

# Peninsula News

Community Access

EDITION 583

THE PENINSULA'S OWN NEWS SERVICE INC

27 NOVEMBER 2023



## Surf camp for Nippers held in perfect conditions

Umina Surf Life Saving Club has held its Surf Camp for Nippers with “the perfect conditions for Nippers to enjoy the best day of the

season”.

“We saw an enthusiastic group take to the sand with intentions of fun, sun, waves, friends and food,” said club president Ms Kerry Armstrong-Smith.

“The waves delivered while all our kids ignored any fears and accepted some absolutely fabulous waves.

“We don’t even think they realised they were learning along

the way.

“There was just too much fun. “They did expand their skills on start techniques, popping, wading, dolphin diving and water skills in general.

“When the smiles are as abundant as we saw today, you know you put on a great show.”

SOURCE:  
Social media, 18 Nov 2023  
Umina Surf Life Saving Club

## Staff recommend against Austin Butler reserve sale

Central Coast Council staff have recommended that Council Administrator Mr Rik Hart resolve not to sell Austin Butler reserve land at tomorrow night’s council meeting.

They have also recommended that he reverse the council’s decision of July 2021 to reclassify the land as “operational”, which would leave it as “community land”.

The recommendation in the meeting agenda follows a “community consultation process” about the sale.

The process included a 28-day online poll on the Council yourvoiceourcoast.com website and a public opinion poll conducted by Tuggerah market research firm Micromex.

The online poll showed a 92 per cent preference (1455 responses) to retain the site in council ownership, with only eight per cent (126 responses) preferring the sale to proceed to fund an extensive street tree planting program.

At the council’s September meeting, Mr Hart had resolved to seek feedback on whether a triangle of reserve land adjacent to the Peninsula Plaza shopping centre should be sold to the shopping centre or not.

The staff report for tomorrow’s council meeting states: “The Administrator ... committed Council to allocate the proceeds of the sale (should it proceed) to the greening of the local community,

for example, via an extensive street tree planting program that is aligned with Council’s Greener Places Strategy.”

The Micromex survey of 202 randomly-selected local residents “from Australian marketing lists” found that more than two-thirds (69 per cent) were supportive of an extensive street tree planting program, but were evenly divided on the sale of the land for the purpose, according to the council staff report.

Less than one in seven (13 per cent) were not supportive of “an extensive tree planting program”.

The selection of residents was weighted so that half of those surveyed were from Woy Woy or Blackwall.

“In summary, the independent community survey does not provide conclusive evidence either way as to whether or not a clear majority of the local community favours sale or retention,” the council staff report states.

“It tends to suggest that Council may need to provide further information and guidance about the alternative options before a clear majority either way can be established.

“The independent community survey does appear to provide clear evidence that the community in and round the Peninsula is in favour of more street tree planting and in general favours green spaces.”

The report states: “The current and future provision of trees and

green spaces is a key driver for community views, both for those who favour retention and for those who favour sale.

“Trust issues also feature, either because of lack of trust that Council will spend the sale proceeds appropriately or lack of trust that another entity will manage the land in the future in the way that the community would want.”

According to the report, “Council has received over 25 letters expressing support for the retention of the Austin Butler Reserve Access land in Council ownership from residents and community groups.

“Council has also received seven letters expressing support for the sale of the Austin Butler Reserve Access from shopping centre tenants and from businesses that supply services to the Peninsula Plaza shopping centre.”

These included one from Woolworths, which according to the report included comments that:

“Woolworths is supportive of the sale of land to the owners of the plaza as it will improve the safety concerns that have been raised by both customers and team members.

“Woolworths has engaged an independent consultant to provide an audit of the carpark with the results to be shared with Council as soon as they are available.”

SOURCE:  
Central Coast Council  
agenda 2.6, 28 Nov 2023

Produced on the Peninsula

Peninsula news & advertising  
for the Peninsula community

## Peninsula News: A voluntary activity

Peninsula News is as much a community activity as it is a community service.

Our fortnightly voluntary non-profit community newspaper is produced by members of our community as a service to our community.

It relies on voluntary participation, ranging from submitting material through to being an active part of the production team. No-one is paid.

Volunteering can range from spending an hour or two through to taking responsibility for a role within the production team. Training is provided.

Volunteers are currently needed to help with fundraising and sponsorship, news gathering, and sub-editing collected material into news style.

Other available roles include

that of photographer and picture editor, online production manager and bookkeeper.

For further information, call 4342 5333 or email editor@peninsula.news and one of our volunteers will get back to you.

Mark Snell, 9 Nov 2023

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Peninsula News?

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Next issue: Monday, December 11

Call us on 4342 5333  
Email: [contributions@peninsula.news](mailto: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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**NEXT EDITION:** Peninsula News 584  
Deadline: Thursday, December 7  
Publication date: Monday, December 11

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

**EMAIL ISSUES?**

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

Fallback email address: editor@peninsulanews.asn.au

**Editorial policy and guidelines**

**At its heart, Peninsula News is a community effort.**

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

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

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

**Locality**

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

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

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

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

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

**Readability**

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

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

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

**Forum letters**

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

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

Contributors are asked to keep their

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

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

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

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

**Corrections**

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

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

**Source lines**

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

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

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

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

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

The following descriptions are used:

**Media Release** - unsolicited contributions.

**Media Statement** - sent in response to our questions.

**Website** or **Social Media** - information published online.

**Newsletter** or **Report** - published in print or online.

**Interview** or **Meeting** - statements recorded by a reporter.

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

## Volunteers sought for Christmas tree sales

**The Rotary Club of Woy Woy is seeking volunteers for its Christmas tree sales on Saturdays and Sundays, December 2 and 3, and 9 and 10.**

The trees will be sold in the

Woy Woy Commuter Car Park in Railway St, Woy Woy, "under the big tree".

Volunteers are wanted between 6am and 2pm and are expected to bring their own water, sunscreen, chair, hat and morning tea.

The trees are picked up from a delivery point in West Gosford on the previous Thursday.

For further information, email suedon6@bigpond.com.

**SOURCE:**  
Newsletter, 28 Nov 2023  
Trevor Walker, Rotary Woy Woy

## Bushland fenced for 'ecological burn'

**Bush at the Burrawang Reserve fronting Hillview St and Railway St, Woy Woy, has been fenced off in anticipation of an "ecological burn".**

Central Coast Council has installed signs in anticipation of the burn saying it "has taken place to stimulate regeneration and improve biodiversity values".

"The burn will also help to manage bush fire risk to surrounding properties.

"The bushland is sensitive to disturbance post-fire while it regenerates."

The signs instruct people to stay on the formal tracks and out of the fenced area.

**SOURCE:**  
Signage, 25 Nov 2023  
Burrawang Reserve, Woy Woy



## Family history

**The Kindred Spirits family history social group will meet at Umina Beach Library at 10am on Thursday, December 7.**

Members chat about their family history research and meet other people with a passion for uncovering the past.

No bookings are required.

For further information, phone 4304 7333.

**SOURCE:**  
Website, 21 Nov 2023  
Library, Central Coast Council

## Christmas Eve Family Mass to be held on school oval

**A "joyful" Christmas Eve Family Mass will be held from 5:30pm on Sunday, December 24, on the St John the Baptist Catholic Primary School oval at Dulkara Rd, Woy Woy.**

Those attending have been asked to park in surrounding streets, with pedestrian access

provided through the Dulkara Rd and Veron Rd gates, and to bring their own picnic rug or chair.

Children have been encouraged to come dressed with a nativity theme - as angels, shepherds, and wise men.

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 21 Nov 2023  
SJB Catholic Primary School Woy Woy

## November rainfall is about average

**Rainfall on the Peninsula for the month as at Friday morning, November 24, was 87.2mm, according to figures supplied by Mr Jim Morrison of Umina.**

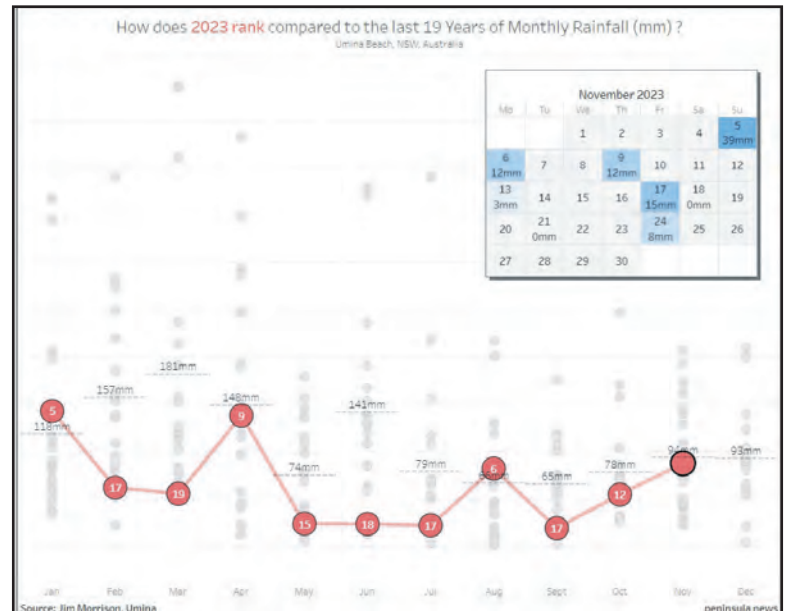
A total of 25.4mm fell in the last two weeks, with one fall of 14.7mm on Friday, November 17, and another 7.8mm recorded on Friday, November 24.

Average rainfall for November is 94mm.

With further rain on Friday and Saturday, it was expected this figure would be exceeded.

The total for the year stands at 705.8mm, which is 42.5 per cent less than the average end of November total of 1228mm.

**SOURCE:**  
Spreadsheet, 24 Nov 2023  
Jim Morrison, Umina



TIDE TIMES and Heights	Mon, Nov 27	Thu, Nov 30	Sun, Dec 3	Wed, Dec 6	Sat, Dec 9
	0247 0.21	0443 0.27	0143 0.68	0427 0.74	0022 0.22
	0913 1.34	1115 1.26	0653 0.34	1000 0.40	0648 0.99
	1610 0.20	1834 0.21	1322 1.02	1600 0.87	1315 0.33
	2146 0.90		2045 0.22	2257 0.21	1851 0.84
AT ETTALONG	Tue, Nov 28	Fri, Dec 1	Mon, Dec 4	Thu, Dec 7	Sun, Dec 10
	0326 0.23	0007 0.74	0235 0.68	0519 0.81	0102 0.23
	0954 1.35	0523 0.29	0748 0.37	1110 0.39	0729 1.08
	1700 0.20	1156 1.18	1410 0.96	1659 0.85	1410 0.29
	2234 0.84	1919 0.22	2128 0.22	2340 0.21	1943 0.83
AT ETTALONG	Wed, Nov 29	Sat, Dec 2	Tue, Dec 5	Fri, Dec 8	Mon, Dec 11
	0403 0.25	0054 0.71	0330 0.70	0606 0.90	0142 0.23
	1035 1.32	0605 0.31	0850 0.39	1215 0.36	0807 1.17
	1748 0.20	1238 1.10	1503 0.91	1757 0.84	1501 0.26
	2321 0.79	2002 0.22	2212 0.21		2031 0.83

## Shopfronts recommended for funding support

**Two Woy Woy shopfronts are recommended for funding under Central Coast Council's Facade Improvement Support Program at tomorrow's council meeting.**

An amount of \$1375 is recommended for a concrete path to connect the public footpath to an access ramp at 169 Blackwall Rd, Woy Woy.

An amount of \$4141 is recommended for signage at 3B Blackwall Rd, Woy Woy.

Both applications were assessed as meeting the program objectives with all required information being provided.

However, two Peninsula applications are not recommended, being assessed as ineligible.

An application for signage at 35-39 Blackwall Rd, Woy Woy, was deemed to require a new development application and was consequently ineligible.

"The proposed works must be considered exempt development under the State

Environmental Planning Policy or allowed under existing consent conditions.

"Any works that require a new

Development Application are ineligible."

An application for 237-239 West St, Umina, was assessed as ineligible because it was not within an eligible town centre boundary.

A report included in the agenda for tomorrow's council meeting states: "The Facade Improvement Support Program provides financial assistance to businesses and commercial property owners located within the principal town centres and where a Special Rate Levy is applied to improve their building facades and enhance accessibility to their premises.

"The program is designed to enhance the amenity, aesthetics, and visitor experience of our key town centres, contribute to town centre revitalisation and renewal, and improve access to business premises to align with the One-Central Coast Community Strategic Plan.

"The program provides dollar-for-dollar matched funding for the cost of works to a maximum value of \$5000 per property."

Applications for support were open from September 1 to 30.

**SOURCE:**

**Central Coast Council agenda 2.20, 28 Nov 2023**



## Urgent care clinic opens in Umina

**The Peninsula's Medicare Urgent Care Clinic opened on Monday, November 20, at 297 West St, Umina.**

Officially opening the clinic, Member for Robertson Dr Gordon Reid said: "I went to the election promising my community an urgent care clinic and today we are delivering on that promise.

"The Peninsula clinic is going to make a big difference to patients across the Central Coast.

"I know many families who have had to wait long hours at the Gosford Emergency Department for non-life-threatening issues.

"This clinic will ease pressure

on local Emergency Departments and be much more convenient for our communities – closer to home, at short notice, and bulk-billed under Medicare."

He said the Peninsula Medicare Urgent Care Clinic would be open for extended hours, seven days a week, and offer "walk-in care".

"More than 45 per cent of presentations to the Gosford Hospital are for non-urgent or semi-urgent care," Dr Reid said.

The Peninsula clinic is the first on the Central Coast and joins 10 clinics that are operational across the State.

A clinic at Lake Haven is

expected to open before the end of the year.

In a statement, Federal Health Minister Mr Mark Butler said: "This clinic will ease pressure on the Gosford Hospital, allowing them to concentrate on higher priority emergencies.

"Locals will be able to walk in, see a doctor or nurse and access imaging and pathology services."

Pictured are Dr Mario Fam, Dr Raymond Fam, Dr Gordon Reid and Primary Health Network chief executive Mr Richard Nankervis at the opening.

**SOURCE:**

**Media release, 20 Nov 2023  
Gordon Reid, Member for Robertson**

## Director retires after 30 years

**A volunteer director of the board of a local aged care facility has retired after a 30-year tenure.**

Ms Pamela Palmer has announced her retirement as a director of the Peninsula Villages board.

"Starting her journey with Peninsula Villages as the only female and first clinician on an all-male board three decades ago, Pam came armed with indispensable nursing expertise and aged care experience," said chief executive Mr Colin Osborne.

"She became the voice and advocate of the residents during a time when the board was predominantly businessmen with limited experience in the aged care industry.

"Assuming the role of chairperson, Pam led the planning and development of Don Leggett House, a purpose-built facility that caters to varying levels of care including dementia specific and

palliative care.

"Pam has played a vital role in navigating Peninsula Villages through various challenges, contributing to its growth into a larger and more dynamic community.

"Her dedication to clinical governance has earned her distinction as a life member of Peninsula Villages, with one of the residential aged care communities, Pam Palmer House standing in name recognition of her commitment to the organisation.

"Peninsula Villages extends its ongoing gratitude to Pam Palmer for her outstanding service and invaluable contributions to the organisation and the wellbeing of its residents."

Ms Palmer said, "I've thoroughly enjoyed my 30 years as a board member of Peninsula Villages.

"It's been a wonderful journey."

**SOURCE:**

**Social media, 22 Nov 2023  
Colin Osborne, Peninsula Villages**

## Jayne Mote is a 'voice of volunteering'

**Rotary Club of Brisbane Water co-founder Ms Jayne Mote has been featured in Volunteering Central Coast's new book, Voices of Volunteering.**

Ms Mote founded Rotary Brisbane Water, the newest Rotary club on the Coast, with husband Peter in 2019.

However, for more than half a century, Jayne has given her time to volunteer organisations.

"She has served as an assistant district governor, club president and district Interact chair of Rotary International," said current club president Mr Mitchell Gordon.

"Her recent accomplishments include co-founding our club.

"Jayne is currently serving as



our club's membership director.

"She is also a driving force behind all of our major fundraisers.

"Furthermore, Jayne mentors local young people.

"She is a co-founder of the Central Coast Rotaract Club, home hosts exchange students and has served as a Rotary group study exchange program team leader.

"Her work is far-reaching, significant and a wonderful example of how volunteering can assist in changing communities and lives."

Volunteering Central Coast describes Voices of Volunteering as a genuine tribute to the volunteers who make a difference across the Central Coast.

This initiative, supported by Central Coast Council, "aims to recognise these individuals and share their inspirational stories".

**SOURCE:**

**Newsletter, 16 Nov 2023  
Di Bartok, Rotary Brisbane Water**

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



Social housing provider Pacific Link Housing is one of many local organisations to benefit from the support of the Ettalong bank, with the donation of this maintenance van



## Five units proposed for multi-dwelling development

**Five units have been proposed for a multi-dwelling development on a 937.3 square metre site at 140 Trafalgar Ave, Umina, not far from the corner with Bourke Rd.**

The application describes it as “a two-storey multi-unit development consisting of two three-bedroom dwellings and two two-bedroom dwellings”.

However, plans show three two-bedroom dwellings.

“Each unit would include garages, living-dining areas and adjoining private open space located on the ground floor and bedrooms with bathrooms located on the first floor.”

The site is located on the eastern side of the road reserve and is located next to a bus stop.

Currently a parking bay is located on the nature strip.

The new driveway is proposed to cut across this.

The application claims: “The proposal incorporates sufficient open space to maintain the low-rise medium density setting and incorporates various cladding finishes utilising finishes compatible with the contemporary dwellings that have been erected in the locality.”

The application includes photos of the area which it describes as an “eclectic mix of multi-dwelling and austere dwellings”.

One dwelling is labelled as “somewhat unattractive streetscape nearby”.

The application is non-compliant with planning provisions.

The floor space ratio of 0.55:1 does not meet the requirement of 0.5:1.

This requires a written “Clause 4.6 variation request” which is not included in the application nor as a separate document on public exhibition.

The application describes the front setback of the first floor balcony of 3.7 metres as being non-compliant.

The building does not comply with side setback requirements at first floor level.

The application claims that only “eaves” are affected. However, that

part of the roof does not appear to have eaves.

Private open space for Units 2 and 3 is less than the required minimum of 45 square metres, at 39 square metres.

Open space for Unit 1 is proposed to be located mainly on front setback which is not allowed under the planning provisions.

The application claims that sunlight access is compliant with planning provisions, but admits the development would overshadow 135A Bourke Rd.

This is claimed to be “unavoidable” due to the site’s long axis being oriented east-west.

The application states that the southern setback has been increased by placement of the driveway on that side, limiting shadowing impact.

The rear setback on the ground floor is only 3.7 metres where the requirement is 4.5 metres.

The application states: “Please refer to *Andrey Vingradov v Central Coast Council – 16 Warrah Street, Ettalong Beach* in which variation in line with the rationale outlined above.”

The only publicly-available case, a conciliation hearing, between these parties appears to relate to 21 Burrawang St, Ettalong.

Planning provisions require one visitor park but none is provided.

The application states that this is because “the road reserve provides specific off street parking spaces directly in front of the site”.

It does not mention the fact that the driveway is planned to cut across those parking spaces.

All four existing trees on the site are to be removed: a *corymbia maculata*, a *corymbia citriodora*, an *angophora floribunda* and a *eucalyptus scoparia*.

Two trees located in the front setback are proposed for removal due to their “reduced health and vigour”

An arborist report supported this “subject to the provision of suitable replacement trees better suited to the available space.”

The two trees located in the rear yard would be removed because they would be “subject to major and unsustainable levels of encroachment”.

The application states: “The proposed development includes a suitable area to incorporate landscaping round the periphery of the site and within the front setback to soften the built form when presented to street, including two medium sized street trees to establish tree canopy and encouraged by the DCP.”

In its conclusion, the application states: “The proposal provides increased housing density and additional smaller dwellings that is in acute demand which is well designed to meet residential needs and is commensurate with the character of the surrounding area.”

The application is currently on public exhibition and available for written submissions.

Closing date for submissions has not yet been announced on the Central Coast Council website.

**SOURCE:**  
DA Tracker, 26 Nov 2023  
DA2056/2023, Central Coast Council



## Council to tell Minister of planning review intentions

**Central Coast Council is expected to tell the NSW Minister for Housing Mr Paul Scully that it intends reviewing its planning provisions, in response to his demand “to deliver more low and mid-rise housing”.**

The council will say that it has applied for grant funding that would help it prioritise action on housing.

Council staff have recommended, in a report to tomorrow’s council meeting, that Mr Scully be sent “a response letter setting out Council’s approach to supporting the delivery of housing across the Central Coast”.

The report states the Minister’s letter “asks councils to review their local policy settings and approaches in the interest of housing supply and identify existing well-located areas where terraces, small unit blocks or well-designed mid-rise apartments can be permitted”.

“Council officers are in the process of finalising the Central Coast Local Housing Strategy following public exhibition.

“Council can influence housing through local land use zoning and planning controls, development approvals and the delivery of local infrastructure.

“The draft strategy includes actions to review the Local Environmental Plan and Development Control Plan to encourage a diversity of housing, infill development close to centres and allow for flexibility, innovation and resilience in the design and built form of developments.

It “also includes actions to support the delivery of affordable housing including the preparation of an Affordable Housing Contribution Scheme and to continue to pursue opportunities to utilise Council-owned land to deliver affordable

housing”, the report states.

“The review will focus on how residential zones are applied across the Central Coast, review land use tables and where changes could be made to Council’s planning controls to ensure better align with housing needs.

“This work will also include a review of the dwelling and density capacity in existing and emerging centres.

“To assist in the prioritisation and delivery of actions in the proposed strategy, Council has applied for funding through the Regional Housing Strategic Planning Fund.

“If successful, this funding will enable Council to assist in the delivery of key affordable housing actions within the strategy and Council’s Affordable and Alternative Housing Strategy.”

The recommended response to the Minister would include “priority actions in the draft Central Coast Local Housing Strategy that support delivery of diverse, resilient and affordable housing on the Central Coast and timeframe for their delivery”.

It would include “details of Council’s Affordable Housing Land Proposal and priority actions in Council’s Affordable and Alternative Housing Strategy”.

It would also provide an overview of the housing challenges faced by the Central Coast and the opportunities for further NSW Government support to address them.

The report in the council meeting agenda states: “The proposed Central Coast Local Housing Strategy will be reported to Council in December providing an overview of the community feedback received and seeking its adoption.”

**SOURCE:**  
Central Coast Council  
agenda 2.11, 28 Nov 2023

## Planning panel rejects multi-dwelling proposal

**The Local Planning Panel has resolved unanimously to refuse a proposal for a multi-dwelling development at 8 Priestman Ave, Umina.**

The Panel considered the application at its meeting on Thursday, November 9, but did not release its decision until the following week.

There had been 11 submissions from the public against the proposal and the council assessment had recommended refusal.

The Panel stated in its meeting minutes that “in the absence of a written request to vary the maximum height of buildings and floor space ratio controls, the application cannot be approved”.

Other reasons were given for refusal by the panel were failure

to comply with the Central Coast Development Control Plan, in relation to building height, floor space ratio, building setbacks, visual privacy, acoustic privacy, private open space areas, sunlight access, car parking, earthworks, retaining walls and landscaping.

The Panel stated the proposal would result in a bulk and scale that was excessive for the site and would not fit within the context of its immediate surrounds.

It said that, taking into account the submissions, non-compliance with planning controls and amenity impacts, the proposal was “not in the public interest”.

**SOURCE:**  
Local Planning Panel  
minutes 3.1, 9 Nov 2023  
DA/397/2023, Central Coast Council

## Cafe owner welcomes live music survey

**A Woy Woy cafe owner has welcomed a State Government survey of musicians, artists and venue providers in the live music scene, according to Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch.**

"The anonymous Live Music Survey forms part of a wider research project that will combine economic analysis, venue mapping data and audience research to inform the NSW Government's strategic policy for contemporary music – and creating a vision for a vibrant arts and cultural scene in NSW," she said.

Link and Pin proprietor Mr Adam Brzozowski described the survey as a pleasing development.

"This is a highly positive show of support as it gives us – as venue owners, operators and booking agents – the opportunity to provide constructive feedback to the government on the future of the live music scene in NSW."

He said he and his partner Milly purchased Link and Pin almost three years ago with the main intention of supporting live, original music.

In the three years since Adam and Milly took over the ownership of Link and Pin, the Woy Woy venue has played host to around 450 bands from a wide range of music genres, from Latin American to country and pub rock, as well as high school bands.

Mr Brzozowski said he would like to see greater co-ordination between liquor licensing

authorities, Council and State government.

"The State laws for live music have never been better, but if Council is not onboard, it can create challenges for live music venues such as ours.

"We support the government's focus on new live music venues, but we also believe support needs to be given to existing venues.

"We are feeling confident about the future of our venue, and live music in general, and we know how much of a cultural impact our venue is making in our little region.

"Venues like ours - and the artists and musicians we support here at Link and Pin - are good for the town.

"We employ locals; locals attend the venue in support of local bands, and our venue attracts visitors to Woy Woy who end up staying the night and spending time here enjoying the Central Coast.

"We feel like we're a part of that."

Ms Tesch said that more than half of the live music venues in NSW have been lost in the past decade, with just 137 venues left.

"This survey will help shine a light on the roadblocks holding the industry back," she said.

"Their unique voices and perspectives – and that includes the good, the bad and the ugly - need to be heard, and their contributions to the vibrancy of our community acknowledged."

**SOURCE:**

**Media release, 21 Nov 2023  
Liesl Tesch, Member for Gosford**



## Christmas display to raise money for Vision Australia

**Shirley and Noel Crockett have turned on their Christmas lights again at 380 Booker Bay Rd, Booker Bay, to raise money for Vision Australia.**

"We have been doing the lights for 25 years, but not always to the extent it is now," said Ms Crockett.

"We have been raising money for Vision Australia since 2015 when about \$630 raised.

"We raised \$2752 last year.

"I do not know how many

visitors we had, but I gave out 3000 candy canes and other sweets to children."

Ms Crockett said: "I like to have a new event for the children.

"We have again introduced the competition to count the Santas in the display.

"If you are within the range, you will receive a prize.

"And of course there will be the sweets for the children when they crawl through the archway.

"Santa will be coming from 7pm

until 9pm on December 22 and 23.

"Santa was a great success last year.

"He was still here at 10pm.

"There were so many children waiting to see him, he could not get away."

After so many years, Ms Crockett said: "We have had several families bringing their children to see the lights and they came when they were children."

**SOURCE:**

**Media release, 23 Nov 2023  
Shirley Crockett, Booker Bay**

## Rotary club high tea for pelican rescue

**The Rotary Club of Brisbane Water held a high tea in Ettalong on Saturday, November 25, to raise funds for Central Coast Pelican Rescue and Research.**

"The Pelican Lady" Ms Wendy Gillespie spoke to the group about her work rescuing up to three sick pelicans a day, with many suffering the affects of neurotoxins in the water and off-leash dog attacks.

"The costs for rehabilitation of each bird can range up to \$150 and two weeks of intensive care is needed once debilitation sets in," said club publicity officer Ms Di Bartok.

"This occurs from significant dehydration, paralysis and then organ failure.

"As supporting the environment is now one of Rotary's seven



Ms Gillespie with Ms Bartok areas of focus, Wendy's efforts to protect a critical component of our ecosystems is more relevant to us than ever.

"Wendy, who is a science graduate with a life-long passion for wildlife, has been the Peninsula's Pelican Lady for the past 13 years.

"Many of you would have seen her feeding flocks of magnificent

pelicans at Woy Woy Fisherman's Wharf.

"Her pelican feeding attracts visitors from near and far.

"For Wendy, the feeding gives her the chance to check out the health of the birds and to administer what help she can."

Ms Gillespie told the group: "It is heartbreaking to see some of the injuries the birds sustain from fishing hooks, and even from unbelievable wanton attacks from knife-wielding people doing it for fun."

Ms Bartok said: "As you can imagine, caring for these wonderful creatures takes a lot of money.

The Rotary event raised about \$1000 to aid Wendy's work and help save more pelicans.

**SOURCE:**

**Newsletter, 16 Nov 2023  
Di Bartok, Rotary Brisbane Water**

## Busy day for fire brigade

**A firecall in the middle of the night for a car fire at Warrah Trig, a backyard fire in McEvoy Rd, a day of bush firefighter training for new members, and an afternoon with the Pearl Beach Progress Association.**

That was the day for members of the Pearl Beach fire brigade on Saturday, November 18.

Overnight, the brigade, together with the Patonga Volunteer Rural Bush Fire Brigade, was called out for a car fire in the Warrah Trig carpark.

This fire was initially spotted by a keen-eyed resident of Daleys Point, over five kilometres away.

The crews were backed up by Fire and Rescue NSW Station 340 Umina which was quickly on scene to contain and suppress the fire.

The additional water carried on the Rural Fire Service tankers was used to further cool the wreck and reduce the risk of fire spreading.

Luckily, the weather was cool, with high humidity, no wind and a bit of drizzle.

During the day, when the crew was returning from refuelling our truck, they spotted smoke near



the Ocean Beach Rd-West St roundabout.

With further investigation, it was found that the smoke was coming from McEvoy Rd where they found a backyard fire.

The Pearl Beach crew deployed hoses and commenced suppression of the fire.

They were joined on the scene a short time later by a Umina Fire and Rescue NSW Station crew, who took over control of the incident and went to work and extinguished the fire.

**SOURCE:**

**Social media, 18 Nov 2023  
Pearl Beach Brigade, NSW RFS**



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# Forum

## The most cumbersome and unfriendly refund process

**When I was a lad and bought a soft drink, I paid a penny deposit on the bottle.**

When the bottle was empty, I took it back to the shop, and the shop-keeper gave me a penny.

In the USA, it works the same way.

If I buy a bottle at the supermarket, I keep the empty until the next time I return to the supermarket, and I get a refund on the spot.

Since I go to the supermarket regularly anyway, it requires no forethought and no effort on my part to do the right thing.

What could be simpler?

By contrast, the NSW system is a nightmare of complexity.

First, I have to return the bottle to a little hutch, hidden in some secluded back street that hardly anybody knows about.

My bet is that 50% of Peninsula residents don't even know that there is a local bottle-return facility and that, of those, 50% don't know where it is.

Secondly, I have to store the bottles, separating glass from plastic, until I have enough to justify a special trip to the hutch.

The timing is rarely convenient, and it's quite often difficult just to find a parking space within carrying distance, since there is no special provision for accessing the hutch.

Thirdly, at the hutch, two (sometimes, three) of the four machines will not be working, so there is another inconvenience.

There is a telephone helpline you can use to report the outage:

good luck with getting satisfaction with that.

Fourthly, the machines are very dainty about what is acceptable.

I have a bag of 25 clearly marked "deposit" bottles that the machine has rejected as "not eligible for refund": whoever mans the helpline doesn't want to know about it, and the only suggestion I got was to ring the Department of Environment.

Fifthly, if the machine deigns to accept your bottle, it spits out a refund voucher that is good only at one particular supermarket in the area - a supermarket that I don't use and have to make a special trip to.

This means you have to save up the refund vouchers until they amount to enough for the purchase of some item that you need and, then, make a stop at this particular supermarket, in order to be able to use them: if you don't happen to go in that direction, it's too bad.

If someone were asked to design the most cumbersome and

user-unfriendly refund process, to discourage any idea of recycling, the NSW system could hardly be bettered.

Is there any information about what percentage of bottles is actually retrieved through this system: I'd suggest that it is very small.

It is only necessary to make a random check of yellow bins, to see where the vast majority of deposit bottles wind up, which raises the interesting question of where all the unclaimed deposits have gone.

If the vast majority of deposit bottles are just thrown away, where do the deposits disappear to?

Somebody must be making a nice little earner out of unclaimed refunds, but who is it, how much is involved, and what is the money used for?

Perhaps, the Department of Environment knows.

**SOURCE:**  
Email, 19 Nov 2023  
Bruce Hyland, Woy Woy

## Outdoor exercise classes to close without financial support

**For several years, Live Life Get Active has been running outdoor exercise classes on Woy Woy Peninsula, first at Umina, then Lions Park at Woy Woy and recently at Kitchener Park in Ettalong.**

The Council has always participated by providing the use of space in public reserves.

At the beginning Council also assumed the costs of running the classes, but this responsibility was taken over by the State Government, who finally relinquished their participation several months ago.

Since then teachers' salaries have been paid by Live Life Get Active itself.

Live Life Get Active, not having the funding to continue running classes without outside financial support, has decided to terminate the classes in Kitchener Park.

The classes, which are held

five days a week, have proved extremely popular.

From Monday to Thursday they are get fit classes, and on Friday it is a yoga class.

I only have experience of the yoga class at which there are rarely fewer than 30 participants, who are all from extremely different walks of life: young and old, women and men, beginners and experienced.

There are always some young mothers with babies, and sometimes an elderly man with his dog who sits quietly on his own yoga mat.

It goes without saying that many of these people would never be able to enjoy the benefits of yoga in a more formal - and expensive - setting.

Wouldn't it be possible for Council to step in to pay the costs of running these valuable and life-saving classes?

**SOURCE:**  
Email, 17 Nov 2023  
Jane Hendy, Blackwall

## IPART highlights need to budget for green infrastructure

**The Australian Conservation Foundation Central Coast branch has responded to a recent IPART report into funding local councils.**

"The report states that climate change should be addressed in a manner that accepts the serious impacts on the communities' health, infrastructure and housing,"

said group president Mr Mark Ellis.

"The current business as usual approach within the Central Coast Council will not address the effects of the climate crisis.

"To address climate change there needs to be deep structural changes to society.

"The IPART is correct to raise these concerns, as the question of funding is central to how climate

adaptation is implemented.

"The first step councils can start with is by focussing their budget on climate positive actions like increasing budgets on green infrastructure.

"Central Coast Council only put forward \$40,000 per annum to tree planting programs yet committed over a million towards a climate destroying airport master plan at

Warnervale.

"The community response to the Austin Butler reserve survey, shows council must do better when it comes to reducing tree loss and increase planting trees to ameliorate the increasing heat impacts on our towns and villages."

**SOURCE:**  
Media release, 26 Nov 2023  
Mark Ellis, Woy Woy

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**Woy Woy Lions Club is looking to rent a single or double garage on the Peninsula for long term.**

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**0478 959 895**

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## Two Peninsula residents win environment awards

**Two Peninsula residents have won awards from the regional environment group, the Community Environment Network.**

They are community activist and ACF Central Coast group president Mr Mark Ellis and Mingaletta elder Ms Coral Roberts.

Both won "Be a Team", or BAT, awards at the organisation's annual Networking Night on Friday, November 17.

Mr Ellis won the 2023 Best 12th Man or Woman Award as "somebody who has worked quietly in the background to support others in the from line and help keep them afloat".

Network deputy chair Mr John Asquith said the awards used the terminology of cricket to emphasise the importance of teamwork and showing up when working to protect nature and advocating for sustainability.

Mr Asquith said: "Mark Ellis has been quietly ever-present at community meetings, council meetings, rallies, workshops, drop-in sessions and community consultations.

"His main interest has been the Wamberal seawall, a campaign he has been a part of since the 1990s.

"He is convenor of ACF Central Coast and a member of many other committees, working groups and community environmental initiatives.

"Mark is not a grandstander.

"He works consistently and quietly and is deserving of being this year's 12th Man."

Mr Asquith said the 2023 Rookie of the Year Award winner was Ms Coral Roberts.

He said the award went to a newcomer to the conservation movement who had contributed to the improvement of the region's environment and sustainability.

"Coral has pulled out all stumps to campaign to protect the trees in Austin Butler access at Woy Woy," he said.

"She has letterbox dropped, handed out flyers at train stations, gathered thousands of signatures on a petition, lobbied the local MP, attended events, spoken at council meetings and even spontaneously interrogated the Council Administrator over tea and bikkies.

"You name it, she has done it.

"She is truly a Champion of the Austin Butler trees."

**SOURCE:**

Media release, 23 Nov 2023  
Jackie Pearson, CEN



## Hospital opens new mental health ward

**A local hospital has opened a new \$9 million mental health ward.**

"We're delighted to have opened our new mental health ward as part of the expanding Central Coast Clinic at Brisbane Waters Private Hospital," said hospital chief executive Ms Debra Ritter.

"The ward provides an additional 27 private mental health beds, outpatient services, a gym, meeting rooms, group and art therapy rooms.

"The hospital is the only provider of private general psychiatry, and drug and alcohol services, on the Central Coast," she said.

Among those attending

the opening were Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch, Member for Robertson Dr Gordon Reid, hospital owner Healthe Care Group chief executive Mr Matt Hanrahan and medical advisory committee chair Dr Lan-Hoa Le.

**SOURCE:**

Social media, 20 Nov 2023  
Brisbane Waters Private Hospital.

## Runner to speak to ABC Friends meeting

**Ultra-marathon runner Mr Pat Farmer will speak at a meeting of ABC Friends Central Coast at the Everglades Country Club on Thursday, December 14.**

The Federal Liberal Member for Macarthur from 2001 to 2010 will speak to ABC Friends members and friends about his 14,400km run around Australia to raise awareness and support for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders Voice to Parliament.

He said he would support his talk with visual material and would also reflect on the referendum.

The talk will be held from 11am to 12.30pm in the Star Room, and will be the ABC Friends' final function for the year.

Tickets are free but bookings are required due to limited seating.

Lunch will be available after the event at the Everglades.

For further information, email [ross.mcgowen61@gmail.com](mailto:ross.mcgowen61@gmail.com) or phone 0400 213 514.

Seats may be reserved at: <https://events.humanitix.com/abcfcc-christmas-function-featuring-pat-farmer>

**SOURCE:**

Media release, 13 Nov 2023  
Gillian Telford, ABC  
Friend Central Coast

## Books wanted

**Donations of books are wanted for Pearl Beach Progress Association book fairs.**

The book fairs are held twice a year, with the next scheduled for 9am to 1pm on Thursday, December 28.

Only good quality books of any genre are wanted. Jigsaw puzzles are also welcome, as long as there are no missing pieces.

Magazines, dictionaries, encyclopaedias and cookery books are not wanted.

Books may be left on the back deck of the Memorial Hall by prior arrangement.

**SOURCE:**

Social media, 14 Nov 2023  
Friends of Pearl Beach



Environment Network chief executive Ms Samantha Willis with Mr Ellis



## Central Coast Friends of Democracy

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### Proposed legislation to give communities a say on de-amalgamations

**On 22 November 2023, Dr. Amanda Cohn MLC introduced to parliament the Local Government Amendment (De-Amalgamation Plebiscites) Bill 2023.** The bill will empower communities through plebiscites on de-amalgamation that will ensure the restoration of former local government areas.

Dr. Cohn outlined the impact of the 2016 mergers in a number of areas\*:

- **Snowy Valleys Council** is facing a dramatic decline in cash reserves, with staffing efficiencies decreased and rates being raised by up to an extraordinary 75 per cent in some cases from special rate variation and rates harmonisation.
- **Northern Beaches Council** recently voted to close the council customer service centre at Avalon.
- A councillor at **Hilltops Council** has spoken up about the amalgamated council eating into its financial reserves just to stay afloat and the inequitable application of water and sewer fees and services across three diverse former shires.
- **Central Coast** residents have described the difficulty of living in a council area under administration for four of the past seven years with increased rates, loss of staff, loss of services and the removal of local democracy.

- At **Canterbury Bankstown Council**, the 2023-24 budget predicts that the council will not be able to fund required asset maintenance by 2026-27 and will require a rate increase providing \$40 million per year from 2026 just to balance the books.
- **Inner West Council** has held a poll of its residents in which 63 per cent of residents voted to demerge. Inner West councillors have told me, "Under the amalgamated council, services have deteriorated. The promised efficiencies from the merger, to free up spending for services and community programs, have not been realised.
- Regarding **Cootamundra- Gundagai Regional Council**, the boundaries commission report itself stated:

... the level of anger towards the 2016 merger decision felt by many in the Gundagai community has not subsided ...

What has changed however is the effect that this anger is having on the mental health of the community and the Council's employees.

**What Next? - We need your help to ask MPs to support this legislation.**

Email: [admin@ccfriendsofdemocracy.com](mailto:admin@ccfriendsofdemocracy.com)

\* Comments taken from Hansard - 22 Nov 2023



## Men's Shed thicknesser is reconditioned

**The thicknesser at the Umina Beach Men's Shed has been reconditioned thanks to the dedication of one of its members.**

"Our member Mr Bill Wood expressed his concern about the condition of the Shed's hard working thicknesser machine and proceeded to give it his personal attention," said Shed secretary Mr

Vic Brown.

He said it turned out to be an arduous task which "involved various instruction manuals, a different requirement of parts than first envisaged and fair bit of work".

"But Bill Wood cracked it and returned the machine to good working order."

**SOURCE:**  
Newsletter, 30 Oct 2023  
Umina Beach Men's Shed

## Singers announced for Opera in the Arboretum

**Singers for the Rotary Club of Woy Woy's Opera in the Arboretum next March have been announced.**

"We have an exciting line-up," said club president Mr Trevor Walker.

"It is tenor Diego Torre, soprano Sophie Salvesani, baritone Jose Carbo and mezzo-soprano Shikara Ringdahl.

"The Central Coast Chamber Orchestra under the baton of Mr Patrick Brennan will again support the artists.

"Bring your chair and picnic for a superb afternoon of music

amongst the gum trees in Pearl Beach on Saturday, March 23."

Beneficiaries of the charity event will be Central Coast Conservatorium strings scholarships, Umina Surf Lifesaving Club, Pearl Beach Rural Fire Brigade, Central Coast Community charities and Rotary Foundation Australia.

Adult tickets will cost \$90, high school students \$40 and under-12s will be free, with online purchases at [www.trybooking.com/CNBTX](http://www.trybooking.com/CNBTX)

**SOURCE:**  
Newsletter, 21 Nov 2023  
Trevor Walker, Rotary Woy Woy

## Reid raises petrol price disparity

**The disparity in the price of petrol sold on the Central Coast compared to petrol sold in Sydney and in regional NSW has been highlighted by Member for Robertson Dr Gordon Reid in a letter to the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission.**

Federal Member for Robertson Dr Gordon Reid said people on the Central Coast were paying more than other regions in NSW.

"It is no secret that on the Central Coast, motorists here often pay 20-30 cents more per litre," Dr Reid said.

"The people on the Central

Coast deserve an explanation.

"I have written to the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) and raised this issue," Dr Reid said.

"I receive a high volume of correspondence about petrol prices and the disparity that occurs between our region and others.

"It is time the ACCC investigates this matter appropriately and provides a detailed explanation.

"I will continue to raise this matter with the Australian Government and update our community on the response," Dr Reid said.

**SOURCE:**  
Media release, 22 Nov 2023  
Gordon Reid, Member for Robertson

## Life membership for lifelong resident

**Lifelong Pearl Beach resident Mr Paul Barclaire has been awarded life membership of the Pearl Beach Progress Association on Saturday, November 11.**

Mr Barclaire was presented with the award at the Association's annual general meeting by Pearl Beach Memorial Hall sub-committee convenor Ms Victoria Crawford.

A citation with the award stated that Mr Barclaire was born in Pearl Beach in 1945.

"As a very young child, he disappeared much to the worry of family and friends," it said.

"A search beside the creek found him sitting on steps eating cheese out of a foil pack, quite oblivious to the consternation of others.

"That quiet, contemplative approach to life has continued.

"As a child, he quickly learnt the area where he lived, and loved and appreciated the natural environment of Pearl Beach.

"He showed great interest watching his grandfather and other family members being involved in the building of the hall.

"The hall has become a lifetime commitment.

"Being community minded, Paul



joined the Progress Association over 50 years ago and he has been an avid contributor, especially when there have been problems to be solved.

"Paul uses his skills and is always ready, willing, and able to provide 'know how' when building or for other Pearl Beach issues.

"If we need a working bee organised Paul is the 'go to' person.

"Paul has been on the executive at least 33 times.

"He has been invaluable on the Hall Sub-committee as he holds so much valuable corporate history and has practical skills which he is very willing to apply.

"As a member of the ambulance service, he was often called to give medical advice by members of Pearl Beach.

"Paul has also worked in the community through other organisations such as the Rural Fire Service, the State Emergency Service and the Arboretum.

"His drive, enthusiasm and tenacity have improved the community life of Pearl Beach.

"He has never boasted about his contributions but quietly made endeavours to support the village which he loves."

**SOURCE:**  
Newsletter, 19 Nov 2023  
Lynne Lillico, Pearl Beach Progress Association



## Older women's fashion parade raises \$1100 for food donation

**The Deepwater Older Women's Network has raise \$1100 for Mary Mac's Place, Care4Coast and Allawah House through a fashion parade held earlier this month.**

The event was held at the Country Women's Association Hall in Umina and was a sold out event, according to secretary Ms Jennifer Brown.

"The event was a fundraiser to provide food for hungry, homeless and disadvantaged people."

She said the event started

in party mood with a glass of champagne and tap dancing performed by the Madeline Stephenson Troupe.

Models Ms Barbara Stoddart, Ms Mary Clark, Ms Josephine Gann, Ms Gay Smith and Ms Lynn Jones were dressed by Sarongs Ladies Fashion of Ettalong Beach, with proprietor Ms Leanne Kowalczyk and daughter Jemma in the back room.

After the fashion parade, an afternoon tea with sandwiches, home-baked cakes, slices and biscuits was provided by the

Deepwater network committee.

A lucky door prize was drawn followed by a raffle draw.

Pictured in front are Ms Sabrina Paton, Ms Samantha Paton, Ms Brown, Ms Leanne Kowalczyk and her daughter Jemma.

Behind them are models Ms Jones, Ms Stoddart and Ms Clark

The Deepwater Older Women's Network's next event will be a Christmas raffle at Deepwater Plaza, Woy Woy, on December 13 and 14.

**SOURCE:**  
Media release, 12 Nov 2023  
Jennifer Brown, Deepwater OWN





## Art trail to be held at Pearl Beach

An art trail will be held at Pearl Beach on Saturday, December 9, from 10am to 4 pm, under the auspices of the Pearl Beach Progress Association.

More than 20 local artisans will be exhibiting "an eclectic and colourful selection" of paintings, cards, jewellery, handicrafts, ceramics, pottery and sculptures from their houses.

Red flags along the streets of Pearl Beach will mark the open studios.

"The community, friends and visitors are invited to come along and enjoy the unique environment of Pearl Beach," said organiser Ms Margaret Westcott.

More information is available from the progress association, online at [www.pearlbeachprogress.org.au](http://www.pearlbeachprogress.org.au).

For further information, phone Margaret Westcott on 0401 968 947 or Cecile Ferguson on 0412 141 721.

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

## Local authors sought for book launches

Expressions of interest are now open for a Local Author Book Launch Program to be held at the end of May and early June.

It will be held as part of Words on the Waves Festival, which will run from Wednesday, May 29, to Monday, June 3.

The launches will be free to attend.

"The purpose of this program is to shine a light on Central Coast

authors and bring people together over a shared love of books and reading," said book launch coordinator Ms Mandi McIntosh, former Umina independent bookstore owner.

Three book launches took place as part of the Festival in 2022 and eight featuring 14 authors last year, with launch venues on the Peninsula including Woy Woy library.

"The local launches are a great project to work on, as they are a

wonderful way to give back to our community of readers and writers," said Ms McIntosh.

"Helping locals bring their books into the community is rewarding and each one is a unique experience.

"I love getting to read over all the entries and experiencing new voices."

**SOURCE:**  
Media release, 20 Nov 2023  
Angela Bennetts, Words on the Waves



## Men's Shed holds fundraising exhibition

The Peninsula Men's Shed held a fundraising exhibition in the foyer at Ettalong Diggers Club yesterday.

The exhibition also promoted the Shed as "a place to connect, a community to belong to and mates

that make it all worthwhile".

Peninsula Shed activities include woodwork, carpentry, metalwork and men's health.

It is open Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9am to 2pm at 117 Memorial Ave, Ettalong.

Pictured from left are Mr Richard Taylor, Mr Merv Peterson, Mr Les Baker and Mr Bruce McLauchlan. For further information, email [peninsulamenshed@gmail.com](mailto:peninsulamenshed@gmail.com).

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 15 Nov 2023  
Ettalong Diggers



# Liesl Tesch MP

Member for Gosford

Parliamentary Secretary for Families and Communities

Parliamentary Secretary for Disability Inclusion



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# Education

## Year 11 challenge to super-size everyday objects



Brisbane Water Secondary College Year 11 visual arts students have undertaken a project to make a larger version of a small everyday object.

"They were challenged to take a small, everyday object and scale it up to an exaggerated size, altering both context and audience perception," said campus principal Ms Rebecca Cooper.

"As always, this amazingly talented group of students embraced the task and produced impressive examples of contemporary art."

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 20 Nov 2023  
Rebecca Cooper, BWSC Woy Woy



## Rapid antigen tests issued

Woy Woy Public School has issued batches of rapid antigen tests "just in case there's any spike in Covid-19 infections in the lead up to Christmas".

"There's no need to isolate if you test positive for Covid-19 anymore, but the tests may still come in handy if your child is displaying

symptoms of illness," said principal Ms Ona Buckley.

"If your child is unwell, please keep them home until they are symptom free.

"Please feel free to return the RAT kits to school if you do not require them."

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 24 Nov 2023.  
Ona Buckley, Woy Woy Public School



## 'Great day' at orientation

Woy Woy South Public School has reported that its Year 6 students had a "great day" for their orientation at Brisbane Water Secondary College Umina campus on Friday, November 17.

"They engaged in Human Society and its Environment, cooking, and art," said principal Mr Matt Barr.

"They had time to ask questions about attending high school and got to meet some of their future teachers.

"Our Year 6 cohort were praised by College teachers for their outstanding behaviour and enthusiasm."

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

## St John's farewells teacher

St John the Baptist Catholic Primary School has farewelled Year 6 teacher Mr Trevor Husk.

"Mr Husk has decided to transition out of education to embark on a new career path,"

said principal Ms Nicole Davies. Miss Tahlia Bracken will teach Year 6 Gold for the remainder of 2023."

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 13 Nov 2023.  
Nicole Davies, SJB Catholic Primary School

## Competing in regional chess championship

St John the Baptist Catholic Primary School recently sent 14 students to Central Coast Schools Chess Championship at Green Point.

Although the school did not place in the competition, the students played well, according to principal Ms Nicole Davies.

Three students from Year 6 won five out of seven rounds, and not one student left without at least two wins.

"All 14 students had a great day playing chess and supporting their fellow teammates with integrity and enthusiasm."

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 21 Nov 2023  
Nicole Davies, SJB Catholic Primary School



## Students search for solutions to food waste and nutrition

Year Nine students from Brisbane Water Secondary College Umina campus have taken part in the University of Newcastle's 2023 Illuminate Challenge.

Joined by 215 students from 15 other schools on the Central Coast, their task was to come up with a solution to food waste and nutrition - the second biggest industry on the Central Coast.

"Our students have found issues in the amount of waste from production and packaging

and are working as a team to develop a solution for small local businesses," said campus principal Ms Kerrie Thomas.

"They have been given tasks and deadlines to submit their ideas.

"They have listened to some of the industry's biggest experts and have been mentored by them.

"They also pitched their business solution."

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 15 Nov 2023  
Kerrie Thomas, BWSC Umina



## Junior cricket family night planned

**Southern Spirit Cricket Club will hold a Phoenix Juniors family night on Friday, December 1, at Col Gooley oval, Umina.**

A fun junior skills session will be held from 4-5pm, led by senior grade players.

A sausage sizzle will be held while they watch the Under-17 Youth League game against

Kincumber Avoca.

The canteen will be open for the purchase drinks.

All juniors and their families have been invited and encouraged to attend.

They have been asked not to bring glass.

**SOURCE:**

**Social media, 22 Nov 2023  
Southern Spirit Cricket Club**



## Charity day raises \$2040

**The monthly Ettalong Charity Bowls day on Sunday, November 19, was attended by 56 bowlers, and supporters including Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch.**

"We raised another \$2040 for Central Coast Kids in Need," said organiser Mr Ken Dixon.

"This included a \$1000 donation from the Umina Blue Swimmers who bowled with us on the day."

He said: "Our cooks Dave Downey and Bob Willis did a wonderful job, as did our many

helpers.

"Big winners on the day were Garry McNamara, Dolly and George Preston who won the Wednesday Bowlers prize.

"Fred Rutherford won the Spider while Mick Petho's group won the winning rink draw."

The final charity bowls day for the year will be held on Sunday, December 17, when the club will hand over a cheque with the proceeds of its charity days to the Central Coast Kids in Need.

**SOURCE:**

**Media release, 20 Nov 2023  
Ken Dixon, Ettalong Charity Bowls**

## Southern Spirit cricket results

**Results of men's games played by Southern Spirit Cricket Club on November 18 were:**

First Grade, day one: The Entrance District 353 (R Sharma 3/46 - 12 overs, M

Jones 3/69 - 16 overs, D Friend 2/38 - 9.4 overs) vs Southern Spirit 0/7 (L O'Farrell 7\*)

Second grade, day one: Southern Spirit 256 (B Duffy 64, M Scanlan 49, L McIntyre 34, A

Brooks 33) vs The Entrance 3/82 (S Sharma 1/14 - five overs, S Higgins 1/21 - seven overs, H Jaenke 1/22 - five overs).

Fourth grade: Wyong District 9/120 (P Sharpe 3/20 - four overs, D Fiddock 2/7 - eight overs, W Johnston 2/27 - seven overs) defeated by Southern Spirit 7/123 (L Papps 51, A Dickson 25, B Willoughby 17).

Fifth grade: Southern Spirit

165 (J Ford 67, D Campbell 45, B Buchanan 17) defeated by Kincumber Avoca 3/166 (B Buchanan 3/34 - six overs).

Sixth grade: Kincumber Avoca 79 (K Venkatasubramanian 3/7 - four overs, L Taylor 2/8 - 4.3 overs, P Crowdy 2/6 - three overs) defeated by Southern Spirit 1/80 (S Collins 36, W Slater 33\*, P Crowdy 2\*).

Seventh grade: Northern Power 9/79 (T Sibley 3/8 - six overs, A Heward 3/16 - seven overs, J Markham 1/2 - two overs) defeated by Southern Spirit 5/80 (G Simon 49\*, L Roberts 10\*, R Sibbald 9).

Eighth grade: Southern Spirit 9/176 (I Zdravic 106\*) defeated Narara-Wyoming 6/174 (I Zdravic 2/13 - seven overs, C Allister 2/25 - five overs, A Shaw 1/11 - four overs).

**SOURCE:**

**Social media, 19 Nov 2023  
Southern Spirit Cricket Club**



## SEUFC announces new head women's coach

**Southern and Ettalong United Football Club has announced that former National Premier L and Women's Premier League double-winning coach Mick Penn will be its new head women's coach.**

"Mick has excellent pedigree, holding previous coaching positions with NPL outfit Macarthur Rams as well as having previous success in the WPL and will be a huge asset to our women's program," said club president Sam Appleby.

"With our squad forming up already for a competitive season, we are very excited to have Mick driving it to success."

Mick Penn is pictured (left) with Sam Appleby.

The club is seeking First Grade women players who "are interested in joining an ambitious squad under an excellent coach".

For further information, phone Sam on 0407 063 900 or email [president@seufc.com](mailto:president@seufc.com).

The club has also announced its Men's Premier League coaching group for the coming season.

Matt Page and Augusto Terra will work together with the First and Reserve Grade squads, with Clint Stafford taking charge of the Under-21s squad.

All MPL coaches will also assist with the Under-18s playing group.

"If you take your football

seriously while also enjoying a great social environment, SEUFC is the club for you," said Sam Appleby.

"If you are a player that is 16 years and over and have the game to play at the highest level and be surrounded by quality players, coaches and facilities SEUFC is the Club for you."

All interested male players should contact the coaches Matt Page on 0407 732 002, Augusto Terra on 0410 997 987, Clint Stafford on 0435 599 654 or Glen Balneaves on 0407 454 963 or by email at [glen@raybalconstructions.com.au](mailto:glen@raybalconstructions.com.au).

**SOURCE:**

**Social media, 23 Nov 2023  
Sam Appleby, SEUFC**



## Preparing for disabled surfers' season

**The Central Coast Disabled Surfers Association will hold its first event of the season from 9am to 1pm on Saturday, December 2, at Umina Beach.**

The association held a training session (pictured) last Saturday, November 25, in preparation for

the event.

"We are short of volunteers and would love to be able to invite all the surfers on our waitlist," said association president Ms Rae Fletcher.

"If you are free on the morning of December 2, please consider volunteering."

She said the training session

was not mandatory.

Volunteer event photographers are wanted to capture the surfers in action.

For further information, email [secretary-central-coast@disabledsurfers.org](mailto:secretary-central-coast@disabledsurfers.org).

**SOURCE:**

**Social media, 22 Nov 2023  
Rae Fletcher, Central Coast Disabled Surfers Association**

# Sport

## Free rescue course for recreational surfers

**A free rescue course for surfers will be held at Umina Beach from 9am on Saturday, December 2.**

The Surfers Rescue 24/7 course is a surfboard rescue and CPR course for NSW recreational surfers run by Surfing NSW.

The course aims to teach crucial board rescue techniques that can be used to assist in an emergency situation and could ultimately save a life.

"We know surfers are in the water 365 days a year from dawn until dusk and are most often the first to assist in emergencies," said Surfing NSW education manager Mr Adam Seminara.

"With only four per cent of all beaches patrolled by professional and volunteer lifeguards, surfers are our biggest asset when saving lives.

"The techniques taught have been proven to save lives using the

ready-made rescue tool already on hand - your surfboard!

"We are encouraging recreational surfers of all skill levels to do the Surfers Rescue 24/7 course to learn these techniques, as well as be trained in CPR.

"With less than 10 per cent of all Australian's being trained in CPR, these skills can be used anywhere to help save lives."

The course spends 90 minutes on basic rescue techniques using the surf board and two hours on resuscitation.

Participants must be competent with handling, paddling, and surfing on a surfboard.

They must be a competent swimmer, and able to swim 100 metres unassisted in open water.

Registration is available online through the Surfing NSW website <https://surfingnsw.com.au/>.

**SOURCE:**  
Website, 24 Nov 2023  
Surfing NSW



## Ettalong takes national BPL Cup

**An Ettalong Bowling Club team has taken out Bowls Australia's Bowls Premier League Cup winning the national championship in a game against WA side Victoria Park Carlisle.**

The Ettalong trio of Darren Morrison, Lee Threthowan and Nathan Malloy were too strong

for their opponents Patrick Keeffe, Graeme Wishart and Lee Such in the final at Club Pine Rivers on Thursday, November 16.

Lee Threthowan was named most valuable player.

The Ettalong team lost just two games out of 17 for the whole tournament and remained undefeated through State and

Nationals.

The BPL Cup aims to provide an opportunity for club-based teams to progress through various rounds to National Finals, to be played in parallel with the November leg of the BPL at Club Pine Rivers, Queensland.

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 16 Nov 2023  
Ettalong Eagles

## Remembrance Day pairs

**Results of Brisbane Water Bridge Club's Remembrance Day Pairs competition played on Saturday, November 11, were:**

North-south results:

1 Kerry-Anne Durrant - David Adams 139.3 (58.02 per cent), 0.25 red points.

2 Joan Walsh - Julie Teague 131.0 (54.58), 0.18.

3 Christine Hadaway - Kerry Anderson 117.3 (48.85).

4 Edith Marshall - Hilary Owen 114.8 (47.81).

5 Frankie Craven - Helen Cashman 97.8 (40.73).

East-west results:

1 Carol Long - Faith Ross 126.3 (52.60), 0.25.

2 Dasha Brandt - David Bowerman 125.8 (52.40), 0.18.

3 Susan McCall - Jenny Buckley 122.0 (50.83).

4 Hope Tomlinson - Martin Johnson 118.8 (49.48).

5 Karen Ody - Jim Routledge 107.3 (44.69).

**SOURCE:**  
Website, 12 Nov 2023  
Brisbane Water Bridge Club

## Charlie named karate grand champion

**Brisbane Water Secondary College student Charlie Jones has been named a grand champion in team sparring at the International Sport Karate Association's World Cup held at the Whitlam Leisure Centre in Liverpool in October.**

Charlie was first in his category in point sparring, sword combat and sumo.

He was second in clash sparring, third in traditional forms and fifth in traditional weapons.

Following the World Cup, he was ranked first in point sparring in the 16-17 years male advanced-

expert category with 204 points.

He was ranked first in the male 16-17 years sumo - all levels to 60.9kg, with 108 points.

He was number two in male 16-17 years all levels light kick with 126 points and in advanced-expert clash sparring with 108 points.

He was number three in both traditional forms (96 points) and sword combat (90 points) in the male 16-17 years advanced-expert category.

He was ranked seventh in traditional weapons 16-17 years all levels male or female (56 points).

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 22 Nov 2023  
BWSC Woy Woy



## Umina Beach wins through to Division Four final

**Umina Beach Men's Bowling Club's division four Blue side has won its Pennants semi-final.**

Umina Beach Blue scored 43 to defeat Ettalong Memorial 34.

Umina Beach Blue will play Ourimbah-Lisarow in the division four final on Wednesday, November 29.

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 22 Nov 2023  
Peter Springett, UBMBC

**Greg Shirley is the Umina Beach Men's Bowling Club's Major Singles champion.**

The Major Singles championship final was played in hot, gusty conditions on Saturday afternoon, November 18.

"The final was between two ex-Woy Woy Bowling Club players, Greg Shirley and Andrew (Gus) Kenney, and was always going to be a great draw game," said club secretary Mr Peter Springett.

"The score was pretty even in the early stages, then Greg became more dominant in the

second half.

"Greg's continued pressure made it difficult for Gus to claw his way back into the game.

"Gus played unbelievably well to get to the final, considering he doesn't play much bowls."

Mr Springett said that "Gus played his 'final' against George Boni" the previous week.

"Greg played the conditions better on the day and won the coveted Major Singles Championship."

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 18 Nov 2023  
Peter Springett, UBMBC

