



Tesch returns with absolute majority

Ms Liesl Tesch has been returned as Labor Member for Gosford with an absolute majority.

Ms Tesch received 50.89 per cent of the vote at the State election on Saturday, March 25, a swing to her of 6.8 per cent.

Ms Tesch previously held the seat with a 7.1 per cent margin.

Latest figures from the NSW Electoral Office showed 77.7 per cent of the vote had been counted for the 58,134 people enrolled in the Gosford electorate by Friday, March 31.

"I would thank the people of Gosford for their ongoing support and I look forward to the absolute privilege of representing our community in the NSW Parliament for another four years," said Ms Tesch.

Liberal Ms Dee Bocking received the next largest number of votes with 28.36 per cent, representing a swing away from the Liberals of 7.8 per cent.

After distribution of preferences, Ms Tesch received 65.48 per cent and Ms Bocking 34.52 per cent, representing an overall swing to Labor of 8.4 per cent.

Greens candidate Ms Hilary van Haren received 9.11 per cent, Shooters Fishers and Farmers candidate Mr Larry Freeman 4.06 per cent, independent Ms Lisa Bellamy 3.32 per cent, Animal Justice Party candidate Ms Emily McCallum 2.61 per cent and Sustainable Australia Party candidate Ms Ineka Soetens 1.64 per cent.

The numbers of first preference votes were Ms Tesch 22,267, Ms Bocking 12,409, Ms van Haren 3987, Mr Freeman 1778, Ms Bellamy 1454, Ms McCallum 1144 and Ms Soetens 716.

Total number of informal votes was 1435.

Ms Tesch received the highest number of first preference votes at all Peninsula polling booths.

Only at Kulnura, Mangrove Mountain, Peats Ridge and Somersby did Ms Bocking record higher numbers than Ms Tesch.

"This election clearly demonstrated that our community wants a fresh start," said Ms Tesch.

"People voted for a fair share on wages, and to see our health workers and teachers respected so they can support our community.

"Our community wants to see improvements in cost of living, prioritised housing affordability and to end the privatisation.

"The Minns Labor Government understands the challenges and responsibilities that lay ahead and we're excited about the opportunity to invest on the Coast and make our communities a better place to live, work, and raise a family.

"The Gosford University Campus and the development of the Gosford Waterfront are two key items for the years ahead.

"The people of the Gosford electorate have made it clear they are tired of the glossy brochures and want to see real investment and positive change in the city of Gosford.

"Labor has committed \$1.1 billion for roads across NSW, and I will fight to ensure that we receive much-needed road delivery in my electorate, especially across the Peninsula."

SOURCE:
Website, 29 Mar 2023
NSW Electoral Office
Media release, 31 Mar 2023
Liesl Tesch, Member for Gosford

Varroa mite detected at Mooney Mooney

NSW Department of Primary Industries has confirmed a new varroa mite infestation at Mooney Mooney, following recent detections on the Peninsula.

The Department's response coordinator Dr Chris Anderson said the detections were a testament to the extensive tracing and surveillance work being undertaken, by beekeepers and DPI, to manage the outbreak.

"The recent detection on the Central Coast has meant the Department is now concentrating its varroa response surveillance activities into the northern suburbs of Sydney, to ensure the infestation is localised and that there is no

mite population in the area. "We know that this is a difficult time for impacted beekeepers, but controlling and eradicating this destructive mite is critically important to NSW and Australia. "Changes in the number of infected premises are expected at this stage in the response. "However what is encouraging is that these mites are being found quickly. "We thank beekeepers and the community for their cooperation with the response."

For more information, visit the DPI website www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/varroa or call 1800 084 881.

SOURCE:
Media release, 21 Mar 2023
Chris Anderson, DPI

Produced on the Peninsula

Peninsula news & advertising for the Peninsula community

Community access: What does it mean?

Why do we have the words Community Access in the title of our paper?

What exactly does it mean? Peninsula News aims to be accessible to the community.

We hope it enables members of our community to access the community.

We like to think our content enables people to find out about the community - not just the issues of the day, but what you can be part of.

Many people come up to us and say: "You tell it like it is."

We would like you to tell us "like it is", so we can tell everyone else.

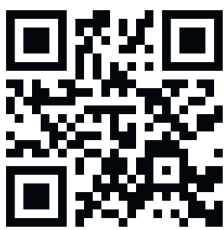
If you are a community organisation based in the Peninsula and you want to get the word out about something, please send us a media release. As long as it's not too long and is of community interest, we'll be

happy to edit it and print it - at no charge, by the way.

If you'd like us to come and discuss this with your group or committee, we would be only too happy to.

Simply email us and we will be back in touch.

Frank Wiffen, 31 Mar 2023



DOWNLOAD this issue. SCAN here.

Next issue: Monday, April 17

Call us on 4342 5333
Email: contributions@peninsula.news

Fire brigade seeks online applications

The Pearl Beach Rural Fire Brigade is encouraging online applications following its information night held last Monday night.

The online application system means that anyone can start the process to join as a volunteer anytime and from anywhere, according to a social media post by the brigade.

"After you submit your

application, a member of our brigade will contact you to arrange a quick interview with our brigade leadership team.

"This is really just a chance to get to know you, to introduce ourselves, and to discuss how the application process works.

"Within the Pearl Beach Brigade, our new members complete our initial training becoming qualified as bush firefighters within six

months of joining.

"In some cases, we have even had members complete the training within two months."

The process is open to anyone, whether or not they attended the membership information night.

The online application is available at <https://nswrfsprod.service-now.com/rfseabr>.

SOURCE:
Social media, 27 Mar 2023
NSW RFS - Pearl Beach Brigade

Peninsula News
Community Access

Peninsula News is a fortnightly community newspaper for the Woy Woy Peninsula, owned by The Peninsula's Own News Service Inc, a local non-profit incorporated association. Its aims include providing a viable, non-partisan news medium and forum exclusively for the Peninsula and developing a strong sense of community on the Peninsula.

Editor: Mark Snell
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Please note: Peninsula News currently has no paid employees, and it may take a little time for us to get back to you. Our volunteers usually have other jobs and commitments, which compete for their time.

EMAIL ISSUES?

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

Fallback email address: editor@peninsulanews.asn.au

Editorial policy and guidelines

At its heart, Peninsula News is a community effort.

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

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

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

Locality

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

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

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

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

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

Readability

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

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

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

Forum letters

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

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

Contributors are asked to keep their

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

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

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

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

Corrections

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

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

Source lines

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

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

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

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

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

The following descriptions are used:

Media Release - unsolicited contributions.

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

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

Rotary club holds its Biggest Morning Tea

Brisbane Water Rotary will hold its Biggest Morning Tea on Wednesday, May 31, to raise funds for the Cancer Council.

The event will be held in the Pretty Beach Room of the Ettalong Diggers Club from 10am to 12 noon.

The cost will be \$15 per person with tables of 10 and a capacity of 80 peoples.

Champagne will be served on arrival.

Scones, jam and cream will be served with tea and coffee.

There will be guest speakers and light entertainment, a raffle and lucky door prizes.

Tickets can be purchased online, by phone on 4343 0111 and at Ettalong Diggers reception.

All proceeds from the event will be donated to the Cancer Council

SOURCE:
Social media, 28 Mar 2023
Ettalong Diggers Visitor Information Centre

Stallholders wanted

The Bays Community Group is seeking stall holders for its monthly Bacon and Egg Takeaway Events.

"The stalls will change each month, with popular stalls coming around in rotation," said community group president Ms Carolina Schuiler.

"If you have a product you would like to sell at the event then contact us at thebaysemail@gmail.com."

The Community Group takes 10 per cent commission on any sales but provides tables free of charge.

Preference will be given to Bays Residents and those making and producing items to sell.

SOURCE:
Newsletter, 29 Mar 2023
The Bays Community Group

Hand tools

The Umina Community Group is seeking donations of hand tools and working drills.

They will be given to women in the group's next Basic Tools Workshop.

Email benchworks@uminacomunitygroup.com.au for further information.

SOURCE:
Social media, 27 Mar 2023
Umina Community Group

Matthew is named Griffin of the Week

Brisbane Water Secondary College Woy Woy campus student Matthew Jordan has been awarded a Griffin of the Week certificate.

He was "recognised for his outstanding hard work and dedication in ancient history, geography and modern history".

"His diligence and commitment to his studies are truly inspiring and we love watching him lead by example," said campus principal Ms Rebecca Cooper.

SOURCE:
Social media, 23 Mar 2023
Rebecca Cooper, BWSC Woy Woy



The driest March recorded in 19 years

A total of 55mm of rain was recorded on the Peninsula for March, the driest March in 19 years.

The total was 70 per cent below the March average of 188mm, according to figures supplied by Mr Jim Morrison of Umina.

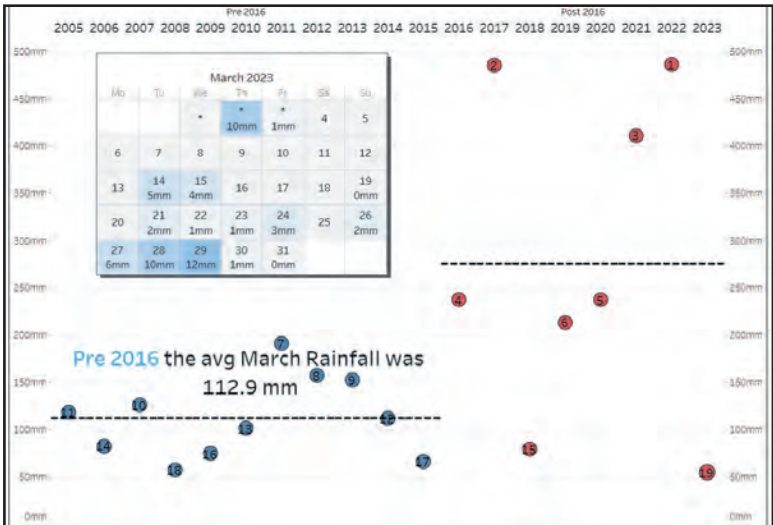
The cumulative total at the end of March was 258.9mm, also the lowest total for the quarter since Mr Morrison started his records in 2005.

The year-to-date figure was 45 per cent below the first quarter average of 467mm.

A graph produced by Mr Craig Dewar of Umina shows the high variability of March rainfall in recent years.

March last year was the wettest March in 19 years with 486mm.

Rainfall over the last eight years has ranged between these extremes with an average of



275.6mm.

In the previous 11 years, the range was from 57.5mm to 191.2mm with an average of 112.9mm.

Weekend rain has already

taken the April total to 69.5mm, with 38.5mm being recorded in the 24 hours to 9am yesterday, the wettest day since January 7..

SOURCE:
Spreadsheet, 2 Apr 2021
Jim Morrison, Umina

TIDE TIMES and Heights	Mon, Apr 3	Thu, Apr 6	Sun, Apr 9	Wed, Apr 12	Sat, Apr 15
	0038 0.25	0246 0.17	0459 0.21	0037 1.12	0416 1.13
	0645 1.02	0840 1.05	1039 0.88	0800 0.26	1123 0.18
	1330 0.16	1505 0.15	1634 0.23	1332 0.71	1715 0.85
AT ETTALONG	1930 0.86	2103 1.05	2254 1.15	1855 0.34	2258 0.30
	Tue, Apr 4	Fri, Apr 7	Mon, Apr 10	Thu, Apr 13	Sun, Apr 16
	0123 0.21	0329 0.17	0550 0.23	0145 1.11	0522 1.17
	0725 1.05	0917 1.01	1127 0.81	0915 0.24	1215 0.15
	1402 0.14	1535 0.17	1709 0.27	1453 0.71	1810 0.95
	2000 0.93	2137 1.10	2341 1.14	2013 0.36	
	Wed, Apr 5	Sat, Apr 8	Tue, Apr 11	Fri, Apr 14	Mon, Apr 17
	0205 0.18	0413 0.19	0649 0.25	0301 1.11	0004 0.24
	0802 1.06	0957 0.96	1224 0.74	1023 0.21	0618 1.19
	1434 0.14	1604 0.20	1754 0.31	1611 0.77	1300 0.13
	2031 0.99	2214 1.13		2139 0.34	1857 1.05

Capital works of \$11.3M in council draft budget

Central Coast Council has allocated \$11.3 million in its draft capital works program to projects on the Peninsula over the next financial year.

The council's budget, contained in its draft Operational Plan, also anticipates spending \$15.7 million in capital works the following financial year.

The draft capital works program shows only two years, where previously it has shown three years.

This is attributed to being the second year of a three-year delivery program and "covering the remainder of the current program".

More than half of the coming year's allocation, \$6.69 million, is funded by grants.

Works around Umina oval, including the skate park upgrade, will account for \$3.35 million in grant funding.

Roads grants of \$3.34 million will be spent on the Ocean Beach/Rawson Rds intersection, on Barrenjoey Rd and an upgrade of Springwood St, costing \$1.82 million alone.

A total of \$1.59 million of restricted funds will be spent at Woy Woy tip, with \$900,000 being spent on the "south cell".

The balance will be spent on the "eastern platform" approvals and construction and design and approvals of the "north area", as

well as a leachate pipeline, an electrical upgrade and "public transfer area renewal".

A further \$400,000 of reserve funds will be spent on upgrades and renewal of the Patonga camping ground, and another \$100,000 on the "Umina, Ocean Beach and Ettalong Reserve upgrade".

General rates revenue will pay for the renewal of three sewer pump stations, totalling \$1.37 million.

Pump stations in Woy Woy Rd and in Cedar Cr, Blackwall, will cost \$400,000, while the pump station in Station St, Woy Woy, cost \$570,000.

Another \$1.14 million of general rates revenue will be spent on eight projects.

The roof of Umina library will be renewed at a cost of \$250,000.

The Rogers Park carpark upgrade will cost \$200,000, with a further \$100,000 to be spent in the following year.

Pelican Park playground "renewal" will cost \$180,000.

Mt Ettalong Lookout works have been allocated \$130,000.

A sum of \$120,000 will be spent at the Peninsula Leisure Centre.

Building works at the Ettalong Beach Arts and Crafts Centre will cost \$100,000.

The Woy Woy Waterfront Redevelopment will start this

coming year with a budget of \$100,000 and another \$815,822 to be spent the following year.

Peninsula Theatre's air-conditioning system will be upgraded at a cost of \$60,000.

The budget anticipates "region-wide" spending of \$27.3 million on roads, \$11.6 million on water and sewer and \$1.29 million on drainage.

It does not state how much, if any, of this will be spent on the Peninsula.

Beyond the \$202.4 million capital works program, the draft Operational Plan does not give any local detail of how the \$653.6 million operational budget will be spent.

This operating budget is split into materials and services costs of \$215.7 million (33 per cent) depreciation and amortisation \$192.2 million (30 per cent), employee costs \$190.8 million (29 per cent), other expenses of \$41.1 million (six per cent) and borrowing costs \$13.7 (two per cent).

The only performance target relating specifically to the Peninsula is a target for the Peninsula Leisure Centre of 420,000 visitors a year (1150 a day).

The draft plan is on exhibition for public comment until Monday, May 1.

SOURCE:
Central Coast Council supplementary agenda, 28 Mar 2023



Art trail to be held at Pearl Beach on Saturday

An art trail will be held at Pearl Beach from 10am to 4pm on Saturday, April 8.

"Over 15 local artisans will be exhibiting in the Pearl Beach Arboretum, TheArtist Hub," said Pearl Beach Art Group co-ordinator Ms Margaret Westcott.

"Another 10 artists will be opening their studios to showcase and sell an eclectic and colourful selection of art, cards, jewellery, handicrafts, ceramics, pottery and sculptures."

"A route map with details of the trail and addresses of the exhibitors will be available at the local cafe and community hall."

"The Pearl Beach artisans look

forward to welcoming visitors to The Artist Hub in Pearl Beach Arboretum and in home studios," she said.

Pictured are paintings at the arboretum by artist Marijke Greenway.

Details of the art trail are available on the progress association website at www.pearlbeachprogress.org.au.

For further information, phone Margaret Westcott on 0401 968 947.

SOURCE:
Media release, 20 Mar 2023
Margaret Westcott, Pearl Beach Art Group
Photo: Margaret Westcott

Labor commits \$100,000 to Pelican Park playground

NSW Labor has committed \$100,000 to enable Central Coast Council to upgrade Pelican Park, including a new playground, improvements to accessibility and maintenance, according to Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch.

The election promise was made by Ms Tesch on Monday, March 20, ahead of the election on Saturday, March 25.

"Pelican Park was initially scheduled for demolition by Central Coast Council in 2021," said Ms Tesch.

"After significant community upset and a petition with over 6000 signatures in the first 48 hours, council reversed their decision."

"The funding will ensure that Pelican Park will remain open for generations of children and their parents to enjoy."

Ms Tesch said that her position has remained clear: If it's unsafe, make it safe.

"From the point I became aware Pelican Park would be demolished, I was clear that instead of demolishing it we should make it safe."

"This funding will ensure that we can create a safe and accessible

park for all members of the community to use."

Ms Tesch said she was happy to work with the Council to create a better park.

"Pelican Park is not just any park."

"It is an iconic park, celebrated by both locals and visitors."

"I am happy that we will work with Council to find a better solution for Pelican Park to keep this important community space available."

SOURCE:
Media release, 20 Mar 2023
Liesl Tesch, Member for Gosford

Patonga fete at hall

A fete will be held at Patonga between 9am to 1pm on Easter Saturday, April 8.

It will be held at the Patonga Community Hall at the corner of Brisk and Bay Sts, Patonga.

Store holder inquiries should be directed to woywoyfleamarket@gmail.com.

SOURCE:
Social media, 18 Mar 2023
Patonga Community Hall

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Housing strategy proposes 75 dwellings per hectare

Central Coast Council's draft Local Housing Strategy proposes housing densities on the Peninsula of up to 75 dwellings per hectare or more and a rezoning to R3 "around existing centres (Woy Woy, Ettalong, Umina)".

At 75 dwellings per hectare, each dwelling would have a footprint of just 133 square metres. The Peninsula is described as having desired density and mix "contexts" labelled as outer suburban, inner suburban and general urban.

These provide for between 30 and 50 dwelling per hectare, "unless within 800m of strategic centres and public transport corridors, which should achieve a minimum of 75 dwellings per hectare".

Under "opportunities", it describes the Peninsula as an "established area with strong network of services and amenities. High character local centres."

The recommended "action required" is to "utilise R3 zone as a frame to better focus character-led infill around existing centres (Woy Woy, Ettalong, Umina) led by Peninsula Place-based Plan".

The Peninsula is one of 17

social planning districts within the Central Coast used by the draft strategy.

It says that the Peninsula district has the largest populations.

It states that it is "not near the major centres of employment or service delivery of Gosford, Tuggerah, Wyong and Erina, requiring populations to travel to access work and services".

Despite observing that "opportunities to deliver housing closer to jobs and services is likely to offer benefits for future residents and the Local Government Area in general", the actions required by the draft recommend changes which would increase densities.

The draft also states that the net "take-up" for new dwellings is likely to be between 1663 and 2352.

However, it does not set a target or revised take-up figures based on changes to planning provisions.

The draft points to the high number of second or holiday homes on the Peninsula that are not available to local residents for rent and therefore exacerbate the shortage of rental housing.

It also criticises the lack of smaller dwellings on the Peninsula, pointing to the small average household size and

the large number of sole person households, which do not need the three and four-bedroom houses produced by developers.

There are no specific recommendations for the Peninsula to address these issues.

The draft strategy says the Peninsula is the fifth most densely-populated district.

The average age of 46 is only exceeded by Toukley at 47.

It has the second highest incidence of sole-person households after Gosford.

It has the third lowest average household income and the third highest percentage of renters (27%) just below Gosford and The Entrance.

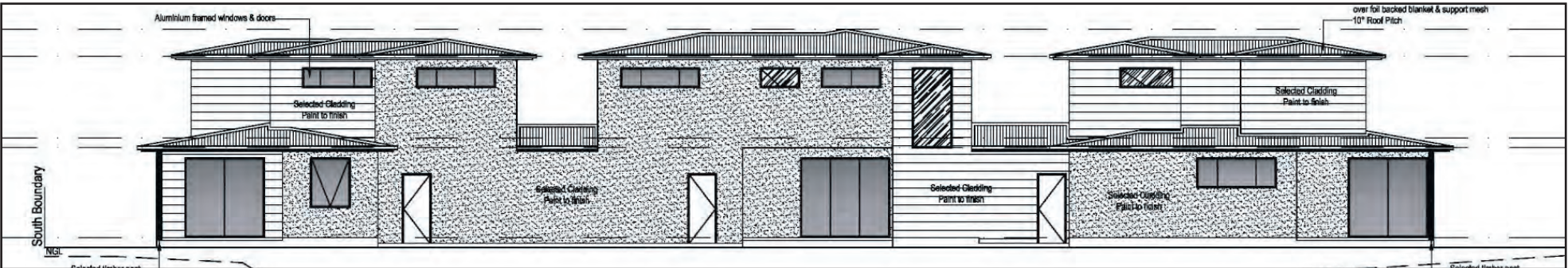
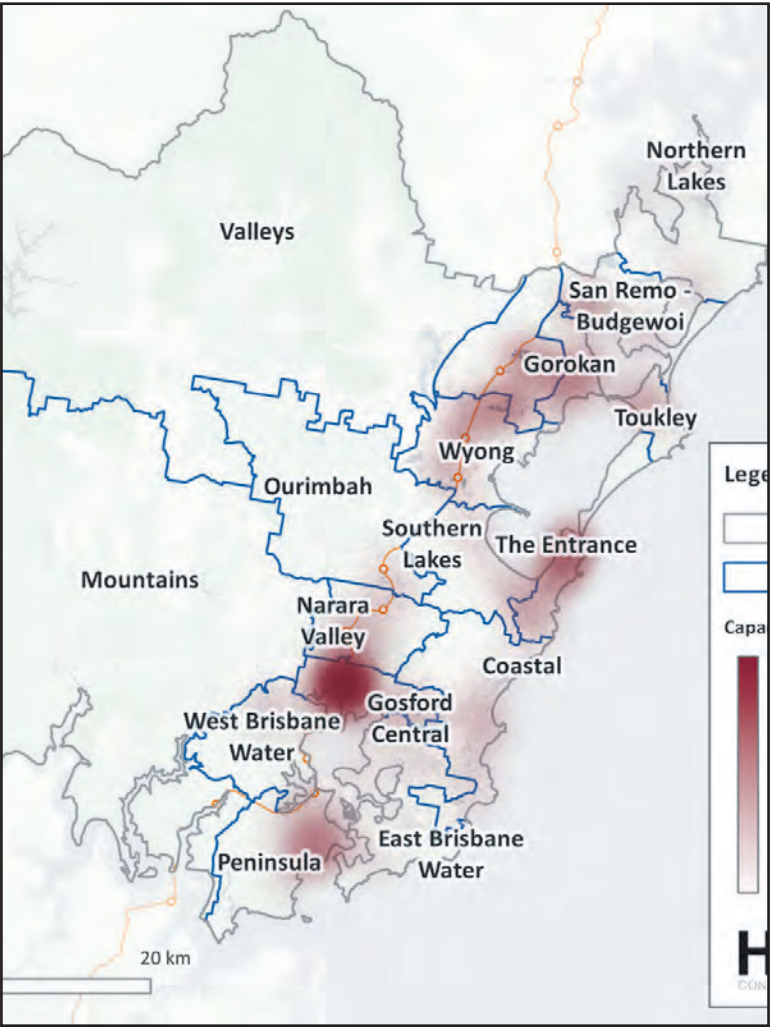
It shows the second highest proportion of residents in rental stress (40%) just below Gosford.

Conversely, levels of mortgage stress are low.

It is third in numbers living in medium density housing (29%).

The draft Local Housing Strategy is available at <https://www.yourvoiceourcoast.com/housing>. Submissions will close on May 3.

SOURCE:
Website, 31 Mar 2023
Your Voice Our Coast,
Central Coast Council



Review requested of Warrah St development refusal

The applicant for a three-unit development at 16 Warrah St, Ettalong, has asked for a review of its refusal by the Local Planning Panel.

The "section 8.2a" request has made a number of minor changes to the design, but the proposal remains non-compliant with several planning provisions.

The lot size is 727.20 square metres, below the minimum required of 750 square metres, which requires a "section 4.6 variation request".

The first floor ceiling height of 2.45 metres is below the minimum of 2.7 metres.

The length of the building at 40 metres is well beyond the maximum of 25 metres, a 60 per cent variation.

The private open space provided for Unit 2 is only 40 square metres where the minimum is 50 square metres, a 20 per cent variation.

The enclosure of the private open space for Unit 1 does not comply with fencing standards for front setbacks.

Side setbacks are non-compliant with the minimum

requirement of 3.5 metres, being 1.3 metres on the western side and 1.1 metres to the east.

The rear setback of 3.38 metres is non-compliant with the minimum of 6.0 metres.

Changes from the original application include removal of the first floor balconies from the eastern side, replacing brick cladding with lightweight cladding and standardising floor levels at RL 2.9.

Previously, Unit 1 was at RL 4.88 and the other two were at RL 4.0.

While still non-compliant, rear and side setbacks have been changed.

The rear set back has been increased from 1.737 metres to 3.382 metres.

East side setbacks have increased marginally with a corresponding decrease on the western driveway side.

According to the site analysis, living areas have increased by 18.93 square metres for a total 350.82 square metres.

Garages have decreased by 4.79 square metres to 93.05 square metres and private open

space has increased by 32.85 square metres to 209.85 square metres.

The application, submitted by planning consultants Clarke Dowdle and Associates, argues that the non-compliances should be allowed because they have been allowed in the past by the Council, and provides a list of alleged precedents.

The original application was refused by the Local Planning Panel on November 24 last year.

There were 27 submissions and a petition with 47 signatures.

The Council assessment report recommended refusal.

Objections raised in the submissions included: "Yet another multi dwelling with no visitor parking. This causes traffic congestion and illegal parking on verges. Pedestrians have to walk on the road which is dangerous especially for children."

"This development in particular is removing some of the last remaining trees in the area."

"This street is being flooded with an increasing number of two-storey townhouses that block sunlight and impact the privacy of

the surrounding neighbourhood." The Local Planning Panel gave six reasons for its refusal.

These included that it had an unsatisfactory 4.6 variation request and that it was "not satisfactory" in regard to environmental planning instruments and policies.

It was inconsistent with various sections of the Development Control Plan.

It was not compatible with desired future character of the zone nor did it exhibit best practice design.

It was inconsistent with current and future desired character of the locality and was not in public interest.

It also had insufficient information on fill, retaining walls and interface with neighbouring properties.

Despite this, the revised application states: "The amended multi-dwelling development at 16 Warrah St 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."

"Given the absence of adverse environmental, social or economic impacts the application is submitted to Council for assessment and approval, subject to necessary conditions of consent."

The review request now contains a separate section 4.6 variation document, but its wording does not differ significantly from the previous version.

It adds as "precedents" other development in the same street: numbers 2, 18, 19, 21, 25 and 27 Warrah St.

Five of these are approved "gun-barrel" developments also submitted by Clarke Dowdle and Associates.

Two of these were approved by the same planning officer who is assessing this application.

The application is currently on exhibition on the Central Coast planning portal.

The closing date for written submissions is not provided.

SOURCE:
DA Tracker, 1 Apr 2023
DA61592/2021, Central
Coast Council

Community service award for thrift shop owner

Owner of Ettalong thrift shop Finders Keepers 17, Ms Carmen Wells, has been awarded a NSW Government Community Service Award “for her tireless work in the community”.

Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch said Ms Wells was “an absolute community champion” and a worthy recipient of the award who should be congratulated.

“Carmen is an extraordinary local who has a deep passion for caring for her local community,” said Ms Tesch.

“She has continuously gone ‘above and beyond’ in our community, and she is a worthy

recipient of this award who should be congratulated for her work with and for our community.”

The money raised from Finders Keepers goes to local charities such as Mingaletta, Vietnam Veterans, Umina Men’s Shed, and to food donations go to Foodbank.

Ms Wells says it all stems from a passion for helping people, and she loves to celebrate with the customers.

“I have a passion for helping people.

“I grew up in a family of nine, and my husband grew up in a family of seven.

“We’ve always wanted to give back.

“We saw what charities did for our families. I always said when I have time I want to give back.

“I love to hear the stories.

“We celebrate with customers. We have cakes.

“We just want to give as much as we can.”

Ms Wells said: “Behind this award is my beautiful husband.

“He went back to school at 37 to become qualified to ‘test and tag’, so our shop was compliant. I wouldn’t be here without him.

“Thank you to our beautiful volunteers. They’re our anchor.”

SOURCE:
Media release, 17 Mar 2023
Liesl Tesch, Member for Gosford



Focus group to restore Phegans Bay foreshore

The Bays Community Group has started a project to prevent erosion and restore the Phegans Bay foreshore.

New committee member Mr Victor Tysoe is putting together a focus group for residents interested in working on the project.

A focus group is necessary to attract funding under the Hawkesbury Nepean Coastal Management Program, he said.

“The more people who join the group and take an interest in deciding what happens for their area, the better chance we have of being granted funding.

“Because our foreshore is very small and in a remote area, we need to bring it to the council’s attention otherwise we will miss out on any funding.

“This needs to be done as a community with one voice.

“Our foreshore area is

picturesque and is well used by the residents of The Bays, whether for walking dogs, sitting and enjoying the view, or as access to marine activities.”

The Community Group has been told Central Coast Council estuary management officer Mr Warren Brown has offered to attend a meeting at the Bays Community Hall to answer questions.

“He will provide a short presentation of what is being performed under the Plan and how the community can become involved in the decision-making process for the restoration and planning of our public foreshore.”

For further information or to be part of the focus group, contact Mr Tysoe on 0409 834 864 or email vic.tysoe@gmail.com.

SOURCE:
Newsletter, 29 Mar 2023
Vic Tysoe, The Bays Community Group

Man charged after Ettalong drug search

Brisbane Water Police have charged a 38-year-old man with supplying drugs following a raid at Ettalong on Thursday, March 23.

The Police District’s proactive crime team executed a search warrant for the supply of steroids and cannabis at Ettalong Beach.

It seized 56 kilograms of cannabis, a large quantity of steroids and \$265,000.

The man was charged with a number of offences including supplying a commercial quantity of prohibited drugs and knowingly dealing with the proceeds of crime.

He was refused bail and was remanded for a hearing on May 19.

SOURCE:
Social media, 27 Mar 2023
Brisbane Water Police District

Easter Book Fair held for 46th year

Pearl Beach Progress Association will hold its Easter Saturday Book Fair from 9am on Saturday, April 8, at the Pearl Beach Memorial Hall.

“The Easter Saturday Book Fair is celebrating 46 years and is the largest single fundraising activity managed by the Association,” said publicity officer Ms Lynne Lillico.

Book Fair co-ordinator Ms Alison Phillips said: “All books are good quality and include many popular authors to keep you engrossed.

“This year as well as selling books, we will have the Back Deck Cafe, Easter Raffle and a Homemade by Locals stall out front of the Memorial Hall.”

She said cash and credit cards

would be accepted.

Proceeds from the Book Fair and raffle go toward Pearl Beach initiatives and the Memorial Hall upkeep and maintenance.

Ms Lillico said: “As a significant event on the Pearl Beach calendar, this year’s annual Book Fair promises to be no exception.

“Don’t miss out on finding that special novel, biography, children’s book, art book, house and garden book, or puzzles and DVDs.

“There’s always a surprise or two among the thousands of titles of pre-loved books.”

With inquiries, phone 0487 444 537.

SOURCE:
Media release, 27 Mar 2023
Lynne Lillico, Pearl Beach Progress Association



Central Coast Friends of Democracy

The wash up from the NSW State election

At the time of writing this, the results for Terrigal electorate in the State election are still too close to call - but what is surprising to everybody is that they are close at all.

This restores some faith in democracy.

With a 7% swing (approximately) to Labor across the state the question is why has the Liberal member in Terrigal had a 12% swing (approximately) against him.

For many, the answer is local - the Wamberal wall with token consultation, the Liberal government’s forced merger of Gosford and Wyong Councils, the removal of local democracy and installing an Administrator, pork barrelling and processes that “lack integrity” as demonstrated in Terrigal with the Stronger Communities fund and the toxic politics of division.

During pre-poll and on election day, Friends of Democracy was at a number of polling booths to give

the community a say about Council. A petition was available if people wanted Central Coast Council to demerge (as is happening with Cootamundra Gundagai Council - and with Inner West Council and Canterbury Bankstown Council also having resolutions about demergers).

Overwhelmingly, our community is still angry and wants to see action. On average, a petition was signed every 2 minutes at the polling booths.

We congratulate the State members that have been re-elected on the Central Coast - Liesl Tesch, David Mehan, David Harris and Yasmin Catley - and await a decision on the seat of Terrigal.

It’s time for our community to be asked about the future of Council through a poll - whether to demerge or not—and for local democracy to be restored with an election in 2023.

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



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Forum

Press case for council election

Now that we have a new state government, the time is opportune to raise again the question of a local council election, to replace the Administrator under whose yoke we have now suffered for several years.

It is to be hoped that the new Minister will be less intransigent on this decision than was Wendy Tuckerman in office.

The feeble excuse that ratepayers should not be burdened with two elections within a short period was always nothing but a smokescreen: had voters been consulted on the matter, I am certain that the vast majority would

have chosen an early election, in preference to the continuing rule of the Administrator.

As it stands now, it would seem efficient to hold the local government election in conjunction with the referendum that is to be mounted later in the year, thus avoiding the inconvenience of voters having to go to two separate polls.

Constituents should take this matter up with the Government members for the area and make our wishes known.

This will be a good opportunity for us to gauge how responsive the Government is likely to be, over the coming term, to community considerations, so let us make the

most of it.

Since the Administrator was appointed by the previous Minister, the Government has no vested interest in his remaining in the role, so it could only be the Office of Local Government bureaucracy that would want to oppose a change.

Perhaps, the Minister might want to send a message of a clean break with the previous not-highly-regarded administration, and this could be a good way to do it.

Let us take advantage of the moment and press our case with a strong representation to our office holders.

SOURCE:
Email, 28 Mar 2023
Bruce Hyland, Woy Woy

Time for new government to act on local government

Both the Central Coast Council, and the NSW Office of Local Government, the State Government entity responsible for overseeing the performance of the council, are deliberately refusing to do their primary duties.

Whenever they spend taxpayer or ratepayer money on services or products or undertakings, they are supposed to demonstrate that what they are doing is providing value for money and is in the best interests of this Local Government Area.

What they do is supposed to be in the best interests of the majority of the people, the majority of the time.

Instead, what we get is delay, denial and deceit.

It is not for them to do what they please with public money and with public assets, infrastructure and responsibilities.

It is their duty to please the people in what they do.

The Perrottet government was voted out because they failed to please the people.

Now is the time for we the people to get active to call on

our local representatives and the Minns' government to ensure that rather than pleasing themselves, Administrator Hart and the Office of Local Government start doing what is best for, and what pleases, the majority in this community.

Let's start with roads, drainage, footpaths, kerbing and vegetation, roadside rubbish (and weed) management. Then get local council elections done so that we and our elected councillors can discuss what other things we might be able to afford to do. Please...!

SOURCE:
Email, 27 Mar 2023
Ian Weekley, Umina Beach

Enforce jetski rules, with slower speeds and better signs

There has been recent attention to jet skiers at Ettalong and their behaviour out into the bay.

This includes letters to the newspaper and a petition calling for an exclusion zone, effectively banning jet skis in the Ocean Beach bay area, to "preserve" the waterways for locals.

As a local jet ski rider, who has ridden for over 16 years and is well into my 50s, I too would like a safe environment to enjoy our waterways and my time riding my ski with my family and friends.

The waterways, like the beach itself, are a shared area to be enjoyed by people who like to use the area for boating, surfing, swimming, boarding (of all types) and jet skiing.

I do not want my life put at risk by irresponsible riders and drivers, just like when I am driving my car on the road.

On the road, we have speed cameras, radar, police patrols and red light cameras to make the roads safer.

Is there a call to impose bans on these same roads where

people still speed or have loud cars or motorbikes, because a few disobey the road rules?

Rules and regulated behaviours already exist for jet skis and, like all regulations, need adequate policing to be effective.

These rules dictate where to ride a jet ski, the speed limits to be followed and the required distances to be maintained from shore, people and other vessels in the water.

If all boat and jet ski users adhered to these rules, and they were enforced, the waters would be safe to be enjoyed by everyone.

The occasional presence of maritime police to check licences and remind riders of the rules, ie distances from shore and people, shows that the area can be shared and people can behave when there is visible enforcement.

The objective should be to maintain the waterways as a safe, shared space to be enjoyed, regardless of what your water sport entails.

A local petition calling for the whole of the bay to become a jet ski exclusion zone misses several

points.

Sydney harbour has been an exclusion zone for many years as it is a high traffic area for recreational and commercial boating of all sizes.

It is not a recent change.

The petition calls all jet ski riders "hoons" and says they should "not be allowed to terrorise our cherished playground".

This implies all jet ski riders are hoons and do not live in the area.

We are not hoons and we live here, and it is "our cherished playground" as much as it is anyone else's.

There is no one group that owns the waterways and beaches.

Improve the presence and visibility of the maritime police, particularly at busy peak season times, to enforce the rules.

Enforce the rules, perhaps change the speed limits, erect better signage and markers to encourage good behaviour, but don't ban everyone because some do the wrong thing.

SOURCE:
Email, 23 Mar 2023
Sean Richardson, Umina

Teen dance party to be held at PCYC

The Young Authentic and Social program at the Naughty Noodle Fun Haus has a free school holiday program which includes a dance party for teenagers at PCYC Umina on April 21.

"These events are for marginalised youth, including LGBTQIA+, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, youth living with disability and of course their allies," said youth worker Ms Carlee Heise.

"Ending the school holidays and launching Youth Week with a bang, we want to see everyone come

along to our third dance party," she said.

The "Supreme Beings" Teen Dance Party will be open to all 12-17 year old gender and sexually diverse youth and their mates and allies.

"Get ready to step into your divine power and shine as your authentic self," said Ms Heise.

"With performances from local artists and a DJ, dance the night away on Cloud 9.

"Get over to the make-over at our makeup booth.

"Indulge in free food and meet new friends."

Those attending are invited to

dress as a supreme being.

"Think deities, celestials, gods, goddesses and immortal creatures.

"Wear whatever makes you feel your most powerful and fabulous."

The program also includes a street dance workshop in Wyong on April 13 and a youth podcast workshop in Gosford from April 18 to 19.

Registration for the program's activities is online at naughtynoodle.com.au/yaas.

SOURCE: Media release, 27 Mar 2023 Carlee Heise, Naughty Noodle Fun Haus



Promises of beach dog signs and enforcement

Central Coast Council has responded to recent dog-baiting at Pearl Beach and Umina Beach with promises of new dog signage and enforcement with patrols by rangers.

Council staff erected a stall at

Pearl Beach on Saturday, March 20, to provide information.

Residents were told there would be brighter larger signs on the beach front and at Paul Landa Reserve.

SOURCE: Social media, 18 Mar 2023 Friends of Pearl Beach

Group welcomes Landcare pledge

The Umina Community Group has welcomed a Labor pledge to spend \$59 million on the Landcare program over the next four years.

"We support this commitment to enhance the grass roots funding provided by the Landcare program," said community group secretary Mr Peter Springett.

"The NSW Landcare program provides crucial funding and guidance to support the tremendous effort of the Umina Community Group Dunecare volunteers.

"There is still a long way to go to fully rejuvenate the dunes ecosystems in Umina Beach."

The group runs four Dunecare groups along Umina Beach.

The NSW Landcare Program allowed a structured way to improve the natural environment, said Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch.

"Landcare's current funding program is due to finish in NSW on June 30.

"This record funding announcement will ensure this crucial environmental restoration program can continue and expand throughout NSW, benefiting both agricultural sectors and the natural environment.

"For 34 years, Landcare has worked tirelessly to protect local landscapes.

"We can't afford to lose them."

SOURCE: Media release, 22 Mar 2023 Liesl Tesch, Member for Gosford

Plates decorated in school holiday program

A plate decoration workshop will be held at Umina Library as part of a school holiday program on Monday, April 17, from 10:30am to 11:30am.

Open to children aged from six to 12 years, participants will be able to take their finished creation home and bake their design in the oven to set it for use.

Tickets are \$5.50 per child with all materials provided.

One parent per child must attend.

Places are limited and bookings are essential, and may be booked at the library or by phone 4350 1578.

SOURCE: Website, 27 Mar 2023 Library services, Central Coast Council

Man charged after Ettalong drug search

Brisbane Water Police have charged a 38-year-old man with supplying drugs following a raid at Ettalong on Thursday, March 23.

The Police District's proactive crime team executed a search warrant for the supply of steroids and cannabis at Ettalong Beach.

It seized 56 kilograms of cannabis, a large quantity of

steroids and \$265,000.

The man was charged with a number of offences including supplying a commercial quantity of prohibited drugs and knowingly dealing with the proceeds of crime.

He was refused bail and was remanded for a hearing on May 19.

SOURCE: Social media, 27 Mar 2023 Brisbane Water Police District

WHAT'S ON at ETTALONG BOWLING CLUB

We are bringing back a little bit of Country to the Coast. Tickets are now on sale for THE KINGS OF COUNTRY tribute show. Direct from the USA, this is a remarkable tribute to the biggest names in country music of this century. Michael Moore as the outlaw WILLIE NELSON, Ted Vigil recognised by the American Country Music Association channels performs JOHN DENVER and finally Dean Simmons as GARTH BROOKS with his incredible ability to engage with the audience. This is a show not to be missed.

Tickets \$45.00 available from Try Bookings <https://www.trybooking.com/CGGDI> or from EMBC reception.

NRL season has officially kicked off and we are the venue to cheer on your team in our TAB or outdoor area. Daily blackboard specials from the Alfresco Brasserie, enjoy a Pint of Tooheys with our happy hour prices from Monday – Friday 4pm – 6pm & Saturday & Sunday from 3-5pm. Soak in the sun by the greens or join in the fun with some friends for some barefoot bowling. Call to book.

Join us on Anzac Day for our 1.15pm Memorial Service, free sausage sizzle and entertainment on the day. Download our club app or visit our website or Facebook page for more information on upcoming events.

We look forward to your visit. See you at the Springy.



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MICHAEL MOORE AS WILLIE NELSON

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The Kings of Country is a remarkable tribute to the biggest names in country music of this century. The show features a unique opportunity to experience the music of three amazing artists in one night!



Shade tree group plants 800th tree

The volunteer Grow Urban Shade Trees group has planted its 800th tree in the Peninsula last week.

"It gives us great satisfaction to see our young trees providing shade and already being used by nesting birds," said group member Ms Deb Sunartha.

Last week, five trees were planted: two yellow bloodwoods, one cheese tree and two beach hibiscus rubra.

The group started when the Council's free tree program ceased in 2016.

Ms Sunartha said the group was

driven by a vision of the Peninsula with tree-lined streets to reduce urban heat and improve walkability, to improve liveability and provide habitat for our local birds.

She said the group's achievements were thanks to the support of the local community and its help with maintaining and protecting the young trees.

Pictured are group members Ms Deb Sunartha and Ms Jan Deighton planting the group's 800th tree.

SOURCE:
Social media, 26 Mar 2023
Media release, 30 Mar 2023
Deb Sunartha, GUST

Bruce Watson house concert

The Troubadour Folk Club will hold a house concert with Bruce Watson from Victoria on Tuesday, April 18.

Club president Mr Michael Fine said Bruce Watson would be en route to the St Albans Folk Festival, which will be held the following weekend.

"He is a long-time favourite of the Australian folk scene," said Mr Fine, who will also be performing at the festival.

"Bruce is a masterful craftsman of songs: evocative, heart wrenching, often side-splittingly funny."



Tickets are available online at <https://www.trybooking.com/CGITS>.

SOURCE:
Website, 31 Mar 2023
Michael Fine, Troubadour Folk Club

Students join Clean4Shore monitoring survey

Students from Erina High School's Ontrack group joined Clean4Shore at Patonga for a monitoring survey on Thursday, March 23.

"The task was to complete a survey and remove any visible litter from Patonga Beach to Little Wobby," said co-ordinator Mr Graham Johnston.

"Our first stop was the small inlet called Smugglers Cove, which required a quick leap off the barge onto the rocky foreshore where we found large pieces of treated pine, plastic buckets and the remains of a double bed.

"Two more stops before Juno Point with more pine and hard plastics loaded between the surging tide.

"There was calmer water on the western side of Juno Point with the barge cruising very close to the rocks.

"A car tyre, more pine, plastics and polystyrene were removed.

"Spring Beach had an old rusty bike and half a bag of small litter mostly beer bottles left by recreational campers.

"A large fibreglass drum and a 20 litre plastic drum was retrieved from Croppy Beach, with the students venturing into the cave to continue the adventure.



"Little Wobby jetty had old discarded chairs and two bags of small litter with some collected flood debris removed close to the jetty.

"A submerged pontoon will be revisited on a lower tide.

"A good load was returned to Patonga with the rain staying away and 280 kilos delivered to Woy Woy tip.

SOURCE:
Social media, 23 Mar 2023
Graham Johnston, Clean4shore



Crackdown on anti-social behaviour

Five young people have been charged after a police crackdown on anti-social behaviour.

Brisbane Water Police focused on juvenile violence and anti-social behaviour, after a number of violent incidents were captured and circulated on social media.

Five youths were charged with offences including affray, intimidation, malicious damage and aggravated break and enter charges.

Each of them were granted bail conditions including a curfew, non-association and place restrictions.

A further six youths were dealt with under the Young Offenders Act for offences including assault, malicious damage, affray and failing to comply with police direction.

The police said they worked together with schools, parents, guardians and the community to achieve results.

"Investigations remain ongoing, with further legal action anticipated in relation to social media footage obtained," the police district stated in a social media post.

SOURCE:
Social media, 27 Mar 2023
Brisbane Water Police District

Club seeks interest in Rotary youth exchange

The Rotary Club of Brisbane Water is seeking interest in the Rotary Youth Exchange program.

The club is wanting to hear from "anyone interested in being involved in getting this wonderful program back up and running", said club president Ms Cherie

Simpson.

"Join us at our regular meeting on Thursday, April 6, at Ettalong Diggers Club from 7pm."

Current and former Youth Exchange students will be attending the meeting.

SOURCE:
Social media, 27 Mar 2023
Rotary Brisbane Water

Virus numbers stabilise

Coronavirus numbers on the Peninsula have stabilised at around 72 active cases over the last week, according to figures provided on the government Data NSW website.

Numbers in the 2256 postcode area were around 24 cases in the five days from March 26, while in the 2257 postcode area the numbers were around 48.

The average for March was 85

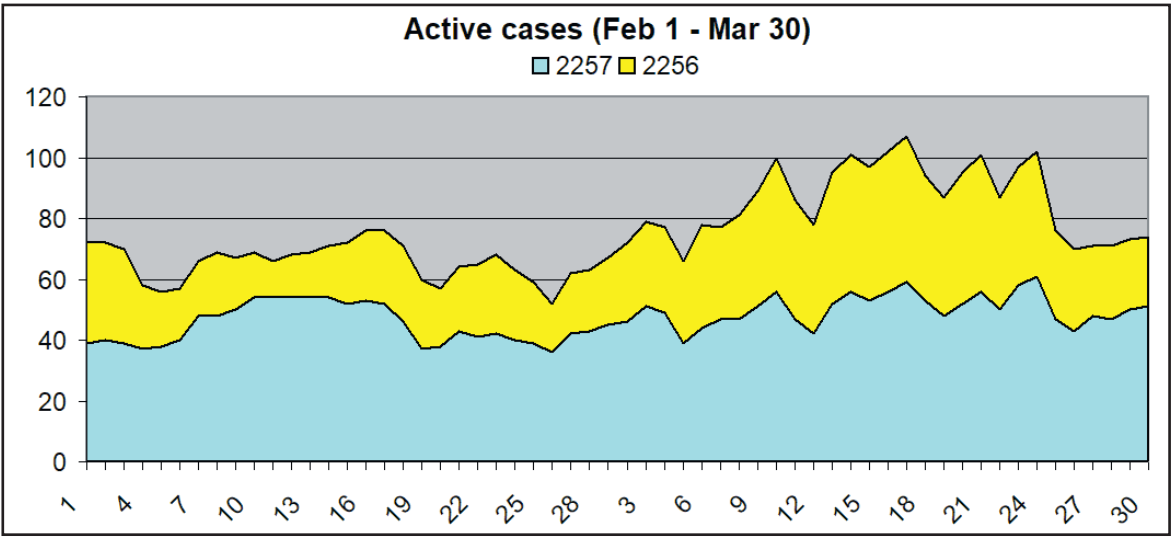
with numbers ranging from 66 to 107.

The March average for the 2256 postcode was 35 cases, with a range of 22 to 48.

The 2257 average was 50, with a range of 39 to 61.

These figures are higher than February when the average for the two postcodes was 66, with a range of 52 to 76.

SOURCE:
Website, 31 Mar 2023
Covid-19 cases, Data NSW



First of new aged care wings to open after Easter

A Woy Woy aged care home will open the first of its newly-built wings after Easter.

"We are now in the process of opening up some of the new landscaped courtyard spaces which are just being finished off," said Blue Wave Living chief executive Mr Matt Downie.

He said the new north-east wing would be opened after Easter.

"The western side and further spaces will not be operational until a little after mid-year once all stage one works are completed.

"The western side extension and internal rebuild continues to progress, and is still on track for

completion around the middle of this year.

"Following completion of the western side, we will be asking residents located in our two southern wings at The Shores (rooms 20 to 43) to relocate into one of the newly-built bedrooms.

"Once that transition has occurred, our aim is to begin the internal rebuild of the two existing southern wings.

"This work will also include joining the two existing buildings together."

SOURCE:
Newsletter, 31 Mar 2023
Matt Downie, Blue Wave Living

Recruiting in the Philippines

A Woy Woy aged care home will recruit staff from the Philippines "in coming months".

Blue Wave Living chief executive Mr Matt Downie said: "We have recently been officially approved by the Immigration Department to sponsor some overseas candidates.

"We are looking forward to welcoming a number of new qualified staff in the coming months, initially from the Philippines, to join our Blue Wave team."

He said that Blue Wave had engaged Groworx "to assist us in bringing across some workforce support from overseas".

Mr Downie said: "One of the on-

going challenges in our industry is workforce.

"Our industry is critically short of qualified workers, with us all vying to attract the same pool of staff which simply falls short of industry needs.

"As we plan to grow in size, and provision of increasing care requirements, we do need to grow our staffing levels.

"While we have continued to recruit locally as best we can, it falls short of our future requirements."

Mr Downie said more staff would be needed as resident numbers increased following completion of current building works.

SOURCE:
Newsletter, 31 Mar 2023
Matt Downie, Blue Wave Living

School distributes Covid test five-packs

Woy Woy Public School has given each child at the school a five-pack of Covid tests.

"We have distributed them at this time due to their close 'use by' dates," said principal Ms Ona Buckley.

"You may be able to make use of them over the coming few weeks."

SOURCE:
Social media, 22 Mar 2023
Ona Buckley and Dan Betts, Woy Woy Public School



Liesl Tesch MP
Member for Gosford

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Authorised by Liesl Tesch, 20 Blackwall Road, Woy Woy NSW 2256. Funded using Parliamentary Entitlements.

Education



Anne Wilson leaves after 19 years

Woy Woy Public School has farewelled its long-time canteen supervisor, Ms Anne Wilson.
Ms Wilson served in the role for 19 years.

Principals Ms Ona Buckley and Mr Dan Betts wished her well on her new adventure.
SOURCE:
Social media, 20 Mar 2023
Ona Buckley and Dan Betts, Woy Woy Public School



Students experience reptile handling

Students at Umina campus of Brisbane Water Secondary College have had work experience in reptile handling recently.
A representative from the Australian Reptile Park at Somersby gave “an insightful, fun

and engaging experience”, said campus principal Ms Kerrie O’Heir.
The students were taking part in an animal care course at Gosford Tafe.
SOURCE:
Social media, 23 Mar 2023
Kerrie O’Heir, BWSC Umina

Cross-country run in school grounds

Woy Woy South Public School has held its cross-country run last week on a one-kilometre course through the school grounds.
Under-8, under-9s and under-10s ran two laps, while under-11s and under-12s ran three laps.
The first race started at 11:30am and the last race finished by 1pm.
An area, shaded yellow on the map, was set aside for parents and family to set up at the top of the oval under the trees.
At the end of the event, students were encouraged for stay for lunch and the afternoon session so that they would leave school at normal times.
SOURCE:
Social media, 30 Mar 2023
Matt Barr, Woy Woy South Public School



Assistant principals explain phonics and phonemic awareness

Ettalong Public School’s two new assistant principals for curriculum and instruction, Ms Renee Robertson and Mr Aaron Johnston, have explained the importance of and difference between phonics and phonemic awareness.
“The new K-2 English syllabus sees a strong focus on the development of phonics and phonemic awareness skills to support the successful development of early reading skills,” they said in the school newsletter.
“These two terms are often used interchangeably and at times confused, but they are two different and necessary components of

reading.
“Phonics is auditory and visual with the focus being on letter-sound relationships.
“During phonics instruction, students are taught the graphemes (letter combinations) that represent the 44 different phonemes (sounds) we hear in the English language.
“Phonemic awareness is auditory and oral which focuses only on the sounds we hear in words.
“These skills develop students’ understanding that words are made through the combination of sounds which leads to developing the skills of blending, segmenting, manipulating and isolating sounds to become fluent and proficient readers.”
They said: “Ettalong Public

School understands the need to develop strong phonemic awareness skills in our students.
“As a result we will be introducing the Heggerty Phonemic Awareness curriculum in our K-2 and support classes from Term 2 through daily warm-ups.
“These short, explicit and focused sessions will form the beginning of our daily literacy block.
“This will ensure these important reading skills are not only explicitly taught, but continually revised and developed in a systematic and gradual approach as students move through the Early Stage 1 and Stage 1 curriculum.”
SOURCE:
Newsletter, 21 Mar 2023
Jodie Campbell, Ettalong Public School



‘Spectacular showcase’ under the stars

A “Night under the Stars” was held last week at Woy Woy campus of Brisbane Water Secondary College.
Umina campus principal Ms Kerrie O’Heir described it as “a

spectacular showcase of sounds from our amazing array of awesome musicians”.
She said creative and performing arts students had “brought together these incredible

performances from across the College for an awesome event, enjoyed by all”.
SOURCE:
Social media, 1 Apr 2023
Kerrie O’Heir, BWSC Umina

Sporting house name change is outlined

Woy Woy Public School has outlined the process it will use to change the names of its sporting houses.

Principals Ms Ona Buckley and Mr Dan Betts said that when parents were surveyed last year they supported a change.

"After a strong response to the initial survey, it was clear that the school community was onboard.

"We are proposing that the sporting house names be changed to represent flora or fauna of the local environment.

"After considering community responses to this survey, we will seek student and staff input.

"Members of the Reconciliation Action Plan Committee as well as members of the executive team will create a short-list, based on the popularity of responses.

"Ultimately, a final survey will be pushed out to make a conclusive decision.

"As always, your input into these decisions is greatly appreciated," the principals said in a letter to parents.

Responses should be submitted before Friday, May 5.

SOURCE:
Social media, 31 Mar 2023
Ona Buckley and Dan Betts,
Woy Woy Public School



Stall raises money for Year 12 formal

The Year 12 formal committee at Brisbane Water Secondary College has held a stall at the Woy Woy campus to raise money for the formal.

The stall sold bacon and eggs rolls, sausage sandwiches, soft drink and chocolate.

It also sold a range of cards made by the TLC students, and accepted EFTPOS payments.

All proceeds from food sales went towards the costs of the Year 12 formal.

SOURCE:
Social media, 25 Mar 2023
Rebecca Cooper, BWSC Woy Woy

Stations of the Cross

St John the Baptist Catholic Primary School students will take part in a Stations of the Cross ceremony on the school oval at 10am on Good Friday, April 7.

"This is always a moving ceremony where the students from Years 4, 5 and 6 lead us through the last day of Jesus' life," said school principal Ms Nicole Davies.

The school starts April school

holidays on Thursday, April 6, and resumes school for term two on Wednesday, April 26.

An Easter family mass will be held at the church in Woy Woy at 9:15am on Sunday, April 9.

An Easter Monday mass will also be held at the church at 9am on Monday, April 10.

SOURCE:
Social media, 29 Mar 2023
Nicole Davies, SJB Catholic
Primary School

Feedback wanted on potential parent sessions

Umina Beach Public School has held a Curriculum Information Session for families of all students from Years K-6.

"Feedback from the session suggests that families would be interested in attending more of these in an informal capacity," said school principal Ms Karen Wardlaw.

She said it was suggested that

"we could discuss the teaching and learning taking place at our school, and how families can support their child's learning at home".

"We would greatly appreciate your feedback and suggestions on potential sessions," she said.

"If you have a child at the school, please let us know what would be beneficial to you and your child."

SOURCE:
Social media, 30 Mar 2023
Umina Beach Public School

Splashathon to be held at Umina

Umina Beach Public School will hold a "Splashathon" on Thursday, April 6.

"This year there are more prizes, worth over \$2000 up for grabs than ever before," said principal Ms Karen Wardlaw.

"So get busy gathering sponsors and ask your friends and family to splash for cash for our school."

She said that completed forms and money must be returned to the class teacher by Thursday morning to be eligible for prizes.

Donations can be made in cash or online.

Ms Wardlaw said an online permission form must be filled out for students to participate on the day.

"Please make this a priority.

"If you intend on taking your children home early please sign them out at the front desk as per usual."

SOURCE:
Social media, 31 Mar 2023
Karen Wardlaw, Umina
Beach Public School

Mingaletta activities open to all school-age children

Mingaletta has planned a program of school holiday activities for the Easter break.

It run from April 11 to 21 and will be open to all school-age children.

Parents will be required to attend with children.

On Tuesday, April 11, masking-making will be held from 9:30-11:30am.

Painting will be held in the afternoon from 1pm to 3pm.

On Wednesday, April 12, Brazilian drums will be played from 10am to noon.

On Thursday, April 13, African performance will be held from 10am to noon.

Visual arts will be held from 10am to noon on Friday, April 14.

On Monday, April 17, smoking and artefacts will be held from 1pm to 3pm.

A cultural bush walk will be held at Patonga from 9:30am to 11:30am.

Weaving will be held from 10am to noon on Thursday, April 20.

On Friday, April 21, fishing will be held at Patonga from 9:30am to

11:30am.

Bush tucker will be held from 1pm to 3pm.

Places are limited and bookings are essential.

Bookings should be made by phone on 4342 7515.

SOURCE:
Social media, 24 Mar 2023
Woy Woy Public School

Easter hat parade at Umina

Umina Beach Public School will hold an Easter Hat Parade for Years K-2 students.

Students may make their hat at home and bring it along to the parade.

Parents and families may attend

the event.

The parade will be held in the Infants Concrete Area at 9:20am tomorrow, Tuesday, April 4.

SOURCE:
Social media, 27 Mar 2023
Umina Beach Public School

Colour run to be held on Thursday

A fundraising colour run will be held at Woy Woy South Public School on Thursday, April 6.

Held on the school oval, students will take on a series of obstacles while Parents and Citizens Association volunteers throw coloured powder as they run past.

Students can be sponsored to participate in the run to raise money for the school and earn some prizes for themselves.

"We are fundraising to improve shelter and seating around our school," said association president Ms Sarah Stewart.

Registration is \$10 per child

which can be paid online when completing the registration and permission form.

Price includes the colour run, sunglasses and an icy pole at the end of the run.

There will also be a snack table set up with items for purchase on the day.

Parents can come along to watch, pay \$10 to participate in the parent and teacher run or to help out on the day.

Everyone who raises more than \$25 gets a prize.

The top fundraiser in each class gets a prize.

The class with the highest fundraising total will get to squirt

the colour powder in the parent and teacher run.

The event will start at 11:30am with a powder-free run for those with allergies or asthma.

The Stage 3 run for Years 5-6 will be held at 11:45am.

The Stage 2 Run for Years 3-4 will be held at 12:10pm.

The Stage 1 Run for Years 1-2 will be held at 12:35pm.

The Kindy Run will be held at 1:40pm.

The Parent and Teacher Run will be held at 2:15pm.

Sponsorships are due by 5pm on Wednesday, April 5.

SOURCE:
Social media, 28 Mar 2023
Woy Woy South Public School P/C

Bowlers raise \$600 in the heat

Just over \$600 was raised in the heat by bowlers at the charity bowls day at Ettalong Bowling Club on Sunday, March 19.

With temperatures in the mid-30s, the day attracted 28 "hardy souls".

Winning rink was Mick Petho, Alan Button and Wazza Lyons.

Julie Vale won the spider for the first time.

The money raised will be donated to Central Coast Kids in Need.

The next charity bowls day will be held at the club on Sunday, April 16.

SOURCE: Media release, 20 Mar 2023 Ken Dixon, Ettalong Charity Bowls

Fundraising stall for canoe club

Central Coast Outrigger Canoe Club will be holding a fundraising stall on Saturday, April 8, at the Woy Woy Scout Hall, next to Lions Park, Woy Woy.

Books, records, CDs, plants and baked goods will be on sale from 7am to 12:30pm.

SOURCE: Media release, 21 Mar 2023 Rosemary Chapman, CCOCC



Season launch for Woy Woy Roosters

Woy Woy Roosters Rugby League Football Club has had its season launch and received a major sponsorship in Ettalong.

The launch was held in the ballroom of the Ettalong Diggers Club, where Ettalong Diggers chairman Mr John Wood presented Roosters president Ms Mal Fitzgerald with sponsorship of \$15,000.

"We're excited to be supporting the Peninsula's only senior

rugby league club," said Diggers marketing manager Ms Kim Cole.

Ms Cole said the club had earlier hosted the New South Wales Rugby League regional representative grand final day at Woy Woy oval.

She said the cocktail function attracted 112 guests, including players, committee members, and VIPs.

SOURCE: Social media, 26 Mar 2023 Kim Cole, Ettalong Diggers

Bowlers raise money for Cambodian family

Bowlers at Ettalong Bowling Club have been raising money so a family in Cambodia can replace their shanty dwelling with something more inhabitable.

"So far we have raised over \$2000 and now Ettalong Bowling

Club will be weighing in a further \$500," said organiser Mr Ken Dixon.

"Using local materials and with expat labour volunteers, we hope to give the family a brighter future."

SOURCE: Media release, 28 Mar 2023 Ken Dixon, Ettalong Bowling Club



Medals at Australian life saving champs

A Umina Year 8 student, Amber Stevenson has won three medals for Umina Surf Life Saving Club at the recent

Australian Surf Life Saving Championships.

She won bronze in the under-13 female three-kilometre swim.

She won silver in the under-13

board race and bronze in the under-13 female iron event.

SOURCE: Social media, 30 Mar 2023 Kerrie O'Heir, BWSC Umina

Cricket team makes quarter finals

Brisbane Water Secondary College Open Boys cricket team has had "a solid victory" over Asquith Boys High School, making it through to the Sydney North quarter-finals.

Led by captain Zac Graham's classy 52 and Corey Hubbard's handy 40, they put together a respectable score of 124.

Hunter Tomlinson teared through the opening batsmen finishing with 4/18 from eight overs.

Asquith was all out for 89 on a hot March afternoon with the temperature hitting 35 degrees.

SOURCE: Social media, 20 Mar 2023 Rebecca Cooper, BWSC Woy Woy



Rugby union draw announced

Central Coast Rugby Union has announced its draw for premier grades one and two for its season starting on Saturday, April 15.

Woy Woy Lions' games are:
Round 1 April 15: Woy Woy v Razorbacks at Woy Woy Oval.
Round 2 April 22: Warnervale v Woy Woy at Woongarra Sports Field.

Round 3 April 29: Gosford v Woy Woy at Gosford Rugby Field.
Round 4 May 6: Woy Woy v Avoca Beach at Woy Woy Oval.
Round 5 May 13: Woy Woy v Lake Macquarie at Woy Woy Oval.

Round 6 May 20: Terrigal v Woy Woy at The Haven.

Round 7 May 27: Woy Woy v The Lakes at Woy Woy Oval.

Round 8 June 3: Woy Woy bye.

Round 9 June 17: Hornsby v Woy Woy at Mark Taylor Oval.

Round 10 June 24: Razorbacks v Woy Woy at Ourimbah Rugby Park.

Round 11 July 1: Woy Woy v Gosford at Woy Woy Oval.

Round 12 July 8: Woy Woy v Warnervale at Woy Woy Oval.

Round 13 July 22: Avoca Beach v Woy Woy at Heazlett Park.

Round 14 July 29: Lake Macquarie v Woy Woy at Walters

Park, Boolaroo.

Round 15 August 5: Woy Woy v Terrigal at Woy Woy Oval.

Round 16 August 12: The Lakes v Woy Woy at Slade Park.

Round 17 August 19: Woy Woy bye.

Round 18 August 26: Woy Woy v Hornsby at Woy Woy Oval.

The minor, major and preliminary finals will all be played at Woy Woy oval on September 2, 9 and 16.

The grand final will be played on September 23 at Gosford Stadium.

SOURCE: Media release, 23 Mar 2023 Larry Thomson, CCRU