

Peninsula News

Community Access

EDITION 570

THE PENINSULA'S OWN NEWS SERVICE INC

29 MAY 2023



Design ideas for Pelican Park playground: left a pirate theme, above nature play and below "traditional" play with a wave-shaped climbing frame



Council decides to retain Pelican Park playground

Central Coast Council has yielded to community pressure and has decided to retain the playground at Pelican Park in Woy Woy.

It is now seeking community submissions on three design concepts for the playground.

They are for nature play, for "traditional play" or to retain the existing pirate theme.

"It was very clear to us during the 2020 community consultation period that Pelican Park is highly valued by the people of the Peninsula, and the broader community," said Council's recreation director Ms Melanie Smith.

"This is why we have gone back to the drawing board to develop workable options for the site to be both safe and fun into the future especially around the issue of the tree roots."

Built in 1999, the popular waterfront playground had reached the end of its design life and was slated to be closed two years ago

due to safety concerns.

The new designs would ensure the much-loved park would remain in use for many years to come, she said.

The three design concepts which will be on display until 5pm on Friday, June 16.

A full design of the chosen concept would be exhibited to the public early next year, said Ms Smith.

The first option is a nature play theme, which retains all existing vegetation but does not include rubberised soft fall.

The second option retains the existing pirate play theme with a reduced playspace envelope to comply with standards for play equipment fall zones, and to keep clear of existing tree roots. All vegetation is retained with this option.

The third option is "traditional play", removing the swamp cypress for a larger playground footprint with climbing, spinning and sculptural elements.

This option would need additional funding, which may be diverted from the Woy Woy Lions District playspace upgrade project.

Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch welcomed the "community victory".

A petition to save the park, organised by Ms Tesch after hearing of its planned demolition in 2021, gained 6000 signatures in just 48 hours.

She said the NSW Labor Government had committed \$180,000 for the upgrade of Pelican Park.

"Pelican Park is an icon of the Woy Woy town centre, bringing together families and community members to enjoy our beautiful Brisbane Water environment.

Further detail of the Pelican Park concept designs can be found on the Council's Your Voice Our Coast website.

SOURCE:
Media release, 18 May 2023
Melanie Smith, Central Coast Council

Tea Cosy Expo banners stolen

Banners advertising a Tea Cosy Expo run by the Woy Woy Lions Club have been stolen in broad daylight.

The canvas banners were cut from the railway fence between 11am and 1pm last Tuesday, May 23 and "taken away for some unknown reason", said club president Mr Greg Head.

"The Tea Cosy Expo is our major fund raiser for the year and we have now lost valuable advertising to the public.

"The cost of replacing the banners will be just on \$1000 and this is a cost our Lions Club can not afford when we are desperately trying to raise funds for the local

community."

The Expo will be held from 9am to 5pm on Saturday and Sunday, June 10 and 11, at the Umina Beach Surf Club.

Mr Head said the expensive three-metre-long banners had been padlocked to the railway fence at the Ocean Beach Rd and Charlton St intersections with Railway St, Woy Woy.

He said the banners were cut at the corners leaving the padlocks on the fence.

Approval had been obtained from the Woy Woy station manager before placing the banners.

The club had contacted Central Coast Council, Service NSW and

the police "to try and establish who removed these banners".

"All the parties we have been able to contact have been very helpful.

"However no-one could offer any help to locate the banners," said Mr Head.

"We have lodged police reports about these missing banners."

Mr Head said: "If anyone has information that can shed light on who may have removed banners or where they may now be located, we would like to hear from them on 0478 959 895. or by email to wwplions@yahoo.com.au."

SOURCE:
Media release, 24 May 2023
Greg Head, WWPLC

Produced on the Peninsula

Peninsula news & advertising
for the Peninsula community

We rely on our volunteers

Volunteer Week reminds us that many of the services that we take for granted in our community are actually completely dependent on volunteers.

Peninsula News, as a voluntary non-profit community enterprise, is no exception.

Volunteers generously put in well in excess of 40 hours a week, across a range of activities, to bring you Peninsula News.

Why do we do this?

It is because we believe we make a difference.

We are part of the Peninsula community and value it, and we believe a free independent local newspaper can contribute to its health.

Peninsula News exists entirely to cover issues and activities relevant to our community.

We do not publish any other newspapers, are entirely

independent, and not associated with other publishers.

We are always looking for volunteers who can contribute to the production of the newspaper, whether it be in news gathering, writing, photography or in a range of other roles.

Please email us if you are interested in helping.

Mark Snell, 28 May 2023



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Next issue: **Monday, June 13**

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.

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 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.

Red Shield

The Rotary Club of Woy Woy spent Sunday, May 21, at the Tascott waterfront, collecting money for the Salvation Army's Red Shield Appeal.

"A chilly morning turned into a lovely sunny day," said president Ms Julie Jones.

The donations really made a difference for a lot of people in need, she said.

SOURCE:
 Social media, 21 May 2023
 Julie Jones, Rotary Woy Woy



Mingaletta Naidoc event

Mingaletta will hold a Naidoc event at its hall in Sydney Ave, Umina, from 10am to 3pm on Friday, July 7.

The day will include a traditional welcome and smoking ceremony, a free barbecue, community stalls and an elders tent.

There will be traditional weaving, face painting and live music.

Anyone wanting to book a stall should contact admin@mingaletta.org.au or call Mingaletta on 4342 7515.

SOURCE:
 Social media, 19 May 2023
 Mingaletta ATSC

School bus service timetable changes

Some changes are being made to some school bus services to improve student arrival at school in the morning and better reflect the time that students need to be picked up from school in the afternoon.

The changes will be introduced on Monday, June 5.

For example, this will apply to the afternoon school bus 2571 from Umina campus of Brisbane Water Secondary College, which

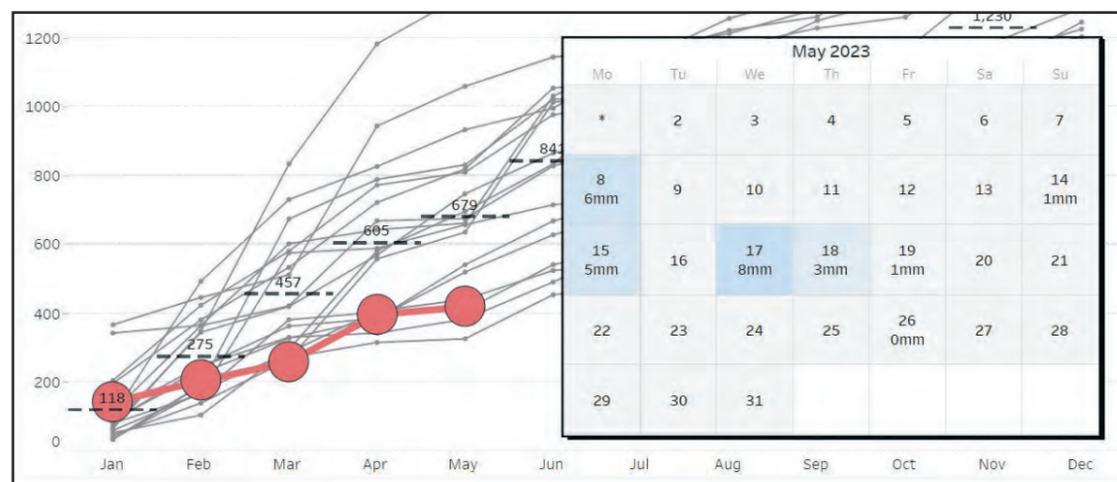
continues from Woy Woy station as route 54.

It will depart from Umina campus four minutes later, and from Woy Woy station eight minutes later.

New school bus timetables are available on the Busways website www.busways.com.au.

For further information, contact Busways Customer Service at 1300 69 2929 or email Infoline@busways.com.au.

SOURCE:
 Social media, 23 May 2023
 Karen Wardlaw, Umina Beach Public School



May rainfall is a third of average

A total of 22.5mm of rain has fallen on the Peninsula this month, less than 30 per cent of the average May total of 77mm.

The rainfall to Friday morning, May 26, brings the total for the year to 419mm, almost 40 per cent down on the end-of-May average of 693mm.

After showers during the day on Friday, no further rain was forecast for the rest of the month.

Despite being a dry month in a dry year, the month is not the driest in the last 19 years, nor is the month end figure the lowest, according to records provided by Mr Jim Morrison of Umina.

It was the fifth driest May, with May 2019 having the lowest total

with just 5mm recorded.

This year's cumulative total is the fourth lowest, with 2006, 2018 and 2019 having lower totals.

See our online interactive rainfall graphs, created by Mr Craig Dewar of Umina, at http://bit.ly/PNRainfall for further comparisons.

SOURCE:
 Spreadsheet, 26 May 2023
 Jim Morrison, Umina

TIDE TIMES and Heights	Mon, May 29	Thu, Jun 1	Sun, Jun 4	Wed, Jun 7	Sat, Jun 10
	0326 0.91	0030 0.32	0307 0.21	0548 0.15	0119 1.17
	1022 0.22	0611 0.91	0838 0.87	1116 0.81	0832 0.14
	1640 0.82	1226 0.22	1419 0.23	1646 0.25	1422 0.86
	2230 0.38	1845 1.12	2049 1.35	2320 1.31	2008 0.31
AT ETTALONG	Tue, May 30	Fri, Jun 2	Mon, Jun 5	Thu, Jun 8	Sun, Jun 11
	0424 0.91	0123 0.28	0400 0.19	0644 0.14	0224 1.09
	1106 0.21	0700 0.91	0929 0.85	1215 0.81	0924 0.15
	1725 0.91	1303 0.23	1502 0.23	1748 0.27	1525 0.92
	2332 0.35	1925 1.21	2136 1.37		2123 0.31
AT ETTALONG	Wed, May 31	Sat, Jun 3	Tue, Jun 6	Fri, Jun 9	Mon, Jun 12
	0519 0.91	0215 0.25	0453 0.17	0018 1.25	0329 1.02
	1146 0.22	0749 0.90	1021 0.83	0739 0.14	1013 0.16
	1806 1.01	1341 0.23	1551 0.24	1317 0.82	1624 1.00
		2005 1.29	2226 1.36	1856 0.29	2236 0.30

Bob Puffett dies

The man who was president of The Bays Community Group for 16 years until 2017 has died.

"Bob Puffett loved the Bays and made an enormous contribution to the community since he moved here with his family in 1997," said current Community Group president Ms Carolina Schuiling.

"His generous and kind spirit will not be forgotten.

"Bob lived a life of community service and fostering the betterment of others.

"In 1998 he was made a Member of the Order of Australia for his contribution to technical education and as director of Sydney Institute of Technology.

"He continued to support various organisations and groups throughout his life.

"We would like to express our deepest gratitude and appreciation for his tireless work and dedication to the Bays Community.

"He has been an invaluable and treasured member of our community, both while serving on the committee and in his time since leaving it.

"He was instrumental in modernising the existing hall and subsequently in securing permissions, grants and donations to extend it and to build the drop-off area for those with mobility problems.

"After leaving the committee he

remained involved.

"His commitment to offering his time and expertise was greatly appreciated by all of us, and we are incredibly grateful that he chose to be involved throughout all these years.

"Only a month ago, Bob was on ABC Radio promoting a fundraiser for Myeloma Australia.

"Bob Puffett was a wonderful and inspirational man who will be greatly missed."

He is survived by his son, daughter and grandchildren.

SOURCE:
Newsletter, 28 May 2023
Carolina Schuiling, The
Bays Community Group

Dog storytime

A "Doggy Dates Storytime" for children aged three to five will be held at Umina Beach Library at 10:45am on Tuesday, June 13.

A dog named Lucy will attend, and children may learn how to greet a new dog using gentle hands, pat Lucy and hear about how to take care of your pet dog.

No bookings are required, and all are welcome.

With inquiries, phone 4304 7333.

SOURCE:
Website, 26 May 2023
Central Coast Council



CWA hall is opened

The Umina Beach branch of the Country Women's Association has celebrated the completion of its hall renovation with a "grand opening".

"Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch cut the ribbon at the entrance to the ramp which now makes us fully accessible with a disabled toilet and shower as well," said branch president Ms Lin

Griffiths.

"Member for Robertson Dr Gordon Reid joined in the celebrations as well as many other special guests including the builders and our own members."

Ms Griffiths, pictured left, made a "thank you" speech, which was followed by "fabulous food".

SOURCE:
Social media, 24 May 2023
CWA Umina Beach



Community advocates oppose public forum change

Three community advocates from the Peninsula have signed a joint statement with five others opposing the Council's Public Forum being moved from immediately prior to the Council meeting to the day before.

They are Peninsula Chamber of Commerce president Mr Matthew Wales, Australian Conservation Foundation Central Coast Branch president Mr Mark Ellis and community activist Mr Norm Harris of Umina.

"Council is seeking to reduce the impact of the public forum on Council meetings," according to the joint signatories, all of whom have spoken in the Public Forum in the last three months.

"With local democracy suspended, the Public Forum

held immediately before each Council meeting has provided a rare opportunity for residents to hold Council senior management accountable and seek to influence Council decisions."

Following the change, "residents will have to attend two meetings rather than one, and the process will cost more".

The statement said that, other than changing the day, "none of the trial changes are new", according to the statement.

"Addressing items not on the agenda was previously allowed.

"Technology such as Zoom was used during Covid lockdowns.

"Five-minute speeches have also been allowed in the past before being reduced to three minutes.

"All the changes could easily be added to the current Forum held

on the same day as the Council meeting - as they have been in the past."

The signatories stated the change was made without a Council resolution or accompanying report, and did not comply with the Council's current Public Forum Policy.

"This policy, which has not been amended or suspended, states that any Forum should be held on the same day as the Council meeting."

They said the three-month trial of the new arrangement was also not allowed in the current Public Forum Policy.

"When those who govern us believe their own policies do not apply to them, this is a slippery slope towards arbitrary government," the statement said.

The only written explanation of

the change appears to have been given in a council media release issued on Wednesday, May 17, but is not listed amongst others on the council's website.

In the release, council's corporate services director Ms Marissa Racomelara said the change would "increase the opportunity for community members to have their say on matters presented at Central Coast Council's Ordinary Council meetings, and to also provide more time for Council staff to consider their feedback".

She said the three-month trial aimed "to give more community members more time to speak during the Public Forum".

Administrator Mr Rik Hart said in the release: "I'm keen to hear feedback from our community throughout this trial period and

the community will have the opportunity to do so during the engagement process."

No details were given of the "engagement process".

The release did not state how the trial could be conducted without a change of policy.

However, part of the council website which refers to public forums states: "The current trial will likely lead to changes to Council's Public Forum Policy.

"A draft updated policy will be placed on exhibition for community feedback during the trial."

As of yesterday, Sunday, May 28, no draft policy was available on the council's YourVoiceOurCoast website.

SOURCE:
Media release, 22 May 2023
Joy Cooper, Green Point

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Bendigo Bank

Proposal for 'co-living' opposite new ambulance station

A proposal has been made for "a co-living development" at 65 Ocean Beach Rd, Woy Woy, opposite the new ambulance station.

The development application states that it has been prepared by Clarke Dowdle for Moov Modular Ltd and is based on plans and information provided by them.

"The NSW Department of Planning describes co-living housing as a new type of housing that provides small, self-contained private rooms complemented by shared indoor and outdoor spaces," the application states.

The 904 square metre site will accommodate 11 self contained dwellings, each one comprising "a bed area, kitchen, bathroom, living-dining room and laundry facilities".

"Each room includes private open space in the form of a balcony or courtyard."

Accompanying the application is a Social Impact Assessment prepared by Sarah George, which states: "The subject application includes 11 studio and/or one bedroom units and provides a total of six car parking spaces



(including one accessible space), two motorbike spaces, and bicycle parking for eight bicycles.

"Given the location of the subject site, in close proximity to public transport and the Woy Woy Hospital and Brisbane Water's Private Hospital, it is anticipated that a proportion of residents won't have their own vehicles, choosing instead to walk, ride or use public

transport to go to work."

According to the plans, 10 of the units have a floor area of 22 square metres, not including kitchen and bathroom.

The "accessible" unit, located on the ground floor, has an area of 25 square metres.

The standard units also have a balcony of 6.5 square metres with the accessible unit having a 14.8

square metres balcony.

The proposal also includes an administration-common area of 43 square metres.

The Plan of Management which also accompanies the application advises that -

"Whilst providing a choice of accommodation in the lower end of the market, the expected rental rate would range between \$300

and \$350/week which will suit a tenant receiving a higher income than someone on social welfare."

"The co-living business model has been designed to attract a sufficient rental return enabling for the provision of high amenity design providing a benefit to the community.

"This will ensure a high residential retention rate and minimise the impact on adjoining residents."

The application generally claims compliance with all clauses of the Co Housing State planning policy, and local planning provisions, apart from the proposed front setback which is "generally forward of the dwelling houses in relation to the front boundary in the street".

The application lists a number of reasons why this variation meets "overarching objectives".

DA992/2023 is currently open for written submissions from the public.

The closing date for submissions has not, as yet, appeared on the Central Coast Council website.

SOURCE:
DA Tracker, 26 May 2023
DA992/2023, Central Coast Council



Amendment sought to increase height for lift overrun

An application has been made to amend approval of a four-unit multi-dwelling development at 117 The Esplanade, Ettalong.

The main amendment requested is to "increase the height of the lift overrun, which will be 510mm above the 8.5 height limit."

Other amendments are to increase the width of the sundeck at the rear of Unit 4, amend and remove privacy screens to Unit 4, and to remove the requirement to provide visitor parking.

It also requests deletion of the condition requiring the planting of a street tree.

The request was produced for the owner by Mr Tony Tuxworth of CoastPlan Consulting.

"The increase in the height is 510mm above the height limit of 8.5 metres.

"This part of the building is small in the context of the size of the building, is not visibly intrusive as it is not visible at all from the street or beach and will not result in any overshadowing of the adjoining site, or loss of view from any adjoining property.

"The height of the lift overrun has been minimised and cannot be lowered any further due to safety requirements of the lift manufacturer to allow for servicing of the lift.

"The lift overrun is positioned forward of the carpark exhaust duct which obscures the view of the duct."

In relation to visitor parking, the letter states it is unnecessary as unrestricted on-street parking is safely available within 60 metres of the development.

The application argues against the harsh beachfront environment and lack of growing space which makes such an endeavour impractical.

DA2017/2021/A is currently on public exhibition and open for written submissions until June 16.

SOURCE:
DA Tracker, 27 May 2023
DA2017/2021A, Central Coast Council

Multi-dwelling applications hit by council backlog

Multi-dwelling developments and dual occupancy applications on the Peninsula are worse affected by Central Coast Council's planning backlog than other application types.

About the same number of development applications for the Peninsula remain "under assessment" as have been approved since the start of the year, the Peninsula News planning portal shows.

The Council has approved 103 applications since January 1.

Of those approved, one is a multi-dwelling development and one is a dual occupancy.

The portal shows 104 applications are still under assessment, of which 15 are for multi-dwelling developments, 12 are for dual occupancies and six are for residential flats.

Most of these applications were lodged last year, but 30 were lodged this year and five were lodged in 2021, one as early as

February.

Since the beginning of the year, the council has refused three applications and has returned nine applications.

There are 17 applications awaiting further information or payment, and eight are in "pre-lodgement review".

Three have been "submitted" and three withdrawn.

Since the start of the year, 14 tree applications have been approved.

The Peninsula News planning portal is based on information available on Central Coast Council's planning portal, but lists only Peninsula applications.

The Peninsula News portal is designed to work more quickly than the council portal, and to provide a better overview of the numbers and status of development applications.

It can be found at <http://peninsula.news/portal.aspx>.

SOURCE:
Mark Snell, 28 May 2023

DA No	Documents	Suburb	Development	Special	SES	Plans	Artistic	Lodged	Screened	Advising	Class	PM	Status	Updated	DA
DA1915/2022	15.10.2022	ETTALONG BEACH	Multi Dwelling Housing (1) & Demolition of Existing & Removal of Trees	Multi	21502021	2150100		10/04/2022	11/05/2022	11/05/2022	11/05/2022		Under Assessment	05 May 2023	
DA1916/2022	15.10.2022	ETTALONG BEACH	Multi-Dwelling Housing	Multi	21502021	2150100		11/05/2022	11/05/2022	11/05/2022	17 May 2023		Under Assessment	23 May 2023	
DA1917/2022	15.10.2022	ETTALONG BEACH	Multi-Dwelling Housing	Multi	21502021	2150100		11/05/2022	11/05/2022	11/05/2022	17 May 2023		Under Assessment	23 May 2023	
DA1918/2022	15.10.2022	WIMBA BEACH	Multi-Dwelling	Multi	21502021	2150100		17/10/2022	17/10/2022	17/10/2022	03 Dec 2022		Under Assessment	30 Jan 2023	
DA1919/2022	15.10.2022	ETTALONG BEACH	Multi-dwelling housing	Multi	21502021	2150100		16/09/2022	16/09/2022	16/09/2022	13 Jan 2023		Under Assessment	30 Jan 2023	
DA1920/2022	15.10.2022	ETTALONG BEACH	Multi-dwelling housing	Multi	21502021	2150100		16/09/2022	16/09/2022	16/09/2022	13 Jan 2023		Under Assessment	30 Jan 2023	
DA1921/2022	15.10.2022	BOCHER BAY	Pools / decks / fencing, Multi-dwelling housing	Multi	21502021	2150100		13/10/2022	13/10/2022	13/10/2022	17 Jan 2023		Under Assessment	18 Dec 2022	
DA1922/2022	15.10.2022	ETTALONG BEACH	Demolition of Existing Dwelling and Construction of Multi-Residential Dwelling	Multi	21502021	2150100		16/07/2022	16/07/2022	16/07/2022	17 Jan 2023		Under Assessment	17 Dec 2022	
DA1923/2022	15.10.2022	ETTALONG BEACH	Multi-dwelling housing	Multi	21502021	2150100		25/09/2022	25/09/2022	25/09/2022	28 May 2023		Under Assessment	30 Jan 2023	
DA1924/2022	15.10.2022	WYO WYO	3 Unit Multi Dwelling Housing	Multi	21502021	2150100		13/04/2022	13/04/2022	13/04/2022	12 May 2023		Under Assessment	30 Jan 2023	

Peninsula resident groups meet

Resident groups from the Peninsula have met to discuss ways to strengthen the community's voice.

Representatives from the Peninsula Residents Association, Pearl Beach Progress Association, Umina Community Group and The Bays Community Association met on Thursday, May 18, to discuss opportunities for future collaboration.

"Topics discussed included protecting and enhancing the Peninsula's unique character and the quality of life in our community, and how to reawaken community engagement," said Peninsula Residents' Association secretary Ms Jen Wilder.

"Points of interest and concern included non-complying development and the need for integrity in planning, protection of the environment including preserving and increasing urban canopy cover, and how best to work effectively with Central Coast Council."

She said the groups had agreed to share experiences and concerns, to consider making joint submissions, and to share skills and resources.

Future meetings of representatives of the groups were planned.

SOURCE:
Media release, 20 May 2023
Jen Wilder, Peninsula Residents Association



Hazard burn occurs with one day's notice

A hazard reduction burn undertaken at Wagstaffe with one day's notice prompted social media posts by local fire brigades and an emergency incidents monitoring service.

The National Parks and Wildlife Service announced in a media release on Wednesday, May 24, that the service was "planning a hazard reduction burn in Bouddi National Park, west of Wagstaffe, tomorrow Thursday, May 25".

"The 9.8-hectare, low intensity burn is being implemented tomorrow to take advantage of suitable weather conditions," the

service stated.

During Thursday, the Pearl Beach fire brigade advised on social media that visible smoke was due to a hazard reduction burn.

The Fire and Rescue NSW station at Umina said that smoke would be visible all day.

The NSW Central Coast Incident Alerts service provided advice for residents including to keep doors and windows closed, take washing off clotheslines and to ensure pets have a protected area.

The National Parks Service said the purpose of the burn was to reduce fuel loads in the park to

protect private properties in Albert St and Bulkara St, and to assist with the control of unplanned wildfires in the national park.

It said the burn would also help to protect habitat for eastern osprey and benefit the Pittwater and Wagstaffe Spotted Gum Forest, an endangered ecological community found in Bouddi National Park.

"Hazard reduction burns are essential to reduce bushfire fuel loads to help protect parks, neighbours and communities from future bushfires."

SOURCE:
Media release, 24 May 2023
Catherine Rout, NPWS
Picture: Chris Downey

Jazz festival planned for Five Lands Walk

A jazz weekend will be held at Ettalong from Friday, June 23, to Sunday, June 25, to coincide with the Five Lands Walk.

Festivities will kick off on Friday June 23 night at the Ettalong Diggers Club with an evening of jazz featuring Monica Trapaga and Dan Barnett.

Saturday is the day of the Five Lands Walk.

On Sunday, a day of jazz entertainment will be held at The Galleria from 10am with a young trio, The Uprights, on the main stage and the Gloombusters on Stage Two.

The Sarah Davies Trio will be live on the main stage at 1pm.

Sarah is a jazz and soul vocalist with appearances on Australia's

Got Talent and The Voice.

The Coast Quartet featuring Paul Derricott, Peter Koopman, Shannon Stitt and Michael Avgenicos will play on Stage Two.

Along the waterfront path between Ferry Rd and Picnic Parade, "Art in the Open" will feature artists from all backgrounds painting the stunning waterways to Lion Island in the background.

The Peninsula Chamber of Commerce is supporting the Jazz Festival as part of its commitment to creating a thriving business precinct and fostering community engagement across the Peninsula.

For more information contact Debra Wales on 0415 361 343

SOURCE:
Social media, 22 May 2023
Debra Wales, Peninsula Chamber of Commerce

Bourke Rd 'among worst on the Coast'

The condition of Bourke Rd, Ettalong, is among the worst on the Central Coast, if not the State.

That is what Member for Robertson Dr Gordon Reid has told Central Coast Council administrator Mr Rik Hart, in a letter calling for its repair.

"People on the Peninsula are tired of having to dodge potholes

and risk their safety while driving on Bourke Rd," he wrote.

"After seeing the condition of Bourke Rd and following many emails, letters, and phone calls to my office, I urge you to act and repair Bourke Rd to a suitable condition.

"It is no secret that the condition of local roads on the Peninsula are some of the worst in the Central

Coast, if not the State.

"Bourke Rd is a standout on the Peninsula for having been neglected for too long.

"On behalf concerned Peninsula residents, I urge you to repair Bourke Rd in Ettalong Beach."

SOURCE:
Social media, 23 May 2023
Gordon Reid, Member for Robertson



Central Coast Friends of Democracy

ADVERTISEMENT

When will the NSW Government call a Council election?

On 12 May 2016, Gosford and Wyong Councils were merged to become Central Coast Council. There had been limited consultation—and even the consultation that was done showed that the community did not want the merger.

As for many Councils merged in 2016, the amalgamation has failed to deliver the benefits claimed by the then NSW government. Whilst it has been estimated that the Central Coast merger would cost in the order of \$100-\$120 million, only \$10 million was provided for the purpose of the merger.

Seven years later, Council staff have been sacked, rates have risen, community assets have been sold, services have been cut and local democracy has been removed from our community.

Our community remains angry about the Council merger.

The Central Coast community deserves to have a say about the future of our Council.

On 17 March 2022, the Council was formally dismissed. The recommendations from the Public Inquiry into Central Coast

Council included that "An Administrator be appointed until the election for Central Coast Council scheduled for 2022".

On 4 December 2022, 124 Councils in NSW had elections - but not Central Coast Council.

As of May 2023, Central Coast Council has been under Administration for 4 of the last 7 years.

Under Sect 287(2)(b) of the Local Government Act 1993 an election is able "to be held on a Saturday proclaimed for the purpose".

An election should be held as soon as possible to restore local democracy to the Central Coast.

The Minister for Local Government can call an election on the Central Coast at any time.

When will the NSW Labor government call a Council election for the people of the Central Coast?

- Should Central Coast Council have an election in 2023?
- Should Central Coast Council de-merge (with shared services)?



Planning processing continues to deteriorate

Central Coast Council services continue to deteriorate for Peninsula residents despite massive rate hikes.

A report to this week's Council meeting shows that only 11.3 per cent of residential development applications were processed within 40 days.

This is a further decline on last quarter's poor result in which only 16 per cent were processed within 40 calendar days.

The mean processing time for development applications is now 119 days which is 40 per cent more than July last year when Administrator Mr Rik Hart announced he had hired 19 more people and told the July Council

meeting: "I'm certainly hopeful we will see a big improvement and, if we don't, I will have to ask the reason why."

The latest mean determination time of 119 days represents a deterioration of 40 per cent since Mr Hart promised this "big improvement."

Rather than throwing ever more ratepayers' money at the problem, perhaps they should look at management performance and productivity.

It was a mistake to abolish the quarterly development application performance report as that could have provided insights into the root causes of the continuing deterioration.

Improving bad results is more important than trying to hide them.

Mr Hart's bungled 2020 restructure, in which staff cuts were allocated evenly across departments rather than on a prioritised basis, has contributed to the problem.

Experienced staff in the planning department were paid out with expensive redundancies, only to be replaced later by less experienced staff to do the same work.

This has been an expensive blunder that could only have had a detrimental effect on productivity.

Until management performance and productivity improve, ratepayers will continue to pay more for worse services.

SOURCE:
Email, 20 May 2023
Kevin Brooks, Bensville

Action needed on Memorial Ave bushland

To date I have only received a couple of succinct acknowledgements to my submission urging reclassification of 21-23 Memorial Ave, Blackwall, as community land.

The situation of this bushland is getting worse by the day.

Is it really beyond the budget of the Council to send in a team of gardeners to remove the rubbish, fill in the holes, and mow the grass?

The reserve has become unusable, except by people who dump garden and other rubbish.

It is also necessary to protect it from the predations of the builders on the vacant land next door:

A fence to keep them out would appear to be essential.

(When the units at Lot 25 were under construction, the builders chopped down trees and used the

reserve as easy access to their block).

When this bushland was first made a reserve, Council employees brought some big sandstone blocks to keep cars out.

However, as there was a car parked on the reserve at the time, they placed the blocks between the car and the trees, thus creating a de facto parking lot, to the detriment of the reserve.

It would not be an utter impossibility to remove the cars and then move the blocks to the boundary.

I do hope this is not too much to ask.

I am still looking forward to a reply from Council, a real one this time, and to getting our reserve back.

SOURCE:
Email, 18 May 2023
Jane Hendy, Blackwall

Noticeboard - Public Notices

Shoppers beware! Check your dockets

People who shop at Woolworths Umina

Checkout scales faulty?? Faults to look for:

1. Items on special but charged normal price at checkout
2. Price per kilo lower on shelf higher at checkout
3. Weight per item displayed lower than charged at checkout
4. Purchase one item but registers two on docket
5. Same item with two different prices on display
6. Items on docket not even purchased.
7. Fruit and veg items with different varieties and lookalike features: Check for correct price per kilogram.

We, the customers, deserve better than this!

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Bob Peel, Blackwall

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Would an evening meeting of the Country Women's Association be of interest?

If yes, please come along to an information evening on

Wednesday, June 7, at 7 pm

Umina Beach CWA Hall

2 Sydney Ave Umina Beach

For any queries, call Marg Key at 0410 324 282 or email margo.key@gmail.com

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Theme: African Safari

9am - 5pm, Saturday and Sunday, June 10 and 11

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Devonshire Teas available Bric-a-brac table

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Jun 25



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RICHARDS

Maxwell Heaton 'Max'
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Rest in Peace

Dear Uncle

Forever in our heart

Corrie, Chad and Jouelle

Talk about breeding endangered species

Aussie Ark's operations manager Mr Dean Read will talk about the work and legacy of the organisation at 5pm on Saturday, June 3, at the Pearl Beach Memorial Hall.

Pearl Beach Environment Group convenor Ms Mary Knaggs said Aussie Ark was "a world-leader in the breeding and rewilding of some of Australia's most endangered species".

These included the Tasmanian

devil, the eastern quoll and the brush-tailed rock wallaby.

"Dean has personally hand-raised joeys and young of these species, and will have with him brush-tailed rock wallaby Rocket."

Refreshments will be available after the talk.

"There is no need to book."

Admission is by \$10 donation to Aussie Ark at the door. Electronic payment will be available.

SOURCE:
Media release, 21 May 2023
Mary Knaggs, Pearl Beach Environment Group

Forum for Youth Voice

Peninsula Youth Voice Forum will be held at the Umina Beach Surf Life Saving Club from 11am to 1pm on Thursday, June 22.

It will be run by the Regional Youth Support Services and will be open to young people from the Peninsula between the ages of 12 and 24.

Lunch will be provided.

"This is your opportunity to speak with community leaders regarding the Peninsula and building a community where you feel safe, supported and proud to

be a part of," said organiser Ms Beck Johnston, a targeted early intervention case worker with the service.

"It will run as a round table conversation between young people and community leaders."

The participating community leaders have not been named.

Limited spots will be available, and may be booked by calling Ms Johnston on 0439 462 738 or by email to programworker@ryss.com.au.

SOURCE:
Media release, 25 May 2023
Beck Johnston, RYSS



Long weekend activities at Pearl Beach

Pearl Beach offers plenty to do over the June long weekend, according to the Pearl Beach Progress Association.

It will hold a "Garage Sale Market" from 9am to 1pm on Saturday, June 10, at the Pearl Beach Memorial Hall

It will include a sausage sizzle and a raffle, along with 20 stalls selling a variety of pre-loved vintage clothes, bric-a-brac, jewellery, collectables, furniture, homewares and toys.

The monthly Community Breakfast and local growers' market will be held from 8:30am to 10am on Sunday, July 11.

Again a sausage sizzle will be

run, and a variety of home grown vegetables, fruit and pasties will be for sale at the Memorial Hall.

"Pearl Beach offers a variety of recreational activities including walking along the beach, or various bush walks and pathways including through the Crommelin Native Arboretum," said association publicity officer Ms Lynne Lillico.

"In addition there is tennis and lawn bowls available to hire."

Further information is available at the association's website, pearlbeachprogress.org.au

Pictured is the recent Mother's Day Sunday Community Breakfast.

SOURCE:
Media release, 25 May 2023
Lynne Lillico, Pearl Beach Progress Association



Car fires on Patonga Drive

The Pearl Beach rural fire brigade has attended two car fires on Patonga Dr in little over a week.

The first was in the carpark for Van Dahl's Firetrail at 11:48pm on Saturday, May 13.

Crews from Fire and Rescue NSW Station 340 Umina and Kariong Rural Fire Brigade attended and extinguished the

vehicle.

The second was in the carpark for the Umina Point lookout on Patonga Drive at 10:33pm on Monday, May 22.

The Pearl Beach Brigade arrived shortly after the crew from Fire and Rescue NSW Station 340 Umina, who had made quick work of extinguishing the grey SUV.

Cool and calm conditions, the

positioning of the vehicle and the prompt response by Fire and Rescue NSW saw the fire contained to just the vehicle.

In neither case did the fire spread into the surrounding bush.

Anyone with information about the fires was asked to contact Crimestoppers on 1800 333 000.

SOURCE:
Social media, 14 May 2023
Pearl Beach Brigade, NSW RFS

Three-year Patonga stabilisation project

A row of 50 homes on the other side of Patonga Creek has been protected from the danger of falling rocks with the completion of a three-year project to stabilise the steep slope behind them.

The \$1 million project on a Crown reserve started after torrential rain in February 2020 dislodged large rocks which crashed into the rear of two properties, damaging water tanks, the back of a house and a shed.

The project involved geotechnical studies and tree removal, as well as securing parts of a cliff and boulders with steel rock bolts, breaking up unstable boulders, and covering rocks on steep slopes with mesh netting.

A 170 metre fence was installed to stop any falling rocks.

Crown Lands will monitor the site periodically for any changes to conditions.



Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch said: "Materials had to be brought in by boat.

"A helicopter was used to remove dangerous trees on slopes and workers had to use abseiling gear in difficult to access areas with dense bush.

"The affected residents at Patonga can resume using all parts of their properties knowing they are safe from tumbling rocks."

SOURCE:
Media release, 16 May 2023
Bess Graham, Office of the Premier

Third time lucky for young pelican?

At one year of age, this immature male pelican has had his fair share of near misses being released this time after four days of intensive care.

He almost died due to ingestion of "algal toxin from the stormwater drain" that the Council hasn't remediated in 25 years.

However, this wasn't his first rescue.

"At five months of age, I rescued him with a very large hook into his foot joint that had obviously been in situ for months," said local pelican rescuer Ms Wendy Gillespie.

"Infection and other damage required 21 days of medication and specialist veterinary care.

"I hadn't seen him since he was released seven months ago and had recently been wondering about his progress.

"Then I saw him sick from the



toxin in Brisbane Water while surveying for injured and sick pelicans in my kayak.

"Apart from being fully debilitated from blue-green algal toxin, he also had another light infection in the same foot joint first treated, due to a second hook injury.

"Most feet and leg injuries in pelicans are due to paddling through fishing tackle and not from discarded fishing gear.

"My four-year recreational fishing study, soon to be published, flagged that young male pelicans are at higher risk from repeated recreational fishing interaction as compared to their female counterparts.

"Over 1200 pelican rescues have been conducted on the Peninsula over 13 years with one male pelican facing his sixth rescue."

Anyone wanting to help Ms Gillespie should contact her at pelicanrescueandresearch@gmail.com.

To report any sick or injured pelicans, call 0458 975 498.

SOURCE:
Media release, 18 May 2023
Wendy Gillespie, Pelican Rescue and Research

Words on the Waves festival starts this week

The third annual Words on the Waves Writers Festival will run from Wednesday, May 31, until Monday, June 5, with book launches continuing until Saturday, June 10.

While based on the Peninsula, this year some events will be held elsewhere, including the Opening Address on May 31 at the Art House in Wyong and a combined book launch on Thursday, June 1, at Kincumber library.

Most events will be ticketed, but book launches and a family day at the Everglades Country Club are offered at no charge.

Authors will come from across Australia to speak at the festival.

These include Craig Silvey from Western Australia, Pip Williams from South Australia, Jock Serong from regional Victoria and Inga Simpson from regional NSW.

"We have big screen superstars, and Miles Franklin Award-winners.

"We have a number of new book releases, fresh off the press."

A Conversation with Kath Koschel and Kaya Wilson "On Kindness" will be held on Saturday, June 3.

This will tell the story of Kath Koschel, who when two broken backs and a devastating personal loss shattered her dream of becoming a professional cricketer, she turned instead to activism,

founding the global not-for-profit, Kindness Factory.

Also on Saturday, a panel with journalists Helen Sullivan, Jane McCredie and Ivy Shih will discuss Science Culture Clash.

This will explore the intersection of science and culture with two writers included in the Best Australian Science Writing anthology, along with its editor.

On Sunday, a panel will discuss Shaping Australia.

It will discuss myths of "mateship" and a "fair go", focussing on migrant stories of grit and creativity with Ryan Butta (The Ballad of Abdul Wade), refugee advocate Om Dhungel (From Bhutan to Blacktown) and Shankari Chandran (Song of the Sun God).

Also on Sunday. Another panel of authors will discuss Reimagining Ageing.

Todd Alexander who cheekily claims his elderly parents are driving him Over the Hill and Up the Wall.

Clinical psychologist Melissa Levi will share practical tips in We Need to Talk About Ageing. It will be moderated by One Plus One host Jane Hutcheon.

The program is available online at <https://wordsonthewaves.com.au/>.

SOURCE:
Media release, 28 May 2023
Words on the Waves



Do-it-yourself plumbing for women

A three-hour do-it-yourself plumbing workshop for women was held last Friday, May 19, at MINGALETTA in Umina.

It was co-hosted by Ms Jenn Rochford, founder of Benchworks.

Participants in the workshop were shown how to change a tap washer and how to stop a leaking cistern.

They were also told what questions to ask the plumber so that they knew they were "getting the best bang for their buck".

"By learning to change their own tap washers, they can save \$320," said volunteer trainer Mr Ian Campbell, who was accompanied by his son Shane.

Ms Rochford started the endeavour, originally aiming at providing a safe place for women who had experienced domestic violence, but due to popular

demand, the workshops were now open to all women.

"Women are often lower income earners, time poor, have less access to resources, are mums and/or single mums.

"They want to feel empowered to fix things themselves around their own homes," said Ms Rochford.

Benchworks also holds other workshops, including indoor painting and car maintenance. Workshop participant Ms Helen Stenbeck said: "I joined the workshop because I thought that it would be interesting to learn something outside of my comfort zone.

"I also wanted to be a good role model for my daughter and show her that plumbing can be a life skill everyone can learn."

Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch said she is thrilled to see a do-it-yourself workshop being held

for Central Coast women.

She congratulated Ms Rochford and the Umina Community Group for the initiative.

"It is important to open up affordable opportunities for women to learn the basic skills to maintain their own homes to increase independence and not have to rely on others for assistance, especially when budgets are tight."

Ms Tesch said: "I am so thrilled to see community members grab these opportunities and happy that community members are sharing their skills while empowering other women.

"This is what community is all about," she says.

For further information on upcoming workshops email benchworks@uminacommunitygroup.com.au.

SOURCE:
Media release, 25 May 2023
Liesl Tesch, Member for Gosford



Nessie Newman celebrates 100 years

A Umina aged care facility resident Ms Nessie Newman celebrated her 100th birthday last Tuesday, May 9.

The resident of Pozieres House at Peninsula Village received congratulatory messages from King Charles, Governor-General David Hurley and Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch.

"Nessie is a wonderful woman who has lived a long and full life," said Peninsula Village chief executive Mr Colin Osborne.

"We all feel lucky to know her.

"She was showered in gifts and enjoyed a delicious cake on the day."

SOURCE:
Social media, 18 May 2023
Colin Osborne, Peninsula Villages

The Bays Community Group is seeking entries for The Bays Art Show 2023, with space for up to 60 artists.

The event will be held from Friday, July 14, to Sunday, July 16, at the Bays Community Hall in Woy Woy Bay.

It will feature artwork, including paintings, drawings, photography, mixed media, sculptures, and prints, by Central Coast artists.

Local artist Ms Naomi Veitch is co-ordinating the art show.

"This year we are casting the net wide, welcoming up to 60 artists from all over the Central Coast with space to display more than 100 artworks.

"This is an opportunity for Central Coast artists to showcase their talent and sell their artwork."

The Bays Community Group president Ms Carolina Schuiling said: "Opening night of the Bays Art Show is always a sell-out event with an opportunity to hear from and meet our local artists, connect with our community and secure some of the incredible artwork featured at the show."

Entries close on July 3.

Contact Ms Veitch by email at naomiveitchartist@gmail.com for further information.

Tickets are now on sale at \$20 for opening night open only to adults, which runs from 7:30pm to

10pm.

Additional drinks will be available for purchase from the bar.

Those wishing to purchase tickets are asked to email their name, address and phone number to thebaysemail@gmail.com and pay for their ticket by direct deposit.

The exhibition will be open from 10am to 4pm on Saturday and Sunday, July 15 and 16. July

Entry will be by gold coin donation and refreshments will be on sale.

SOURCE:
Media release, 22 May 2023
Carolina Schuiling, The Bays Community Group

Patchwork session

Monday, May 22, was "a great show and tell session" for members of the Ettalong Beach Arts and Crafts Centre patchwork group, according to tutor Ms Penny Howard.

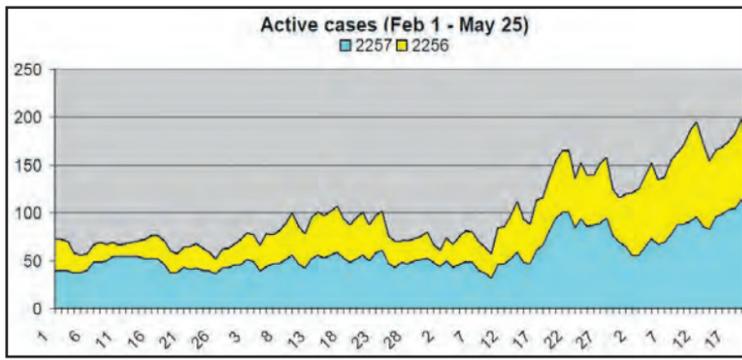
"Sarah Vaughan showed us her completed, bright and cheery Houses quilt, using many of her Kaffe Fassett prints.

"Colleen Moscatelli showed us her vibrant completed quilt-as-you-go quilt that she began at a recent retreat.

"She used a beautiful rainbow of mainly indigenous print fabrics," said Ms Howard.

SOURCE:
Social media, 24 May 2023
Penny Howard, EBACC





Virus numbers treble

Coronavirus numbers have almost trebled on the Peninsula in six weeks with the number of active cases standing at 165 last Thursday, May 25, after peaking at 198 the previous week.

A low for the year of 57 active cases was recorded on April 10 for the 2256 and 2257 postcode areas,

The numbers currently stand at 61 active cases in the 2256 postcode area and 104 in the 2257 postcode area.

On May 19, the total of 198 cases comprised 84 from the 2256 postcode and 114 from the 2257 postcode areas and represented about 0.4 per cent of the population of the two areas.

SOURCE:
Website, 26 May 2023
Covid-19 cases, Data NSW

Airlift not needed for injured toddler

A toddler was taken by ambulance to Gosford Hospital after being injured in a fall at Booker Bay on Saturday.

Emergency services, including Careflight, responded to an initial request to attend the incident.

It was determined that the toddler did not need to be airlifted.

However, as Careflight had already landed nearby, the medical team confirmed the assessment before returning to base.

SOURCE:
Social media, 27 May 2023
NSW Central Coast Incident Alerts

No announcement on after-hours service

The future of the Peninsula's after-hours medical service at Woy Woy Hospital is still unclear, despite a visit on May 17 by Federal Treasurer Dr Jim Chalmers claiming to make it easier for locals to see doctors.

No announcement was made about whether support would be forthcoming to ensure the after-hours service would continue.

Dr Chalmers visited Providence Medical Umina with Member for Robertson Dr Gordon Reid.

"We're delivering cheaper

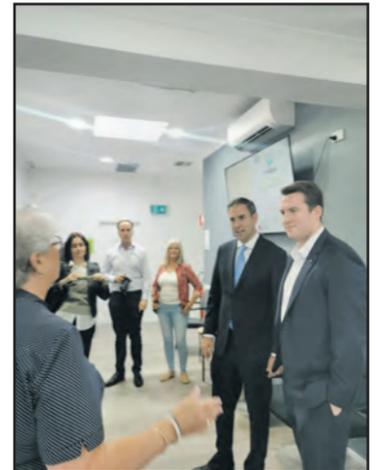
medicines and making it cheaper and easier to see a GP for tens of thousands of locals," Dr Chalmers said.

Dr Reid said people on the Central Coast would benefit from the Federal Government's record \$3.5 billion investment in Medicare.

"As an emergency doctor, I know how important it is to be able to see a doctor when you are sick.

"The Federal Government is also reducing the cost of medicines by up to a half," Dr Reid said.

SOURCE:
Media release, 17 May 2023
Gordon Reid, Member for Robertson



Aged care facility honours its nurses

A Peninsula aged care facility has honoured its nurses to celebrate International Nurses Day on Friday, May 12.

Peninsula Villages honoured the 30 registered nurses who work across its three Umina Beach aged care units - Don Leggett House, Pam Palmer House and Pozieres House - which accommodate more than 300 residents.

Chief executive Mr Colin Osborne said he was proud to recognise the hard work and dedication of the nurses.

"Our nurses are the heart of our

organisation, and we are grateful for their commitment to providing quality care to our residents," said Mr Osborne.

"On International Nurses Day, we celebrated the work of nurses, and we recommitted to ensuring that their voices are heard," said Mr Osborne.

"We need to invest in nurses. We need to protect them, and we need to value them.

"Nurses are the future of healthcare, and we need to empower them to lead," he added.

"Our career pathways for registered nurses offer four

opportunity streams - clinical, education, governance and management," said executive manager Ms Nicola Burton.

"These opportunities can be pursued from several entry points, including as a Bachelor of Nursing student, a graduate in our registered nurse program, and as a registered nurse.

"Ultimately, pursuing these careers at Peninsula Villages can lead to executive management opportunities," she said.

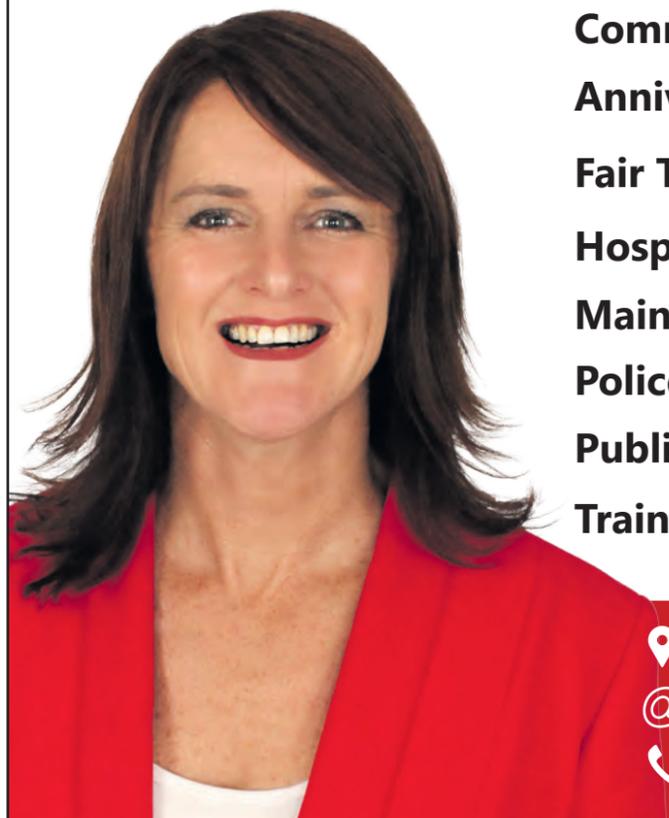
SOURCE:
Website, 17 May 2023
Colin Osborne, Peninsula Villages



Liesl Tesch MP
Member for Gosford

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Education

Education authority 'refuses to work with community'

The NSW Government authority that claims "to work with the community to drive improvements in student achievement" appears to have refused to work with the local community to improve education for "struggling teenagers".

The NSW Education and Standards Authority has "roundly rejected" a proposal for an alternative school for teenage "school refusers" on the Central Coast, according to Ms Gab McIntosh of Woy Woy, one of six teachers who drafted the proposal.

The new alternative school would have opened next year.

Ms McIntosh said the authority had stopped the application "with no regard for the views of the

Central Coast community".

She said the proposal was strongly supported by the PCYC and staff at Central Coast Council, but that appeared to have been ignored.

The Authority was "indifferent to pleas and needs of struggling teenagers".

The views of desperate parents wanting places for their children were disregarded, she said.

"Common sense suggests our local politicians should have a say. But they are excluded too."

She said the authority had found numerous problems with the application, but underlying these was the insistence on the standard Year 9 and 10 curriculum, which ignored the needs of the "school refusers".

"How does that work when

a good number of our rejected teenagers struggle to just read?" asked Ms McIntosh.

"We wanted to concentrate on getting their reading and writing up to scratch.

"But the Authority thought that a silly idea."

She said it "beggars belief" that the Authority could deny an appropriate education to "our most vulnerable teenagers".

Some of the Authority's almost-19th-century attitudes "verge on the destructive", she said.

"Hopefully, the new Labor government will continue to listen to those who do the hard work in the classroom, the kids themselves, teachers and principals."

SOURCE:
Media release, 21 May 2023
Gab McIntosh, Woy Woy



Students show steers

Students from Years 9 and 10 at Brisbane Water Secondary College have had an "incredible time" at Wingham Beef Week.

They showcased four school steers and "rocked the junior

livestock judging and parading contests".

The school took fourth place in the heavyweight carcass competition.

SOURCE:
Social media, 15 May 2023
Rebecca Cooper, BWSC Woy Woy

School appoints engagement co-ordinator



St John the Baptist Catholic Primary School has appointed Ms Courtenay Harrison as its new school-parent engagement co-ordinator.

"Many of you already know Courtenay well, because she's also a teacher," said principal Ms Nicole Davies

"Courtenay is excited to be joining our wonderful team an

additional 1.5 days per week, focusing on strengthening relationships across our school, parish and parent community, and assisting with connecting families with our school counsellor and support services when needed.

"Supporting family wellbeing positively impacts learning outcomes for students."

SOURCE:
Social media, 24 May 2023
Nicole Davies, SJB Catholic Primary School



Students attend Sydney Writers' Festival

Students from Woy Woy campus of Brisbane Water Secondary College attended the Sydney Writers Festival on Thursday, May 25.

"What an absolute blast being

surrounded by great literary minds and experiencing all the festival had to offer," said campus principal Ms Rebecca Cooper.

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

Parents asked not to send 'energy' drinks

Woy Woy Public School has asked parents not to send students to school with "energy" drinks or sugar-sweetened drinks.

"There has been a recent increase in the number of students bringing Prime drinks to school," said school principal Ms Ona Buckley.

"Prime Hydration drinks do not

align with NSW school values.

"Water is actively promoted as the drink of choice at all NSW public schools.

"Sugar-sweetened drinks and energy drinks are banned in school canteens and vending machines on school grounds.

"Energy drinks are not recommended for children.

"This is part of the NSW Healthy

School Canteen Strategy, co-developed by the NSW Department of Education and NSW Health and implemented since 2017.

"Please support us in encouraging students to only bring water to school in their drink bottles."

SOURCE:
Social media, 15 May 2023
Ona Buckley, Woy Woy Public School

Help wanted to protect banksia trees

Umina Beach Public School is calling on the community to help protect trees planted in Melbourne Ave by parents.

The trees have been subject to vandalism since 10 of them were planted in 2020, the most recent being in the Easter school holidays.

Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch said she is supporting efforts by the school to "save their banksia trees".

She said help could be given by "providing signage, replacing the damaged trees, or joining the group caring for the remaining plants".

Ms Tesch said: "This project

is a fantastic initiative started by the school and everyone involved should be proud of what they have achieved.

"This community project is a fantastic opportunity for kids to be educated on the importance of planting trees and how to care for our environment.

"I would encourage anyone in the area who is able to get involved and help the school keep these trees alive and protected."

She said the trees were planted to provide shade and shelter to the classrooms and for parents during pick up times.

The group of parents, with help from Club Umina, coordinated

watering and maintenance of the trees throughout the school holidays to ensure the plants survived.

"Community group Grow Urban Shade Trees provided oversight and information to the parents on caring for the trees.

"The local Men's Shed provided tree guards to prevent destruction of the trees but unfortunately during the Easter School Holidays in March of this year they were once again damaged."

For further information, contact GUST via email on gust@peg.org.au.

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

Year 10 students offered meningococcal vaccine

Year 10 students at Brisbane Water Secondary College will have the opportunity to receive the meningococcal ACWY vaccine on Thursday and Friday, June 22 and 23.

Parents are being asked to provide their consent online, using their Service NSW account to complete the consent form.

"You will need to create an account if you do not already have one," said campus principal Ms Rebecca Cooper.

"Paper forms are available at Student Services if you or your child do not have a Medicare number or you do not have online access.

"If completing paper consent, please return the consent form to Student Services by Wednesday, June 14.

"Vaccination will only be provided at school if consent has been received."

SOURCE:
Social media, 18 May 2023
Rebecca Cooper, BWSC Woy Woy

Grant to upgrade website for Bouncing Bunnies

Umina Junior Rugby League Football Club has received over \$4600 as part of the NSW Government's Local Sport Grant Program.

The money will be used to upgrade the club's webpage and communication channels for their Bouncing Bunnies teams.

Umina Bouncing Bunnies is an early skills development program for boys and girls aged 3-5 years old.

The program is an initiative of volunteers Mr Dean Young, who is a local player who works with the Central Coast Roosters Development Program.

Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch said the funding will enable the club to flourish with the creation of an easy to use online registration system.

"The Bunnies are so much more than the joy of the kids on the field.

"The happiness and pride on the parents and community faces watching their young Bunnies train

is what sport is all about."

Umina Junior Rugby League Football Club secretary Ms Melinda Michie said: "Fundamentally Umina Junior Rugby League remains a community club whose focus is to engage the community in a fun, friendly and safe environment.

"Our footy community is a diverse and inclusive one and welcoming families through this pathway is our hope."

The 2023 program will commence in early May and runs for two terms.

She said each 45-minute session would include skill, fitness and teamwork activities provided by instructors through Little Rugby League Central Coast to keep the young ones active and improve their motor skills.

Details will be available on the club's website at <https://uminabunniesjrflc.com.au>.

SOURCE:
Media release, 19 May 2023
Liesl Tesch, Member for Gosford



Charity bowls event attracts 26 bowlers

The monthly charity bowls event at Ettalong Bowling Club attracted 26 bowlers on Sunday, May 21.

Weather was cool and windy but fine.

The upset game was Phil

Westcott's team getting smashed 21-12 by Mavis Bland's team.

The winning rink was won by regulars Neil Puls, Jen Hibbert and Jack Fitzy.

The spider was won by Ray Reed.

A total of \$620 was raised for Central Coast Kids in Need.

The next event will be held on Sunday, June 18.

SOURCE:
Social media, 23 May 2023
Ken Dixon, EMBC Charity Bowls

SEU wins at James Brown Oval

Southern and Ettalong United has defeated Kanwal, 3-1, in the Men's Premier League soccer match played at James Brown Oval on Sunday, May 21.

Kanwal tried to take the game to Southern early and this nearly paid off with a scramble in the box cleared not once but twice by Southern after just four minutes.

The home side started well, and Keith Gumbs was causing the Kanwal defence problems from the outset, and it was only desperation and lack of finishing that was denying the home team an early goal.

But 12 minutes in it was the Kanwal side that took the lead.

Kanwal was playing a physical game and attacking Southern Ettalong with speed and numbers

on the transition from defence to attack with effect.

Twenty minutes into the contest, a surging run from midfielder Jack Ellwood into the Kanwal 18-yard box was fouled and Southern were awarded a penalty and a golden opportunity to equalise.

The ever-reliable Keith Gumbs stepped up, but an out-of-character miss from the spot kept the score at 1-0 which despite some more good chances from both sides, remained the score at halftime.

The second half began evenly, but Southern would soon begin to gain the upper hand and dominate possession.

Rising to the challenge in the second half, the Lions started their comeback in the 51st minute when a ball from a Jacob Lepre free kick saw Jack Ellwood rise above the Kanwal defence to head home a

thundering header to put his side back on level terms at 1-1.

Southern Ettalong was starting to get more rhythm in their passing game and causing all sorts of problems for the Kanwal defence.

The possession and territorial advantage saw Southern rewarded at 66 minutes into the game when another Jacob Lepre free kick found Jack Ellwood who put his side in the lead this time from his right boot while on the ground.

Kanwal tried to hit back, but just couldn't convert, and in the 78th minute a poor defensive decision by Kanwal saw Southern convert and take a 3-1 lead and ultimately close out the game.

Match official was Christopher Robinson.

SOURCE:
Website, 22 May 2023
Central Coast Football

Representing Australia

Two of the Australian representatives from the Asia Pacific Youth Touch Cup were Kieran Diamond and Mason Colwell from Peninsula Junior Touch.

Mason refereed at the event and Kieran was crowned champion in the B18 division.

They are pictured at the event.

SOURCE:
Social media, 18 May 2023
Peninsula Junior Touch





Christmas

IN JULY

HAM RAFFLE!

Tasty and Quick Ham Glaze Recipe

1/2 cup brown sugar
1/3 cup maple syrup
1/3 cup honey
1/3 cup pineapple juice
1 tbsp dijon mustard

Method: Pre heat oven. Gently lift the rind off the ham. Score the fat in a diamond pattern about 5mm deep. Transfer Ham to baking dish

Brush 1/3 of glaze over the ham. Bake on 180, brushing every 25 mins. Bake for approx 1.5 hours. **DELICIOUS...**

WEDNESDAY 26TH JULY

Tickets on sale 12pm

Drawn 6:15pm.

50 HALF HAMS TO BE WON!

Winter is fast approaching so what better way to warm up with a HAM to bake for the whole family.

Get in early to snag a seat and enjoy a game of QuizzaMe Trivia following the raffle at 7pm. Free To Play.

We are excited to bring back to the club everyone's favourite night out for a bit of Rock & Roll.

DJ George Galea will host the CLASSIC HITS OF ROCK & ROLL with Rockin X Press band performing on the night. A free event kicking off at 7.30pm on Saturday 3rd June in the Club Auditorium.

A lot happening at the club with Raffles every Thursday, Friday, Saturday & Sunday. Live Entertainment every weekend & daily blackboard specials from the Alfresco Brasserie.

Our friendly staff look forward to your visit.

Sport

Neck-and-neck rugby union match

The Lakes got their first win in round seven of the rugby union season with a tight victory over Woy Woy, 39-27, at Woy Woy oval on Saturday.

"The match went neck-and-neck for much of the 80 minutes," said Central Coast Rugby Union publicity officer Mr Larry Thomson.

"It proved to be a great game of rugby.

"Woy Woy took the early lead

with a try but it was not long before The Lakes grabbed the lead.

"The match was like that throughout, with the lead changing on numerous occasions.

"The Lakes went to the halftime break leading by 19 points to 10 but the match was still very much up for grabs.

"The Lakes scored six tries to Woy Woy's five.

"Midway through the second

half, The Lakes led by the narrow margin of 26 points to 22 but they were able to finish the stronger to go on to record a pleasing victory."

Best players for the home team were lock Fe'iloakitohi Patrick Tautua'a, who crossed for two tries, and flankers Bruce Folau and Casey Woodford.

SOURCE:

Media release, 27 May 2023
Larry Thomson, CCRU



Umina Nippers hold presentations

Umina Surf Life Saving Club has held its Nippers presentations, naming junior and senior Nippers club point score champions.

Traditional Point Score champions were Isabelle Ayres and Niamh Fearnley.

Junior Female combined champs were Evie Lagan and Lylah Glynn.

Junior Male combined champs were Nate Carroll and Matias

Adamec.

Senior Female champ was Amber Stevenson.

Senior Male combined champs were Max Bush and Lachlan Muldrock.

Other award recipients included Rookie of the Year Lily James.

Junior Club Member of the Year was Julia Hall.

Most Outstanding Junior Competitor at Carnivals was Amber Stevenson.

Junior Pool Competitor of the Year was Chloe Hall.

The Megan Healey Tour De Force was Lily James.

Age Managers of the Year were Under-14's managers Viki Dickinson and Steve Scahill.

Aussies Medalist was Amber Stevenson

Boardriding Competitor of the Year was Kelsey Page.

SOURCE:

Social media, 24 May 2023
Umina Surf Life Saving Club

Ettalong and Umina win bowls pennants

Ettalong and Umina Beach bowling clubs were both winners at the Zone 15 Open Gender Pennant Finals played at Ettalong on Saturday, May 20.

The Ettalong Grade 5 side won the flag in a nail biting finish against Halekulani.

The teams were locked at 58-all after 63 ends, forcing an extra end

to be played.

Ettalong won the extra end 4-3 to secure the win.

They now go to Dubbo at the end of June to compete in the State Pennant Finals.

Umina Beach Bowling Club was also successful, winning the Grade 3 flag.

SOURCE:

Media release, 21 May 2023
Dennis Holden, Ettalong Bowling Club

Charity bridge day raises \$800 for Pantry

Brisbane Water Bridge Club played its Jean Pelham Charity Day Pairs on Thursday, May 18.

With 38 players, the field was divided into north-south and east-west.

The charity chosen this year was the Seventh Day Adventist Charity Pantry.

Our charity day raised over \$800 for the Pantry.

North-South results were:

1 David Bowerman, Dasha Brandt 280.4 (58.41 per cent), 0.50 red points.

2 Felicity Fane, Heather Brown 269.8 (56.20), 0.35

3 Marcelle Goslin, Ron Meaney 255.8 (53.28), 0.25

4 Bernard Davidson, Laurie Powell 251.4 (52.37), 0.17

5 Alison Mackey, Helen White 249.4 (51.95).

6 Noel Crockett, Shirley



Crockett 245.4 (51.12).

7 Kerry-Anne Durrant, Carolyn Girdwood 229.6 (47.83).

8 Ann Snow, Edith Marshall 191.9 (39.97).

9 Graham Woof, Carolyn Harper 188.1 (39.19).

East-west results were:

1 Karen Ody, Jim Routledge 267.6 (61.94) 0.50.

2 Jaan Oitmaa, Sylvia Foster 264.6 (61.26), 0.35

3 Christine Hadaway, Chris Hannan 257.3 (59.55), 0.25

4 Walt Alma Van Der, Kathryn

Ivits 228.3 (52.84), 0.17

5 Joan Walsh, Jenny Buckley 222.1 (51.42), 0.13

6 Hope Tomlinson, Barry Foster 219.9 (50.90).

7 Jurate Laisve, Trish Byrnes 202.6 (46.90).

8 Jan Davis, Lorraine Lindsay 187.0 (43.29).

9 Jan Kukura, Helen Cashman 163.6 (37.88).

10 Robin Vaughan, Maria Rose 148.6 (34.40).

SOURCE:

Social media, 20 May 2023
Brisbane Water Bridge Club

Swiss pairs championship

Brisbane Water Bridge Club played its Swiss Pairs Championship, restricted to players with less than 300 match points.

This annual event is promoted as an opportunity for up-and-coming players, while competing against those of similar ability, to accumulate some of those much sought after green points.

The game was played over two consecutive Wednesday afternoons with three, nine-board rounds played each day.

A field of 16 pairs committed to play.

The Swiss movement determines opponents by scores from the previous round: winners play winners and losers play

losers.

The same pairs never play against each other twice.

Results were:

1 Faith Ross, Elaine Hume 81.74 Impst (84.58VPs), 4-1-1 W-D-L, 1.06 green points.

2 John Aldersley, Beryl Lowry 65.86 (81.88), 5-1-0, 0.99.

3 Hilary Owen, Meg McGregor 44.76 (73.23), 4-0-2, 0.72.

4 Peter Hume, Ron Meaney 32.98 (70.02), 3-1-2, 0.57.

5 Bob Lowry, Dieter Mucharsky 27.81 (69.30), 3-1-2, 0.52.

6 Connie Lewis, Caroline Nichols 22.38 (67.92), 4-1-1, 0.60.

7 Carolynne Mucharsky, Graham Woof -18.57 (62.18), 3-0-3, 0.32.

8 Kerry-Anne Durrant, Carolyn

Harper -25.29 (58.24), 2-0-4, 0.22.

9 Ian Newton, Blair Glass -5.81 (57.84), 3-0-3, 0.32.

10 Marcelle Goslin, Rohan Creasey -7.95 (56.69), 2-1-3, 0.27.

11 Jane Power, Edith Marshall -15.33 (55.44), 2-0-4, 0.22.

12 Jenni Murray, Cheryl Pearse -16.88 (54.61), 2-1-3, 0.27.

13 Kathryn Ivits, Trish Byrnes -20.98 (53.94), 3-2-1, 0.43.

14 Denyse Stephens, Marilyn Reid -38.55 (47.81), 2-0-4, 0.22.

15 Linda and Michael Cunningham -59.29 (40.86), 1-1-4, 0.16.

16 Laurie Powell, Susan Ashley -111.83 (24.06), 0-0-6.

SOURCE:

Social media, 25 May 2023
Brisbane Water Bridge Club



Holly wins archery gold in short course

Umina high school student Holly Parker won the Under-16 Female Compound Bow Division, in the Archery NSW State Short Course Championships on Sunday, May 28.

She won Gold with a score of 847 out of a possible 900.

The event took place at Sydney Olympic Park Archers which is notorious for being windy.

The round known as a "Short Canberra" comprises 30 arrows being shot at 50 metres, 30 arrows at 40 metres and another 30 arrows at 30 metres.

This was a great accomplishment for Holly who is a member of Coast Archers in Erina and has previously represented NSW three times and Australia twice.

This come just days after being recognised in State Parliament by Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch and also being contacted by Member for Robertson Dr Gordon Reid advising of a \$600 sporting grant that has been awarded to her by the Australian Sports Commission.

SOURCE:

Media release, 28 May 2023
Barry Parker, Archery NSW

Crazy hair and sock day

Woy Woy Peninsula Netball Association will hold a Crazy Hair and Sock Day at the Lemon Grove Netball Courts at 9am on Saturday, June 24.

The day will support "The Kid's Cancer Project" that aims "to support bold science that has the greatest chance of clinical success to improve childhood cancer

treatments".

The project hopes for a 100 per cent survival rate for children with cancer "while eradicating the harmful impacts treatment can bring".

SOURCE:

Social media, 27 May 2023
Woy Woy Peninsula Netball Association