native bees, such as blue-banded bees or carpenter bees.

"Fortunately, these types of bees are unlikely to be attracted to contaminated honey inside dead feral European honeybee nests, so they may not be affected."

A reduction of feral honey bees in the bush "would reduce competition for nectar and pollen resources in the bush, which should benefit some native bee

populations," she said.

The Crommelin Native Arboretum at Pearl Beach has a number of hives of stingless native bees (tetragonia carbonaria).

"Tetragonia carbonarias don't fly very far," said Pearl Beach native bee group convenor Ms Ann Parsons.

"Given that there would only be a few if any honey bees hives at Pearl Beach, we'll leave the bees in the Arboretum."

Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch, who described herself as "a keen apiarist", said last week: "The varroa mite outbreak has been nothing short of devastating for the State's honeybee population.

"I understand people's heartbreak over losing their bees as I will have to go through the same process myself.

"The beekeeping community have been outstanding in their commitment and vigilance during this difficult time, especially during this latest outbreak.

"I urge them to keep up their diligence to help stop the spread of this outbreak."

Dr Dollin said: "This crisis highlights the vital importance of developing native bees as alternative pollinators for Australian agricultural crops.

"If this varroa mite incursion cannot be eradicated, massive losses of honey bees will occur throughout Australia.

"Then the pollination services of native bees and other insects will become crucial to support Australian agriculture."

SOURCE:

Media statement, 17 Mar 2023
Media unit, DPI NSW



A native leafcutter bee, pictured in a Umina vegetable garden last week

Election lift-out Pages 7 - 10



Voting at community centre

Pre-polling started at the Peninsula Community Centre at Woy Woy on Saturday.

It continues during this week. For details of the voting hours, see our election lift-out on pages 7 to 10.

Produced on the Peninsula

Peninsula news & advertising
for the Peninsula community

Our 24th birthday ... and another election

This is the 24th birthday edition of Peninsula News.

And, to celebrate, we have a bumper 16-page issue.

Issue number one of Peninsula News was dated April 1999, but it was actually published ahead of the March 1999 State election.

It contained contributions from the candidates: Labor Ms Marie Andrews, Liberal Ms Debra Wales and Democrats Mr Geoff Preece.

With our 24th birthday, we again face a State election.

In this issue, we have included a four-page Election lift-out, with generous space for candidates to respond to local concerns.

When we started we were the first paper in 25 years to give exclusive coverage to the Peninsula.

"The Peninsula News aims to inform the community of all vital developments, to provide

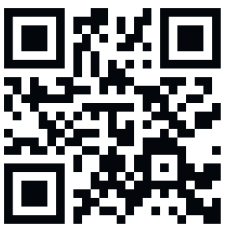
a forum for discussion and to engender pride and involvement in our community," we wrote.

"To do this successfully, we need your support."

Peninsula News has been successful, primarily because it has received community support.

As we enter our 25th year, we continue with these aims and continue to welcome your involvement and support.

Mark Snell, 8 Jan 2023



DOWNLOAD this
issue. SCAN here.

Next issue: Monday, April 3

Call us on 4342 5333
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.

New kitchen opens at aged care home

A Woy Woy aged care home has opened its new kitchen.

A group of residents at Blue Wave Living have had a tour of the kitchen allowing them to see where their meals are cooked each day.

"The new state of the art kitchen features high end commercial equipment including an i-Vario cooker," said chief executive Mr Matt Downie.

He said the cooker was like an extra large pressure cooker and frypan, with induction technology.

The kitchen also had a purpose-built sandwich making station, two walk-in fridges, and a walk in freezer.

It had multiple combi-ovens and a fully-automated high-end dishwasher, he said.

"There is enough space in the



kitchen to create meals for more than 200 people.

"This behind the scenes tour helps us appreciate the scale and volume of the cooking processes which the Blue Wave Living catering team undertake each day."

SOURCE:
Social media, 7 Mar 2023
Matt Downie, BlueWave Living

Active case numbers triple in Woy Woy

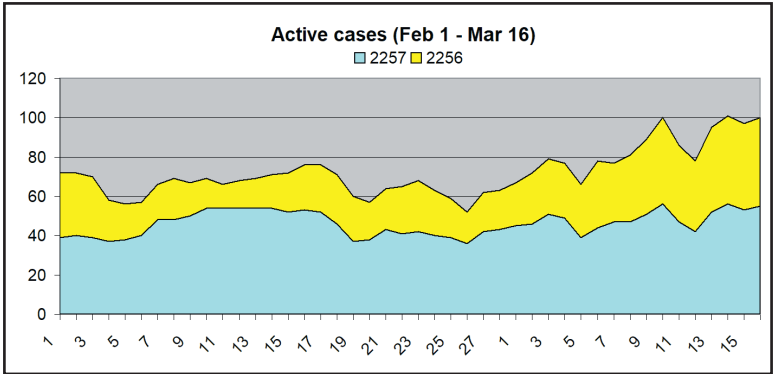
Active coronavirus case numbers recorded for the 2256 postcode area, which includes Woy Woy, have tripled over the past month.

Over the same period, numbers in the 2257 postcode have remained stable.

Numbers in the Woy Woy postcode area have gone from 12 on February 11 to 45 on March 16.

The numbers in the 2257 postcode areas have gone from 54 to 55 on the same dates.

The total numbers for 2256 and



2257 have grown from 66 to 100 and have ranged as low as 52.

SOURCE:
Website, 17 Mar 2023
Covid-19 cases, Data NSW

Another dry month for the Peninsula?

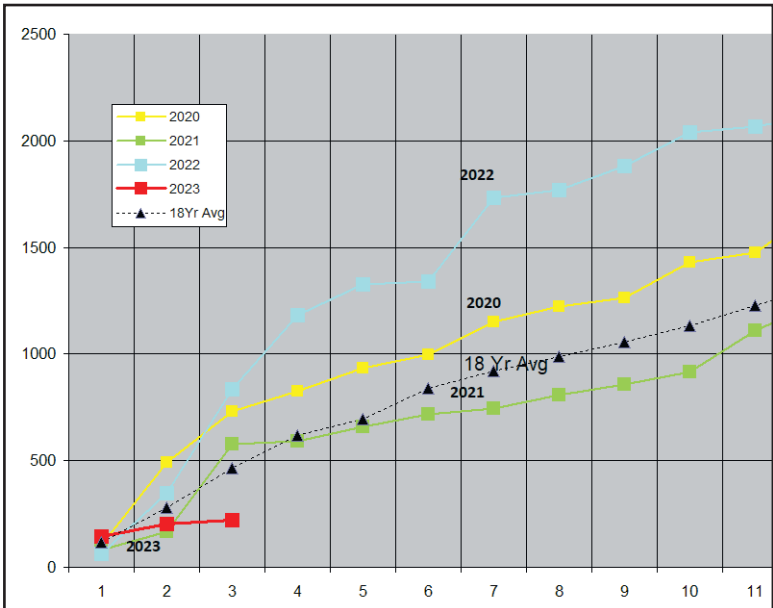
The Peninsula seems set for another dry month, with only 19.1 mm of rain being recorded so far this month.

This is little more than one 10th the average for March of 188mm, according to figures supplied by Mr Jim Morrison of Umina.

Rain has fallen on only four days this month: 9.8mm was recorded on March 2, 0.6mm on March 3, 5.0mm on March 14 and 3.7mm on March 15.

The cumulative total rainfall for the year to date stands at 223mm, which is 52.2 per cent less than the average at the end of March of 467mm.

SOURCE:
Spreadsheet, 17 Mar 2023
Jim Morrison, Umina



TIDE TIMES and Heights	Mon, Mar 20	Thu, Mar 23	Sun, Mar 26	Wed, Mar 29	Sat, Apr 1
	0211 0.15	0449 0.09	0035 1.11	0305 0.96	0615 0.93
	0830 1.28	1046 1.14	0720 0.21	1045 0.27	1322 0.20
	1520 0.07	1715 0.09	1257 0.78	1626 0.58	1927 0.72
	2105 1.00	2312 1.14	1853 0.22	2123 0.36	
AT ETTALONG	Tue, Mar 21	Fri, Mar 24	Mon, Mar 27	Thu, Mar 30	Sun, Apr 2
	0307 0.10	0539 0.12	0119 1.07	0411 0.92	0049 0.30
	0918 1.28	1129 1.03	0818 0.25	1150 0.25	0603 0.97
	1601 0.06	1747 0.13	1349 0.68	1750 0.61	1257 0.18
	2149 1.07	2353 1.14	1930 0.27	2239 0.37	1900 0.79
	Wed, Mar 22	Sat, Mar 25	Tue, Mar 28	Fri, Mar 31	Mon, Apr 3
	0400 0.08	0628 0.16	0208 1.01	0516 0.91	0038 0.25
	1003 1.23	1212 0.90	0928 0.27	1241 0.23	0645 1.02
	1640 0.07	1819 0.17	1455 0.61	1846 0.66	1330 0.16
	2231 1.11		2019 0.32	2350 0.34	1930 0.86

Italian Weekend planned for Ettalong in April

An Italian-themed weekend will be held at the Galleria Ettalong Beach from 10am to 4pm on Saturday and Sunday, April 15 and 16.

The Italian Weekend will “celebrate the sights, sounds and flavours of Italy”, according to Nina and Jerry Altavilla, owners of Galleria Ettalong Beach.

It will feature Italian-themed stalls, as well as music from English-Italian vocalists George Vumbaca and Sam Pellegrino, as well as the Abruzzo Choir and Accordions Alfresco.

“We are pleased to invite the

community to the many covered alfresco piazzas, covered courtyards and walkways of the Galleria,” said Mr Altavilla.

“A variety of stallholders will be on offer providing an even greater variety of products and cuisine than our permanent shops, cafes and restaurants already offer.”

The Galleria Ettalong Beach, at the corner of Ocean View and Schnapper Rds, is home to Ettalong Beach Tourist Resort and Cinema Paradiso.

SOURCE:
Media release, 16 Mar 2023
Melinda Stanley, Galleria Ettalong Beach



Happy ending for extended magpie family

Woy Woy resident Ms Yvette Pritchard was appalled when dead magpies started to appear on her front lawn.

The cause was a pole-top transformer outside her house in Macleay Ave.

“The transformer power pole is a favourite perch for members of a large extended family of local

magpies,” she said.

The unfortunate magpies were perching in the wrong place on the high voltage transmission wires and suffered “a series of magpie deaths by electrocution”, she said.

Ms Pritchard contacted Ausgrid about the problem.

After some initial resistance (“there’s nothing we can do”), Ausgrid determined that the

magpies had been inadvertently responsible for two recent power outages and agreed to fix the problem.

Ausgrid reconfigured and insulated the offending wires.

“The magpie story has had a happy ending,” Ms Pritchard said.

SOURCE:
Email, 14 Mar 2023
Yvette Pritchard, Woy Woy



Clean-up program’s future ‘uncertain’ after trailer failure

The Clean4shore marine clean-up program faces “an uncertain future”, according to co-ordinator Mr Graham Johnston.

A car trailer used by the group to transport rubbish to Woy Woy tip has rusted and is unrepairable.

Limited funding and an uncertain future meant the organisation was unable to buy a replacement, “leaving a gap in our ability to move the bulkier items”, he said.

“The mover of many larger loads over the past five years was retired to the metal recyclers as extensive rust was unrepairable for this month’s registration.”

Mr Johnston said the trailer had been a worthwhile investment for Clean4shore carting 37 vessels in the past year, but regular immersion into the salt water had taken its toll.

SOURCE:
Social media, 10 Mar 2023
Graham Johnston, Clean4shore

The Pearl Beach Progress Association is calling on Pearl Beach residents to complain to their phone providers about reception around the town.

The advice follows a meeting of members of the association committee with Member for Robertson Dr Gordon Reid.

“He requested that as a community we increase the pressure on the Telcos with as many residents as possible complaining directly to their Telco,” said association assistant secretary Mr Nigel Tisdale.

In a post on the association’s website, he said: “As I am sure most of you know, many residents of Pearl Beach struggle to get reliable mobile phone service.

“This was clearly demonstrated last year when the Pearl Beach Progress Association took the decision to uncouple the defibrillator stations from the mobile system due to the considerable risk that they would not be accessible as a result of the inability to connect to the mobile network.”

He said the association’s safety advisory group had been pursuing the issue with letters , emails and

meetings with government officials.

“Unfortunately, the Telcos do not recognise that there is a serious issue with mobile phone coverage in Pearl Beach.

“The Telcos look at the size of the village and the proximity of the transmitter, at the water tower on Mt Ettalong, and conclude that there should be no coverage issue.

“No consideration has been made for the geography, topology and vegetation cover that are critical factors affecting mobile coverage in Pearl Beach.

SOURCE:
Website, 10 Mar 2023
Nigel Tisdale, PBPA

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Planning

Parking and open space not compliant in three-unit plan

A proposal to build three dwellings in a multi-unit development at 8 Priestman Ave, Umina, does not comply with parking requirements or private open space planning provisions.

“The application seeks consent for the erection of three townhouses with front courtyard fencing,” the application prepared by Clarke Dowdle and Associates states.

“The two-storey dwellings would be founded on re-enforced concrete slab, timber framing with a mixture of external cladding as illustrated on the elevation drawings.

“Vehicular access is proposed via central driveway to separate garages provided for each unit.

“The full gamut of the proposal is illustrated within the architectural plans prepared by Howard Leslie and Associates.”

The number of bedrooms per unit is not disclosed in the application or plans, but according to the Basix certificate is Unit 1 has three bedrooms, Unit 2 has two bedrooms and Unit 3 has three



bedrooms.

The application includes a table which shows non-compliance with planning provisions for private open space, and visitor and resident car parking - a shortfall of one of each.

Unit 1's private open space

is planned to be located within the front setback in violation of planning provisions which state: “Ground level courtyards are not permitted within the front building setback area fronting local roads.”

About parking, the application states: “The proposed garages

provide four off-street parking spaces which does not comply with the numerical measure of five spaces in accordance with Central Coast Development Control Plan Chapter 2.13 Parking rates for multi-housing development.” It states: “Due to the narrowness

of the site, no visitor parking is provided.”

“The development only consists of three dwellings that equated to 0.6 spaces and therefore is only just over the threshold for the one visitor parking space requirement.

“Unrestricted on-street parking is safely available within immediate proximity of the site.”

The application makes no reference to Clause 2.2.8.1 which states: “Visitor parking shall be provided for all multi dwelling housing and attached dwelling development at the rate of one space per five units, with a minimum of one visitor space per development.”

The application claims the development is consistent with the objectives, planning strategies and controls applicable to the site.

“The proposal provides increased housing density which is well designed to meet residential needs and is commensurate with the character of the surrounding area.”

The application is open for submissions until April 12.

SOURCE:
DA Tracker, 18 Mar 2023
DA397/2023, Central Coast Council

Dual occupancy ‘complies’ with planning provisions

An application to construct and subdivide an “attached” dual occupancy at 31 Webb Rd, Booker Bay, has been received by Central Coast Council.

The application claims to comply with all planning provisions.

The structure will be of two storeys and both units will contain three bedrooms.

Prepared by D-Plan Urban Planning Consultants on behalf of applicant Residential Logistics Pty Ltd, the application states: “The property is rectangular in shape, with a frontage of 13.715 metres and a length of 45.72 metres, creating a total site area of 626 square metres.”

The height is 8.197 metres and floor space ratio 0.499:1 which is less than the maximum allowable height of 8.5 metres and maximum floor space ratio of 0.5:1.

The area of soft landscaping is claimed to be 32 per cent slightly above the minimum of 25 per cent.

There is no mention of any existing or planned trees in the application, although it does state that there are no street trees in the immediate area.

The only plan provided with the application is a basic outline on the shadow diagram.

The shadow diagram itself has an incorrect depiction of true north and, as the diagrams have been drawn to this false north, they are out by roughly seven degrees.

The architectural drawings

consist of elevations only.

It is not clear whether this complies with Environmental Planning and Assessment Act requirements for public exhibition.

The application claims: “Thoughtful orientation of windows, doors and design features has produced an aesthetically pleasing facade to the development that contributes to the streetscape amenity.

“The design of the proposed development will complement the existing streetscape of Webb Rd which comprises both single and larger two-storey building forms.

“There is an obvious emerging trend for improvement, with small single storey cottages being replaced with larger two-storey dwellings and in some cases increased densities.

“The design incorporates contemporary architectural themes with articulation and a pitched, hipped roof design.

“Design features, single storey elements and the effective use of colours and materials reduce the overall bulk and scale of the building, while compliant front and rear setbacks ensure that the development does not adversely affect the existing streetscape amenity.”

The proposal is currently on public exhibition and written submissions will be accepted until March 30.

SOURCE:
DA Tracker, 19 Mar 2023
DA4179/2022, Central Coast Council



CWA branch holds annual Easter raffle

Umina Beach branch of the Country Women's Association is holding its annual Easter Raffle.

Tickets will be on sale outside Stephenson's Real Estate in West St, Umina, from 9am until noon on Saturdays, March 25 and April 1.

SOURCE:
Social media, 13 Mar 2023
Lin Griffiths, CWA Umina Beach

Parent-teacher interviews to require internet access

Term one parent-teacher interviews at Ettalong Public School will require internet access.

They will be held on Tuesday, April 4, from 3:10pm-6pm.

“Parents will be able to book themselves a 10-minute interview with their child's class teacher via the Sentral Parent Portal,” said relieving principal Ms Jodie Campbell.

Bookings close on Tuesday, March 28, at 5pm.

“You will need to download the Sentral Parents app or have access to the parent portal via a web browser to book your interview.

“If you have not set up your parent portal access then please contact our Office Staff who can send you details on how you can do this.”

SOURCE:
Social media, 13 Mar 2023
Jodie Campbell, Ettalong Public School

Minister says koala translocation budget is exhausted

Koala translocation projects, including at Pearl Beach, have been put on hold because the budget for them has been exhausted.

That is the reason given to the Pearl Beach Patonga Koala Group in a letter from Environment Minister Mr James Griffin.

Mr Griffin told group convenor Ms Ann Parsons: "At the beginning of 2022, the National Parks and Wildlife Service and the Department of Planning and Environment's Science Economics and Insights Division considered the work was behind schedule due to Covid-19 and adverse weather.

"After consultation with the National Parks translocation team, the Division requested the University to focus on one site, Coolah Tops National Park, to ensure meaningful work could be finalised in at least one potential translocation site with the remaining funds."

Mr Griffin said: "The University of Sydney completed preliminary work into the feasibility of Brisbane

Water National Park and Royal National Park.

"Additional work may still occur at these sites, but it was not possible to complete this work under the current project."

Ms Parsons said: "The previous Energy and Environment Minister Mr Matt Kean aimed to double the koala population by 2050.

"In 2021, the NSW Koala Strategy received over \$190 million from the NSW Government towards establishing this goal.

"The 2022 NSW Koala Strategy states as one of the key koala conservation targets by the end of 2026 was 'to have up to eight translocation projects implemented'.

"Now with the remaining funds, they hope to finalise one potential translocation site.

"Where has the money gone?"

Ms Parsons encouraged residents "to think about koalas and other threatened species when you vote".

SOURCE:

Social media, 17 Mar 2023
Ann Parsons, Pearl Beach Patonga



Bus catches alight in Brisbane Ave

Firefighters extinguished a fire in a bus that had caught alight in Brisbane Ave, Umina, last Thursday morning.

Two crews from the Umina Fire and Rescue NSW station rushed to the site, along with police and

ambulance paramedics, around 8.45am and found the bus well alight.

The driver was the only person on board when the blaze broke out and got off safely.

Firefighters, wearing breathing apparatus, applied foam and water to the smoke and flames to douse

the fire.

Crews mopped up the scene and the bus was towed away.

It was not known last week what started the blaze.

SOURCE:
Social media, 16 Mar 2023
Station 340 Umina, Fire and Rescue NSW

Raffle money for three local groups

Three Peninsula community organisations have raised money through participating in a monster raffle run by the Rotary Club of The Entrance.

The Rotary Club of Umina Beach raised \$1000.

"It will remain on the Peninsula through our charitable donations," said club publicity officer Mr Pat Lewis.

"Tickets are sold by Not-For-Profits all over the Coast.

"They keep all of the money raised from these sales for their own charitable, sporting, artistic, or community-building purpose.

"This year 32 charitable groups, including seven Rotary clubs, participated raising \$32,000."

Peninsula groups included the Ettalong Arts and Crafts Centre and Mary Mac's Place.

"This raffle was begun 39 years ago by the Rotary Club of The Entrance and in that time has raised just on \$1 million," said Mr Lewis.

SOURCE:

Media release, 8 Mar 2023
Pat Lewis, Rotary Umina Beach

Fire brigade holds information night

The Pearl Beach rural fire brigade's Membership Information Night will be held from 5pm to 7pm on Saturday, March 25.

The night will describe the organisation's mission, goals, and values.

The brigade is offering the opportunity "to make a difference in your community, meet new people, or develop new skills".

Members of the brigade will attend and describe their experience with the NSW Rural Fire Service.

They will be available to answer any questions and provide a guide through the application process.

The information night will be held at the Pearl Beach fire station at 39 Emerald Ave, Pearl Beach.

SOURCE:
Social media, 12 Mar 2023
Pearl Beach Brigade, NSW RFS



The attraction of arboretum working bees

Volunteers have been attracted to working bees at the Pearl Beach arboretum by the beauty of the natural surrounds, by the friendly people and the sunny summer days.

If this was not reason enough, recently there has been the added attraction of the morning tea.

On the left are hot cross buns, and on the right are chocolate brownies.

SOURCE:

Social media, 9 Mar 2023
Pearl Beach Arboretum



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POP THIS DATE IN YOUR DIARY Saturday, April 15

**On Saturday, April 15th
the Central Coast branch of ABC Friends
will be hosting an information morning about**

THE VOICE TO PARLIAMENT

**Special Guest Speaker:
Federal MP for Robertson, Dr Gordon Reid.**

**The presentation will take place
from 10.00 am to 11.30 am
in the Function Room at the Elanora Hotel
41 Victoria St East Gosford (ample parking at rear)
and will include a Q&A session.**

**We welcome all guests to join us for lunch
afterwards which can be purchased at the Hotel.**

IMPORTANT NOTE

This is a pre-booked event with a limit on seating.

**To reserve a place, please contact our events
organiser, Sue Young, on 0409 362 126
or by email at csmoec@exemail.com.au**

ABC Friends
CENTRAL COAST

Forum

No greater disservice than to disenfranchise constituents

Any government can do no greater disservice to its constituents than to disenfranchise them.

This is particularly so when it is done solely to eliminate accountability, to deflect criticism of ever-reducing services or to obtain clear passage for further

rate rises.

I have been a “roasted on” supporter of the Liberal Party for 50 years.

No more. It is Labor for me from now on.

I see no point in voting for minor parties.

They cannot influence anything except in a hung parliament.

I believe it to be highly unlikely, but should Labor lose the election, a strong representation on the Central Coast would curb the excesses of the current regime.

Think seriously about this before casting your ballot.

SOURCE:
Letter, 9 Mar 2023
Mike Watkins, Woy Woy

When Australia does not include New South Wales

Do you remember all the hype when it was announced that the 2022 National Construction Code will require “all” new Australian houses and apartments to meet a minimum energy efficiency rating of seven stars under the Nationwide House Energy Rating Scheme (NatHERS).

It appears that in the context of the above statement the words “all”, “Australia” and “Nationwide” should be followed by the addendum “except for NSW”.

NSW has its own system of measurement that includes a “thermal comfort index” which apparently is “equivalent” to NatHERS.

It’s called Basix (Building Sustainability Index).

It was an initiative of the NSW Government back in 2004 and it’s still alive and kicking.

So much so that you must have a Basix certificate for a new house

in NSW.

You don’t need a NatHERS certificate although you can obtain one if you want to.

NatHERS is administered by the Australian Government and according the official website it “provides a streamlined pathway to meet or beat the new National Construction Code 2022 energy efficiency requirements”.

It also declares that “currently around 90 per cent of new home designs are assessed using the scheme.”

So could somebody please tell me why, if NatHERS is good enough for the rest of Australia, we need the NSW Government to be running their own separate scheme?

Knowing the way governments work, I bet it’s not cheap.

Is it a pride thing?

Are they using taxpayers money to pay for their “hissy fit”?

SOURCE:
Email, 19 Mar 2023
Francis Wiffen, Woy Woy

Where’s the ‘fair go’ in this election?

Australia supposedly has a culture of a “fair go”.

What I find striking is that someone running as an independent in the upcoming election clearly does not have a “fair go”.

Certain people are interfering to ensure that campaign events cannot take place, by ordering the

venues to prevent other bookings.

Should the venues who gave in to such coercion be named and shamed?

Should the people interfering in the elections by preventing opposing candidates from having campaign events be named and shamed?

The ultimate question is what these people are so scared about

to feel they must interfere in the elections like this?

And one question for the voters: Given these recent actions, and given all the controversy over elections across the world, do you really believe the Australian elections are “free and fair”?

SOURCE:
Email, 17 Mar 2023
Mike Gallagher, Ettalong Beach

Gosford waterfront may stall at the coloured-drawings stage

The Council is forging ahead with its highly speculative scheme for the Gosford waterfront, planning to spend \$2.2 million of our money on a master planning exercise.

There is no indication that funding for this extravaganza will ever become available to carry it beyond the coloured-drawings stage.

The Administrator justifies

this decision with a claim that positive feedback on the proposal was received from 93 per cent of Central Coast residents, which, right there, is enough to show that any consultation was a complete sham.

Mother Theresa wouldn’t get a 93 per cent approval rating in any real-world survey, so we can see what reliance to put on the support that the Administrator avers is so

overwhelming.

This is just another case of the Council tailoring the facts to suit the decision it had already taken, regardless of what opinion might be expressed by the community.

There have been numerous iterations of this waterfront thought bubble to date, most of the other proposals superior to the one now determined on by the Council.

There was, in fact, one prepared

by a disinterested local group that was well worth pursuing, assuming that some preliminary expressions of investment interest could have been found.

However, the present proposition is notable for being dismally mediocre in certain aspects and absurdly unrealistic in others.

So it is quite worrying, given that the dismally mediocre parts are the

ones most likely to be carried out, if anything comes of this exercise at all.

Taking into account the Council’s record of success in these enterprises, perhaps our best hope is that it never gets beyond the coloured-drawings stage, even if it does cost us \$2.2 million.

SOURCE:
Email, 14 Mar 2023
Bruce Hyland, Woy Woy

Noticeboard - Public Notices

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Questions for the candidates: Do you support ... ?

As the local newspaper for the Peninsula community, Peninsula News is interested in the changes candidates can make for the Peninsula if elected to State Parliament.

Both our local government and the planning system which determine our quality of life on the Peninsula are the result of State laws and policies.

The following questionnaire was framed with input from the Peninsula Residents' Association and was sent to all candidates for their response.

Local democracy

Administration: Should Central Coast Council still be under administration? Should there be a maximum period set for local government administration? How long should we have to wait for local government elections?

Would you replace the Administrator with someone who does not have the conflict of interest of being the previous chief executive and with one who has a charter to represent residents?

Representation and ward boundaries: At least half the councils in NSW have less population than the Peninsula, and their residents elect their own representatives. Even with elections on the Central Coast, or

a de-amalgamated council, there is no guarantee the Peninsula's voice will be heard unless the Peninsula has a ward of its own.

What measures will you put in place to ensure that communities the size of the Peninsula will have their own representatives in council and that ward boundaries will not be gerrymandered?

Would you ensure ward boundaries are based on community boundaries and are subject to an external review? How soon should this be implemented?

Governance: What are the lessons of the public inquiry into Central Coast Council? Have the various parties learnt their lessons? What changes should be made at a State level as a result?

How will you ensure councillors have the processes, structure and support to enable them to control the policy and performance of the council, and that there is tangible accountability to the community for both councillors and for senior managers of the council?

What changes are needed to help the council and its staff regain the trust of the public which it serves?

Would you provide the Office of Local Government with greater responsibility to ensure councils are more functional as participatory as well as representative local

democracies?

Working with the community: What practical measures would you put in place to ensure that councils follow the wishes of local communities?

Should local communities determine local planning strategies, planning controls and planning decisions? Should this power be returned to councillors?

How would you/your government ensure residents have early meaningful engagement in council decision-making?

Should councils be required to publish all submissions made in response to its consultations, so that the community can benefit from the transparency of shared knowledge?

The Rule of Law

Central to democracy is the Rule of Law which says the law should be equally and fairly applied to all people.

It requires that the law is clear, publicised, and stable, so that people know what is required of them and the law can be implemented consistently.

Meaningful laws: Many of the strategies, plans and policies adopted by Central Coast Council, including several required by State legislation, have been criticised by residents for being indefinite,

and non-committal if not entirely meaningless.

What measures would you take to ensure they are written succinctly using an understandable, tangible and enforceable wording?

Enforceable laws: The nature of planning on the Peninsula derives from State law and policy. The detail of planning provisions applying to the Peninsula are contained within the council's Development Control Plan. Many approvals have been issued which are not compliant with the DCP and council planning staff have described it as being discretionary guidelines only.

Should the "rule of law" apply to the Development Control Plan? Would your government require compliance with it? What measures should be available to residents to ensure its integrity is maintained, eg subsidised access for residents to the Land and Environment Court?

Liveable neighbourhoods

What is needed to protect the quality of life in the Peninsula's local neighbourhoods? Should the well-being of our community and the lifestyle that attracted our residents here be protected? What will you/your party do about this for the Peninsula?

Urban environment: What would your Government do to reduce the Peninsula's "heat island"? How would your government achieve the Greater Cities' target tree canopy of 40 per cent for the Peninsula sandplain? Would it mandate larger minimum private open spaces for new developments?

Should our back streets and "dunny lanes" be used as new street frontages, as we have seen in recent development applications, or should they be retained as shady back lanes to be used as part of an active transport network?

Housing diversity: The terms "housing diversity" and "housing affordability" have become code phrases to justify the approval of similar or identical multi-dwelling developments, with large areas of concrete surfaces, which have had the effect of increasing land prices on the Peninsula with no corresponding reduction in dwelling prices.

Do you support true diversity of new housing development on the Peninsula, offering a range of housing at a range of prices, and ensuring the availability of home ownership to people on minimum wages? What action will you take to achieve this?

Mark Snell, 9 Mar 2023

How responsive are our candidates to local concerns?

How responsive are the State election candidates to resident concerns about the direct impact of State laws and policies on the quality of life on the Peninsula?

How well will they represent our local community's interests if elected to State Parliament?

The Peninsula has more than half of the population of the Gosford electorate.

As the candidates would know, Peninsula News does not cover regional, state or national news

unless there is a direct reference to the Peninsula.

Their parties' policies are usually fully covered by State and regional media.

However, lower house members of parliament are also meant to represent the interests of the constituents of their electorate.

Peninsula News is in a unique position to allow candidates to provide this local perspective that is not likely to be available through the other media.

We gave all Gosford candidates

the opportunity to answer questions prepared in consultation with the Peninsula Residents' Association for this purpose.

They were invited to write up to 100 words of introduction and 650 words to answer these questions.

Peninsula News received responses from four candidates: Greens' Ms Hilary van Haren, Labor's Ms Liesl Tesch, Liberal's Ms Dee Bocking and independent Ms Lisa Bellamy.

They are reproduced on the following pages in ballot paper

order.

No responses were received from candidates for the Animal Justice Party, the Sustainable Australia Party or the Shooters, Fishers and Farmers Party.

Only two of the responses, from Ms van Haren and Ms Bellamy, answered the questions asked.

Ms Tesch and Ms Bocking chose not to.

We had hoped that by trebling what in previous years had been a 250-word limit they would be encouraged to answer local

concerns.

We have chosen to publish the responses that did not answer the questions or provide any local content, even though this might be seen to be unfair to the candidates who did answer the questions.

Readers should be able to make their own assessment of the degree of responsiveness and willingness that each candidate has to represent residents' specific local concerns in their role as a Member of Parliament.

SOURCE:
Mark Snell, 18 Mar 2023

Pre-polling and polling booths

Pre-polling for the NSW election is available this week at the Peninsula Community Centre at 93 McMasters Rd, Woy Woy.

It will be open 8:30am to 5:30pm today, tomorrow and Wednesday, March 20-23.

It will be open on Thursday, March 24, from 8:30am to 8pm and on Friday from 8:30am to 6pm.

Polling day is Saturday, March 25.

Polling booths will be available at Booker Bay Pre-School at 32 Telopea St, at Ettalong Senior Citizens Centre at 5 Broken Bay Rd, and at Ettalong Public School in Uligandi St.

In Umina, polling booths will be available at Brisbane Water Secondary College Umina at 120 Veron Rd, at Umina Uniting Church in Neptune Street, at Umina Beach Public School in Sydney Ave and at Umina Community Hall (Mingaletta) at 6 Sydney Ave.



Pre-polling at the Peninsula Community Centre

In Woy Woy, polling booths will be available at Brisbane Water Secondary College Woy Woy in Edward St, at Woy Woy South Public School at The School Mall, and at South Woy Woy Progress Association Hall at 76 Woy Woy Rd.

SOURCE:
Website, 14 Mar 2023
NSW Electoral Commission

Two stand for Upper House

Two Peninsula residents are candidates for the Legislative Council.

They are Umina resident Mr Franco Todisco and Woy Woy resident Mr Michael Wilder.

Mr Todisco is fourth on the ticket for Group U (Australian One).

"My platform is focused on creating economic opportunity for the Central Coast, improving the quality of life for residents, and protecting the environment," he said.

"I am deeply concerned about government corruption.

"Public trust has been eroded by a persistent pattern of unethical behaviour by elected officials, and that this must be addressed in order to restore faith in the political

process."

Mr Wilder is 16th on the Sustainable Australia Party ticket.

"I am standing as a candidate for the Upper House because I am deeply concerned about protecting our environment and stopping overdevelopment and corruption," said Mr Wilder.

Sustainable Australia is also a party not frightened to have sustainable population on their platform.

"I believe over-population is not only a Australian problem but a global one as well.

"I am also impressed by all their other policies."

SOURCE:
Website, 17 Mar 2023
NSW Electoral Commission

Election

GREENS – Hilary van Haren

INTRODUCTION

I am a lawyer, mother and community volunteer with a commitment to social justice and sustainability. I grew up on the Central Coast and am grateful to be able to raise my own family here.

After leaving a career in state public service, I now work alongside individuals, not-for-profits and grassroots organisations to make sure governments and politicians deliver for the community.

The Greens is the only party that will ban new coal and gas, stand up for renters, provide free transport and TAFE, and keep big business, the mining industry and the gambling lobby out of NSW politics.

I'm proud to present the Greens policies to the Peninsula community – with your help we can let the major parties know we expect more.

ANSWERS TO
RESIDENT QUESTIONS
Council Administration

The Greens have been vocal on the failure of the bungled amalgamation of Gosford and Wyong Councils and the extraordinary lack of democracy on the Central Coast. We support Local Government elections and

a public vote on de-amalgamation before the end of 2023.

Representation, Ward Boundaries and Governance

The Greens have always advocated for genuine local democracy, where residents have a real say in the issues that affect them in their neighbourhoods.

The Central Coast Greens favour abolishing the ward system to allow residents to elect representatives for the entire area and encourage councillors to cooperate across the wide range of issues in our region.

This was recommended in the original 2016 Boundary Commission report, which also recommended retaining 15 councillors. The proposal for nine councillors would risk the region having the least representative government in the country.

We see this as the best way to reduce the impact of party politics on council, and ensure representatives govern for the whole community.

In terms of the performance of Council, we consider the issues have arisen predominantly as a result of the Liberal Government's amalgamation debacle, which had limited community involvement and short-changed the region.

While operational matters will need to be considered, our priority



is to reinstate democratically elected local government as soon as possible.

Meaningful and Enforceable Planning Laws

I have worked extensively in law reform, and firmly believe that laws should be clear, unambiguous, and provide certainty for those impacted.

This is the same for local government strategy and policy.

The Greens will continue to make submissions on local issues, regardless of the outcome of the State election, and I will gladly provide Council or the administrator with input on drafting.

The enforceability of the

Development Control Plan should be considered in the context of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.

However, the Greens' preference is for a full review of the Local Environment Plan, to make sure development approaches are planned, clear, consulted, and meet community expectations.

Liveable Neighbourhoods

The Greens want to see vibrant and sustainable communities, by increasing public transport, and improving infrastructure to create "walkable, rideable" neighbourhoods.

We will fund Council to plant urban shade trees, to reduce the impact of climate-induced heatwaves and bring down the heat island effect.

We will also invest in arts, music and culture, to support the organisations and events that bring together the diverse communities across the Peninsula.

Housing Diversity

We are in the midst of a housing crisis, and the Greens commit to a massive investment in social and affordable housing.

At the same time, we recognise that good housing needs to be planned and delivered sensitively and in a way that benefits communities.

Townhouses and other medium

density projects form part of a diverse housing mix and meet the needs of some members of the community.

However, these should not be developed at the expense of public green spaces, significant shade trees and critical habitat.

Community and Youth Engagement

The Greens agree that community engagement is central to a thriving democracy.

We want to see a return to town hall meetings, greater opportunities to participate early in policy development, and a robust network of community advisory groups.

In particular, we recognise that young people are disengaged from politics, as a result of both major parties looking after the interests of older, wealthier voters.

Our policies recognise that young people want politicians to prioritise their future, by reforming the rental market, providing free TAFE and transport, and making huge investments in social and affordable housing.

Most importantly we will ban new coal and gas and end fossil fuels by 2030, to give young people confidence they will inherit a planet they can live on.

SOURCE:
Media statement, 17 Mar 2023
Hilary van Haren, Greens



LIESL TESCH MP

MEMBER FOR GOSFORD

A CHAMPION FOR US

f

LieslTeschGosford

ig

liesltesch

ts

lieslteschmp

Labor

Authorised by Genny Murphy 18 Carrington Ave, Woy Woy NSW 2256

LIBERAL – Dee Bocking

INTRODUCTION

I am a long term resident of the Central Coast and as a child spent every school holidays at Ettalong, before eventually moving here in 1992.

I worked for (then called) 2GO radio station where I worked to improve small business revenue streams.

I then went to work for the Australian Red Cross as the Regional Fundraiser.

I organised volunteers for the annual Red Cross Calling Appeal, as well as raising vital funds for the service via Art Unions.

I left this vital work to concentrate on being a mother to my two small children.

ANSWERS TO RESIDENTS' QUESTIONS

I joined several local organisations and volunteered my time with projects such as Clean-Up Australia and the Community Christmas Party as well as Anzac Day and school events.

In 2006 I started work with Weight Watchers in Woy Woy as a leader, later coach, to hundreds of members.

I facilitated their learning on health as well as mentored and supported members through an often difficult journey.

I went on to coach at several other venues and well known for this work.

I was a councillor at Gosford City Council from 2012 – 2016 (pre-amalgamation).

This role brought me into contact with many residents and I worked tirelessly to assist them with their concerns and issues.

Most notably I supported the local community of Ettalong when they opposed the Ferry Rd boarding house development.

Despite Council staff and other councillors recommending approval, I undertook to support residents' rights and eventually the project was relocated away from the beach.

I put the residents first and was always open to hearing their issues.

In 2015, I also opened my own small business in East Gosford.

I became acutely aware of the challenges of operating a business with regulations, staff issues and financial viability.

I have an understanding and empathy for small business employers and employees.



Currently I support the community as an at home NDIS and Aged persons' Support Worker.

I feel strongly about their right to access services that support their independence.

This includes being able to traverse the roads safely for exercise and travel, home care and daily personal needs assistance and pain reduction.

I support the Liberal Government that is assisting families with over \$950 per child available to parents through the five vouchers as well

as the pre-school fee relief up to \$4220 per year.

I am very happy that the Liberal Government has announced that three fee-free pre-Kindergarten schools will be in the Gosford Electorate – at Ettalong, Karingong and East Gosford public schools, so that four-year-olds get the best start to schooling in a play-based learning environment.

Gosford will have a new university at one end of Mann St and a new TAFE at the other.

This will mean our school leavers will not have to travel very far for world class education.

One of my biggest wishes is for Council to put footpaths in every local street, so that people don't have to traverse the road.

If elected, I will work with State and Local Governments to ensure that grant funding is available to Council to fix our roads and that the work gets done.

I will also work with Council and State Government to secure funding for social housing and the protection of environmentally-sensitive lands.

Our beautiful coast is full of opportunities to add land to the Coastal Open Space Scheme.

However I acknowledge that housing must be built, especially

for those with low incomes and front line workers.

I supports the great work done by many agencies in trying to lower the incidence of homelessness on the Coast, especially those fleeing from domestic violence.

The health of our residents is also important and if elected will advocate that parking at Gosford Hospital is free.

The 38 new doctors who have just started at Gosford will be just the beginning, with a push to hire more nurses, midwives, and paramedics of utmost importance.

I am also proud that the Liberals are taking the load off GPs by empowering pharmacies to provide some scripts to patients, saving them having to wait to see a GP or go to a local hospital.

In conclusion, I am empathetic, action driven individual who has an understanding of the needs of a wide variety of people and am not afraid to stand up for them in seeking government funding, advocacy and support.

Service to others is in my blood. That's why I want to be the Member for Gosford.

To serve you.
SOURCE:
Media Statement, 17 Mar 2023
Dee Bocking, Liberal

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for the Upper House

Vote 1
Lisa Bellamy
for Gosford

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- Stop taking Indigenous kids off their families
- More alternative schools. Reform the NSW Education and Standards Authority.
- No juvenile detentions. Learn culture on Country instead
- Massive boost to social housing to end rental crisis

Authorised by Gabrielle McIntosh,
46 Woy Woy Rd, Woy Woy 2256

STATE ELECTION 25 MARCH

1 DEE BOCKING

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TO PROTECT OUR BUSHLAND, CLEAN UP OUR BEACHES

OUR FAMILIES
COST OF LIVING RELIEF, REBATES AND VOUCHERS

DEE BOCKING Liberal for Gosford

DeeBocking4Gosford0455 189 744Gosford@nswliberal.org.au

Authorised by Chris Stone, Liberal Party of Australia, NSW Division
Level 2, 131 Macquarie Street, Sydney NSW 2000

Election

LABOR – Liesl Tesch

INTRODUCTION
I am Liesl Tesch, your local Member for Gosford.

For 20 years I was a school teacher in public schools including Brisbane Water Secondary College.

I had the great honour of representing Australia at seven Paralympic Games taking home five medals including two Gold.

However, the greatest privilege has been representing you in the NSW Parliament.

As your local Member, I have fought hard for our fair share during a difficult period.

My office and I worked tirelessly to deliver community information, provide support letters and get people off the streets and into homes.

ANSWERS TO RESIDENT QUESTIONS

Thank you to the Peninsula Residents Association for the questions. I have answered as many as I could within the space provided.

It is important to recognise that many readers of Peninsula News are also concerned with the huge increase in the cost of living, the crisis facing our hospitals and our schools.

It's time for a fresh start for NSW.

The cost of housing, groceries, electricity bills, rates and water has blown out.

Labor will provide a \$250 rebate that will apply to pensioners, Commonwealth Seniors Health Card holders, and Family Tax Benefit recipients.

Small businesses will receive \$315 directly off their energy bill. We want to support local businesses to keep their lights on and employ more local workers.

We will cap tolls at \$60 per week. Sydney Commuters will potentially save up to thousands per year. This will assist Peninsula residents who need to travel regularly to Sydney to access healthcare and essential services.

Labor will end the Perrottet Government's privatisation agenda. This NSW Liberal Government have sold off major toll roads, power stations, the polls & wires, Newcastle Port, a TAFE site and so much more.

They sold off our electricity assets and now we're paying for it. Privatisation does not work and we will end it.

Nurses at our local hospitals are overstretched and overworked. Due to these shortages more than half of the patients who walk into



Gosford Emergency Department are not seen within 4 hours. This is unacceptable.

We need more nurses, and we need to keep those who are doing an amazing job under extremely difficult circumstances. Labor has committed to deliver 1,200 nurses within the first four years.

We will offer \$12,000 scholarships for thousands of nurses, doctors, paramedics, and allied health students to help pay for their degree if they work in NSW for five years..

Under the current Government their real wages have been cut for

more than a decade. We will end the cap on public wages and offer fair wages to our health workers.

Our schools have a significant shortage of teachers. Local classes are being merged because principals simply cannot find teachers to fill our classrooms. Labor will convert 10,000 temporary teachers to permanent positions, end the failed overseas recruitment program and cut admin hours for teachers by 5 hours per week.

Labor has always said that the forced amalgamation of the Gosford and Wyong Councils was a massive mistake.

The NSW Government shifted the huge cost of amalgamation onto the Council and now ratepayers are paying the price in the form of rate rises.

We opposed amalgamation and would support de-amalgamation if a future democratically elected Council wished to put that to the people.

The cost of housing is becoming completely unaffordable.

Under our plan, we will abolish the forever land tax on the family home, remove stamp duty for 95% of first home buyers, boost housing supply, create a Rental Commissioner, make bonds transferable, and protect renters

from unfair evictions.

We have also committed \$20 million to invest in housing for people with mental illness and intellectual disability. One of these facilities will be built on the Central Coast.

During the 2019/20 Bushfires our community suffered \$163.3 million in damage. We received \$0 in the first round of funding. Instead, millions of dollars in bushfire relief was directed towards Liberal-Nationals seats including locations that weren't affected.

When Dominic Perrottet and John Barilaro ticked off this egregious misuse of bushfire funding, our community suffered.

Now this same Government is asking for another four years in power. Based upon this fact alone, they do not deserve your vote.

The Dominic Perrottet and the Liberals have been in power for 12 years. For many of these years the Central Coast has not been given its fair share.

I am urging you to vote Labor to fix these problems and a lot more to give NSW a fresh start and our community a government which delivers for us.

SOURCE:
Media statement, 17 Mar 2023
Liesl Tesch, Labor

INDEPENDENT – Lisa Bellamy

INTRODUCTION
I am a long-time resident of the Central Coast and am no stranger to the challenges of everyday life in Gosford and on the Peninsula.

I originally decided to run in this election, not because I thought I could win, but to raise awareness and get some action from our sitting MP on environmental issues.

However, since starting this campaign I have become aware of other challenges facing our community, including the lack of consultation and transparency in government decisions that affect us.

ANSWERS TO RESIDENT QUESTIONS

Local Democracy

I was in a Central Coast Council meeting recently where I had the misfortune of watching 'democracy' in action.

Our council is not a council. It is a dictatorship.

There is some semblance of community consultation, which once "heard" is swiftly swept under the table and then decisions that affect everyone on the Peninsula are made with a nod from the Administrator.

The election of new councillors

won't happen until September 2024.

This is just not good enough.

How many community assets will be sold off and unwanted developments approved by then?

We need proper representation now, not towards the end of next year.

The Administrator wants to reduce the number of wards from five to three, maintaining three councillors to represent each ward.

I believe that the success of this structure, regardless of the population number in each ward, depends solely on the quality of the councillors we elect.

However, in saying that, I do think the Peninsula has been the poor cousin to Gosford for too long, and has unique qualities, assets, and issues, that would benefit from being its own ward.

Governance

Elected officials should be doing more to explain to the community how their policy decisions are being informed, funded, and measured.

How else can our council gain the community's trust?

Councillors should have the full right to question Council staff, directors, and employees, and the council staff and the councillors themselves should be subject to regular, transparent, independent,



impartial audits which should be published.

Fixed-contract tenure should be introduced for senior council staff.

Working with the community

I passionately believe we need local solutions for local issues, made by local individuals and community organisations.

Let's listen to our wise elders (of all backgrounds) and our young people.

Meaningful community consultation and community licence to influence decisions is needed in our local Council, not just the ability to make a three-minute speech, or put in a submission,

all which can be, and usually are, ignored.

To make these consultations meaningful, we need the local community groups who have already demonstrated both forethought and initiative to have some actual influence over decision-making and the decisions published.

In return, I am confident that they would be willing to engage the broader community to re-write the strategies, plans, and policies using clear and accessible language for us all.

The rule of law

No one in the community is going to feel like engaging with a Development Control Plan that is half an inch thick.

Have the local community re-write it as an exercise in community engagement and shared decision making.

Only then will we receive any measure of integrity from the Land and Environment Court.

Liveable neighbourhoods

The Peninsula is heating up.

The indiscriminate removal of trees and green spaces on the Peninsula is creating an urban heat island.

I would stop all tree removal immediately.

I would mandate tree planting

on the sides of the streets and provide support for some of our fantastic community groups such as GUST (Grow Urban Shade Trees) which do a marvellous work planting trees in public places on the Peninsula.

Commercial developments such as the new shopping centre on Ocean Beach Rd is a showcase of what not to do.

Every tree and green area have been removed and replaced with concrete and buildings.

To rectify this, large shade trees need to be planted around the perimeter.

Otherwise, Lone Pine Ave will not even have a lone pine.

The harsh reality is that land will become less affordable on the Peninsula.

We really need some imaginative ideas when it comes to affordable housing.

What makes the Peninsula so appealing are the shady back lanes, the frangipanis in the front yards, the parks, tree lined roads and unique waterfronts.

Let's find ways to keep the character and history that is the Peninsula, while moving forward as a community facing the challenges of sustainability and liveability.

SOURCE:
Media statement, 17 Mar 2023
Lisa Bellamy, Independent



Rotary club plants peace poles in Uganda

The Rotary Club of Brisbane Water has planted four “Peace Poles” at the Divine Mercy Primary School in Buwampa, Uganda.

The club worked with the Rotary club of Njeru on the project.

The poles featured peace messages in four languages, said Brisbane Water Rotarian Ms Sue O’Neill.

In English, it stated: “May Peace Prevail on Earth”.

In Kiswahili: Amani iwe ulimwenguni. In Luuganda: Emirembe gibeere ku nsi. In Luo:

Kuchi bedi iwilobo. Kwe obedi epinyi.

Ms O’Neill was in Uganda for the planting.

She said the initiative was inspired by the Rotary Club of Canberra Burley Griffin, which invited Rotary Clubs to become involved in a joint Rotary Centenary project by donating peace poles to primary schools.

The aim was 100 Rotary Clubs, 100 Schools for 100 Years of Rotary in Australia, she said.

SOURCE:

Social media, 6 Mar 2023
Sue O’Neill, Rotary Brisbane Water

Restaurant celebrates five years

Spices 29 Goan Indian Restaurant in Woy Woy will celebrate its fifth anniversary on Saturday, April 1.

The family-owned restaurant has its roots in the small Indian state of Goa and is proud of its five years of successful trading.

“There are many Indian restaurants on the Central Coast but what makes Spices 29 different is the fact that it serves the heart of India (food) with the heart,” said restaurant director Mr Nelson Fernandes.

“At Spices 29, we believe in serving with a smile.”

The name Spices 29 acknowledges the 29 states of India and the menu is created to reflect the taste and cuisine of each state, he said.

“Every dish on the menu is



unique in terms of ingredients and flavour.

“Our menu also includes a wide range of drinks, which complement the Indian food perfectly.”

Indian music plays in the restaurant and the interior is

decorated with cartoons by Goan cartoonist Mario Miranda.

“His artworks portray Goa when it was a Portuguese colony.”

SOURCE:

Media release, 16 Mar 2023
Shiwangi Garg, Spices 29

Fire fighters visit pre-school

Firefighters from Fire and Rescue NSW’s Umina station have provided a fire safety education program to local pre-schoolers.

“The crew from Guardian Childcare and Education in Blackwall were our audience as we went through our fire safety education program..

“Remember: Dial 000 in an

emergency, close doors behind you and once you’re out don’t go back in.

“Stop, drop, cover and roll if your clothes catch fire.

“And always have working smoke alarms.”

SOURCE:

Social media, 9 Mar 2023
Station 340 Umina, NSW
Fire and Rescue.



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Arts

Keith Potger to play at Troubadour

The Troubadour Folk Club will hold a concert with Keith Potger of the Seekers at the Everglades Club at 2pm on Sunday, March 26.

The day after the NSW State election, it will have something to appeal to both the winners and the losers, according to club president Mr Michael Fine.

"The winners can rejoice in songs such as A World of Our Own, while the losers are sure to find solace in beautiful songs such as The Carnival is Over."

Now aged 82, Keith Potger's musical career started well before The Seekers first hit the UK charts in 1965, Mr Fine said.

"While still at school he performed in vocal groups which evolved into The Seekers in 1962.

"That year Judith Durham joined the group as they focussed on the folk and gospel music boom."

Mr Fine said: "At the Troubadour event, Keith will pay his respects to the late Judith Durham and to the hit songs of The Seekers.

"He'll also share some of his stories about life on the road.



"Some country songs and some original songs from his three solo CDs will round off his upbeat performance."

Tickets may be booked on the Troubadour website: troubadour.org.au.

Any tickets remaining will be available at the door for \$30.

SOURCE:
Media release, 8 Mar 2023
Michael Fine, Troubadour
Central Coast



Cushion covers completed over two weeks

The patchwork group at the Ettalong Beach Arts and Crafts Centre has completed cushion covers over a two-week period.

"These are the beautiful finished cushion covers that were started

in last week's Faux Cathedral window workshop," said tutor Ms Penny Howard.

"I love how the different colours and patterns look with the denim."

SOURCE:
Social media, 7 Mar 2023
Penny Howard, EBACC

Anzac Day organist wanted at nursing home

A nursing home in Woy Woy is looking for an organist.

"We are looking for someone to play at our Anzac Commemoration," said Blue Wave Living chief executive Mr Matt Downie.

"Please get in touch with us if you are interested in helping out."

For further information, phone 4344 2599.

SOURCE:
Social media, 9 Mar 2023
BlueWave Living

Arboretum opera was 'great success with beautiful weather', says Rotary

The sounds of Rodney Earl Clarke, Louise Callinan, John Longmuir and Lorina Gore thrilled an audience of over 700 on Saturday, March 11, at Woy Woy Rotary Club's Opera in the Arboretum at Pearl Beach, according to club president Ms Julie Jones.

"The Opera was a great success with beautiful weather supporting this magic event, bringing a selection of well-known arias and musical favourites in such a glorious environment," she said.

"The crowd were treated to an

afternoon of these amazing singers supported by our talented Central Coast Chamber Orchestra led by the ever-popular Patrick Brennan.

"Who did not fail to be swept away by the talent of violinist Alicia Poon and Donna Balson on the piano?"

"The afternoon began with a moving Welcome to Country by Gavi Duncan, returning after his well-received presentation last year.

"There was much work carried out behind the scenes to ensure that this event was the quality production audiences have come to expect.

"For the second year, Opera

convenor Wayne Jennings commanded his troops while liaising with Michael and Justin Archer to make sure all aspects before and after the event went without any mishaps and to guarantee a truly rewarding day."

Ms Jones said that Mr Vic Brown, Mr John Regan and Mr Nick Wyatt and other members of the club had put in hard work.

"The members of Pearl Beach Bush Rural Fire Brigade and volunteers from Umina Surf Lifesaving Club were invaluable to the success of the day."

SOURCE:
Media release, 15 Mar 2023
Julie Jones, Rotary Woy Woy



Award for Latvian doll

Country Women's Association Umina Beach branch member Ms Lynda Howell has won an award her Latvian dresses doll.

She won an International Encouragement Award, and celebrated her birthday on the same day.

SOURCE:
Social media, 9 Mar 2023
CWA Umina Beach

Painting workshop at Woy Woy library

A painting workshop will be held at Woy Woy Library from 10:30am to midday on Thursday, March 23.

Those attending will be guided "through basic, and some slightly more advanced, painting techniques in a hassle-free, collaborative setting".

"All materials will be provided in this session, where you will leave with your very own masterpiece to take home ... with no artistic

abilities required."

Described as a family-friendly event, it is open to all ages from seven up.

"No alcohol will be served."

The session will be led by a "local artist" from Pinot and Picasso and will cost \$10 per person to attend.

For further information, phone 4304 7555.

SOURCE:
Website, 13 Mar 2023
Woy Woy Library, Central
Coast Council

Creative building fun

A Lego Club is being held at Woy Woy Library on the first Monday of the month, between 3:30pm and 4:45pm.

All Lego is provided for "creative building fun", and "finished masterpieces will be displayed during the month".

The next meeting is on Monday, April 3.

Children aged seven to 12 years

must be accompanied by an adult at all times during the program.

Bookings are essential.

Further information is available at the library at the corner of Blackwall Rd and Oval Ave and by phone on 4304 7555.

SOURCE:
Website, 13 Mar 2023
Woy Woy Library, Central
Coast Council

First prizes to CWA branch members

Members of the Woy Woy branch of the Country Women's Association have won a number of first prizes in handicraft and cookery in Northumberland Group competitions last week.

Branch cookery officer Ms Amy Scott won first place for her ginger fluff sponge.

Branch president Ms Jane Bowtell won first place for her carrot and lemon marmalade.

Ms Pam Clifton won first place for her gluten free cake.

Ms Dinah Jopson won first place for her beaded bracelet.



Ms Lorraine Krause won first place for her christening gown.

SOURCE:
Social media, 10 Mar 2023
CWA Woy Woy



Progress association wins top Tidy Towns award

The Koolewong Tascott Point Clare Progress Association has received one of the Keep Australia Beautiful top five places in this year's "Overall Sustainable Communities Tidy Towns Award".

The association topped its population category for communities of 1500 to 5000 people, with a highly-commended award.

The Sustainable Communities Tidy Towns Awards weekend was held March 3-5 at Singleton.

Association president Mr Ken Janson accepted the award presented by NSW Governor Ms Margaret Beazley.

The judges' citation said: "The Central Coast community presented well as a picturesque district encompassing the western foreshores of the estuary of Brisbane Water and the adjoining impressive forested escarpment.

"The district had good transport links with local buses, railway and M1 highway to Sydney and to the north.

"The judging committee were impressed by the amenities provided with new railway station upgrade at Pt Clare station, the new West Gosford Village Shopping Centre upgrade and Koolewong foreshore stabilisation with boat ramps and parking bay upgrades."

It also noted the improved



Koolewong boating marina, Brisbane Water Dr traffic lights, parking and children's playground facilities at Fagan Park.

"The indigenous heritage of Bungaree, a famous aboriginal descendant and historical figure of the original Garigal tribe of the area was showcased in the Bungaree information board displays along the foreshore bike track and walkway at Point Clare.

"An energetic local bushcare group meets regularly to weed in Goodaywang Reserve at Pt Clare along with recycling programs managed by the local council were noted by the judges."

The overall winner was Scone.

SOURCE:
Media release, 13 Mar 2023
Ken Janson, KPCTPA

Branch removed from road

The Pearl Beach Rural Fire Brigade removed a tree branch obstructing Patonga Dr last Thursday evening, March 16.

The brigade was called out at around 8pm with a report of a tree down.

Arriving shortly afterwards, the

crew found a gum tree branch on the eastbound lane "where drivers wouldn't have seen it until they were on top of it".

A passing motorist helped clear the road.

SOURCE:
Social media, 17 Mar 2023
Pearl Beach Brigade, NSW RFS

Meditation to celebrate Women's Day

A meditation was held at Ocean Beach to celebrate International Women's

Day, hosted by The Sit organisation.

It was held at dawn on

Wednesday, March 8.

SOURCE:
Social media, 8 Mar 2023
Liesl Tesch Member for Gosford

Six groups receive community funding

Six Peninsula groups have received a total of more than \$155,000 in funding from the Community Building Partnership Program, Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch has announced.

The Woy Woy South P and C Association received \$24,000 for a revamp of outdoor areas.

The Umina Beach Public School P and C Assoc was awarded \$22,000 for outdoor lighting.

Naughty Noodle Fun Haus Inc received \$36,863 for "A Happier, Healthier and More Inclusive Central Coast".

Central Coast Outrigger Canoe Club Inc was allocated \$29,500 for an Ultra-Light OC6 Canoe.

The Southern and Ettalong United Football Club Inc received \$35,523 to install a disabled toilet.

Ocean Beach Surf Life Saving Club Inc was allocated \$7678 to replace roller doors.

Ms Tesch said: "The funding will

be used to replace two damaged roller doors.

"The funding ensures that the surf club can focus on keeping our lifeguards and beachgoers safe.

"The work the surf club does is important.

"Ensuring the club is safe and welcoming is pivotal to allowing the club to focus on safety."

Club president Mr Dean Slattery said the funding would ensure the club can invest in training and safety.

"The current roller doors are chain operated and are faulty.

"Without this investment, funding would have been taken away from training and safety equipment."

Ms Tesch said arts and entertainment venue Naughty Noodle Fun Haus received almost \$37,000 for upgrades.

She said the organisation was born in 2018 as an artist-led arts and culture organisation fostering

creativity across the artist and audience communities.

She said the funding would allow the organisation to continue doing the amazing work they already do.

"Naughty Noodle do excellent work across the Coast, creating a happier, healthier and more welcoming Central Coast.

"These funds will help maximise positive community impacts and effects across the key areas of inclusion, health and wellbeing, cultural development, education, and creativity."

Naughty Noodle Fun Haus creative director Ms Glitta Supernova said: "This grant is so very special for our organisation.

"It's time for our region to be allowed to shine and for that we need spaces to do so.

"Locals, visitors and volunteers are all winners today."

SOURCE:
Media releases, 07 Mar 2023
Liesl Tesch, Member for Gosford



Central Coast Friends of Democracy

Your Say about Council

TWO QUESTIONS

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- Should Council split into Gosford and Wyong Councils (with shared services)?

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Education

Student leaders attend conference

Woy Woy South Public School student leaders have attended the National Young Leaders Conference in Sydney.

“The program was designed to support and encourage students in developing leadership potential and skills needed to become the best leaders they can be,” said school principal Mr Matt Barr.

They heard from “inspirational leaders” such as cricketer Chris Green, former Australian netball captain Caitlin Bassett, comedian and author Nazeem Hussain, Governor-General David Hurley and biomedical engineer Dr Jordan Nguyen.

Students were encouraged as leaders to listen twice as much as they speak, to dream big for the benefit of others and to persist to improve the world around them.

Student leader from Umina Beach Public School also attended the conference.

SOURCE:
Social media, 7 Mar 2023
Woy Woy South Public School



Donations made to Ettalong Public School

Ettalong Public School has received a number of donations recently.

“Our P and C vice-president Ms Jennifer Luke and secretary Ms Kylie Becker dropped in with a cheque for \$10 000,” said relieving principal Ms Jodie Campbell.

“This cheque is a result of all the contributions made towards our decodable readers.”

“The team at IGA Ettalong presented our school with \$1024.70 and some Easter eggs for our upcoming P/C raffle.

“The donation will go to

purchasing some more readers for our Kindergarten and S1 students.”

A donation for the Bendigo Bank had contributed to the school’s Breakfast Club.

“Our Breakfast Club runs five days a week.

“Their support has enabled us to provide, on average, 40 breakfasts a day.

“Some crowd favourites include honey, cream cheese spread and yogurt.”

SOURCE:
Newsletter, 7 Mar 2023
Jodie Campbell, Ettalong Public School

Harmony Day on Friday

Woy Woy South Public School will celebrate Harmony Day on Friday, March 24.

“Harmony Day celebrates Australia’s cultural diversity,” said principal Mr Matt Barr.

“It is about inclusiveness, respect, and a sense of belonging for everyone from all different backgrounds.”

Students have been invited to wear a touch of orange with their school uniform (an orange T-shirt, hat, or hair ribbon) or to come dressed in traditional cultural clothing.

Harmony Day food specials will

be available for purchase at the canteen.

Harmony Day classroom activities and discussions will be held, as well as a special Harmony Day assembly.

“There will be an opportunity to donate a gold coin to raise awareness and funds for the Hope in a Suitcase charity,” he said.

“All donations will go towards providing children in out-of-home care with the essential items to make their lives a little bit easier.”

SOURCE:
Social media, 17 Mar 2023
Matt Barr, Woy Woy South Public School

Concert by music students

Brisbane Water Secondary College music students will present a Night Under The Stars at the Woy Woy campus from 6pm on Wednesday, March 29.

The concert will include a variety of styles and popular songs.

It will be held in the courtyard

with free entry from Edwards St. Those attending should bring their own picnic rug and chairs or bean bags.

Gourmet food will be offered as a Year 12 fundraiser

SOURCE:
Social media, 13 Mar 2023
Kerrie O’Heir, BWSC Umina

Inner peace at Woy Woy library

A series of three meditation sessions will be held in Woy Woy Library during April.

“Creating Inner Peace” will be held on Mondays, April 3, 17 and 24 from 10am to 11:30am.

The mediation group aims “to develop inner peace, restore balance and gain perspective on life”.

Bookings are essential.

For further information at the library at the corner of Blackwall Rd and Oval Ave or phone 4304 7555.

SOURCE:
Website, 13 Mar 2023
Woy Woy Library, Central Coast Council

Splashathon planned

Umina Beach Public School will hold a Splashathon on the last day of term one, Thursday, April 6.

The Splashathon has been running at the school for more than 30 years and is the P and C’s biggest fundraising event of the year.

The funds raised go to new

initiatives for the school. Fund-raising forms and information about Splashathon have been sent home in student bags.

Parents and carers are welcome to come and watch.

SOURCE:
Social media, 17 Mar 2023
UBPS P/C Association

Serving 300 slices a day

The breakfast club at Umina Beach Public School has served around 300 slices of bread in one day.

More than 170 students were served on Friday, March 10.

Helping with the breakfast program was a team of school learning support officers.

SOURCE:
Social media, 10 Mar 2023
Karen Wardlaw, Umina Beach Public School

Fostering an intergenerational relationship

St John the Baptist Catholic Primary School Woy Woy is “fostering an intergenerational relationship” between students at the school and residents at the neighbouring Hillview House Aged Care facility.

“Cross-generational moments have great benefit to everyone involved,” said school principal Ms Nicole Davies.

“For older generations, it provides an opportunity for continued engagement with the wider community.

“For our younger generations, it offers wisdom well beyond their own life experiences, and fosters stronger empathy and community connections.”

Ms Davies said that last week Year 4 students prepared invention ideas to present to their neighbours, including a machine that measured how funny jokes were and a walking aid that had 4WD turbo wheels.

“Our Year 6 students prepared questions to interview our neighbours.

“We are thrilled to be reconnecting with Hillview House.

“Our students absolutely love these moments with our neighbours, and act with great respect when visiting.

“Students of all ages will have the opportunity to visit this year for discussions like this, or special events,” Ms Davies said.

SOURCE:
Media release,
Kate Long, SJB Catholic Primary School

Community Bank
Ettalong Beach

Need help with the costs of study?

Applications are invited from eligible students who require assistance with tertiary education costs in 2023.
Applications close on the 31 March 2023.
bendigobank.com.au/scholarships

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First round of triples

The Umina Beach Men's Bowling Club held the first round of its triples championship of March 19.

Results were:
The team of George Boni, Peter Springett and Mark Connell defeated Ian Grimish, Ray Wells and Phillip Sillick.
The team of Bradley Duxbury, Glenn Simington and Tony Potter defeated David Whitfield, Ken Robertson and Jeff Gray.

SOURCE:
Social media, 19 Mar 2023
Peter Springett, UBMBC



Kiera is Griffin of the Week

Brisbane Water Secondary College Woy Woy campus student Keira Soames has been named HSIE Griffin of the Week.

"Keira is a dedicated student with a 100 per cent attendance record in history," said campus principal Ms Rebecca Cooper.
"She challenges traditional historical perspectives with discerning evidence, and is becoming an adept critical thinker."
SOURCE:
Social media, 6 Mar 2023
Rebecca Cooper, BWSC Woy Woy



Under-14s team makes Buckley Shield final

The Under-14s Rugby League team from Brisbane Water Secondary College took part in the Buckley Shield Gala Day.

The Umina campus students won all their pool games and advanced to the final in hot

conditions.
Tuggerah Lakes Secondary College came out on top and defeated the Umina campus team 18-12.

SOURCE:
Social media, 10 Mar 2023
Kerrie O'Heir, BWSC Umina



Boys water polo team plays in championships

The Brisbane Water Secondary College Woy Woy campus boys water polo team have taken part in the Central Coast Championships.

A highlight of the championships was a win by the team over Kincumber High School.

SOURCE:
Social media, 9 Mar 2023
Rebecca Cooper, BWSC Woy Woy

Top tennis results in junior state championships

Brisbane Water Secondary College student Bridget Broome has finished runner-up in the junior girls' doubles in Junior State Tennis Championships held by the NSW Combined High Schools Sports Association at Parramatta recently.

The Year 9 Umina campus student also finished in the top 10 in the girl's singles event, being beaten by the No.2 seed.
Bridget then travelled to Inverell to represent her regional team, Northumberland, in the State League for the 15s age group on the following weekend.

The Davis Cup team format of two boys and two girls was a competition with the top players from other regions in NSW.
Her team won the overall event in the 11s, 13s and 15s age



groups to become the Northern Conference winners.
Bridget played nine high-level matches across the weekend.

SOURCE:
Social media, 7 Mar 2023
Kerrie O'Heir, BWSC Umina



Upside Down Pairs held at bridge club

Brisbane Water Bridge Club held its annual Upside Down Pairs competition on Monday, March 13.

The competition pairs experienced players with novice players.
"The event was so popular with those wishing to learn, the field was oversubscribed," said director Mr Peter Hume.

"In order to accommodate as many as possible it was necessary to recruit good players from Central Coast League Club Bridge Club, including Henrietta Hohnen, Anne Grayden and Wendy Mitchell."

The North-South results were:
1 Martin Johnson, Michael Greenfield 366 (61.62 per cent), 0.36 green points.
2 Henrietta Hohnen, Beryl Lowry 363 (61.11), 0.25.
3 Christine Hadaway, Carolynne Mucharsky 321 (54.04), 0.18.
4 Judy Wulff, Steve Anderson 307 (51.68), 0.12.
5 Jan Davis, Annette Clarke 298 (50.17), 0.09.
6 Jacqueline Wilson, Kerry-Anne Durrant 296 (49.83), 0.07.
7 David Bowerman, Jane Power 289 (48.65).
8 Chris Hasemore, Elaine Hume 279 (46.97).
9 Jenny Buckley, Caroline

Nichols 277 (46.63).
10 Robin Vaughan, Robyne Reeves 268 (45.12).
11 Ed Vaughan, Laurie Powell 258 (43.43).
12 David Snow, Carolyn Harper 242 (40.74).
East-West results were:
1 Sylvia Foster, Marcelle Goslin 347 (58.42), 0.36.
2 Dasha Brandt, Kerry Anderson 335 (56.40), 0.25.
3 Jurate Laisve, Susan Ashley 305 (51.35), 0.18.
4 Anne Grayden, Fiona Galea 304 (51.18), 0.12.
5 Karen Ody, Wendy Byrne 297 (50.00), 0.09.
6 Barry Foster, Maria Rose 296 (49.83), 0.07.
7 Lorraine Lindsay, John Aldersley 295 (49.66).
8 Hope Tomlinson, Edith Marshall 292 (49.16).
9 Jim Routledge, Coral Erikson 286 (48.15).
10 Jaan Oitmaa, Sandy Shapley 278 (46.80).
11 Jorgen Boettiger, Carolyn Girdwood 270 (45.45).
12 Wendy Mitchell, Blair Glass 259 (43.60).

SOURCE:
Social media, 16 Mar 2023
Brisbane Water Bridge Club

Gift packs prepared for Gosford Hospital

Gosford Hospital's paediatric ward will receive 96 gift packs with super-hero medical gowns, thanks to the staff of a local club.

"Our staff volunteered to prepare 216 gift packages, in a hygienic, assembly line production," said Ettalong Diggers marketing manager Ms Kim Cole.
The balance of the gift packs will go to Blacktown Hospital.
"We are so proud to know that we will be helping 216 sick children

receive a Supertee pack.
"Not only will they put a smile on their faces, but we're sure they'll also feel like a Superhero too, and hopefully it gives them strength and courage to beat their illness."
The club donated \$5000 to the project.
Information about the Supertee project is available at the www.supertee.org.au website.

SOURCE:
Social media, 15 Mar 2023
Kim Cole, Ettalong Diggers



Sport

Turn Around Triples attracts 28 teams

Umina Beach Women's Bowling Club held its Turn Around Triples Tournament on March 13.

The tournament attracted 28 teams from Avoca, Davistown, Ettalong, Everglades, Merrylands, Terrigal and Umina on two full greens. The event was held in cooler

weather and only a light shower during the lunch break. First with three wins, 22 ends and a 26 point margin was team 19 from Merrylands Bowling Club of Jill Collis, Barbara Bungate and Frances Miechels. Second with three wins, 22 ends and a 19 point margin was team 16 from Everglades Bowling

Club of Bev McFarlane, Annette Jenkins and Helen Cooper. Third with three wins, 21 ends and a 21-point margin was team three from Ettalong Beach of Karen Croker, Robyn Holden and Margaret Smith. SOURCE: Social media, 13 Mar 2023 Peter Springett, UBMBC



Three Ettalong bowlers play in zone finals

Two Ettalong bowlers, Phil Westcott and Tony Leslie, have fought out the Central Coast zone Senior Bowls Final at Bateau Bay Bowling Club on March 19.

Another Ettalong bowler Darren Morrison won the Central Coast zone Singles Bowls Final against Gwandalan bowler Ben Ritzau, 25-10. "The zone senior final started in foggy and humid conditions," said Ettalong club director Mr Kerry Watkins. "The game proved to be a top quality contest with both players, Phil Westcott and Tony Leslie, displaying all the skills worthy of a final. "After a great tussle, the game was eventually won by Phil winning 25 to 16." Phil said: "It was a good game played under extremely testing conditions with Tony certainly throwing down a strong challenge."

Phil Westcott will now proceed to the State Finals in July this year. He will also compete in the State Pairs event with another Ettalong bowler, Al Lewin. In winning the singles, Phil has been officially announced as the Seniors Bowler of the Year. SOURCE: Media release, 19 Mar 2023 Kerry Watkins, Ettalong Bowling Club



Swampies donate to Kids in Need

The Swampies Social Golf Club have donated \$2000 to Central Coast Kids In Need. A cheque presentation was held on Tuesday, March 14, at Everglades Country Club. Central Coast Kids In Need secretary Ms Lorraine Churchill and treasurer Ms Rhonda Doyle accept the cheque from Swampies president Mr Rod Blake. Ms Churchill and Ms Doyle told an audience of 26 club members about the work that the charity did to help families with accommodation costs while their sick children undergo specialised treatment in Sydney or Newcastle hospitals. The charity also assists with high cost prescription items, specialised formulas, quality of life equipment and travel expenses. "Some children are in the hospitals for months on end and this can put enormous financial strain on families as they go down from two salaries to one but still having mortgage payments and facing cost-of-living pressures",



said Ms Churchill. "We help by making direct payments to these families in times of need", she said. All money raised by the charity goes directly to families. The charity is non profit, is staffed by volunteers and has no paid employees, overheads or other costs. Ms Doyle said: "We rely on the generosity of local community and sporting and social groups but our other methods of fundraising are from charity days, donations from businesses, raffles and we also apply for grants from Clubs NSW and Philanthropy Trusts." Mr Blake said that the Swampies were only too pleased to help. "The Swampies have a proud history of donations and assistance that has continued over many years," he said. "Over the last 25 years or so, the Swampies have donated more than \$27,000 to local causes, most of which has been to the Children's Ward at Gosford Hospital to purchase specialised pieces of equipment to provide vital assistance to sick children, especially in the Cancer Ward." SOURCE: Media release, 15 Mar 2023 Ken Martin, Swampies Social Golf Club

Bridge competition attracts less experienced players

This year's Autumn Pairs competition at Brisbane Water Bridge Club was "arranged specifically to attract less experienced players", according to organisers. "The new soft rules brought 18 pairs to compete." North-south winners were Meg McGregor and Hilary Owen and east-west winners were John Aldersley and Beryl Lowry. North-south results were: 1 Meg McGregor, Hilary Owen 258.5 (59.84 per cent), 0.45 red points. 2 Marcelle Goslin, Rohan Creasey 243.6 (56.39), 0.32. 3 Blair Glass, Ian Newton 232.0 (53.70), 0.23. 4 Maria Rose, Qi Hasemore 218.5 (50.58), 0.15. 5 Jann Small, Suzanne Harrison 217.3 (50.29). 6 Kerry-Anne Durrant, Carolyn Harper 214.3 (49.59). 7 Bobbie Lyons, Julie Teague 212.9 (49.28). 8 Cheryl Pearce, Jenni Murray 199.1 (46.09).



9 Robyne Reeves, Sandy Shapley 147.9 (34.23). East-west results were: 1 John Aldersley, Beryl Lowry 260.8 (60.36), 0.45. 2 Marilyn Jarrett, Jenny Buckley 244.4 (56.57), 0.32. 3 Warren Nicol, Edith Marshall 242.1 (56.05), 0.23. 4 Marilyn Reid, Anne Birt 233.8 (54.11), 0.15. 5 Denyse Stephens, Allan C Adams 220.0 (50.93). 6 Jo Ampherlaw, Linda Cunningham 216.8 (50.17). 7 Caroline Nichols, Wendy Byrne 201.0 (46.53). 8 John Sandra, Bernadette Sandra 178.0 (41.20). 9 Bob Lowry, Carolynne Mucharsky 147.3 (34.09). SOURCE: Social media, 11 Mar 2023 Brisbane Water Bridge Club

Netball association holds meet and greet for umpires

Woy Woy Peninsula Netball Association is holding a meet and greet night for umpires at 7pm on Monday, March 27/ The night will give umpires the opportunity to meet the association's new umpires convenor, Kylie Henderson. The meeting will be held at the Association Clubhouse and will be open to anyone who would like to

umpire netball. "We hope to see many of our previous umpires returning and we are looking to build our Team White with new and emerging umpires throughout the season," said president Ms Sharon Bailey. SOURCE: Social media, 16 Mar 2023 Woy Woy Peninsula Netball Association

Ducklings make it to finals

The Peninsula Ducks teeballers, the Ducklings, have made it to the grand final of Central Coast Softball Association's Teeball Club. The Peninsula Ducklings played the Wingers, finishing the game with a 20-12 win. "The improvement our children have made over the course of the season in batting and fielding, and the sportsmanship they've demonstrated not only with teammates but their opponents, is second to none," said club president Ms Di Barrymore. They then went to the grand final



facing-off with the Rusty Bears. SOURCE: Social media, 11 Mar 2023 Peninsula Ducks Softball Club