



Inaugural men's netball team makes debut

The Woy Woy Peninsula Netball Association held the debut of its inaugural men's representative team at its Lemon Grove courts in Lagoon St, Ettalong, yesterday morning, Sunday, March 23.

The association's first men's team has started its journey to the State titles in June.

The association has announced its open women's team.

It comprises Cali Backouse, Rachel Jordan, Beth Chilcott, Molly Kirk, Janai Edwards, Nicola Stone, Lucy Garufi, Cass Strangleman, Caitlin Gilmore, Ruby Wright and Melanie Imber.

Coach is Sandy Watts and

assistant coach is Nicola Stone. The association has also announced its representative program team managers.

The managers are Open women Erin Phillips, Open men Casey O'Sullivan, 17s Jenna Salvaterra, 15s Lisa Holt, 14s Jenni Blacker, 13s Nichole Barnes, 12s Amanda Harris, 11s development Tiffany Brooks, 11s Development Katie Stringer.

The association is regarding team managers as "the glue that is so important" to the success of its teams.

SOURCE:
Social media, 21 Mar 2025
Woy Woy Peninsula Netball Association
Photo: Jo Freeman

Leisure centre review to seek to generate more income

A review of the Peninsula Leisure Centre's operations would not focus on cutting council funding to the facility, according to the councillor behind the review.

Cr Jared Wright said: "The intention of this review is not to cut funding from community services and council assets, but to look at ways to generate further revenue."

He said the review would be part of a review of all council income-generating assets, including Central Coast Stadium and Lake Haven Cinema, as well as the Peninsula Leisure Centre.

Cr Wright said: "In May to June last year, four major sporting events drew 74,590 fans to the Central Coast Stadium and financial analysis has shown this delivered a \$9.75 million boost in economic revenue for the region."

He said: "This review is about building on examples like this.

"I remember we had Lionel Richie perform at the stadium in

2018.

"Why can't we do more of that? Musicians doing a Sydney and Hunter Valley show are driving past a keen audience who are wanting more opportunities to get out and about, especially young people.

"During the review process, Central Coast Council will hold two briefing sessions, which councillors will participate in.

"It will investigate areas such as financial performance, community and strategic benefits, as well as any recent undertakings to improve asset performance and draw in additional revenue.

"As we leave administration behind, rebuilding a strong and sustainable financial platform is critical to set our region up for success."

Cr Wright said that the review sat within a broader context of a changing investment environment at a macro level, with lowering interest rates a key factor impacting performance.

"Lower interest rates are great

for mortgage holders, but they are not always friendly for larger investors such as councils.

"When you look at just the floating rate notices allocation within our investment portfolio, their interest rate return is down \$26,000 in February compared to January alone."

Cr Wright said he was a passionate advocate for improving Council's revenue streams, income opportunities and asset portfolio.

"A dollar earned in additional revenue, is a dollar that we do not have to take out of the pockets of rate payers who are already doing it tough," Cr Wright said.

"Many of these assets provide recreational opportunities to local residents, so improving their income streams can also enhance our social objectives, by providing families with even greater opportunities to get out and enjoy the community they love."

SOURCE:
Media release, 12 Mar 2025
Jared Wright, Central Coast Council

Produced on the Peninsula

Peninsula news & advertising
for the Peninsula community

Peninsula News: A service for our readers

Peninsula News is produced as a service to our community by volunteers from a local non-profit group, The Peninsula's Own News Service Inc.

It is a well-liked and respected local newspaper because its primary focus is to provide its readers with independent, non-partisan even-handed reporting of events and activities of direct relevance to the Peninsula.

Peninsula News holds itself to professional standards well beyond those normally expected of an entirely voluntary community enterprise.

Readers can rely on fair and inclusive news coverage that is based on policies and guidelines published page two of every edition.

These standards include the principle that the coverage is not related to advertising support for the newspaper.

Throughout the Federal election campaign and beyond, Peninsula News aims to provide equal opportunity to all candidates and all political viewpoints.

It is important to us that our readers have confidence in these standards.

Mark Snell, 21 Mar 2025
MORE: Page 8

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Next issue: Monday, April 7

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

Peninsula News

Community Access

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

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

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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.

Service marks 100 years of memorial park

The Anzac Day dawn service will be held on the 100th anniversary of Woy Woy Memorial Park at 5:30am on Friday, April 25.

Assembly for the march starting at 5:15am will start from 5am in the park next to the Bayview Hotel.

Everyone who attends the service is welcome to join in

a complimentary breakfast at Ettalong Diggers club, served by the RSL Ladies Auxiliary.

A Vietnam Veterans service will be held on the Ettalong foreshore at 8 am.

The RSL mid-morning service will be held at Woy Woy Memorial Park at 10:30am.

Assembly will start at 10am for

the march from Deepwater Plaza to the Park, starting at 10:10am.

A flypast by Royal Australian Air Force is expected at 10:35am. 11:45am

A ticketed luncheon and show will be held at Ettalong Diggers from 11:45am.

SOURCE:
 Social media, 19 Mar 2025
 Ettalong Diggers

Anzac service

A Umina aged care facility will hold an Anzac Day service on Friday, April 25.

The service at 10:30am will be held at Pam Palmer House at Peninsula Villages to mark the 110th anniversary of the Gallipoli

landing.

Peninsula residents and other community members may join village residents at the service, with morning tea to follow.

SOURCE:
 Social media, 20 Mar 2025
 Colin Osborne, Peninsula Villages

Talk about shade trees

Peninsula School for Seniors heard from the local Grow Urban Shade Trees group at its meeting on Tuesday, March 11, at Peninsula Community Centre.

In her presentation, Ms Jan Deighton explained how important it was for the environment, the climate and community comfort to have plenty of trees along our streets.

Ms Deighton said the Grow Urban Shade Trees group spent much of its time planting trees.

Anyone interested in getting some shade in their street was invited to contact the group.

SOURCE:
 Social media, 12 Mar 2025
 Peninsula School for Seniors

Koala documentary to be screened at Mingaletta

A documentary about koalas and their survival, "The Koalas Film", will be screened at Mingaletta in Umina at 3pm on Saturday, March 29.

The event will include speakers Mr Saul Deane from the Save Sydney's Koalas organisation and speakers from Wires wildlife

rescue service, who will answer questions.

Doors at the Mingaletta hall at 6 Sydney Ave will open at 2pm.

Entry will cost \$5, with elders and children free.

All money raised will go to protecting and saving koalas.

SOURCE:
 Media release, 12 Mar 2025
 Joanne Roberts, Blackwall

No rain recorded for more than a week

Three weeks into March, the Peninsula has received only 45.2mm of rain, compared to the month's average of 174mm, according to figures provided by Mr Jim Morrison of Umina.

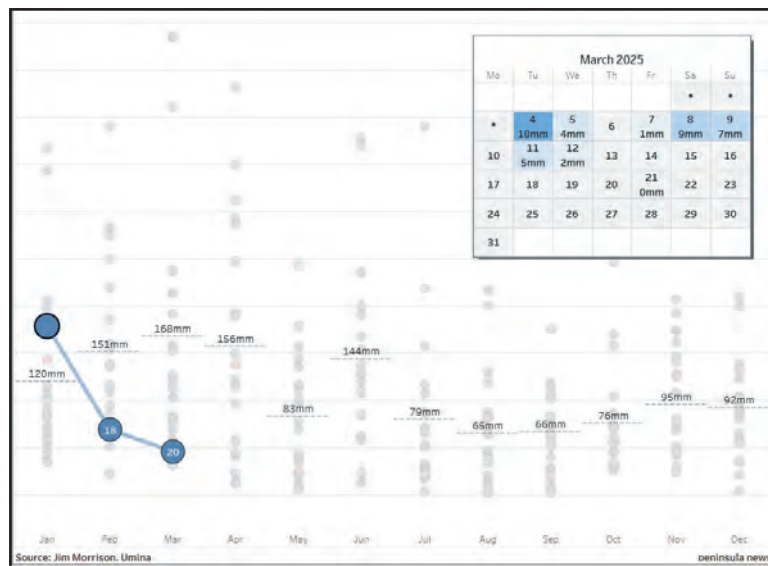
No rain had fallen in the week to Friday, March 21.

The March total so far is the second lowest in 21 years, with only last year's total of 31mm being less.

The previous year had a total of 55mm and the next lowest March rainfall was 57.5mm recorded in 2008.

Only three years ago, the March total was 486mm.

The cumulative total for the year stands at 291.9mm, which is 35 per cent less than the end-of-March average of 449mm.



More details, including daily rainfall figures, are available online via <http://penne.ws/Rain>.

SOURCE:
 Spreadsheet, 21 Mar 2025
 Jim Morrison, Umina

TIDE TIMES and Heights	Mon, Mar 24	Thu, Mar 27	Sun, Mar 30	Wed, Apr 2	Sat, Apr 5
	0456 0.97	0126 0.20	0410 0.10	0005 1.27	0304 1.11
	1218 0.24	0748 1.19	1009 1.18	0701 0.16	1040 0.20
	1757 0.65	1438 0.12	1634 0.11	1240 0.86	1629 0.69
	2318 0.31	2023 0.95	2231 1.22	1833 0.22	2141 0.36
	Tue, Mar 25	Fri, Mar 28	Mon, Mar 31	Thu, Apr 3	Sun, Apr 6
	0600 1.04	0222 0.15	0504 0.10	0057 1.24	0319 1.06
	1310 0.19	0836 1.23	1056 1.09	0809 0.19	1045 0.19
	1852 0.74	1518 0.10	1712 0.13	1343 0.76	1644 0.72
		2105 1.06	2316 1.26	1923 0.28	2203 0.35
AT ETTALONG	Wed, Mar 26	Sat, Mar 29	Tue, Apr 1	Fri, Apr 4	Mon, Apr 7
	0026 0.26	0316 0.11	0600 0.12	0157 1.18	0430 1.03
	0658 1.13	0923 1.23	1145 0.98	0924 0.20	1140 0.18
	1356 0.15	1557 0.10	1751 0.17	1500 0.70	1741 0.78
	1939 0.84	2148 1.15		2024 0.33	2315 0.32

Cr Neal calls for action to mitigate heat island effect

West ward's Cr Belinda Neal will move for council action to mitigate urban heat island effects at tomorrow night's council meeting.

Cr Neal has given notice that she will move for a review of the Council's Sustainability and Climate Action Plan, Central Coast Green Grid: Our Place and Central Coast Climate Change Policy "to ensure all actions are progressing".

She singled out two actions which addressed urban heat island effects.

One action was to "invest in urban forest canopy in areas of high pedestrian and cyclist activity to mitigate urban heat island effects".

The other action would "develop a program to provide free long-lived large shrubs and trees (or nursery vouchers) to the community to assist them in reducing urban heat islands at their home".

Cr Neal said: "The review of these documents is not included in Council's Operational Plan and accordingly this motion is

necessary."

She also gave notice that she would move that councillors be advised at the council's April 29 meeting about "the period required for this work to be undertaken".

Cr Neal said the Sustainability and Climate Action Plan had 27 identified actions with various Council sections/units responsible for achieving outcomes.

"There is no specialised team within Council that manages the implementation and review of the Action Plan; a whole of Council approach has been taken.

"It is the responsibility of the lead sections/units (noted in the plan) to identify relevant actions within their works program and operational plan."

She said that, while a number of actions were underway, the two urban heat island actions were "not listed as underway which is of particular concern to many residents".

SOURCE:
Central Coast Council agenda 5.2, 25 Mar 2025



Parents for Climate rally at Umina Beach

The Central Coast group of Parents for Climate rallied at Umina Beach on Sunday, March 23, calling on candidates in the Federal election to commit to urgent action to address the climate crisis.

"We want to see all sides of politics commit to accelerate renewable energy and the phase out of fossil fuels, so we can keep the planet and our homes cool," said Parents for Climate co-founder Ms Suzie Brown.

"With major disasters like cyclones and floods becoming more frequent, we parents are

deeply concerned about our children's future.

"We want all candidates to step up and commit to urgent action to turn around the carbon pollution problem."

Candidates will be asked to work to reduce the cost of energy with healthy solutions such as solar power, protect homes, schools and early childhood centres from extreme heat, and support access to cheap energy powered by solar and batteries.

The rally included a sandcastle sculpting competition on the beach.

The group is open to any parent or grandparent who is concerned about the future of a warming

planet.

Ms Brown said Parents for Climate was a non-partisan, solutions-focused organisation with over 20,000 supporters, and with local groups in every state and territory in Australia.

"Local parents joined forces to launch a group on the Central Coast last year," she said.

Member for Robertson Dr Gordon Reid attended the event, pictured with Lila Dutton, Suzie Brown, Melanie Cook, Angela Leaf-Milham and Sasha Bennett.

SOURCE:
Media release, 10 Mar 2025
Ivona Rose, Parents For Climate
Photo: Jo Freeman

Federal funding for intersection upgrade

Central Coast Council will receive additional Federal funding to complete the Ocean Beach Rd-Rawson Rd intersection upgrade, according to Member for Robertson Dr Gordon Reid.

The intersection will be one of five unfinished road projects that will be able to proceed with the addition of \$6.5 million to the "Central Coast Roads Package".

The projects are being undertaken by Central Coast Council, which is contributing the remaining \$14.3 million.

Dr Reid said: "When I am out in our community, door knocking and speaking with residents,

addressing local road infrastructure is a top concern.

"I am pleased that the Federal Labor Government is taking action and investing in our region's local roads.

"These important upgrades will support the Central Coast by reducing congestion and travel times, improving road safety, and making the local infrastructure more resilient."

Dr Reid was pictured with Peninsula Chamber of Commerce president Mr Matthew Wales at the Ocean Beach Rd-Rawson Rd intersection.

SOURCE:
Media release, 18 Mar 2025.
Gordon Reid, Member for Robertson.



Patonga Easter fete to raise funds for Progress Hall

The Patonga Easter Fete returns on Saturday, April 19, from 9am-1pm.

"There will be numerous stalls featuring vintage and other handcrafted works, the cake stall, a White elephant, and book stalls," said Patonga Progress Association secretary Mr Stephen Draper.

"There will also be a barbecue run by locals, and other food stalls as well.

"There will be a jumping castle for the children, and a Chocolate Wheel to help stock up for Easter.

"The cakes are a particular stand-out at the fete. We have some fabulous bakers in town."

He said a raffle had prizes

donated by local artists and other residents.

"The fete has always been a great community event for Patonga with a lot of excitement leading up to the day," said Mr Draper.

"Everyone pitches in with helping one way or another.

"The proceeds go towards the maintenance of the Progress Hall where the fete is held, and towards other community projects."

Further information is available online at patongabeachprogress.org.au.

SOURCE:
Media release, 6 Mar 2025
Stephen Draper, Patonga Beach Progress Association

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Planning

Demolition approved

Demolition of the Huckleberry Finn's shop at 24-28 The Boulevard, Woy Woy, has been approved by Central Coast Council following a review.

The review application, DAR/126/2024, was lodged by Bruce Kerr Pty Ltd, who are also the owners of the property.

The site is on the north-west corner of The Boulevard and Brick Wharf Rd.

The original application for demolition was refused by Council in September 2024 for several reasons, including insufficient information about heritage impact, potential land contamination, the necessity of demolition, and the proposal's impact on the Woy Woy Town Centre vision.

In response to the refusal, the applicant submitted further information, including a heritage assessment, a structural engineering inspection report, and a bill of quantities estimate.

While the building was recommended for potential heritage listing in a 2021 study, Council's heritage officer



concluded that due to deterioration and the removal of original fabric over years of vacancy, the building no longer met the criteria for heritage listing.

Council officers recommended granting consent to the demolition application, subject to conditions.

There were several submissions from the public expressing concern at the way the building had been allowed to fall into disrepair.

While acknowledging public interest and concerns raised regarding the building's neglect, Council stated it had no power to compel maintenance and that the building's condition limited the possibility of accurate renovation.

SOURCE:
DA Tracker, 22 Mar 2025
DAR/126/2024, Central Coast Council

Manufactured home proposed for site with Telstra easement

A three-bedroom two-storey manufactured dwelling and a detached sauna has been proposed for 3 Patonga St, Patonga.

The application describes the subject site as a narrow, truncated, elongated triangular block with frontages to Patonga St and Jacaranda Ave.

The application notes that a significant portion of the site is affected by an easement for telecommunication services, containing a Telstra installation, which reduces the buildable area.

The site is currently vacant, aside from the Telstra structures, and contains three jacaranda trees and a fig tree.

The proposed dwelling has been designed and oriented to maintain visual privacy for the adjacent properties at 41 and 39 Jacaranda Ave, according to the application.

Shadow diagrams indicate that the majority of the private open space for the proposed dwelling and the main outdoor areas of numbers 39 and 41 Jacaranda Ave will receive sunlight between 9 am and 3 pm on June 21.

The application does not comply with planning provisions for setbacks.

These include a reduction in the front setback to Patonga St to 0.578m from the required 4.5 metres, a rear setback of 1.0



metre instead of the required 6.0 metres, and an encroachment of architectural elements into the primary road articulation zone by 48 per cent when only 25 per cent is permitted.

The application argues that strict compliance with the front and rear setbacks would result in a very small area available for building due to the site's unusual proportions and the presence of the easement.

It is claimed that the articulated front facade and the large road layback of about 7.5 metres meant the dwelling would still have a standard setback from the road itself.

The application also suggests that the rear boundary effectively functions as a side boundary due to the orientation of the neighbouring

property.

It contends that the proposed development is in the public interest as it allows the use of a uniquely shaped and constrained residential block for its intended purpose, which would be denied by strict adherence to setback requirements.

The application identifies the site as being in a bushfire prone area (vegetation buffer) with a BAL rating of 12.5 for some facades and BAL 19 for others.

The site plan indicates that a wh The application is currently on exhibition and open for written submissions.

No closing date has been given by the Council.

SOURCE:
DA Tracker, 22 Mar 2025
DA/247/2025, Central Coast Council



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Three units to 'provide affordable housing'



A proposal for three units and associated strata subdivision has been submitted for 121 Memorial Ave, Ettalong.

The application claims that the development would "provide for much-needed affordable housing stock within the Ettalong area, either as owner occupied or rental housing".

The 545.75 square metre site is zoned R1 General Residential and is relatively flat with street frontages Memorial Ave on the west side and Coolabah St on the south.

The east side of the site is bounded by a lane which connects Coolabah St with Lurline Rd. The site includes several non-native trees.

Each of the three units would contain a kitchen, open plan living, two bedrooms and ensuites at ground level with one bedroom per unit at the upper level.

There would be one car parking space per unit at ground level within attached garages.

Access to the garages would be off the Coolabah St, with each unit having separate access.

Windows will be located to the rear of each of the units, but the application states that "the existing closed 1.8m high fence located along the northeast (rear) boundary already provides an

effective screening between properties".

"The upper bedrooms to each unit also have windows located to their rear but direct overlooking to the adjacent property will mostly be to the rear back yard of this property."

The application states there would be "some modest overshadowing" of that yard "at the 3pm solstice".

The application claims that "tree removal will not be required for the proposal".

However, an arborist's report states that "trees 3 callistemon citrinus, 4 and 5 jacaranda mimosifolia are eligible for removal"

"Trees 1 ficus elastica, 2 angophora floribunda, 6 banksia integrifolia and 7 magnolia figo are proposed for retention."

The application claims: "The property will be appropriately landscaped in accordance with the Landscape Concept Plan."

However no landscaping plans are included in the drawings on exhibition.

The proposal is currently on public exhibition and open for written submissions.

No closing date for submissions has been specified.

SOURCE:
DA Tracker, 13 Mar 2025
DA/376/2024, Central Coast Council

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Chamber backs police on youth crime

The Peninsula Chamber of Commerce has backed the NSW Police Force following recent meetings with the Brisbane Water Police Commander to discuss recent incidences of youth crime on the Peninsula.

"Our local businesses remain concerned over the level of youth crime on the Peninsula", said Chamber president Mr Matthew Wales.

"Although it is acknowledged that the NSW Police Force have responded quickly when required and have made numerous arrests in recent months.

"We have had several reported disturbing incidences with young teenagers breaking into homes with weapons and the setting on fire of motor vehicles", said Mr Wales.

"The police have a difficult job dealing with youth crime, only to see young offenders walk away from the courts with little or no punishment."

Police Commander Darryl Jobson recently explained to the Peninsula Chamber and other community groups on the Central Coast that the police are fully across the situation.

Commander Jobson said: "The Police are aware of community concern in relation to housebreaking incidents with Strike Force Connect established at Brisbane Water Police District to specifically focus on housebreaking offending which is led by one of our experienced sergeants and staffed with detectives, Proactive Crime Team police and supported by intelligence analysts.

"As a police district, we generally average between 25 to 30 incidents per month (about one per day) over a large geographical area.

"However, in January this year there was a spike at 46 incidents with Strike Force Connect having some immediate impact with 10 accused persons charged in January (six adults and four young

persons) and put before the court.

"Housebreaking incidents immediately dropped to 17 incidents for February and, as of 13 March we are eight for the month of March and tracking to remain low.

"Housebreaking incidents for Peninsula suburbs have decreased when comparing financial year to date (July 24 to Feb 25) with 50 incidents recorded compared to the same time last year (July 23 to Feb 24) when there were 87 incidents, a reduction of 37 incidents," said Commander Jobson.

"For the same periods, most recently we have had four stolen motor vehicles from housebreaking incidents (July 24 to Feb 25) compared to 22 stolen motor vehicles from housebreaking incidents (Jul 23 to Feb 24), a reduction of 18 stolen motor vehicles.

"We are driving crime down."

SOURCE:
Media release, 18 Mar 2025
Matthew Wales, Peninsula Chamber of Commerce



'Plenty of time' to work despite hip replacement

Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch says she has had plenty of time while healing from a hip replacement to get jobs done.

Just three days after the operation on Monday, March 10, her staff visited her with my "pile of signing".

"I am so thankful to be healing well and my pain is continuing to ease."

She said her surgeon had told her the replacement went well.

She said initially she was in a lot of pain.

"I am already itching to get moving.

"Laying still does not come naturally to me.

"I already can't wait to get back and represent the amazing people of the electorate of Gosford.

"I will be recovering for the next little while.

"However my team is still available to help with any NSW Government matter on 4342 4122 or at gosford@parliament.nsw.gov.au."

SOURCE:
Social media, 15 Mar 2025
Liesl Tesch, Member for Gosford

Teddy Tahu Rhodes makes only appearance

Woy Woy Rotary Club's 18th annual Opera in the Arboretum on Saturday, March 29, will feature "a slew of Australia's top operatic and musical performers", according to club president Mr Tom McCann.

He said world-famous baritone Teddy Tahu Rhodes would make his only Central Coast appearance for 2025, singing Some Enchanted Evening from South Pacific, the famous Toreador Song from Bizet's Carmen, and Figaro's

Largo al Factotum from Rossini's The Barber of Seville..

"Teddy will be joined by a quartet of Australia's leading opera and music stars, including, Sally-Anne Russell, Andrew Goodwin, Clarissa Sparta, and guest violinist Madeleine Easton.

Mr McCann said the annual charity event would be held in the "beautiful bush setting that is the Pearl Beach Arboretum" from 3pm and 5:30pm.

He said patrons were invited to "pack a snack, grab a blanket or a beach chair, bring a few beverages,

and listen to these fantastic voices and much-loved music".

"Net proceeds from this fundraiser will support community programs at Coast Shelter, the Umina Surf Lifesaving Club, the Central Coast Conservatorium of Music, and other community and charitable organisations."

More information is available online at www.operarotarywoywoy.org.au.

SOURCE:
Media Release, 18 March 2025
Tom McCann, Rotary Club of Woy Woy

WHAT'S ON at ETTALONG BOWLING CLUB

Ettalong Bowling Club is honoured to host an ANZAC Day memorial service on Friday 25th April at 1.15pm. We welcome family, friends and the club community to attend the ceremony to remind us to never let the feeling of patriotism in our hearts fade away and gives us the opportunity to express our gratitude towards the brave souls who brought us freedom.

Free sausage sizzle from 11am along with live entertainment throughout the day and night.

Save the date Kids "Game Show Time" school holiday event on Tuesday 15th April from 11am. Free Event for all ages. GIANT Easter Egg Raffle on Wednesday 16th April, drawn at 6.15pm with lots of baskets and character eggs up for grabs!

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at Ettalong Bowling Club 2025

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ENTERTAINMENT BY BRENDAN WATSON / 2PM

CLUB RAFFLES / 6.15PM

ENTERTAINMENT BY BLACKSTAR DUO / 7PM

Friends and Family are welcome to join us to commemorate the ANZACs

THE BEST-KEPT SECRET ON THE CENTRAL COAST

Forum

Planning should be driven by community needs

I am writing in response to the media release from the Minister for Planning published in the Peninsula News on March 10 regarding the State's push to increase housing density in Woy Woy.

Woy Woy's roads are already at breaking point.

At peak times, Woy Woy Rd, Brisbane Water Dr, and Empire Bay Dr are gridlocked, with residents struggling through long delays just to get in and out of the area.

Adding more housing and increasing population without upgrading critical infrastructure is irresponsible and will only make these problems worse.

Beyond the daily frustration of traffic congestion, there is also the question of emergency preparedness.

Has anyone considered how Peninsula's 40,000 residents

would be evacuated in the event of a tsunami or a sudden rise in sea levels?

With only three road exits and no formal evacuation plan in place, this is something that should be considered.

While I personally would prefer housing density to be increased on land that is already used for housing or commercial properties rather than clearing bushland, I wonder if that is what the locals want?

This plan is being imposed on residents without any meaningful consultation.

The measures introduced to "boost housing supply around transport and town centres" stem from the now-defunct, but not entirely abandoned, Greater Cities Commission, which has been pushing "15-minute city" concepts.

If this is truly what Woy Woy

locals want, then I support it—but I question whether that is the case.

With around 10 per cent of houses on the Central Coast sitting empty, why is the government so focused on pushing new developments instead of making better use of existing housing stock?

If these properties were subject to a vacancy tax, many could be opened up for long-term rental, easing housing pressures without the need for further urban sprawl.

Planning should be driven by the needs and voices of the community, not top-down directives that fail to consider local realities.

I urge the government to listen to residents before forcing through plans that could have long-term consequences for our town's safety and liveability.

SOURCE:

Email, 18 Mar 2025
Lisa Bellamy, Kariong

New Woy Woy housing may need sound-proofing

It's all very well for Planning Minister Paul Scully to advocate higher housing density adjacent to Woy Woy, Gosford and other railway stations but caution is needed ("State moves to increase Woy Woy housing density", March 10).

It is one thing to promote higher density on the electric-trains-only North Shore line but quite another on the main northern line.

For many years, we lived fairly close to the northern line in Pennant Hills and, at first, all freight trains were government-owned and hauled by quiet, electric locomotives with well maintained freight cars.

However, we were eventually driven out by the overwhelming cacophony of the screeching wheels and gross industrial noise from the change to privately-

run diesel locomotives and their inadequately-maintained freight cars.

After much prodding and protests, the government paid for soundproofing of all nearby existing houses where we once lived.

When partaking of a quiet coffee in our chosen Woy Woy cafe, conversation is regularly shattered by the ear-splitting noise generated by the many passing freight trains which can be headed by as many as four gigantic locomotives hauling massive numbers of freight cars all playing a different unpleasant screeching tune.

Unless we return to the era of quiet electric locomotives for freight trains, as most modern systems employ, such housing as Mr Scully is planning will need to be soundproofed to the same standard as those built under the flight path to Sydney airport to give nearby residents a modicum of peace from this heavy industrial noise pollution.

SOURCE:

Email, 11 Mar 2025
Lance Dover, Pretty Beach

Noticeboard - Public Notices

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Well done on surviving loss of email service

Just a quick note to say congratulations to you and the team at your lovely paper for simply coping and managing to deliver edition 614 on March 10, despite your internet hosting service having dropped off line on March 5 and being offline March 8.

In today's world that would have presented extraordinary challenges.

The content looks right up to date and as usual has great coverage of Peninsula activities.

Well done team.

SOURCE:

Email, 11 Mar 2025
Vic Brown, Pearl Beach

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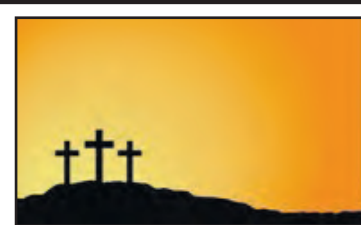
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Holy Communion

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Holy Communion

Holy Saturday @ 6pm
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Renewal of Baptism Vows

Easter Day @ 9 am
Holy Communion &
Renewal of Baptism Vows

147-149 Blackwall Rd, Woy Woy
(Limited parking at rear)

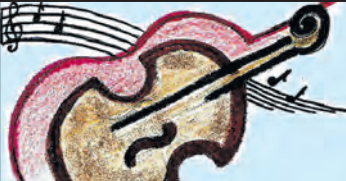
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Older women to hold Easter raffle

Woy Woy's Older Women's Network Deepwater branch will hold its second Easter raffle on Wednesday and Thursday, April 9 and 10.

"All funds raised will go to our three local food pantries," said branch secretary Ms Jennifer Brown.

Tickets would be sold at Deepwater Plaza outside Kmart, she said.

"The raffle will be drawn by Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch in her offices at midday on Monday, April 14, after which all winners will be notified and their prizes delivered before Good Friday, April 18."

First prize was a large box containing several boxes of quality

chocolate and traditional Easter Eggs, Ms Brown said.

"The second prize is a large basket containing tins and boxes of quality chocolate.

"The third prize was donated by the Chocolate Factory in West Gosford."

The beneficiaries will include Mary Mac's Place, Woy Woy Community Food Pantry run out of the Seventh Day Adventist Church in Woy Woy and Community SOS which is located in the Yaringaa building at the Peninsula Community Centre.

Ms Brown said: "We also support Meals-on-Wheels with funds to provide petrol vouchers to their volunteers who deliver the meals and give the recipients some social interaction.

"Recently we have added Hope and Meals Dinner at 6pm every Friday, which is a community dinner for all in our local area to attend for free."

The branch also supported the Ettalong 50+ Leisure and Learning Centre which provided seniors activities and hobbies.

Ms Brown said the Older Women's Network advocated for the rights, dignity and wellbeing of older women in the community.

"The Deepwater branch has grown to over 40 members who all enjoy social lunches, coffee mornings and meetings with a guest speaker to help them live their best life."

SOURCE:
Media release, 18 Mar 2025
Jennifer Brown, Deepwater OWN

Boat licence theory to be taught in Woy Woy

A certified Marine Rescue Boat Licence Theory Course will be held by Marine Rescue Central Coast at its temporary operations centre at the Woy Woy Community Centre from 8:30am on Saturday, April 5.

The theory course will be conducted by trainer and assessor Mr Ian Leafe, and coordinators Mr Bob Gilbody, Mr Paul Broad, Mr and Ms Raymond and Jane Lewis.

The five-hour course will be limited to 10 people.

For a full boat licence, participants will also need to complete the practical handbook.

This requires a minimum of three trips with an experienced skipper, who has held a licence for a minimum of three consecutive years.

Marine Rescue Central Coast is a registered training organisation with members professionally trained to national standards for their roles, both on and off the water.

"Courses are designed to teach you the ins and outs of safe boat handling and help build your confidence in local navigation, boating safety and the marine environment," said Mr Leafe.

The course costs \$165 for



adults or \$145 for a young person aged 12-15 years old with a parent of guardian,

A jet ski licence course is available on the same day, at a cost of \$50.

Anyone wishing to undertake both courses will need to enrol separately in two courses.

A \$10 deposit is payable on each courses.

More information is available online via <http://penne.ws/wKXmUx> and <http://penne.ws/PKMInc>.

Book online via the Marine Rescue website or phone the base on 4337 9600.

SOURCE:
Media release, 21 Mar 2025
David Wicks, Marine Rescue Central Coast

Movie to raise funds for Cancer Council

A family movie night to raise funds for an entrant in the Cancer Council's Central Coast dance spectacular will be held at Cinema Paradiso at 6pm on Wednesday, April 30.

Stars of the Central Coast entrant Ms Kim Cole, who is Ettalong Diggers tourism manager, aims to raise \$40,000.

The movie will be the new Minecraft movie where "four misfits are suddenly pulled through a mysterious portal into a bizarre,

cubic wonderland that thrives on imagination".

"To get back home, they'll have to master this world while embarking on a quest with an unexpected, expert crafter."

Stars of the Central Coast has a new squad of local personalities this year who will dance for cancer.

The well-known locals are learning to dance in 12 weeks with the help of professional dance teachers.

With a target of \$181,000, a night will include dancing, raffles,

auctions, and entertainment.

The money raised will go towards Cancer Council NSW and their cancer research, prevention programs, advocacy, and support services to help those affected by cancer.

With inquiries about the event or Cancer Council services, phone Ms Holly Bennett on 4336 4507 or email holly.bennett@nswcc.org.au.

SOURCE:
Social media, 20 Mar 2022.
Ettalong Diggers Visitor Information Centre



Saturday 29 March
3-5.30pm

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THANK YOU to our sponsors of this Rotary Club of Woy Woy charity event!

Food service seeks volunteers

Volunteers are being sought by a Peninsula food service which aims to address local hunger.

"We offer low cost and some free food to support individuals and families in our community who are experiencing food insecurity," said Food Rescue project officer Ms Fiona MacPhail from Community SOS.

Community SOS operates from the Meals on Wheels building adjacent to the Peninsula Community Centre in Woy.

Its "People's Pantry" runs from 11:15am to 2:30pm every Monday and Wednesday except public holidays.

"In 2024, we diverted more than 22,000kg of edible food that might otherwise have ended up in landfill.

"We have a variety of volunteer positions available."

Volunteer roles include helping in the pantry, stocking shelves, chatting with customers, working at the point of sale counters, with some lifting required of boxes weighing five to 10kg boxes.

Food Rescue volunteers drive a van on Sundays, helping to pick up food and unpack deliveries.



Some lifting is required of up to 20kg boxes.

Volunteers do not have to commit to attending every day or every week.

For more information, phone 4329 4477 and ask for Ms Vivian Muraahi.

The People's Pantry can be found in the Yaringaa Building, in John Hoare Close, Woy Woy.

SOURCE:
Media release, 20 Mar 2025
Fiona MacPhail, Community SOS

18 years

A Umina pet store is celebrating its 18th year of trading.

The family-owned business Paws On The Coast is planning a party for Saturday, March 29.

The party will include pop-up food stalls and pet-friendly activities.

SOURCE:
Social media, 19 Mar 2025
D.Gordon Reid, Member for Robertson

Reid's office complains of unbalanced coverage

Peninsula News has received a complaint from the office of the Member for Robertson Dr Gordon Reid of unbalanced coverage in its March 10 issue (614).

Mr Jesse Corda, the media officer of the Labor Member for Robertson Dr Gordon Reid, phoned Peninsula News editor Mr Mark Snell on the morning of Tuesday, March 18.

He complained that Peninsula News had run a media release dated March 9 from Liberal candidate for Robertson, Ms Lucy Wicks, but not a media release dated March 6 on the same topic from Dr Reid.

Mr Snell responded that, as reported on the front page of that issue, Peninsula News had not received email between Wednesday, March 5, and Saturday, March 8, and therefore had not seen the media release involved.

Mr Corda seemed to regard this as a ruse to enable Peninsula News to show political favouritism.

In the course of the conversation, Mr Corda said Dr Reid supported Peninsula News, which was reflected in his substantial recent advertising in the paper.

The front page report had invited anyone emailing Peninsula News during the period the email service was out of action to resend their email.

After the telephone

conversation, Mr Corda sent the media release through.

The release announced funding for the Regional Youth Support Service in Gosford, but made no mention of the Peninsula.

When asked about this, Mr Corda responded: "Youth who are living on the Peninsula will benefit from RYSS services."

"RYSS have outreach programs on the Peninsula and refer youth to their hubs."

Mr Snell commented last week: "Whether or not his staff accept that Peninsula News has acted in good faith in difficult circumstances, we do not believe Dr Reid has been unfairly treated or treated in a way that is not in line with our advertised standards."

"Peninsula News is a local newspaper and its coverage is limited to the Peninsula."

"It does not have international, national, state or regional coverage."

"That is why we look to all articles to have specific local relevance."

"Even at this local scale, Peninsula News always has more news every issue than will fit in the print edition, as the front page documents."

"Particularly being staffed by volunteers, Peninsula News cannot be expected to know or speculate on the effects of a funding, or other, announcement on the Peninsula unless this is detailed in a media

release.

"Nor should the newspaper be expected to know of the announcement in the first place."

He said all candidates were welcome to contribute to Peninsula News within its established standards and guidelines.

"I believe our readers are more than interested in the specific consequences of Federal policies and funding for the Peninsula," Mr Snell said.

"In this case, the media release concerned has not yet been published on Dr Reid's website."

Mr Snell said it would be made available from the Peninsula News website at <http://penne.ws/i8Sh8W>.

Dr Reid could still provide details of the proposed RYSS funding for the Peninsula for publication, if he wished.

The presence of all political candidates on the Peninsula was also of interest, Mr Snell said, and Dr Reid's visit to the Ettalong senior citizens centre was reported with a picture on page two of the same issue.

Mr Snell said that, although the email service had been re-established, emails sent since February 21 had been lost in the process.

Anyone not having received an expected response should resend their email.

SOURCE:
Telephone, 18 Mar 2025
Mark Snell, Peninsula News

Seven successful years attributed to cuisine

Dedication to delivering authentic Indian cuisine has led to seven successful years for a Woy Woy restaurant, according to its proprietor.

"Spices 29 Goan Indian Restaurant is proud to mark its seventh anniversary," said proprietor Mr Nelson Fernandes.

"Since opening its doors in 2018, Spices 29 has garnered several awards and has become known for its rich flavours, warm ambiance, and commitment to high-quality, locally-sourced ingredients," he said.

Mr Fernandes said that, over the past seven years, the restaurant had aimed to serve exceptional dishes and to cultivate a welcoming space for family

gatherings, celebrations, and community connections.

"From traditional Goan seafood dishes to aromatic curries and tandoori specialties, every meal is crafted with passion, honouring the traditions of Indian cooking."

"We are deeply grateful to our loyal patrons, incredible staff, and the vibrant community that has supported us throughout this journey."

"This milestone wouldn't have been possible without the love and trust of our customers."

"We're excited to continue sharing the flavours of Goa and India for many more years to come."

SOURCE:
Media release, 19 Mar 2025
Nelson Fernandes, Spices 29

Catholic Care to hold brain health sessions at library

The Catholic Care Memory Innovations Centre will hold sessions at Woy Woy Library on Friday mornings over the next four weeks.

The centre will "offer support to improve the quality of life, wellbeing and help support positive brain health for seniors in our community".

"The professionally-run programs held in the library focus on having fun, connecting with others and stimulating your brain."

Those attending "may have a

dementia diagnosis and are not sure what to do next, or just want to be proactive about maintaining brain health".

The hour-long sessions will be held every Friday morning at 10:30am until Friday, April 18.

All are welcome and no bookings are required.

For more information, phone 4304 7555 or 9481 2659.

SOURCE:
Website, 17 Mar 2025
Library Services, Central Coast Council



Hospital auxiliary seeks new members

The Woy Woy Hospital auxiliary is looking for new members.

Officially known as the Woy Woy Auxiliary branch of the United Hospital Auxiliaries, the auxiliary describes itself as "a friendly group who work to support Woy Woy Hospital by raising funds through the onsite kiosk and sales of food, handmade goods, crafts and

baked items".

The group also sells raffle tickets and holds stalls at local shopping centres with all proceeds going to Woy Woy Hospital.

For further information, contact Lynda on 0431 650 306.

SOURCE:
Media release, 13 Mar 2025
Victoria Poole, Central Coast Local Health District



Art-Full Women activities

The Peninsula-based Art-Full Women group has announced a number of activities over coming months.

Coffee mornings are held bimonthly at the Ettalong Diggers.

"The February meeting attracted 18 women where lots of ideas and interesting conversations took place, including many workshop requests," said media officer Ms Lindy Batterham

"Facilitators in creative writing, silk screen printing, humour therapy, mindfulness, mosaic making, and urban sketching are being sought.

"The next meet is on Wednesday, April 9, and all local women around 55 years and older are welcome to join in."

Singing and humming will be held on Tuesday, April 1.

It is part of Sing For the Love of Singing, an occasional session run by Ms Julie Ivison.

A two-day workshop to "create your own art book" will be run by Ms Therese Gabriel Wilkins over April 5-6 in Woy Woy.

"Participants are encouraged to collect items like stamps, bits and bobs of wrapping paper, ribbons and personal items and act like a bower bird in preparation for this workshop," said Ms Batterham.

A one-day workshop will be conducted by Ms Nicole de Mestre about Making a Rag Bag, which involves re-using fabrics to crochet into a bag.

"Once the technique is acquired, it can be applied to many other items around the home such as rugs, bathmats and wall hangings."

Details of the variety of activities including tap-dancing, ukelele performance and violin lessons can be found at www.artfullwomen.com.au.

SOURCE:
Media release, 18 Mar 2025
Lindy Batterham, Art-Full Women

Artisan stalls at Arboretum at Easter

The Pearl Beach Arboretum will host 17 artisans and 14 stalls as part of the Pearl Beach Art Fair in the Arboretum from 10 am to 4 pm on Easter Saturday, April 19.

They will be exhibiting their work, including paintings, cards, ceramics, jewellery, pottery and crafts.

Some artists will be exhibiting from home, with red flags outside their homes.

Food and drinks will also be for sale.

The exhibition coincides with the Pearl Beach Ephemeral Art competition, with installations on



the theme of "Harmony through Nature".

For more information, phone Margaret Westcott on 0401 968 947, Cecile Ferguson on 0412 141

721 or Jo Diggins on 0412 894 503.

SOURCE:
Media release, 13 Mar 2025
Joanne Diggins, Pearl Beach

Mary Mac's plans trivia night fundraiser

Mary Mac's Place in Woy Woy will be holding a trivia night fundraiser on Friday, May 9.

Proceeds will go towards the running costs of the centre.

"Mary Mac's Place is open to anyone who is homeless, transient or needing a helping hand," said project officer Ms Sally Baker.

"We operate with only one full-time paid employee who manages over 50 volunteers and the day-to-day operations of the service.

"Operation costs are approximately \$200,000 per annum and we receive no government funding and rely on donations to keep this essential service running."

Ms Baker said the centre was asking local businesses to donate a prize for the evening.

"We are hoping to secure enough donations to be able to run both a raffle and a silent auction."

SOURCE:
Social media, 18 Mar 2025
Sally Baker, Mary Mac's Place

Book fair

The Pearl Beach Easter Book Fair will be held on Saturday, April 19, from 9am to 5pm at the Pearl Beach Community Memorial Hall.

The fair will have hundreds of books in all genres as well as puzzles, CDs, DVDs and puzzles.

A cake and craft stall will feature goods "made by locals".

Plants will be sold.

A raffle will be held, along with a barbecue and a Back Deck Cafe.

Proceeds will go to the Pearl Beach Progress Association.

SOURCE:
Social media, 12 Mar 2025
Friends of Pearl Beach



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Education

Year 6 students to help in school canteen

Selected Year 6 students at Umina Beach Public School will help in the school canteen this year.

They will distribute lunch orders, serving students at the canteen, and assisting Kindergarten and younger students to navigate canteen processes, said school principal Ms Karen Wardlaw.

They will follow a rostered schedule to assist in the canteen, she said.

"We are confident that our canteen helpers will contribute

to a positive and efficient school environment.

"They will gain valuable leadership opportunities by interacting with others, managing tasks, and working closely with canteen and school staff.

"We recognise that serving in the canteen provides our students with a meaningful opportunity to engage in community service."

SOURCE:
Newsletter 18 Mar 2025
Karen Wardlaw, Umina Beach Public School



Practical lesson in mathematics

Students from Year 4T at Ettalong Public School held a practical session in maths recently.

They explored and measured the boundary, as well as straight

lines and the edges of objects in the playground.

SOURCE:
Social media, 20 Mar 2025
Ettalong Public School



Campus celebrates Harmony Day

Brisbane Water Secondary College Woy Woy campus celebrated Harmony Day on Thursday, March 20.

It was a day that highlighted "inclusivity, respect, and a sense of belonging, regardless of cultural or linguistic background".

"Students and staff embraced the spirit of the day with a sausage

sizzle, a pledge wall, and plenty of good vibes," said campus principal Ms Rebecca Cooper.

The campus HSIE faculty organised the event "that reminds us of the importance of diversity and unity in our community".

SOURCE:
Social media, 20 Mar 2025
Rebecca Cooper, BWSC Woy Woy

Parents asked to donate to Stewart House

Ettalong Public School principal Ms Jodie Campbell is encouraging parents to participate in the Stewart House Donation Drive.

"Each year 1600 NSW public school children-in-need attend Stewart House," she said.

"During their stay, they are provided with dental, optical, hearing, medical treatment and emotional support.

"This is balanced with health and educational programs to

help boost their self-esteem and promote a healthier lifestyle.

"This experience provides children with a much-needed break from their current circumstances."

She said that, while the NSW Department of Education provides infrastructure and staffing support, all other costs were met from charitable donations.

Ms Campbell said all Ettalong families had received an envelope to donate to Stewart House.

Additional envelopes were

available at the school office.

She said that families donating \$2 would be entered in a draw to win a \$4000 holiday travel voucher.

"Please ensure you return the envelope to school by no later than Wednesday May 14.

"Don't forget to complete your details on the back of the envelope."

SOURCE:
Newsletter, 18 Mar 2025
Jodie Campbell, Ettalong Public School

Helpers wanted at Bluey's Shack

Volunteers are wanted to help out at the Woy Woy South Public School canteen, Bluey's Shack.

Volunteers can contribute as little as half an hour of their time.

Jobs include bagging up nuggets, chopping and wrapping garlic bread, and refilling the

penguin ice cube trays.

Anyone interested should contact the school office for a volunteer declaration form.

Volunteers can sign up online or phone the canteen on 4341 7798 with their availability details.

SOURCE:
Social media, 21 Mar 2025
Woy Woy South Public School P/C

Volunteers wanted to teach ethics

Umina Beach Public School Parents' and Citizens' Association is seeking volunteers to teach ethics at the school.

"Giving a lesson every Friday mornings for 30 minutes is all it takes from to help develop a future generation with strong ethical decision-making skills," said coordinator Ms Penny Jope.

"No previous teaching experience is needed.

"Free training is provided by Primary Ethics."

For further information, contact Ms Jope at penny.jope@gmail.com or primaryethics.com.au/volunteer.

SOURCE:
Social media, 14 Mar 2025
Umina Beach Public School P/C



New parents committee elected for 2025

Umina Beach Public School parents' and citizens' association has elected its committee for 2025.

Elected were president Ms Stevie Skene, vice-presidents Ms Nellie Feeney and Mr Dean Worland, secretary Ms Fiona MacDonald and treasurer Ms Jade Peacock Cardoso.

Other office holders were community and engagement officer Ms Ivona Rose, uniform shop coordinator Ms Janette

Taylor, merchandise officer Ms Cassandra Antsee, social media officer Ms Skene and caretakers Ms Skene and Ms Feeney

The incoming executive acknowledged previous committee members Ms Janette Taylor, Ms Kristy Lowe, Ms Tiffany Brooks, Ms Lucy Lamont, Ms Sarah Lambkin and Ms Emily Marshall for their hard work and commitment.

SOURCE:
Social media, 20 Mar 2025
Umina Beach Public School P/C

Comedy evening for Woy Woy school

Woy Woy Public School parents' and citizens' association will hold a Comedy Night Fundraiser in July.

Donations have already been received from many local businesses for the raffle.

The Comedy for a Cause show will be held at 7pm on Thursday, July 31, at the Everglades Country Club, Woy Woy, with doors opening at 5:30pm.

It will feature comedians from Sydney and Melbourne International Comedy Festivals.

Tickets for the adult show will cost \$30 and may be booked at comedyforacause.net/WWPS25.

SOURCE:
Social media, 18 Mar 2025
Woy Woy Public School



Ettalong Charity Bowls was played in 36 degree heat on Sunday, March 16.

The 28 "brave bowlers" raised \$600 for their charity, Central

'Brave bowlers' played in 36 degree heat

Coast Kids in Need. Winners on the day included Alan Button, won the spider

voucher, The winning rink was Frank Orik, Alan Thompson and Mick Petho.

Other winners were Brian Morgo and John Cardwell. The next charity bowls day will be held at Ettalong Bowling Club

on April 13, the second Sunday in April, so as not to clash with the Easter break.

SOURCE: Media release, 18 Mar 2025 Ken Dixon, Ettalong Charity Bowls

Anthony Clarke named cricket volunteer of week

Southern Spirit Cricket Club president Mr Anthony Clarke has been named Central Coast Cricket Association Volunteer of the Week.

The award was to "celebrate the commitment and invaluable contribution" he has made.

"As club president, Anthony volunteers many hours each week, supporting the committee and ensuring the smooth day-to-day operations of the club.

"With a strong and calm presence, Anthony is a steady hand in every situation.

"His tireless efforts extend to various crucial roles, including sponsor liaison, where he fosters strong relationships within our community.



"Whether tackling big challenges or assisting with smaller tasks, Anthony is always ready to help wherever needed."

SOURCE: Social media, 11 Mar 2025 Central Coast Cricket Association

Outrigger club reports 'fantastic day'

Central Coast Outrigger Canoe Club reported "a fantastic day of racing" at the Pasha Dasha regatta in Newcastle on March 15.

In the novice seven kilometre race, the club's two crews came first overall and fifth of the women's teams.

Their three experienced crews in the 10km race were second in the senior master women's category, second in the golden master men's category, and first in the platinum category.

Novice paddler Lana Meggs said she hadn't thought of racing when she joined the club in October.

"The best part was getting to know the wonderful women in my crew during training and the feeling



of comradeship amongst our club on the day".

At the other end of the scale, the six experienced paddlers in the club's platinum crew, with a combined age of over 420 years, were Ally Binfield, Sue Giaquinto, Pam Iliffe, John Iliffe, Gary Machin and John Lovedee.

"Our platinum paddlers are an

inspiration to clubs up and down the coast," said club secretary Ali Bell.

The club trains regularly from Woy Woy and Patonga.

Anyone interested should email centralcoastocc@gmail.com.

SOURCE: Media release, 21 Mar 2025 Linda Donnini, CCOCC

Dr Gordon Reid MP

Member for Robertson



Caring for the Coast

Authorised by Dr G Reid, ALP, Level 3, 69 Central Coast Highway, West Gosford, NSW 2250

Thank you for putting your trust in me to represent you and our community in our nation's Parliament.

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Sport



Marine Rescue visits surf life saving club

Both rescue water craft jetskis from Marine Rescue Brisbane Water Gold Watch paid a visit to Ocean Beach Surf Life Saving Club recently.

The reason for the visit was to expand the Marine Rescue unit's understanding of Surf Life Saving capabilities.

A rapid response by rescue water craft in the Ocean Beach, Ettalong or Box Head areas may necessitate delivery of a patient to a surf club.

The Ocean Beach patrol team members were well trained in aquatic rescue and advanced resuscitation, the Marine Rescue was told.

Marine Rescue and surf club members practiced beach approach and departure procedures through the power craft lane beside the swimming flags.

"This was a valuable inter-agency exercise," according to Marine Rescue members.

SOURCE:
Social media, 12 Mar 2025
Marine Rescue Central Coast

Vanessa is Australian floorball vice-captain

Peninsula Floorball Club's Vanessa Austin has played in the women's Australian national team as a vice captain in the Asia and Oceania Floorball Confederation championships held in Singapore from March 18-22.

Three best teams will qualify for the 2025 World Championships and two best teams qualify for The World Games 2025.

Peninsula Floorball is so proud of Vanessa's achievement and will be following along as she continues her international floorball career exceeding 31 international games.



SOURCE:
Social media, 15 Mar 2025
Peninsula Floorball

Bridge club results

Results from pairs competition played at Brisbane Water Bridge Club on Wednesday, March 19 were:

- North-south results:
- 1 Donelle Foate, Mal Matt Raj 210.0 (62.50 per cent), 0.27 green points.
 - 2 Warren Nicol, Edith Marshall 207.0 (61.61), 0.19.
 - 3 Christine Hadaway, Jaquie Wilson 201.0 (59.82), 0.14.
 - 4 Meg McGregor, Hilary Owen 180.0 (53.57), 0.09.
 - 5 John Drew, Denyse Stephens 170.0 (50.60).
 - 6 Jenni Murray, Jenny Buckley 160.0 (47.62).
 - 7 Bob Lowry, Beryl Lowry 149.0 (44.35).
 - 8 Graham Woof, John Aldersley

- 129.0 (38.39).
 - 9 Annie Creasey, Julie Barker 106.0 (31.55).
- East-west results:
- 1 Caroline Nichols, Connie Lewis 237.0 (62.70), 0.27.
 - 2 Jude Hall, Michael Hall 190.0 (50.26), 0.19.
 - 3 Mark Mannion, Debra Coulson 187.0 (49.47), 0.14.
 - 4 Carolyn Harper, Josephine Howie 185.0 (48.94), 0.09.
 - 5 Kathryn Ivits, Trish Byrnes 183.0 (48.41).
 - 6 Susan Ashley, Kerry Robertson 182.0 (48.15).
 - 7 John Sandra, Marilyn Reid 181.0 (47.88).
 - 8 Ros Lunday, Margaret Hockley 167.0 (44.18).

SOURCE:
Website, 20 Mar 2025
Brisbane Water Bridge Club

Ettalong Eagles win Division 3 pennant

Ettalong Eagles Bowling Club has been victorious in the State Men's Division 3 Pennant competition.

The Ettalong Division 3 side won the State Single Gender Division 3 final by a shot over the undefeated Score.

The division 3 side had previously won the semifinal in a cliffhanger against Warilla 67-60.

In the quarter-final, Ettalong had defeated Lismore Workers.

SOURCE:
Social media, 14 Mar 2025
Ettalong Eagles



Cycle group has Long Bikes Short Ride

The Central Coast Bicycle User Group will hold a "Long Bikes Short Ride" from Woy Woy to Gosford and return on Saturday, April 12.

The ride will feature "long bikes" - tandems, tag-alongs, trailers, cargo bikes and trikes - but all bike types will be welcome.

The two-hour ride will start at Fishermen's Wharf in Woy Woy at 8am.

The route is described as an easy ride along the shared path to Gosford and back, about 25kms in total.

A coffee break will be taken somewhere in Gosford or in Woy Woy after the ride.



Riders are asked to arrive at least five minutes before start time to and sign on.

For further information, phone

ride leader Alan on 0414 538 977.

SOURCE:
Social media, 16 Feb 2025
Central Coast Bicycle User Group

Maureen narrowly wins major singles

Maureen Carlyle has narrowly won the Everglades Bowling Club Major Women's Singles Final on Thursday, March 20.

Club secretary Ms Vicki Redrup described the final between Beverly McFarlane and Maureen Carlyle as "a nail biting seesawing game".

"Maureen took the early lead with some outstanding bowls, taking the score to 15-3.

"Then Bev put her nose to the grind and continuously chipped away at the Maureen's lead.

"Suddenly it was Bev leading 17-15, then 22-19.

"Bev showed great determination to keep the lead.

"Maureen got the mat and

decided to change things, putting the mat short and the jack on the T.

"Maureen won the next few ends with this strategic move.

"The score was 24-22 with Bev leading, 24-23 with Bev still leading, then 24-24.

"Supporters were holding their breath while waiting for an outcome.

"It was so close, nothing separated them."

In the end, Maureen defeated Bev 25-24.

"What an amazing game of bowls."

SOURCE:
Media release, 20 Mar 2025
Vicki Redrup, Everglades Bowling Club



Women's all-age soccer players

Umina United Eagles soccer club is on the hunt for women's all-age players for the 2025 season.

There are places for both seasoned players and those just keen to get back on the pitch.

Email secretary@uminaeagles.com.au for more information.

SOURCE:
Social media, 18 Mar 2025
Umina United Eagles

Cadet referee night at James Browne oval

Southern and Ettalong United Football Club is hosting a cadet soccer referee night from 6pm on Wednesday, March 26, at James Browne Oval.

The hour session will be free to attend and is run by qualified instructors from Central Coast Football.

It is designed for players aged

between 10 and 13 who are a cadet referee or interested in becoming one.

Those attending will "learn exciting skills that will enhance your journey" and "leave with your very own whistle".

SOURCE:
Social media, 18 Mar 2025
Southern and Ettalong United Football Club