

Ettalong ferry may not resume for weeks

Resumption of the Palm Beach ferry service to Ettalong and Wagstaffe may be weeks away, according to ferry operator Fantasea Palm Beach Ferries.

"We are looking to resume services within the coming weeks and will post an update once we can confirm a start date," the company stated last Friday, September 29.

"Palm Beach Ferries is working with Transport for NSW to resume services back to Ettalong and Wagstaffe.

"More critical analysis of the channel and operational controls by Palm Beach Ferries are currently taking place."

Earlier hopes to have the ferry operating from Ettalong in the week leading up to the long weekend or even from tomorrow were dashed when operator Fantasea stated on its website: "Due to shifting sand bars in the Ettalong Channel, our Central Coast service from Palm Beach will keep operating to Patonga, until further notice.

"We will not be operating services as of Monday, September 25, back to Ettalong or Wagstaffe.

"More critical analysis of the channel needs to be made if our vessels can safely operate on a



regular basis within the channel."

Earlier Ms Tesch announced that dredging of the Ettalong Channel had been completed, six weeks ahead of schedule.

"Hydrographic studies have confirmed that emergency dredging works have been completed, removing 30,000 cubic metres of sand from the channel, with ferry operations safe to resume as soon as ferry operators complete necessary compliance checks and crew training.

"The channel has now reopened

for all vessels across recreation and business.

"I look forward to working alongside Minister Haylen and Transport for NSW to create a 10-year plan for future dredging projects, including options for future dredging campaigns to place sand in areas along the Ettalong foreshore."

SOURCE:

Social media, 29 Sep 2023

Fantasea Palm Beach Ferries

Media release, 21 Sep 2023

Media statement, 29 Sep 2023

Liesl Tesch, Member for Gosford

The diverted "Ettalong" ferry is pictured at Patonga wharf yesterday morning. Its service to Ettalong will resume "in coming weeks", according to operator Fantasea Palm Beach Ferries.

Produced on the Peninsula

Peninsula news & advertising
for the Peninsula community

Council withdraws reserve from reclassification process

Central Coast Council has withdrawn the Austin Butler reserve from its reclassification process and will proceed immediately with a community consultation about the future of the land.

"The site was originally included in the bulk reclassification after Council was approached by Peninsula Plaza and their major tenant (Woolworths) to purchase the site to address identified safety risks," said Council Administrator Mr Rik Hart.

"I have chosen to remove the parcel entirely from this bulk reclassification process," said Mr Hart.

"I have asked that the community be engaged as soon as possible to seek their formal feedback."

He said the consultation would present two options: "A) Retain the site in Council ownership, meaning the trees on the site remain in their current condition, or B) Proceed with a sale and allocate all proceeds of that sale to an extensive greening program for the Peninsula region.

AUSTIN BUTLER PROPOSAL
More: Page 10

"I am impartial to both options (A) and (B) and will be completely guided by the community's response through the formal consultation process on what is ultimately determined for this site.

"I look forward to receiving the results of this community engagement via a summary report back to Council as soon as possible."

Mr Hart said it was originally intended to use the community consultation stage of the reclassification process "to provide the community with a formal opportunity to have their say".

"It is clear that some confusion has occurred about the steps

involved in the reclassification and sale process."

The decision to withdraw the reserve from the reclassification process was "to alleviate fears or concerns".

Mr Hart said the option of putting the proceeds of a sale to greening program was prompted by concern expressed about the "heat island effect" on the Peninsula.

"Such a program could provide funding for approximately 8500 trees to be sourced, planted and maintained to maturity," he said.

"This would go a long way in providing long-term progress in greening the local area and mitigating the impacts of climate change to the benefit of future generations.

"It's initiatives like this which could achieve a significant advancement towards the objectives of Council's Greener Places Strategy."

Mr Hart said the consultation would be conducted through the council's www.yourvoiceourcoast.com website.

SOURCE:

Website, 27 Sep 2023

Rik Hart, Central Coast Council

Read Peninsula News on your phone

People often comment that Peninsula News is so popular it disappears from the news stands within a couple of days of publication.

Unfortunately, the current level of sponsorship does not allow for the print run to be increased. Longer term, we hope with more people sharing the cost of printing, more copies can be printed.

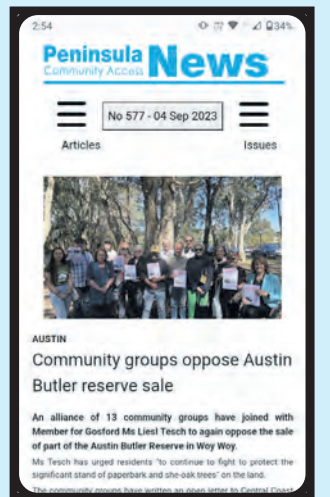
However, in the meantime, we have created a new website so that people can read Peninsula News on their phones.

The website features flyout side-panel menus allowing access to all articles in the current issues as well as access to previous issues.

It includes icons to allow articles to be shared on social media and by email, and has links to enable readers to phone or email their contributions to us.

Find it at <http://peninsula.news/> mobile or scan the QR code.

Mark Snell, 6 Aug 2023



Next issue: Monday, October 16

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.

Editor: Mark Snell
 editor@peninsula.news
Distribution: Frank Wiffen
Photographer: Allen Trainer

NEXT EDITION: Peninsula News 580
 Deadline: Thursday, October 12
 Publication date: Monday, October 16

CONTACT DETAILS
 NEWS: contributions@peninsula.news
 ADVERTISING: advertising@peninsula.news
 PHONE: 4342 5333 - Please leave a message
 POSTAL ADDRESS: PO Box 585, Woy Woy NSW 2256

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.



The reward of removing a weed

Ask a dunecare volunteer with the Umina Community Group about the rewards of their work and they may well show you a turkey rhubarb plant removed complete with tubers.

One of the group's volunteers recently spent half an hour under a wattle following the long roots of this weed (acetosa sagittata) to dig up the tubers from which it sprouts.

Central Coast Council has provided protective gear including shirts to the group so they can work safely on the dunes.

The group is currently seeking more volunteers for its Wednesday morning sessions.

SOURCE:
 Social media, 28 Sep 2023
 Umina Community Group

Second year of 'stable' finances, says Farmer

Central Coast Council has announced it has sustained a stable financial position for a second year in a row.

It has reported a surplus budget for end of financial year 2023, with the consolidated operating result \$28.5 million, or 3.6 per cent of Council's total \$783 million annual budget.

Council chief executive Mr

David Farmer said the end of year result was within the range expect of an organisation of its size.

"We manage assets valued at over \$9.4 billion on behalf of the Central Coast community, so the lion's share of our budget is taken up on maintaining, operating and renewing these assets."

SOURCE:
 Media release, 28 Sep 2023
 David Farmer, Central Coast Council



Food donated to Mary Macs for pets

The Animal Rescue Cooperative has made a donation of animal food to Mary Macs Place homeless support organisation.

"A lot of the time I see people feeding their animals over themselves," said project worker

Ms Sally Baker.

"With this food, Mary Mac's Place can now feed our human companions as well as our furry friends."

SOURCE:
 Social media, 20 Sep 2023
 Sally Baker, Mary Mac's Place

Low monthly rainfall for September

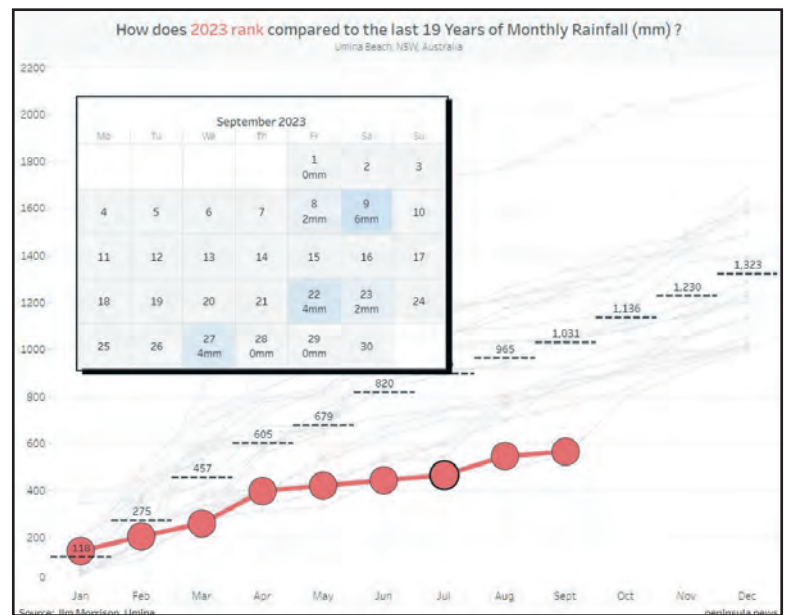
The Peninsula has received just 18.3mm of rain for September, the third lowest in 19 years.

The total is 73.1 per cent below the month's average rainfall of 68mm, according to figures supplied by Mr Jim Morrison of Umina.

The month's rain has brought the year's total to 564.2mm which is just over half of the average total of 1055mm at the end of September.

This is the second lowest cumulative total for the month in 19 years, with 2018 being the only year to have a lower September cumulative total with 550mm.

SOURCE:
 Spreadsheet, 29 Sep 2023
 Jim Morrison, Umina



| TIDE TIMES and Heights | Mon, Oct 2 | Thu, Oct 5 | Sun, Oct 8 | Wed, Oct 11 | Sat, Oct 14 |
|------------------------|------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | 0522 0.14 | 0135 0.71 | 0531 0.64 | 0138 0.19 | 0312 0.16 |
| | 1129 1.22 | 0712 0.28 | 1022 0.39 | 0746 0.81 | 0916 1.02 |
| | 1810 0.14 | 1348 1.08 | 1659 0.93 | 1326 0.28 | 1533 0.20 |
| | 2353 0.94 | 2115 0.25 | | 1930 0.98 | 2123 1.01 |
| AT ETTALONG | Tue, Oct 3 | Fri, Oct 6 | Mon, Oct 9 | Thu, Oct 12 | Sun, Oct 15 |
| | 0557 0.18 | 0243 0.64 | 0023 0.23 | 0210 0.17 | 0343 0.16 |
| | 1212 1.20 | 0800 0.34 | 0629 0.68 | 0817 0.88 | 0947 1.08 |
| | 1904 0.19 | 1445 1.01 | 1136 0.37 | 1410 0.24 | 1615 0.19 |
| | | 2228 0.26 | 1758 0.93 | 2009 1.01 | 2200 0.98 |
| AT ETTALONG | Wed, Oct 4 | Sat, Oct 7 | Tue, Oct 10 | Fri, Oct 13 | Mon, Oct 16 |
| | 0041 0.82 | 0411 0.61 | 0103 0.21 | 0241 0.16 | 0413 0.18 |
| | 0632 0.23 | 0904 0.38 | 0712 0.75 | 0846 0.95 | 1019 1.12 |
| | 1258 1.15 | 1550 0.95 | 1237 0.32 | 1452 0.21 | 1658 0.20 |
| | 2005 0.23 | 2332 0.25 | 1848 0.95 | 2046 1.02 | 2239 0.93 |



Brigade members walk to fire at Little Wobby

Three members of the Patonga Volunteer Rural Bush Fire Brigade have walked from Patonga (top left) to Little Wobby on the Hawkesbury River on Wednesday, September 25, to fight a fire.

The area was not accessible by vehicle so the Patonga brigade members walked in with rake hoes and knapsacks and spent the day cutting firebreaks with hand tools

to protect property.

They put in a 10-hour shift, helping crews from Erina, the mitigation team and boat crews to contain the fire.

Rural Fire Service crews continued working on the fire the following day, which was being accessed only by boat or helicopter.

SOURCE:
Social media, 25 Sep 2023
Patonga Volunteer Rural Bush Fire Brigade

Baiting targets wild dogs

The NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service has announced it will be conducting an aerial baiting program in the Watagans, Brisbane Water and Popran National Parks from October 7 to 15.

The operation will use 1080 (sodium fluoroacetate) poison, which is lethal to cats and dogs, for the control of wild dogs and foxes, according to the Service.

The program is designed to minimise predator impacts on wildlife, especially threatened

species, and to minimise impact of wild dogs on neighbouring stock.

While exact locations have not been announced, "signs will be placed at the entry to the baiting location".

"Domestic pets are not permitted in NSW National Parks.

"Pets and working dogs must be restrained or muzzled in the vicinity and must not enter the baiting location."

For more information, contact the Central Coast NPWS area office on 4320 4200.

SOURCE:.
Website, 30 Sep 2023.
Central Coast office, NPWS

Blessing of the Pets

The Peninsula Anglican Church will hold a "Blessing of the Pets" at Lions Park in North Burge Rd, Woy Woy, at 10:30am on Saturday, October 7.

The service will "bless those who bless us".

All are welcome.

The church is asking that all

dogs be leashed and other pets be housed in a "safety carrier".

"They poop, you scoop."

The service will be in addition to the 9am service at Holy Apostles Anglican Church in Blackwall Rd, Woy Woy, on Sunday, October 8.

SOURCE:
Social media, 28 Sep 2023
The Peninsula Anglican Parish

Sweltering heat for Carnie Fair Day

The Coastal Twist Festival's Carnie Fair Day survived sweltering heat to attract 6500 people on Sunday, October 1, organisers estimated.

"What an amazing day of fun and live performance with friends, connecting with communities, educating and sharing our lives on a grand scale and shopping through local businesses before a massive day of live entertainment in the eye of a sandstorm," said organiser Ms Glitta Supernova.

Andrew Little and Carlotta Chitzpa were among the crowd.

SOURCE:
Social media, 2 Oct 2023
Glitta Supernova, Coastal Twist Festival



Varroa mite eradication efforts abandoned

Efforts to eradicate the varroa mite have been abandoned, with a decision to manage the pest instead.

The decision came just two weeks after the detection of a varroa mite at Blackwall.

Transition to management of the varroa mite will be led by NSW Department of Primary Industry "in consultation with key stakeholders", according to a social media post.

"The National Management Group (made up of all states, the

Commonwealth and 16 industry partners) has now decided that eradication is no longer technically feasible.

"The group unanimously decided to move from an eradication program to a management approach."

Further information is available on the emergency response website www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/varroa.

SOURCE:
Social media, 20 Sep 2023
Biosecurity, NSW DPI

Tree group seeks angels

Grow Urban Shade Trees is seeking people who can water street trees over summer.

It wants people who can "spare some time to join our amazing team of watering angels".

Volunteers will be "matched to a thirsty tree near you".

Email gust@peg.org.au for more details.

SOURCE:
Social media, 30 Sep 2023
Grow Urban Shade Trees

Council removes trees near ferry wharf

Council contractors have removed a number of large trees near the ferry wharf outside 308 Ocean View Rd, Ettalong.

"This is a popular meeting and picnic spot," said Residents for Responsible Ettalong Development member Ms Melanie Masterson.

"It has now had the ground ripped up and the foreshore made more vulnerable to erosion without roots to help contain the bank.

"To date Central Coast Council has not said why they removed them, nor their plans for two for one replacements."

SOURCE:.
Social media, 29 Sep 2023
Melanie Masterson, RRED



Everyday our customers help change and save lives, simply by banking with us

Be part of the Bendigo Bank community

Community Bank Ettalong Beach
263-267 Ocean View Rd Ettalong Beach 4344 4206

Community banking is based on a 'profit-with-purpose' model, which means our profits are returned directly to the community that has generated them



Bendigo Bank

Proposal for \$9.2M development of 21 flats in Trafalgar Ave

A 21-unit two-storey development costing \$9.18 million has been proposed for three lots fronting 290-294 Trafalgar Ave, Umina.

The site includes 23 Hecor St as well as the three lots in Trafalgar Ave, opposite Wellington St.

The residential flat building will be two storeys with basement parking and will have three single-bedroom units, 14 two-bedroom units and four three-bedroom apartments.

According to the application "overview", parking will be provided for 36 cars, including two accessible parking bays.

However, the basement plan appears to indicate 37 car spaces and in at least two other places the application states that there are three "disabled" car spaces.

According to the application prepared by Doug Sneddon Pty Ltd: "The subject land has an area of 2257 square metres, with a western frontage of 43.895m



Computer-generated perspectives submitted with the application show the retention of two large trees on the site, while the plans and arborist report indicate these will be removed.

to Trafalgar Ave; a small eastern frontage to Hecor St; a northern side boundary of 51.62m; and a southern boundary of 52.78m."

The floor space ratio of the proposed development is 0.76:1, exceeding the 0.7:1 ratio permitted by the planning provisions.

A written "clause 4.6 variation request" has been provided as an appendix to the application, running to 13 pages.

The principal argument appears to be: "The proposed development will not be visually prominent; will have a bulk and scale appropriate to its urban context; and will be compatible with the bulk and scale of multi-storey residential flat buildings envisaged under current planning controls."

The only other notified non-compliance with planning provisions is for the rear setback

which at 1.685 metres is considerably less than the 4.5 metres required.

The application states: "It is considered that the proposed 1.685m rear boundary setback is reasonable in the circumstances because this boundary is fundamentally a side boundary shared with the adjacent property."

In another inconsistency, the computer-generated perspectives

featured in the application show the retention of two large trees on the site.

However, the plans show that these will be removed.

According to the arborist report prepared by Advanced Treescape Consulting, all nine trees on the site are to be removed.

The report states one is to be removed because it "failed the Visual Tree Assessment".

Four are listed as "exempt", because they are considered noxious weeds and four are to be removed to "facilitate the proposed development plans".

The application, DA/1787/2023, concludes that the development "will have minimal environmental impact and that the subject land is environmentally suitable for the proposed development".

It is currently on public exhibition and available for written submissions until October 23.

SOURCE:
DA Tracker, 30 Sep 2023
DA1787/2023, Central Coast Council



Panel insists on boundary landscaping

The Local Planning Panel has deferred a decision on a four-unit development at 168 West St, Umina, "to allow the applicant to submit a revised design".

The design must "provide a minimum one metre landscape strip along the eastern boundary of the site, extending from the front property boundary to the rear elevation of townhouse four".

"The Panel considers that providing suitable landscaping to side and rear boundaries is an important design consideration," it stated in its unanimous decision at its September 14 meeting.

The Council assessing officer had recommended approval, and there had been 15 submissions against the proposal.

The only speaker against the application was Mr Francis Wiffen representing the Peninsula Residents Association.

He reminded the panel of a recommendation that it made to the Central Coast Council that planning provisions for the Peninsula be reviewed.

He said that the Panel recommended "Central Coast Council consider conducting a strategic planning review of the planning controls, development provisions and character

statements for Umina, Woy Woy and Ettalong".

"The Panel had requested that the review should ensure there is consistency between the relevant controls, provisions and character statements applicable to each locality, and a clear direction and expectation on the desired future character of these suburbs".

Mr Wiffen said that the recommendation was made as part of its decision to refuse two applications for multiple dwelling developments at 16 and 34 Warrah St, Ettalong.

Mr Wiffen recalled that, in an email to the residents' association, Council planning director Dr Alice Howe had stated: "Council recognises the need for improved planning controls around mitigating urban heat island effect and the importance that trees and other vegetation play in doing this."

She had also said "the council's Greener Places Strategy required a review and update to Council's planning controls to include consideration of urban heat island effect for all future subdivision and medium and high-density development."

Mr Wiffen said that this proposal would be an overdevelopment.

He said Umina Beach's R1 zone had just as poor a tree canopy as

Booker Bay and that it was caused by "gunbarrels like this one".

"They cover virtually the entire site with little in way of tree or shrub cover."

He queried the point of building lots of dwellings "that will soon become uninhabitable due to unrestricted heat sink temperature."

He quoted urban forest consultant Gwylim Griffiths: "A city that cannot sustain trees will soon be a city that cannot sustain people."

Mr Wiffen said that "developers flock to the Central Coast because they're not allowed to build gunbarrels like this in most Sydney suburbs".

"Why should the council be allowing large variations to the DCP in order to overdevelop the Peninsula?"

Mr Ravi Sharma represented the applicant.

He said that this application had been "in the pipeline" for over two years and the council had only asked for "a couple" of small technical changes to the design.

He also said that the proposal complied with the LEP and in almost every aspect with the DCP.

SOURCE:
Local Planning Panel Item 5-
DA/2144/2021, 14 Sep 2023

Council criticised over 'offensive' remarks

A complaint has been submitted to Central Coast Council that it has allowed derogatory "personal", "offensive" and "inappropriate" comments about a Woy Woy resident to be reproduced in a publicly-available development application.

The Council frequently redacts information from development applications and submissions that it deems inappropriate for publication.

In a request to modify conditions of consent for an industrial building at 5 Mutu St, Woy Woy, planning consultant Mr Ravi Sharma from Clarke Dowdle and Associates described the resident as a "serial complainant".

Mr Sharma said: "It is noted the complaints on the industrial premises are not from the adjoining owner and rather from a serial complainant who has a poor history of complaining about any operations occurring within the industrial zoned land."

In making a submission for one of the conditions to be retained, a member of the public has stated: "The comments made by the Town Planner Mr Ravi Sharma are inappropriate."

"Council created this condition as they are aware of the close proximity of residential housing and the impact to families.

"Mr Sharma has become personal when he stated a resident was a 'serial complainant' as this is an offensive remark.

"This remark should be removed from the development application."

The application seeks to change conditions of consent for DA/58460/2020 which was for an industrial building at 5 Mutu St, Woy Woy, to be used to repair and

modify jet skis.

The application seeks to delete a requirement for a three metre high acoustic wall, a requirement for an acoustic report in response to a noise complaint, and "condition 6.30" which requires a rear roller door to remain closed at certain times.

It also seeks to vary hours of operation to allow for occasional operations on Saturdays.

Mr Sharma wrote: "The imposition of the conditions are onerous for the approved use of the site.

"The owner has been very conscious to minimise noise from the use of premises and the concept of closing the rear shed is impractical in terms of providing light and ventilation for the workers in the building and further does not reduce the noise impacts from the premises."

The submission in response states: "I object to removal of condition 6.30.

"This condition was imposed by council as a pro-active condition that actually works and needs only to apply when the jet ski is being revved.

"There are two other large roller doors that can be opened for light and ventilation.

"The owner will otherwise perform mechanical repairs in the parking lot, as he has done previously.

The application had a status on October 1 of "notification/advertising" on the council website and was accepting submissions.

However, elsewhere on the website, the closing date for public submissions was listed as September 29.

SOURCE:
DA Tracker, 1 Oct 2023
DA/58460/2020A, Central Coast Council



Lions Park future joins other Peninsula consultations

The future of Woy Woy Lions Park will be subject of a public consultation to be held by Central Coast Council over the next month.

It will be one of three consultations with potential ramifications for the Peninsula being held concurrently by the council.

It will join a consultation about the future of the Austin Butler Reserve and a consultation about the Council's Community Strategy Plan and its Local Strategic Planning Statement.

Council's director Ms Melanie Smith said the park had been earmarked for an upgrade, as "a new district level playspace".

"With the project about to enter crucial design work, the time is right to find out more about what the community wants to see," she said.

"We have a fantastic response from the community who got involved in the recent Pelican Park concept design survey."

She said that survey indicated

that residents did not want funding removed from a new district playground at for Lions Park.

"This survey will provide Council staff a snapshot of how Lions Park is currently used as we seek to understand the demographics of its users."

She said council staff wanted to know who used it, why and how often, and what would benefit them.

"This feedback is important as it will inform the future," Ms Smith said.

The Woy Woy Lions Park upgrade is budgeted to cost \$340,000.

Designs and tender process will follow the close of this public consultation, and it is anticipated that work will be completed within the next 12 months.

Submissions to the consultation conducted through the council's YourVoiceOurCoast.com website close on Friday, October 27.

SOURCE:
Media release, 28 Sep 2023
Melanie Smith, Central Coast Council

Umina chosen for Urgent Care Clinic

The Peninsula will be one of just 14 locations in NSW for a Medicare Urgent Care Clinic, it was announced last Wednesday, September 27.

The announcement was made at Providence Medical Umina, in West St, the site of the new clinic, which will start accepting patients in November.

The clinics are designed to make it easier for people "to get the urgent treatment they need from highly qualified doctors and nurses, while taking pressure off the Gosford and Wyong Hospitals", said Member for Robertson Dr Gordon Reid.

They will be open for extended hours, seven days a week, and will offer walk-in care that is fully bulk billed.

"Over half of presentations to the Gosford and Wyong Hospital emergency departments are for non-urgent or semi-urgent care,"



he said.

"I know many families who have had to wait long hours in the emergency department for non-life-threatening issues, like sutures for minor wounds, imaging, and pathology."

Primary Health Network chief executive Mr Richard Nankervis said both Providence Medical

Umina was selected after an extensive tender process.

He said the clinics were intended to provide short term, episodic care for urgent conditions that are not immediately life-threatening for people of all ages.

They would deal with minor illnesses and minor injuries including closed fractures, simple lacerations, simple eye injuries and minor burns.

He said the Umina clinic would be equipped for wound management, including gluing, suturing and dressings, as well as for incision and drainage of abscesses.

"The clinics are not intended to treat potentially life-threatening problems (such as cardiac chest pain, severe shortness of breath or altered conscious state) or to manage labour and birth," said Mr Nankervis.

SOURCE:
Media release, 27 Sep 2023
Gordon Reid, Member for Robertson

After-hours medical service closes

The Woy Woy After Hours Medical Service has announced that it will close last Friday, September 29, having operated for 50 years.

The service secured two years' fixed Federal funding to cover costs, but has been unable to find enough GPs to staff the service.

"The number contributing is now so small that we cannot reliably stay open, meaning we can't sign the funding contract to continue," said service director Dr Paul Duff.

"For a few years now, we have been depending on a small group of doctors doing much more than their fair share to staff the service.

"This year has seen a number of those doctors become unavailable, either because of retirement, ill health or because they are leaving the Peninsula."

Dr Duff said that the service

had been set up in 1972 as a cooperative amongst the local doctors shortly after Woy Woy Hospital opened.

"At that time, they all were owners or part owners of their own small general practices and shared the work of staffing Woy Woy Hospital.

"This made them deeply committed members of the community and made working together to share the burden of after hours care just good sense," he said.

"Since then, we have had Gough Whitlam's Medibank and Bob Hawke's Medicare, the evolution of General Practice into a recognised specialty branch of medicine, the introduction of practice accreditation, the large scale of corporatisation of general practice and 40 years of Medicare neglect by successive Federal

Governments," Dr Duff said.

"The small GP-owned practices that were at the heart of the service have all but disappeared from the Peninsula and the number of doctors who have been prepared to step into the breach of those older GPs as they have retired or wound down their practices has shrunk year by year.

"We are very grateful for the support we have received from our patients and the local community in the recent battle to lobby Government for the funding.

"In the end, the Federal Government did offer us a two-year funding agreement linked to a modest increase.

"You can't run a co-operative if no one is prepared to co-operate," he said.

SOURCE:
Media release, 26 Sep 2023
Paul Duff, WW AHMS



Central Coast Friends of Democracy

ADVERTISEMENT

Our community should have a say about the future of Central Coast Council

A Bill is about to be tabled by Dr. Amanda Cohn in the NSW Parliament to amend the Local Government Act.

Its aim is to ensure that the Minister for Local Government has to act when a majority of residents want to go back to their former Councils.

Labor in opposition promised to act on residents' concerns. Now it can.

During October, Friends of Democracy will be talking to local residents about the proposed legislation, what it could mean for the Central Coast and how you can support this move to give local residents a say.

We will be carrying out surveys, door-knocking, stalls and a community meeting.

If you would like to help or find out more - email:

admin@ccfriendsofdemocracy.com

You can also have your say about the future of Central Coast Council here



Forum

Watch out for sick pelicans

Please keep an eye out for sick pelicans.

Spring's warm weather signifies the start of pelican sickness around the Central Coast.

The primary cause of the sickness in the Peninsula area and beyond is "ingestion of blue green algal toxin" from a storm water drain that the Council refuses to remediate in the Brisbane Water.

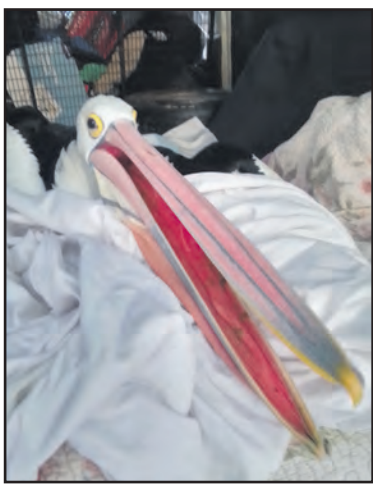
The toxin that results from algal blooms that grow in the drain nine months of the year is the primary source of gross incapacity, suffering and death of our precious pelicans on the Central Coast.

These significant losses have been occurring for over 25 years.

In 2016, my six years of rallying and significant media culminated in the NSW Environment Protection Authority finally testing one of the offending drains.

Blue green algal toxin was determined to be the cause of the unacceptable losses and suffering.

The then Gosford Council was ordered to remediate and plant out



the drain to prevent the growth of blooms.

Correspondence received from the Environment Minister in 2017 stated that the Council had completed the works and there was no longer any issue.

By 2018, I was repeatedly advised by the NSW Environment Protection Authority that Council was no longer required to "remediate the drain further".

Negligible work has been conducted on this primary source of toxin and our iconic pelicans continue to suffer and die cruelly at a significant rate 25 years on.

I have been proactively rescuing and attempting to rehabilitate these poor birds for the past 13 years with significant success, but at least 250 have died cruelly despite my full-time efforts.

Each pelican cost me \$100 or more to rehabilitate, so all help is appreciated.

Despite sick pelicans looking like they're on death's door, many can be saved with electrolyte therapy, probiotics, physio and other support measures.

My average "return to the wild" time is four days.

They don't need to be euthanased.

My contact is 0458 975 498, and please send a picture and leave a message.

SOURCE:
Email, 22 Sep 2023
Wendy Gillespie, Woy Woy

No action on Peninsula heat island health crisis

There is nothing currently addressing the increasing health threat of the heat island effect on the Peninsula.

Development applications are being approved and will continue to be approved that will increase the heat island effect.

These developments will have an asset life of about 50 years and are similarly designed to those already adding to the heat increase on the Peninsula.

What are the expectations for the future?

Central Coast Council has no immediate plan to review planning on the Peninsula (Peninsula News, September 18, p5).

Actions to address this human health crisis could be 10 years into the future.

Then there is the re-education stage to transform design and acceptance of green space as a feature and not an impost on profit, and against profit.

When the famous oyster depuration plant was constructed at Koolewong, defying approval, it was not demolished and survives to this day.

What is the future for these heat island effect developments over their "asset life" and what will be the consequences?

Demolition is probably not an option.

My belief is the matter will be addressed in due course, as reported in the Peninsula News.

It will be interesting to observe how this and other matters affecting human health increase in priority or remain as an inconvenience.

The approval of development applications has a self-interest history, accompanied by a significant political and legal informal code of conduct that is all-powerful.

Editions of the Peninsula News contain reports of this practice, without naming them in these terms.

This is not news. What I have described above has been an everyday experience since May 2016.

Our Local Government re-education continues.

If development applications complied with the original character statements, the heat island effect would not be as severe.

The fault is not the public's.

The Covid pandemic was a short-term medical challenge.

Ask me after this summer for a comment on the future of this health crisis.

SOURCE:
Letter, 24 Sep 2023
Norm Harris, Umina

Noticeboard - Public Notices

Yoga Class Woy Woy
Mondays 9am-10am
Beginner/General level
Registered/experienced yoga instructor
Anglican Church Hall
Blackwall Rd, parking at rear.
Contact
0423 433 781

QHHT Practitioner
Level 2 and Soul Speak Practitioner
Group regressions
Surrogate sessions
Pendulum dowsing classes (individual or group)
Spiritual coaching
For bookings/enquiries
Call Sharyn
0408 967 507
or email shazzaunitt@proton.me
For further info on QHHT
www.qhhtofficial.com

Acupuncture and Massage Woy Woy
(Formerly of Deepwater Plaza)
Now by appointment only
HICAPS Medical rebates
Member Australian Massage Therapists
Still in Woy Woy
Call 02 43412899 or
0405 018 927

Labor NSW Peninsula Day Branch
Like to join Labor & attend Day-time Branch Meetings In Woy Woy?
Peninsula Day Branch meets 1pm 2nd Monday in the Month
For Further Information
Ring Tom on 0419 620 160
Or Email
sonhopk@bigpond.net.au

KEVIN'S REMOVALS & DELIVERIES
Deliveries & Removals, Local Sydney, Newcastle & Country.
Single items or a house full.
Competitive rates.
02 4342 1479
0411 049 559

kevinsremovals@optusnet.com.au

HANDYMAN
House repairs
45 Yrs Experience

- Carpentry
- Brickwork
- Gyprock
- Decking
- Cladding
- Landscaping
- New Ali Doors

Pensioner/Seniors Discount
0418 660 014
James Raiston
Lic 51715C - Maintenance & Repair

Office Services
Print - copy - scan
Email - fax
Inks - toners
Laminating - binding
General stationery
Custom stamps
Passport - photo IDs
Business machines
PENINSULAR OFFICE SUPPLIES
so much more than a stationery store!
296 West St, Umina Beach
02 4342 2150 info@penoff.com.au

Handyman/ Carpenter
40 years' experience
Fully-insured tradesman
Full house renovations and additions
All work considered. Pensioner discounts.
Use a tradesman who knows what he's doing
IAN DOUGLAS
0414 698 097

SEA - SURF - STYLE
129 Bourke Road, Umina Beach

- Older style fibro home - with options
- Live in main house - rent cabin to family or tenants
- Includes double garage and double carport
- OR knock down and build 3 contemporary stylish villas!
- Your Choice - Real Opportunity

Contact us for immediate response
Lois Jones Real Estate
4339 7644
or Lois Jones 0439 739 324

E: Lois@loisjonesrealestate.com 441 Ocean Beach Road, Umina Beach 2257

Car Boot Sale
Woy Woy Peninsula Lions Club
Sunday Oct 29

7am to 1pm
Great variety of stalls - BBQ, Tea & Coffee.
Vendors Welcome - \$25 per car
Dunban Road Car Park
NB stall sites not open until 6.30am
Cnr. Ocean Beach Road Woy Woy
Always Last Sunday (no events in December)
Enq: 0478 959 895


The Troubadour Folk and Acoustic Music Club
Sun Oct 29, 2pm
Judy Small and Anousha Victoire
Everglades Club Woy Woy
Tickets \$20 and \$25 at
www.troubadour.org.au
4342 6716

Change of Hart

It seems we had a change of Hart!

So the community should be congratulated for coming together and sending a clear message on Austin Butler Reserve

Many groups and people co-ordinated to send a clear message to the Administrator and council that we did not want to lose any more Austin Butler trees.

To his credit it seems the Administrator, Rik Hart, listened to both the public and the Local Planning Panel and introduced an Administrator's minute which took that parcel of land out of the tranche being re-classified.

However, we are not out of the woods yet.

We are now faced with a survey and some public consultation, that will likely let Council know what we already know.

I should also congratulate Coles in Umina who manage to their loading dock without reported issues off an open road.

It seems Woolworths in Woy Woy, whose loading dock is off the main road in a carpark, are having more of a challenge.

SOURCE:
Email, 2 Oct 2023
Julian Bowker, Umina Beach



Umina artist wins ephemeral art prize

Umina artist Ms Kasia Niedzielak has won the Pearl Beach Ephemeral Art Trail first prize of \$3000 for her work Where the Seeds Were Born.

Two highly-commended awards of \$1000 each went to Ms Georgina Galea for her work entitled Falling; and to local sculptor Mr Jonathan Grose for Bowerbird Blues.

Three commendations went to Ms Penny Simmons and Mr Hobart Hughes for Bird Play, to Jojo Fuller for We Did It with the Best Intentions, and Mr Andrew Alter for the Elephant in the Room.

Three commendations of \$75 each went to artists under 16 years of age for The Bee is Life, The Catastrophe and The Coral Garden.

An inaugural school award of \$250 went to Year 9 art students from St Joseph's Catholic School for Wilderness Warriors.

The prizes were awarded at the official opening on Saturday, September 23, in the Arboretum.

The works were judged by

Bundanon Trust director Ms Anne Flanagan.

The prizes were presented by Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch.

The opening included a smoking ceremony by Mr Tim Selwyn from Girri Girra and a Welcome to Country by Guringai elder Aunty Tracey Howie.

The art trail of 20 works is open until Sunday, October 15, in the Pearl Beach Arboretum.

A donation of \$5 per adult provides a Trail Guide and the chance to vote for the People's Choice Award.

The People's Choice Award will be announced at the Beatles Rebooted Concert at the Arboretum at 2:30pm on Saturday, October 7.

More information is available on the Arboretum website at <https://www.pearlbeacharboretum.org.au/pbeat2023/>.

SOURCE:
Media release, 26 Sep 2023
Mary Knaggs, Crommelin
Native Arboretum

Four gardens in Edible Garden Trail

Four productive gardens on the Peninsula are taking part in this year's Central Coast Edible Garden Trail on the weekend of October 21 and 22.

"You don't have to go far to immerse yourself in a variety of edible gardens, meet their creators, and get inspired to grow more of your own food at home," said organiser Ms Anna Trigg.

She said participants in the ticketed event would be able to view a variety of approaches that they could adapt to their own situation.

"In Woy Woy, learn about clever ideas to get kids involved in the garden, permaculture design, growing vertically in a small space, and how a community can create something that is so much more than the sum of its parts.

"At Casa De Colezey, you'll find a young family, full of energy, who have created a triumphant garden on a small and sandy suburban block using permaculture design,

Another garden, Perma Reset in Blackwall has been through many transformations and recently enjoyed a Permablitz organised by Permaculture Central Coast.

"This is where a group of volunteers spend a day in your garden working towards a permaculture design, and in return you provide a lovely lunch – win-win," said Ms Trigg.

The Woy Woy Peninsula Community Garden will also be part of the Trail.

Ms Trigg said it was arguably the gem of the Central Coast's community gardens.

"There really is so much to see in this vibrant community space and when you meet the volunteer team behind this garden you'll want to sign up and get involved



too."

Nearby in Umina, the Miyan Nura garden will also be hosting a fundraiser for Mingaletta, Umina's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community hub.

"It features native edible plants, growing foods their kids love, and some very clever time-saving and sustainable strategies for improving soil.

"Around the corner, with 20 years of failed attempts behind him, Mark Snell's Front Yard Vegie Patch is the thriving culmination of many experiments and an attempt

to do more of what's worked," said Ms Trigg.

Tickets are available now at <http://centralcoastediblegardentrail.org.au> and provide entry to close to 50 gardens across the Coast.

Funds raised are donated back to our local community gardens and to programs teaching disadvantaged youth how to grow food, Ms Trigg said.

SOURCE:
Media release, 27 Sep 2023
Anna Trigg, Central Coast
Edible Garden Trail
Photo: Lisa Haymes



Aunt moves in to aged care facility to be near niece

A staff member at a local aged care facility has so impressed her aunt that she has decided to become a resident at the facility.

Peninsula Villages' leisure and lifestyle advocate Ms Susan McMillan was so confident in the care at facility that she encouraged her aunt, Ms Anas Davis, 82, to move in.

She said she knew her aunt would be well taken care of and that she would have a happy and fulfilling life at the facility.

"I knew that Peninsula Villages was the right place for my aunt," she said.

Ms Davis said she was grateful for her niece's support and for the opportunity to live at Peninsula Villages.

Born deaf in Bourke, Ms Davis grew up on her family's sheep and cattle farm, Bendemeer.

Despite her hearing impairment, she has never let anything hold her back.



She learned to herd sheep on her motorbike, care for baby animals and even change the oil and check the tyres on her family's motorbikes.

Ms Davis said she had a close bond with her family, and that she especially cherished her time with her sister, Gae, and nieces and nephew, Catherine, Susan and Joseph.

She would often take them on picnics and motorbike rides.

When her father died in 1993, she moved in with her mother in Bourke and cared for her until she passed away in Bourke Hospital.

Ms Davis then moved in with her sister in Sydney before settling into a retirement village in Merrylands.

Her sister Gae and niece Susan, became her lifelines, making regular visits and taking her shopping.

But Ms Davis said she missed her family on the Central Coast, especially her niece Susan, and, in June this year, decided to move to Peninsula Villages to be closer to her.

Both now cherish the time that they get to spend together, and are grateful for the supportive community that they have found at the facility.

"I'm so glad that she's here," said Ms McMillan.

SOURCE:
Media release, 27 Sep 2023
Colin Osborne, Peninsula Villages

Workshops for women

The Benchworks project of the Umina Community Group has completed two low-cost home maintenance workshops for women in the past two weeks.

A power tools workshop was run on Friday, September 22, and a plumbing workshop on Sunday, September 24, both at Mingaletta in Umina.

The workshops are the brainchild of Umina Community Group member Ms Jenn Rochford.

"We want to remove the barriers holding some of these women back from their true potential and give them the opportunity to regain their identity as confident, competent members of their community."

The workshops aimed to equip women with the skills to do basic home maintenance activities, with skills covered including hand and power tool use, basic plumbing and indoor painting.

In the plumbing workshop, for example, participants were taught how to change tap washers and leaking cisterns and some of the

plumbing terms.

The workshops were about making do-it-yourself skills relatable, practical and less daunting for women, she said.

Ms Rochford said she hoped attendees also saw other benefits: saving money on simple repairs and increasing their confidence through new social connections and a new sense of independence.

The workshops were supported by local organisations and tradespeople, such as Mr Ian Campbell, who volunteered his time to pass on some skills.

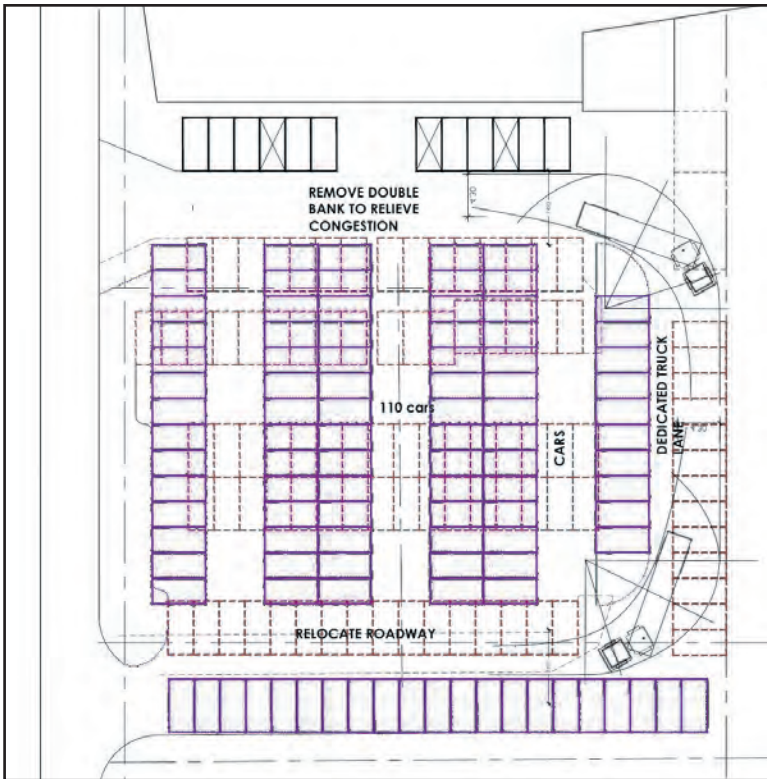
Ms Rochford said she hoped to continue with the subsidised workshops in the future, particularly for indigenous, those affected by domestic abuse, single mums and low income earners.

The workshops were open to all women, and included a 92-year-old at last week's plumbing workshop.

For more information, email benchworks@uminacommunitygroup.com.au.

Source:
Interview (Sean Richardson),
28 Sep 2023
Jenn Rochford, Benchworks

Planning



A simple reconfiguration of the Peninsula Plaza car park could address concerns about truck movement and pedestrian safety, according to the Australian Conservation Foundation Central Coast branch.

A firm of architects has provided the branch with a range of options for Peninsula Plaza that do not involve the purchase of the Austin Butler Reserve or the removal of its trees, said branch convenor Mr Mark Ellis.

Several of the options were expected to cost less than the purchase cost of the reserve.

“Adaptive Architects have

provided some rough sketches that cover a range of possibilities,” he said.

These included “a basic rearrangement of the carparking or building a parking deck on the existing site”.

The architects showed that trucks could be given their own dedicated docking lane, with a rearrangement of carpark that would retain the same number of spaces.

They also designed a “half floor” three-storey carpark which would almost double the carpark capacity, while facilitating delivery truck access.

“A more ambitious third option

would have multilevel parking with additional shops and residential units up to the legal height limit.

“The Plaza could be reconfigured to open out onto the reserve, utilising the shared amenity for the centre’s customers.

“The melaleucas and green space could become features of the site and be enhanced with seating and landscaping.

“Investing in one of these options, instead of paying to purchase community land, would give both the owners of Peninsula Plaza and the community the solutions they need,” Mr Ellis said.

SOURCE:
Media release, 30 Sep 2023
Mark Ellis, ACFC

Architects show options for Peninsula Plaza



Car park planned for Austin Butler reserve

A plan was submitted to council in April 27, 2021, for use of the Austin Butler reserve as a carpark for Peninsula Plaza.

It shows an expansion of Peninsula Plaza into the current carpark area, with an increase in the floor area of Woolworths by about 20 percent.

The reconfiguration of the carpark shows 152 car spaces.

This plan removes the current entry and relies on the current the “access” road as sole entry and exit for shoppers and for delivery vehicles, which would still loop through the carpark to access the Woolworths loading dock.

It does not provide for the butchers’ deliveries which

presumably would now have to take place with the delivery truck parked in Blackwall Rd.

Last week, Woolworths told Peninsula News that the plans were produced by the landlord and were not endorsed by Woolworths.

“Early discussions have been primarily around the possible sale of land by Central Coast Council,” the Woolworths statement said.

“This was done in a joint approach alongside the landlord with the view of improving the accessibility and safety of the overall centre.”

SOURCE:
Central Coast Council agenda , 27 Apr 2021
Media statement, 29 Sep 2023
Nathan Farebrother,
Woolworths Group

Forum

C'mon Rik, hit up that nice Mr Minns for some trees

You've got to hand it to Administrator Rik.

His offer to “green the Peninsula” could literally be a life saver.

Such a shame that the yearly budget for street tree planting over the entire Central Coast is just \$40,000.

I guess that's because the Council surplus for last financial year was a paltry \$28 million.

We're so lucky that Rik has given us this lifeline but it would be a real pity to lose the trees at Austin Butler.

Hang on! Hasn't the NSW Government said that they are “committed to increasing the tree canopy and green cover across Greater Sydney by planting five million trees by 2030”?

Aren't we part of Greater Sydney?

Check it out at <https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/policy-and-legislation/resilience-and-natural-hazard-risk/urban-heat>.

There's lots of cool stuff there - like how the NSW government is really looking after Greater Sydney and telling us that “During a heatwave, for instance, temperatures in western Sydney, which has less green cover, are sometimes 10°C higher than in eastern Sydney.”

We've got way less canopy than western Sydney.

We should be quids in for some of those five million trees, right?

C'mon Rik, you don't need to sell off Austin Butler.

You and Doc Gordon and Liesl can hit up that nice Mr Minns for some fauna and flora refurbishment for the poor old Peninsula.

After all, you've been a good

boy.

The Central Coast Council has done what those naughty Sydney Councils won't do: overdevelop the crap out of the Peninsula.

Surely, in return, he can bung us a few dozen truckloads of spotted gums and bloodwoods and give a few hundred thou to bang them in the ground. Problem solved.

As for those Sydney Councils, they just don't understand the advantages of a high density of medium density.

Maybe they just need to study aerial views of the Peninsula, perhaps focusing on choice spots like Flathead Rd with its proud ranks of “gun barrels”.

Then they'll see the benefits for themselves.

SOURCE:
Email, 2 Oct 2023
Francis Wiffen, Woy Woy

Two petitions oppose Austin Butler reclassification

Two petitions with a total of around 2500 people have called on Central Coast Council to stop the reclassification of Austin Butler Reserve from “community” to “operational” land, according to Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch.

Ms Tesch said she submitted her petition to Council Administrator Mr Rik Hart, on the day of the council's meeting on Tuesday, September 26, calling on Council to keep Austin Butler Reserve in community hands.

“I am writing on behalf of thousands of my constituents who are against the reclassification of Austin Butler Reserve from ‘community’ to ‘operational’ land,” she wrote.

“Please find attached the respondents of my petition that I

have launched calling on Central Coast Council to save our Austin Butler Reserve trees.

“It is clear that the community opposes the reclassification of Austin Butler reserve and I call on you to keep Austin Butler Reserve as community land.”

SOURCE:
Social media, 26 Sep 2023
Liesl Tesch, Member for Gosford

Street tree goes

The Local Planning Panel has approved the removal of a large mature Queensland Brushbox street tree, along with the approval of a dual occupancy at 83 Booker Bay Rd, Booker Bay.

SOURCE:
Local Planning Panel 4 - DA/2115/2022, Central

Trees are not the enemy, but urban heat certainly is.

There is a long-standing distrust and aversion to trees in urban areas and local community group Grow Urban Shade Trees is on a mission to shift that culture.

The Peninsula is an identified "urban heat island", which experiences temperatures almost five degrees hotter than surrounding leafy suburbs.

Though it's a flat area, walkability is greatly impacted by the lack of shade and extreme heat.

Where residents could happily clock in some exercise, save fuel, reduce emissions and combat overcrowded carparks when headed to the beach, they are forced to drive because walking is an unsafe option.

The Peninsula has long been a hot and bare area following a history of sandmining and urbanisation.

Records as far back as the early 1950s show strategies in place, by a newly formed Tree Planting Committee, to plant street trees and green the area.

So why are we still suffering?

There are many answers to that question but some key points to consider are the poorly planned rezoning of much of the area to medium density, poor development controls, a historically lower socio-economic demographic lacking time and resources to address the issue and a culturally-ingrained fear of trees.

Trees offer myriad benefits, not only providing much-needed shade to an area with less than 10



Trees are not the enemy, urban heat is

per cent canopy cover, but also to our pockets.

Trees increase property values (look at Pearl Beach, Killcare or Macmasters for proof) and reduce energy consumption.

They also improve physical and mental health and increase habitat value for local wildlife.

So why the fear?

Did you know that your chance of dying from a tree or branch falling is one in five million? Meanwhile, heat-related deaths can account for up to 10 per cent of total deaths in hot seasons and locations.

Selecting the right tree for the right place is important.

We desperately need trees, tall enough to shade hot, impervious surfaces such as roads and dark roofs, to be planted in gardens and on nature strips.

Where you're concerned about

the health or structural integrity of a tree, contract a knowledgeable and accredited arborist to undertake five-yearly health checks.

Trees come in all manner of styles, shapes and sizes and there are so many beautiful species which the Grow Urban Shade Trees group could help you select for your garden or nature strip – just reach out.

Central Coast Council have a poor history of tree retention and planting on the Peninsula.

Between 2019-2022, the group has identified 295 tree removals on the Peninsula via council tree applications, though this figure doesn't include the higher number of trees removed via development applications.

Between 2005-2014, canopy cover in Woy Woy decreased by 173 hectares, impervious surfaces

increased by 84 hectares and unplanted space increased by 113 hectares.

Council's adopted Greener Places Strategy states that "this pattern of land cover change, particularly the significant tree canopy loss, has substantial implications for the future liveability...and the health and wellbeing" of the urban environment and local community.

Objectives of Council's Greener Places Strategy include strengthening the processes around tree protection and replacement and improving liveability via planting and green urban design.

So when are we going to see this?

In a comparative analysis of Central Coast Council's urban greening, the Grow Urban Shade

Trees group looked at Lane Cove Council's street tree planting figures for 22-23 Financial Year.

Lane Cove Council planted 249 street trees in an area of 10.5 square kilometres with a population of 40,534.

According to Central Coast Council, they have planted up to 80 street trees in an area of 1,681 square kilometres with a population of 348,930 people.

So what can you do to help?

Plant more trees in your garden and nature strip. Retain trees, design developments around existing trees and contract arborists as needed.

Complete Council's important online survey at www.yourvoiceourcoast.com/CSPandLSPS by October 16.

Ask for green urban design, urban planting and tighter development controls with regards to landscaping requirements.

Ask for immediate implementation of the Greener Places Strategy and call for a stop to unnecessary tree clearing on the Peninsula.

Join the Peninsula Residents Association to help keep developments in line with the "leafy character" our suburbs are supposed to maintain and to ensure our suburbs are habitable and climate ready.

Get in touch with the Grow Urban Shade Trees group on advice as to what tree works best at your place at gust@peg.org.au.

SOURCE:
Email, 29 Sep 2023
Miriam McInnes, Umina

Liesl Tesch MP

Member for Gosford

Parliamentary Secretary for Families and Communities

Parliamentary Secretary for Disability Inclusion

HOW CAN I HELP?

- Schools & Education**
- Environment**
- Public Housing**
- Fair Trading**
- Hospitals & Health**
- Main Roads**
- Police & Emergency Services**
- Anniversary & Birthday Messages**
- Trains & Public Transport**

20 Blackwall Road, Woy Woy NSW 2256

gosford@parliament.nsw.gov.au

(02) 4342 4122

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

Education

Positive behaviour brings joy, says principal

Umina Beach Public School principal Ms Karen Wardlaw has told parents that students at the school have shown "positive behaviour" during term three.

"They have been a joy to teach and take care of during the term."

She said it was "another great term, supporting our students to grow, learn, flourish, and thrive".

"We have loved seeing Positive Behaviour for Learning in action across all classes, which has contributed to a safe, happy and positive school."

"Our special reward day was a great way to end the term, recognising the positive behaviour

choices all our students have been making.

"We provided all our students the opportunity to choose their own reward and everyone also enjoyed an ice treat."

"The last two days have been such fun, offering our students and teachers the chance to relax, have fun together and enjoy the rewards that follow sustained effort and positive behaviour choices."

"Now we wish our families the same chance over the holidays: relax and have fun, enjoy the company of your children."

SOURCE:
Social media, 22 sep 2023.
Karen Wardlaw, Umina Beach Public School



Preschool educators meet at St John's

Preschools from across the Peninsula have joined with St John the Baptist Catholic Primary School for an Educators Meet-Up and Morning.

"Our Step Into School shared learning morning welcomed early learning educators from centres across our community," said school principal Ms Nicole Davies.

"It was not only a great opportunity to connect, but to ease the transition to school for children."

"By sharing and discussing what's covered in Kindergarten and

the latest approaches to learning at school, we looked for simple ways to align our language and frameworks that will support our littlies on their learning journeys.

"In this session we covered, what literacy is and what we can do to help early learners 'crack the code'."

"Then we explored the interconnectedness of mathematics and the importance of practical games and talking to explain our thinking."

The educators were shown the school's Welcome to Country and what happened in a Day in the Life

of Kindy.

The participants were from St John the Baptist Early Learning Centre, Goodstart Early Learning Woy Woy, Booker Bay Preschool, Woy Woy Peninsula Community Childcare, Umina Child Care, Explore and Develop Umina Beach, and Parklands Community Preschool Kariang.

Ms Davies said the school hoped to host another similar session in the New Year.

SOURCE:
Social media, 26 Sep 2023
Nicole Davies, SJB Catholic Primary School



School raises almost \$5000 through skipping challenge

Woy Woy South Public School has raised almost \$5000 through its Jump Rope for Heart Program.

With 78 students registered, and 52 hours of skipping logged, a total of \$4951.21 was raised for the Heart Foundation.

"We are so proud of you all for skipping and promoting heart-healthy habits, raising money, and supporting the program," said principal Mr Matt Barr.

"Our Jump-Off Day was a huge success."

"It was so nice to see families getting involved, either by joining in and skipping with their children or

supporting their children from the sideline.

"Every year, hundreds of thousands of Australians struggle with the pain and discomfort of heart disease."

"Most of us know someone who is impacted."

"The Heart Foundation supports Australians living with heart disease and works to educate people and fund research to better prevent and manage heart disease into the future."

SOURCE:
Social media,
Matt Barr, Woy Woy South Public School

'External validation' finds school is 'excelling'

Woy Woy South Public School has returned an "excellent" rating in the Department of Education's "External Validation Process".

"This process assessed the school's performance against the School Excellence Framework, which addresses 14 keys areas of service delivery," said school principal Mr Matt Barr.

"I am extremely proud to report that Woy Woy South was validated

as Excelling, the highest ranking, in 10 of the 14 elements.

"The remaining four elements were ranked at Sustaining and Growing, the second highest rating."

"This is a fantastic result and a significant improvement on our rankings since we last completed the process in 2017."

SOURCE:
Newsletter, 22 Sep 2023
Matt Barr, Woy Woy South Public School

New roofs on two buildings

Two buildings at Ettalong Public School will be subject to maintenance work over the school holidays.

"Weather permitting, we will have new roofs on B Block and C Block," said principal Ms Jodie Campbell.

This will mean that all the roofs at the school will then been recently updated, she said.

SOURCE:
Newsletter, 19 Sep 2023
Jodie Campbell, Ettalong Public School

Students take part in netball gala day

Year 5 and 6 students at St John the Baptist Catholic Primary School took part in a Netball Gala Day on the last day of term, Friday, September 22.

"The rain held off on the last day of Term Three," said school principal Ms Nicole Davies.

"Our students participated and represented our school with great pride."

She wished the students a wonderful break "enjoying some extra fun time to practice your amazing sports skills".

SOURCE:
Social media, 28 sep 2023
Nicole Davies, SJB Catholic Primary School



Label jumpers, parents told

Ettalong Public School has asked parents to ensure student jumpers have names on them.

"Our lost property tubs and racks are bulging at the moment with jumpers that don't have names on them," said principal Ms Jodie Campbell.

"With the change in temperature,

families are reminded about the importance of labelling all jumpers and equipment.

"It is still a little cool in the morning and then as the days heat up, our students are taking their jumpers off."

SOURCE:
Newsletter, 19 Sep 2023
Jodie Campbell, Ettalong Public School

Roosters sign players for next year

Woy Woy Roosters Rugby League Football Club has announced signings for the 2024 season.

Best and Fairest player Jessi O'Niell and joint Players' Player Toni Kioa have recommitted for the 2024 season.

Jessi is coming off his breakout year in the top grade, having a number of standout performances during the season.

Toni was a mid-season signing this year, only playing half the games.

He impressed teammates in his short season by receiving the

Players' Player award alongside Jessi.

Four other members of the 2023 squad have recommitted for next season.

They are new club captain Joel Bodie, along with Lima Teapa, Luke Moore and

Frank Salu.

Joint first grade coaches Toby Marks and Blake McLean have also recommitted for the 2024 season.

They will be joined by Shane Whitton's assistant coach.

SOURCE:

Social media, 27 Sep 2023
Woy Woy Roosters RLFC



Charity bowls raises \$1000

Ettalong Bowling Club's monthly charity bowls day on Sunday, September 24, attracted 42 lawn bowlers.

A game of bowls in the morning was followed by a cold meat and salad lunch followed by an auction and raffle, said organiser Mr Ken Dixon.

The spider was won by Sharon Wakelin, the winning rink prize went to Kerry Watkins, Neil Puls and Alec Aked.

The seashore print was auctioned and Phil McWhirter was the highest bidder.

With Ettalong Wednesday bowlers making a much appreciation donation, the day raised \$1000 for Central Coast Kids in Need.

The next event will be held on Sunday, October 15.

SOURCE:

Media release, 25 Sep 2023
Ken Dixon, Ettalong Charity Bowls

Two rides from Woy Woy

The Central Coast Bicycle Users' Group has announced two rides from Woy Woy over the next two weeks.

The first ride will be a return ride to Gosford held on Thursday, October 5, starting at Fishermen's Wharf, Woy Woy, at 8am.

The two-hour ride is described as "an easy ride along the shared path to Gosford and back - about 25km in total".

The second ride will be from Woy Woy to Cowan on Saturday, October 14, starting at 7am at Woy Woy railway station, near bus stop A.

The ride of 95km has an altitude gain of 1700 metres and is expected to take five and a half hours.

It is described as "a moderate-paced ride from Woy Woy to Pie in the Sky cafe, Cowan, and back, through the picturesque Brisbane Water National Park and over the Hawkesbury River".

It is graded as medium-hard

with an average speed of 22-24kph.

"Designed for more experienced riders, we mostly utilise the old Pacific Hwy and include five longish climbs at Kariong, Mooney-Calga, Pie in the Sky, Mt White and Mooney-Somersby," said ride leader Mr Alan Corven.

There is an option to join the ride at the Kariong bus stop, near the service station, 40 minutes after the start time.

Riders may also opt-out at Brooklyn for a train home, if required, for a ride of about 50km.

"Otherwise it's call a friend for pickup."

Riders are asked to bring water, snacks and money for a drink at a cafe along the way, and to arrive at least five minutes before the start times to sign on.

For further information, call Mr Corven on 0414 538 977.

SOURCE:

Social media, 29 Sep 2023
Alan Corven, CCBUG



Season starts for outrigger club

The Central Coast Outrigger Canoe Club attended its first regatta of the 2023/24 marathon season at La Perouse on Sunday, September 17.

The club's newest canoe, Whaitere, made its racing debut.

"Whaitere is an ultralight canoe and at 73kg is just over half the weight of a standard canoe which

makes handling the canoe both on and off the water easier and safer for club members," said club president Ms Jenny Norris.

Whaitere was partly funded by a State Govt grant received by the club in late 2022.

Of 20 club members in four crews, six were novices who were also making their racing debut.

Club coach Ms Lana Hofman said: "It was a successful regatta

for Central Coast Outriggers, and, after combining several categories, three out of the four crews received medals.

"The final crew missed out on a medal by only nine seconds."

For further information about the club, email centralcoastocc@gmail.com.

SOURCE:

Media release, 25 Sep 2023
Debbie Sunartha, CCOCC

Surf club team walks Kokoda Trail

A team from Umina Surf Life Saving Club has completed a challenging nine-day trek on the Kokoda Trail as part of the Surf Life Saving Central Coast Duke of Edinburgh gold program.

The team was led by Mollie Murphy, along with Bethwyn Caller, Elena Grey, and Erin Scahill.

This journey was designed to encompass physical, historical, and cultural elements.

SOURCE:

Social media, 25 Sep 2023
Umina Surf Life Saving Club



Saturday bridge 'best three' winners

The Brisbane Water Bridge Club has announced the winners of its monthly "best three results" for Saturday competition in September.

Winners were Joan Walsh and Julie Teague whose best three results were 57.92, 55.83 and 63.89 for an average of 59.21, scoring 0.49 green points.

Second were Ed Vaughan and Robin Vaughan whose best three results were 57.29, 54.17 and 61.35 for an average of 57.60, scoring 0.34 green points.

Third were Christine Hadaway and Marcelle Goslin with 60.00, 62.73 and 46.67, for an average

of 56.47 and a score of 0.25 green points.

Fourth were Jorgen Boettiger and Deborah Guthrie with 44.58, 68.23 and 50.00 for an average of 54.27.

Fifth were Jaan Oitmaa and Sylvia Foster with 59.58, 48.57 and 51.56 for an average of 53.24.

Sixth were David Bowerman and Dasha Brandt with 60.53, 44.69 and 47.92 for an average of 51.05.

In the final round of Saturday competition played on September 30, results were:

1 Joan Walsh, Julie Teague 92.0 (63.89 per cent), 0.30 green points.

2 Elaine Hume, Peter Hume 80.0 (55.56), 0.21.

3 Edith Marshall, Hilary Owen 78.0 (54.17), 0.15.

4 Jorgen Boettiger, Deborah Guthrie 72.0 (50.00), 0.05.

4 Ed Vaughan, Robin Vaughan 72.0 (50.00), 0.05.

6 Dasha Brandt, David Bowerman 69.0 (47.92).

7 Christine Hadaway, Ann Snow 66.0 (45.83).

8 Karen Ody, Jim Routledge 60.0 (41.67).

9 Frankie Craven, Helen Cashman 59.0 (40.97).

SOURCE:

Social media, 30 Sep 2023
Brisbane Water Bridge Club

Beach patrol season starts

Central Coast Council and Surf Life Saving Central Coast have announced the official opening of the "beach patrol season" on Saturday, September 23, with yellow and red flags being put out on 15 Central Coast beaches including Umina Beach and Ocean Beach.

Council beach safety manager Mr Phil Cantillon said council lifeguards would patrol between 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday, while Surf Life Saving volunteers would patrol on weekends and public holidays.

During the Christmas holiday period between December 18 and January 28, the beaches would be patrolled for an extra an hour, from 9am to 6pm.

"Flags are up at Umina Beach and our volunteer surf lifesavers are back on the sand and along the shore," said Umina surf club publicity officer Mr Mike Begg.

"Feel free to come and say hi. "We're currently patrolling from 9am to 5pm each weekend and on public holidays.

"Surf live saving clubs are about both preventing the loss of life and about saving lives," said Mr Begg.

"A life saver saves lives all



through the year not just when the flags are out."

With more than 1000, the club had an education program, working with local schools and the public, providing training and qualifications on surf life saving skills and first aid from basic first aid through to advanced techniques.

"Members talk about being in situations where they saved a life, whether it is out doing the shopping, on holidays or finding themselves first on the scene of an accident," said Mr Begg.

Being in the right place at the right time, surf life savers can assist people in life threatening

situations keeping them safe until assistance can arrive.

Mr Begg said: "People see the flags out on the beach between September and April, but everyday a surf life saver is walking amongst the community, with the skills to help someone in a medical emergency.

"Surf life savers are about making the community a safer place."

SOURCE:
Interview (Sean Richardson),
28 Sep 2023
Mike Begg, Umina SLSC
Media release, 20 Sep 2023
Phil Cantillon, Central
Coast Council

Under-12s show them how

While the Woy Woy Lions Rugby Club have been struggling to score in senior grades, the Under-12s junior side has been showing them how it is done.

Cheered on by the Umina Fire Station, they have won Under-12s grand final against Avoca Beach Green.

SOURCE:
Social media, 22 Sep 2023
Reuben Muldrock, Woy Woy
Lions Rugby Club Juniors



Awards

Southern and Ettalong United Football Club has taken out two major soccer awards at the Central Coast Football awards night.

Jacob Lepre was named Central Coast Football's Player of the Year.

Dale Eggleton, who has been with with club for 16 years, was named Central Coast Football's Coach of the Year.

SOURCE:
Social media, 30 Sep 2023
SEU FC



Through to 'phase two'

Woy Woy Peninsula Netball Association has announced the names of 12 players who have made it into phase two of its 13s representative squad for next year.

They are Matilda Kennaway, Lara Skehan, Andie Schokman, Phoebe Pardey, Edie Bonnor, Grace Blacker, Leila Oxenham, Isabelle Douglas, Chloe Mills, Aaliyah Farmer Dally, Alyssa Holden and Bridie Riddle.

Coaches are Narelle Wilson and Katie Newman.

The final selection date is still to be announced.

SOURCE:
Social media, 20 Sep 2023
Woy Woy Peninsula
Netball Association

Bowls ahead of NRL final

Umina Beach Men's Bowling Club held a day of social bowls on Thursday, September 28, ahead of the NRL Grand Final.

Most of the 60 bowlers playing wore their NRL club colours.

"There were quite a few Bulldogs and Tigers supporters," said club secretary Mr Peter Springett.

"At the end of the day, as always, bowls was the winner."

SOURCE:
Social media, 28 Sep 2023
Peter Springett, UBMB

Ettalong Eagles in bowls zone finals

Ettalong Eagles Bowling Club has had a number of bowlers play in zone finals recently.

In the State Singles, Nathan Malloy defeated Luke O'Grady 25-24 in the semi-finals but was defeated by Mark Wheatley 25-21 in the final on Tuesday, September 19.

He was pictured above with Mark Wheatley (left) and Bowls Central Coast executive David Cameron who marked the game.

In the Bowls Central Coast Open Reserve Triples Championship, the Ettalong team of Allan Peters, Michael Maycock and Robert Taylor were defeated by Avoca

Beach team Darryl Kirkman, David Richards and Nicholas Brand 26-13.

In Zone Singles, Trevor Foulkes defeated Justin Sylvester in the round of 16 to advance to the quarterfinals but was defeated 25-22 by Nigel O'Donnell, who went on to win the final.

In the Seniors, Phil Westcott was defeated in the round of 16 25-20 by Phil Metcalfe and Mark Endacott was defeated by Kevin Cooper.

SOURCE:
Social media, 24 Sep 2023
Ettalong Eagles Bowling Club
Social media, 23 Sep 2023
Peter Springett, Bowls
Central Coast



Photographers wanted for park run

Organisers of the Woy Woy Saturday morning park run are seeking volunteer photographers to document the events.

"If you want to see more photos for your Saturday ParkRun, volunteer as the photographer."

More information is available on the group's website at <https://www.parkrun.com.au/woywoy/futureroster>.

SOURCE:
Social media, 30 Sep 2023
Woy Woy Park Run

