

Peninsula News

Community Access

EDITION 619

THE PENINSULA'S OWN NEWS SERVICE INC

19 MAY 2025



Fire station holds open day

The Fire and Rescue NSW Station 340 Umina has held an open day at its station at Trafalgar Ave, Woy Woy, on

Saturday, May 10.

The day was described as "successful with over 1000 people coming through our gates".

SOURCE:
Social media, 11 May 2025
Station 340 Umina, Fire and Rescue NSW

Produced on the Peninsula

Peninsula news & advertising
for the Peninsula community

Internet outage in The Bays leads to calls for action

A four-day internet outage in The Bays over Easter has led to calls for action to improve NBN services in the area.

The Bays Community Group has prepared a report based on a survey of local households which has returned reports of poor performance and stability.

The survey was held after an NBN outage of about four days over Easter due to an overhead wire being caught by the recycling truck.

"The results indicate low levels of satisfaction and significant concerns regarding outages and the stability and performance of internet services in the Bays area," said the report prepared by Bays resident Mr Simon Spencer.

"The survey also indicated a high level of critical business use of the internet, both for small businesses and professionals living in the Bays area but working from home.

"Analysis of survey results also suggested that while download performance and stability was an issue, upstream bandwidth was also a significant impediment to community members using Teams, Zoom and other video conferencing solutions.

"The fibre and copper internet

infrastructure to the Bays area was raised as a concern, with multiple single points of failure being illustrated by the recent outages, but also the significant potential for signal degradation due to corrosion in the copper network in a coastal area."

The report found that sections of the copper dated back 30 to 50 years, with paper-insulated cores in some older trunks.

The report stated: "The current network in place to support the Bays Community at Phegans Bay, Horsfield Bay and Woy Woy Bay remains based on this fibre-to-the-node design, with NBN optic fibre terminating at a node on Woy Woy Rd and then utilising a legacy copper network from the node to each household in the Bays area."

"Research suggests that Woy Woy Bay and Pearl Beach was included in early Telstra and NBN testing zones, potentially due to the known difficulty of maintaining stability in these areas."

The survey was completed over a three-week period by over 30 households.

"A consistent response was that households were not getting anything close to the speed that they were subscribing to.

"Over 54 per cent of the community experienced significant

outages or service interruptions daily or weekly; 62 per cent experienced daily, weekly or monthly service interruptions.

"Less than five per cent felt that they never experienced network interruptions

Of community households that responded to the survey, 73 per cent felt that their work, study or access to internet services had been significantly impacted."

The report noted that several households "had elected to purchase Starlink as a primary or backup to the NBN due to the performance of NBN services".

Respondents reported that there were no plans to upgrade the area to a fibre-to-the-premises service.

The report recommended "remediation work ... be taken to improve the performance of the copper network including inspection and servicing of components and trenches".

It also recommended a range of possible options including an increase in the number of fibre "nodes", provision of a fibre-to-the-kerb, and provision of fibre-to-the-premises.

SOURCE:
Newsletter, 15 May 2025
Marie Davies, The Bays Community Group

Award recognises our community service

Peninsula News has been recognised for its service to the Peninsula community.

The Rotary Club of Woy Woy honoured Peninsula News with a Community Service Award at its awards night on Tuesday, May 6.

Over the past year, Peninsula News which is owned and operated by the voluntary non-profit community group, The Peninsula's Own News Service Inc, has celebrated 25 years of operation and our 600th edition.

We regularly receive feedback that Peninsula News is appreciated and provides a valuable role in informing our community of activities and issues affecting residents.

However, we are particularly appreciative that our achievements have been recognised by the Rotary club, which itself has a proud

track-record of service to our community.

Rotary has a "four-fold test" to guide its actions: Is it true? Is it fair? Will it build goodwill? Will it benefit all concerned?

This is a guide that we like to apply in the production of Peninsula News.

Mark Snell, 18 May 2025

Can't find a copy of Peninsula News?

Read it on your phone
<https://bit.ly/PNphone>



Next issue: Monday, June 2

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

COUNT THE LOCAL NEWS: 51 articles in this issue

... and another 34 articles online at <http://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.

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.



Dunecare braves the rain

Rain, hail or shine: dunecare volunteers braved the rain recently to get some valuable weeding done along The Esplanade.

Their reward was a hot cup of coffee and cake.

The Umina Community Group dunecare group meets every Wednesday morning.

New volunteers are welcomed.

SOURCE:
 Social media, 30 Apr 2025
 Umina Community Group

Teddy bears picnic at Mingaletta

Mingaletta will hold a Teddy Bears Picnic Day from 12pm to 2pm on Wednesday, May 28, at its hall at 6 Sydney Ave, Umina.

Those attending are invited to bring their family and their friends and "your favourite teddy bear".

Free copies of the picture book Tubowgule: A Sydney Opera House History will be available, signed by the author Melissa-Jane Fogarty who will be present on the day.

Light refreshments will be available.

Registration is available online.

SOURCE:
 Social media, 13 May 2025
 Mingaletta ATSC

Reid issues statement on re-election

Member for Robertson Dr Gordon Reid has issued a statement on his re-election at the Federal election on May 3.

"It is the greatest honour and privilege to represent our community in the Australian Parliament," he said.

"I am overwhelmed with gratitude for the trust that has been placed in me by the people of Robertson following the 2025 Federal Election.

"I look forward to continuing to work hard and be available to our

community in the 48th Parliament of Australia.

"The Australian Labor Party will form majority government.

"This outcome will allow our plans to be delivered in this next term of parliament.

"Now that the Federal Election is over, the government gets back to its business of building Australia's future.

"Here on the Central Coast, I will ensure our commitments are honoured and delivered in full."

He said that they included \$10 million to improve maternity

services at our public hospitals at Gosford and Wyong and \$1.8 million to upgrade Ettalong Beach foreshore.

"My office continues to provide support to our community across local, state, and federal government matters."

The office is located at the Riverside Building, Level 3/69 Central Coast Highway, West Gosford, and can be contacted by phone on 4322 2400 or by email at Gordon.Reid.MP@aph.gov.au.

SOURCE:
 Media release, 6 May 2025
 Gordon Reid, Member for Robertson

May average rainfall already achieved

Just over halfway into May, the Peninsula recorded its May monthly average rainfall yesterday morning.

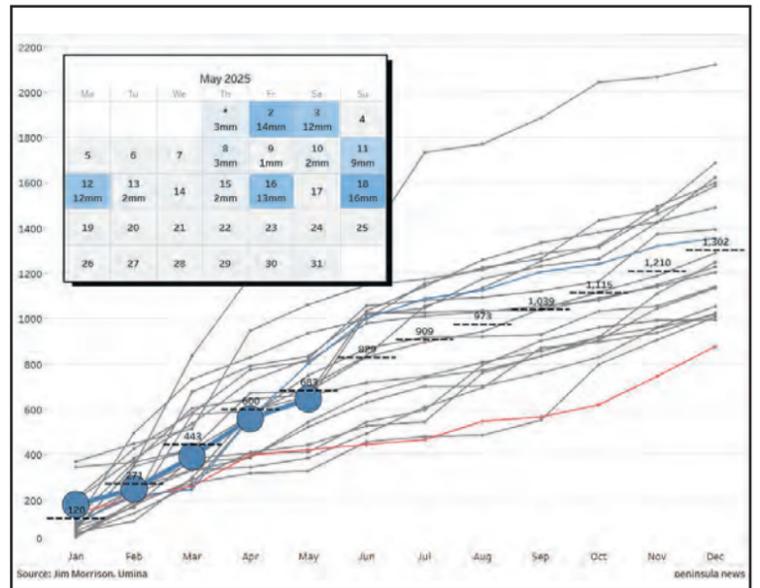
A total of 87mm had been recorded by Sunday, May 18, with the month average being 83mm, according to figures supplied by Mr Jim Morrison of Umina.

Most rain fell on six days, which each recorded between 9.0mm and 16.0mm.

A total of 644.3mm has fallen so far this year, just 6.4 per cent short of the end of May average of 688mm.

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

SOURCE:
 Spreadsheet, 16 May 2025
 Jim Morrison, Umina



TIDE TIMES and Heights	Mon, May 19	Thu, May 22	Sun, May 25	Wed, May 28	Sat, May 31
	0038 1.08	0348 1.05	0056 0.24	0357 0.15	0647 0.16
	0801 0.24	1037 0.21	0645 1.03	0932 0.90	1222 0.78
	1342 0.72	1641 0.97	1251 0.20	1509 0.22	1747 0.30
	1900 0.36	2242 0.33	1911 1.33	2138 1.44	
AT ETTALONG	Tue, May 20	Fri, May 23	Mon, May 26	Thu, May 29	Sun, Jun 1
	0139 1.06	0450 1.05	0158 0.21	0455 0.14	0013 1.19
	0856 0.23	1123 0.20	0742 0.99	1028 0.85	0740 0.17
	1444 0.77	1733 1.10	1335 0.20	1559 0.24	1322 0.76
	2012 0.36	2350 0.29	2000 1.41	2229 1.39	1847 0.34
AT ETTALONG	Wed, May 21	Sat, May 24	Tue, May 27	Fri, May 30	Mon, Jun 2
	0244 1.05	0549 1.04	0259 0.17	0455 0.14	0106 1.08
	0948 0.22	1207 0.20	0837 0.95	1028 0.85	0829 0.19
	1545 0.86	1823 1.22	1421 0.21	1559 0.24	1422 0.77
	2128 0.35		2048 1.45	2229 1.39	1951 0.37

Ferries diverted to Patonga until late June

Palm Beach Ferry services will be diverted to Patonga until around the end of June after silting of the Ettalong Channel.

Dredging is expected to start next week and to take four weeks, with the dredge due to arrive on Saturday.

The diversion of the Ettalong and Wagstaffe service to Patonga, expected to last at least six weeks, was introduced on Friday, May 9, after diversions on several days in previous weeks.

A diversion timetable was put in place to operate until the dredging is completed.

A free shuttle bus service was introduced, between Ettalong and Patonga, to meet the Palm Beach to Patonga ferries, leave about 30 minutes before the Palm Beach ferry departure from Patonga Wharf.

A free shuttle ferry service was

also introduced between Wagstaffe and Ettalong for passengers to meet the free shuttle bus at Ettalong.

Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch said: "The NSW Government continues to have a proactive approach to dredging of the Ettalong Channel, with planned dredging work scheduled following recent sand build up in the channel.

"To minimise disruption, we have again arranged free shuttle bus and ferry services to ensure passengers can continue their journeys with minimal delay.

"These temporary changes are a small step toward a long-term dredging plan.

"We thank passengers for their patience and encourage them to allow extra travel time for their journeys," she said.

SOURCE:
Media release, 8 May 2025
Liesl Tesch, Member for Gosford



North Burge Rd reserve to be 'fenced'

Central Coast Council will budget to install "sandstone fencing" around the reserve at the corner of North Burge Rd and Brickwharf Rd, following damage to the reserve on Saturday, May 3.

Local resident Mr Peter O'Meagher said the damage was done when the Engine Room, the old Sporties Club, held an event.

"Despite the water-logged situation of the reserve, vehicles were again parked on the ground."

He said that the following morning the damage was evident.

It included damage to one of the four trees that Council and the community had cared for over a few years.

"This is another of repeated examples of abuse of this vulnerable Council-community asset which has become a venue for 4WD hoons to demonstrate their skills in driving in mud."

Mr O'Meagher said that, some time ago, a "fence barrier" around the reserve was removed.

"The vast majority of Council managed-protected areas in this area are protected from mindless destruction by log pole and log bar barriers which are very effective," he said.

"Council has decided to attempt to solve this long running problem by requiring commercial event organisers to organise protection of the reserve.

"Unfortunately, this decision

though praiseworthy is failing and will continue to fail as damage occurs randomly but regularly."

Council's parks and reserves team leader Mr Russell Clews responded to a letter from Mr O'Meagher stating: "I have included the installation of sandstone fencing in the budget for the next financial year to help prevent further damage.

"Council staff will endeavour to roll out and top dress the affected areas once the site dries out.

"We also encourage you to continue reporting any such behaviour to the police to help address the issue more effectively."

SOURCE:
Media release, 7 May 2025
Peter O'Meagher, Woy Woy



Woy Woy CWA presents quilts to Elsie's Project

Woy Woy branch president of the Country Women's Association, Ms Margy Ure, has presented 15 quilts made by members to Elsie's Project.

The presentation was made to Ms Barbara Galvin from Elsie's Project at the branch's Craft and Chat meeting on Wednesday, May 14.

"Four branch members have made the patchwork quilts since the opening of the A5 Ward at Gosford Hospital," said publicity officer Ms Jane Bowtell.

"They consider it an honour and privilege to keep making them for patients and their families."

SOURCE:
Media release, 14 May 2025
Jane Bowtell, CWA Woy Woy

Aerial baiting program

The National Parks and Wildlife Service has been conducting an aerial baiting program in Brisbane Water National Park between May 11 and 18.

The operation has used 1080 (sodium fluoroacetate) poison for the control of wild dogs and foxes.

"The program is designed to minimise predator impacts on wildlife, especially threatened species, and to minimise the impact of wild dogs on neighbouring stock," according to a circular from National Parks.

"Signs will be placed at the entry to the baiting location.

"Domestic pets are not permitted in National Parks and Wildlife managed lands.

"Pets and working dogs may be affected (1080 is lethal to cats and dogs).

"In the event of accidental poisoning seek immediate veterinary assistance."

Contact the NPWS Central Coast Area Office on 4320 4200 for more information.

SOURCE:
Social media, 8 May 2025
Ann Parsons, Pearl Beach
Patonga Koala/Native Bee group

Meet your councillors

Central Coast Council has arranged "Meet your councillors: Let's Talk" sessions across the Coast to meet local councillors.

For Gosford West Ward, Cr Trent McWaide, Cr Belinda Neal and Cr Jane Smith will be available from 10am to 12pm on May 31, 10am -12pm at Deepwater Deepwater Plaza Shopping Centre.

They may also be contacted by email at engagement@centralcoast.nsw.gov.au.

SOURCE:
Social media, 14 May 2025
Pearl Beach Progress Association

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

Be part of the Bendigo Bank community

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

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



The Ettalong bank is a major sponsor of 2024 Variety Bash car 26 "Ettalong Eagle". Driver Barry Henson is pictured with bank manager Pat Italiano and staff member Jay Vandenberg.

Non-compliant dual occupancy planned at netball courts

A development application seeking approval for construction of a dual occupancy at 84 Broken Bay Rd, Ettalong, which backs onto the Lemon Grove netball courts, has been lodged with Central Coast Council.

The proposal is non-compliant with planning provisions – exceeding the permitted floor space ratio by 18 per cent and reducing the second-storey setback to 50 per cent on one side.

It seeks a floor space ratio of 0.59:1, where 0.5:1 is the maximum permitted.

It also proposes a second-storey setback of one metre, where two metres would be required.

The application includes the demolition of an existing single-storey clad dwelling and shed currently on the site.

These existing structures are described as “having no significant architectural merit or historical significance and being in a level of disrepair”.

The site, which adjoins the access road to the netball courts, has an area calculated at 696 square metres and dimensions of 15.24 metres in width and 45.72 metres in depth, with a slope from west to east of 1.57 metres.

Vehicular access is proposed from Broken Bay Rd via a shared single crossing that then splits into two driveways, one for each unit.

The application, prepared by Red Apple Design for applicant Mr Stephen Sallows, states that low-lying plants and shrubs are proposed at the residence entrances.

The development would consist of two double-storey units, each featuring three bedrooms and two-and-a-half bathrooms.

The application notes that the site is located within an established residential neighbourhood



characterised by a mix of low to medium density developments, including both double and single-storey houses.

It is claimed that “the use and scale proposed with this development is consistent with and encouraged within the R1 General Residential Zone, while the overall concept and design is proven to meet the objectives of the zone”.

The application describes the layout as consisting of “two double-storey architecturally-designed units” with “the facade articulated to eliminate long runs of blank wall”.

The name of the architect is not included in the exhibited documents.

It also states that the Kliplock steel roof is concealed behind boxed gutters to “provide a contemporary minimalist aesthetic”.

The private open space areas for both units are each slightly more than double the minimum required area of 45 square metres.

The proposed building height of 8.495 metres is stated as complying with the maximum building height of 8.5 metres applicable to the site.

Site coverage is also claimed to comply, calculated at 33.5 per cent

with a minimum 25 per cent soft landscaping requirement.

The application claims that the proposal does not interfere with any views.

It says privacy concerns are addressed with first-floor windows designed with a minimum 1.4-metre sill height to mitigate overlooking neighbours.

Sunlight access requirements are also claimed to be met, with living areas and private open spaces having a north-eastern orientation.

Shadow diagrams are provided. However, it appears that true north was not used to calculate these diagrams, but an alignment about seven degrees off true north.

As a result, the shadow diagrams for 12pm actually show the shadowing that would occur at 11:30am.

Each unit is planned to have a double enclosed garage which will provide the required two parking spaces per unit.

The application seeks exemption from two planning provisions.

The applicable maximum floor space ratio for the site is 0.5:1, while the proposal is for 0.59:1, exceeding the limit by 18 per cent.

The request for this exemption argues that compliance with the planning control would “necessitate impractical modifications to the building’s form”.

It claims the proposed floor space ratio represents “a modest approach in designing living areas and bedrooms to provide adequate internal dimensions”.

The applicant argues that compliance with the standard is “unreasonable or unnecessary in this case and that there are sufficient environmental planning grounds to justify the variation”.

However, those grounds are not spelt out.

This argument draws on planning guidance and legal principles from court decisions related to varying development standards.

“Additionally, it’s crucial to highlight that the consent authority possesses the power to authorize a variation to a development standard, irrespective of the extent of numerical variance,” the application claims.

However, a “variance” of greater than 10 per cent has frequently been cited in minutes of the Local Planning Panel as the reason for its involvement.

The application also seeks to build a vertical wall for Unit 1, set back just one metre from the boundary, where the planning provisions would require a second-storey setback of two metres.

The wall extends for more than half the total site length, with an exemption requested on the basis that it is adjacent to a public reserve.

The application claims the setback requirement is “unreasonable or unnecessary”.

It claims that the proposed setback is similar to other developments in the area and that there are no overshadowing impacts on neighbouring properties because the boundary in question is shared with a public reserve.

It is also claimed that enforcing strict compliance would have to be at the expense of private open space and deep soil planting, requirements which are met by the proposal.

The application also argues the standard has been “effectively abandoned or disregarded” by the Council, referencing a nearby property where development exists as close as one metre to the boundary adjacent to the public reserve.

The application concludes by stating that the proposal embraces the objectives of the planning instruments and control measures, aiming to create a functional development with high levels of amenity.

It is claimed that the development will “add vibrancy, character, diversity, availability, and affordability to the local housing stock” and is in the public interest.

The application is on public exhibition with submissions closing on June 6.

SOURCE:
DA Tracker, 16 May 2025
DA/549/2025, Central Coast Council

Setback trade-off proposed to keep Norfolk Island pine

A large Norfolk Island pine that forms a backdrop to the hotel in Patonga would be kept if a development application for 9 Bay St is approved.

To do this, the application seeks a front setback of only 3.65m, where a setback of 14 metres is required by the planning provisions.

The application is for a two-storey dwelling and pool to replace a 1950s single-storey house on the 371 square metre site.

It claims that siting the dwelling further forward with a smaller setback is reasonable given the site’s size and the need to remain outside the tree’s “protection zone”, and that it would not cause unreasonable impact on neighbouring amenity.

The new building would have

a garage, living areas, and a bedroom with ensuite on the ground floor, and three additional bedrooms and a bathroom on the first floor.

The site is zoned low density residential and has a 12.19m frontage and a 30.48-metre depth.

“The proposed dwelling will have a partially enclosed front return verandah, with plantation shutters and a small plunge pool and deck on its north-eastern side adjoining the axe handle driveway serving The Boat House hotel.”

The development would remove a lilly pilly bush from the road reserve and a pittosporum from the property for a new driveway.

A pittosporum and a white cedar in the road reserve would be retained.

An arborist report identified the Norfolk Island Pine as having a high retention value.

The report notes potential impacts on the Norfolk Island Pine from previous building works on surrounding properties but states the species is known for deep roots in sandy soil, which is present on the site.

It is also advised that minimal future activity should occur under the pine due to the potential for branches to fail, recommending regular inspections.

The application claims: “The proposal will have a small positive economic impact through the generation of construction activity and employment and will have no appreciable effect on local property values.”

The proposal is currently on public exhibition and open for written submissions until May 30.

SOURCE:
DA Tracker, 17 May 2025
DA/573/2025, Central Coast Council



'Where would you like to see trees?', asks council

The Peninsula's volunteer community group **Grow Urban Shade Trees** is calling on residents to respond to a Central Coast Council consultation asking "Where would you like to see more trees in your area?"

The shade trees group recently presented a petition to the Council calling on it to fund urban greening to address the urban heat island effect.

The petition had attracted more than 700 signatures.

"Council is now calling on residents to nominate tree planting locations before June 2 as an extension of the community planning documents currently on exhibition," said group member Ms Miriam McInnes.

"Urban heat affects community health and safety," she said.

She said the Australian Medical Association recently stated: "Heatwaves have a greater impact on population health in Australia than any other natural hazard, and are associated with a significant increase in mortality and morbidity rates."

"The Peninsula sits below 10 per cent urban canopy cover and experiences temperatures more than five degrees hotter than surrounding areas; conditions defined as an urban heat crisis," she said.

"With canopy well below the state government's recommended 40 per cent cover for liveable, resilient suburbs, it is well overdue that Council fund tangible urban

greening activities.

"At present, Council budgets only \$35,000 annually for urban greening activities, which equates to less than 10 cents per resident.

"While council has produced numerous strategies and plans over the previous decade, outlining the urban heat crisis, it has failed to fund any activities to address the issue.

"Many surrounding councils, including Wollongong, Newcastle and many Greater Sydney councils have excellent urban greening programs with adequate funding and admirable canopy targets.

"Central Coast Council could utilise the expertise of these surrounding councils along with the new State Government's new Cooler Places Hub to implement a suitable urban greening program within our community."

Ms McInnes said the Grow Urban Shade Trees group was encouraging the community to make submissions prior to June 2, by both "dropping a tree request pin" on the Council's interactive map on the Your Voice Our Coast submissions page, as well as making submissions to the Planning Our Future suite of documents, asking for urban greening to be funded within the Delivery Program.

"We need your voice behind us at this vital time."

The documents are available online at <https://www.yourvoiceourcoast.com>

SOURCE:
Media release, 13 May 2025
Miriam McInnes, GUST



Bags of rubbish removed

Eight full bags of litter was removed from the mangroves adjacent to the Woy Woy railway station by a team from Brisbane Waters Secondary College working with the marine clean-up organisation, Clean4Shore.

"Plenty of treated pine decking was also pulled from the mangroves plus a plastic pallet, all building products discarded into the waterway," said Clean4Shore co-ordinator Mr Graham Johnston.

"Across the waterway in Phegans Bay, an old fibreglass tender, full of rubbish, was lifted

into the barge by the boys.

"During the trip home, fisherman under the Spike Milligan bridge alerted the barge to two shopping trollies laying in the water.

Both were lifted into the barge. "Gutter rubbish" in the mangroves in Woy Woy Channel filled another two bags.

"It was a perfect warm day on the water with a great team effort by the students, well-supported by their supporting teachers, with the team enjoying a big healthy lunch.

A total of 640kg of rubbish was offloaded at Woy Woy tip.

SOURCE:
Social media, 7 May 2025
Graham Johnston, Clean4shore



Community bank celebrates 20 years

The Community Bank Ettalong Beach has celebrated 20 years at a birthday party held at Ocean Beach Surf Life Saving Club.

With cakes baked by students of Brisbane Water Secondary College, customers, beneficiaries

of the Bendigo Bank branch's grants and guests including Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch joined the local volunteer board and branch manager Mr Pat Italiano for the celebrations.

The milestones long-serving staff members Ms Kym Kelleher

and Ms Maree Richardson who have been with the bank for 20 years, and the 10 years' service of Ms Jackie Doran were also celebrated.

SOURCE:
Social media, 10 May 2025
Community Bank Ettalong Beach

Arboretum calls for maintenance budget

The Pearl Beach Arboretum is asking residents to make submissions to Central Coast Council to include maintenance of the three bridges and two boardwalks on the council-controlled property in its budget.

The Arboretum is asking residents to write asking the council to implement "the Arboretum's 2023 Landscape Masterplan, including the need to replace the Arboretum's wetland boardwalk which was washed away by floods in early 2022".

"Council has accepted that the Arboretum's existing bridges and boardwalks are its responsibility as they were constructed before the Arboretum was incorporated," said Arboretum president Ms Mary Knaggs.

"Council officers have assessed the condition of the Arboretum's older bridges and boardwalks and have noted their continuing deterioration to the point of their being unsafe over the next five years.

"Council officers have noted the Arboretum's Landscape Masterplan, which places the need to reinstate the eastern wetland boardwalk is a major priority," she said.

"The boardwalk provided an engaging loop walk through the Arboretum, essential to its recreational bushland character and its environmental educational aims and objectives."

The Arboretum estimates it will cost at least \$250,000 just to design the replacement wetland boardwalk and for necessary approvals.

"Such actions are essential before the Arboretum or Council can apply for grants to have the wetland boardwalk reinstated.

"The Arboretum is not prepared to raise the money for this preliminary planning stage without the written support of Council."

Ms Knaggs said the provision of Council expertise at this planning stage would be helpful.

"We encourage the friends of the Arboretum to provide feedback to the Council noting that the neither the draft Delivery Program 2025-2029 and draft Operational Plan 2025/26; nor the draft Asset Management Strategy 2025-2035 address these priorities for the Arboretum, which is a much-loved community asset."

SOURCE:
Website, 8 May 2025
Mary Knaggs, Pearl Beach Arboretum

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Seven receive Pride of Workmanship awards

The Rotary Club of Brisbane Water has presented seven people with Pride of Workmanship awards.

This is the second year Rotary Brisbane Water has run the awards for outstanding service and commitment to the community, which were presented at a dinner at Ettalong Diggers on Thursday, May 1.

Recipients were RYSS case worker Ms Lexi Lovell, police Senior Constable Kellie Redwood, Ettalong teacher Ms Kathleen Kennedy, Mr Chris Irwin of Lambert's Smash Repairs, Ms Jane Ray of JCR Therapies, and Ms Anna-Marie and Mr Brett Newcombe.

Ms Lovell was nominated by RYSS team leader Ms Beck Johnstone for her extensive work with people aged 12-17 on the Peninsula.

PCYC Umina manager Ms Judy Tolhurst nominated Senior



Constable Redwood, as police youth engagement officer, for her exemplary assistance with youth programs at PCYC, and her engagement with young people of all ages.

Ms Kennedy was nominated by Ettalong Year 6 student Max Galasso and his mother Ms Danielle Bilinsky for her exemplary commitment to her students and their care in the classroom and in

other school activities.

Mr Irwin was nominated by the club's co-president Ms Jayne Mote, who commended Chris for the standard of his work, as well as his commitment to making customers happy.

Ms Raj was nominated by club secretary Ms Di Bartok, who sang the praises of Jane's multi-faceted business that makes regular donations to the Because We Care

Boutique charity.

The Newcombes were nominated by club member Mr Mitchell Gordon for their service as founders of the Mercy and Grace Ministries distributing food during the coronavirus pandemic.

Pictured are the recipients and their nominators.

SOURCE:
Newsletter, 11 May 2025
Di Bartok, Rotary Brisbane Water

Morning tea for Cancer Council

Rotary Brisbane Water will hold a Morning Tea for the Cancer Council from 9:30am to 12pm on Wednesday, May 28.

It will be held at Ettalong Diggers, with the \$25 entry cost including scones, jam and cream, tea and coffee, juice, light entertainment, guest speakers and lucky door prizes.

A raffle will also be held.

All funds raised will be donated to the Cancer Council via Digger community manager Ms Kim Cole's "Stars of the Central Coast" fundraiser.

Booking is required and tickets may be purchased online through the Ettalong Diggers website.

SOURCE:
Social media, 5 May 2025
Ettalong Diggers

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West Ward candidate criticises proposed water rate rise

Central Coast Council water rates will increase by at least 17 per cent plus inflation next year, if the Council gets its way, according to former Gosford West Ward council candidate Mr Kevin Brooks.

This is regardless of what residents say in "public consultations", he said.

"Council is applying to the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal for a minimum of 17-22 per cent increase regardless of the current consultation.

"This on top of a 51 per cent increase over the last three years," said Mr Brooks, who has taken an interest in Council finances and attended a "consultation forum".

Mr Brooks said the only reason for the consultation was to find out if ratepayers were prepared to pay even more than a 17 per cent rate rise.

He said that information provided to the forum was biased, manipulative and inaccurate, with loaded questions to achieve a predetermined result, and that he had complained to the Tribunal accordingly.

"Water rates have already increased 51 per cent in just three years, yet independent customer satisfaction surveys by the Tribunal suggest services have not improved.

"We already pay significantly more than Sydney and Hunter for a worse service.

"Another 20-per-cent-plus rate hike so soon after the last one cannot be justified.

"Central Coast Water must be one of the most poorly managed water utilities in the developed world.

"Throwing more and more money at a poorly managed and inefficient organisation will not bring about improvements," he said.

"They don't have a revenue problem.

"They have a management problem."

He said: "Rather than slugging ratepayers yet again, they need to address management performance, efficiency, productivity and culture."

Mr Brooks said: "Historically, Central Coast prices have always been compared to Sydney and Hunter as these are the big three water utilities in NSW, the only ones of this scale.

"This time, however, because Central Coast is now far more expensive than Sydney and Hunter, Council staff told the forum to compare their prices with two much smaller water utilities with only a quarter as many properties connected.

"They also provided the forum with inaccurate information about current service levels.

"The effect of this was that the improvements they promised in return for even higher prices above the 17-22 per cent increase could actually deliver lower service levels than currently provided.

"For example, they promised to reduce complaints to 5.6 per 1000 properties in return for even higher bills, but complaints are currently running at 3.0 per 1000 properties, so they can actually deliver a worse service for the extra money."

He said that "Despite affordability being voted as one of the top three values by customers in 2023 and 2024, it was not included in the top three values presented to the Forum, giving a false impression the community does not consider affordability to be important."

Mr Brooks also questioned where the decision for a 17-22 per cent rates hike was taken.

He said it was not presented to a public Council meeting where reports could be scrutinised.

"Where was that decision taken and by whom?"

SOURCE:
Media release, 7 May 2025
Kevin Brooks, Bensville



Marine Rescue unit renamed with opening of new base

The Marine Rescue unit at Point Clare has been renamed Marine Rescue Brisbane Water with the opening of its new \$3.36 million search and rescue facility.

Members of the former Marine Rescue Central Coast unit gathered for the unit's renaming and opening of its new base.

Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch and Marine Rescue NSW's Commissioner Alex Barrell officially opened the base.

"It is important that the dedicated volunteers here at Marine Rescue Brisbane Water have a state-of-the-art facility to continue their vital lifesaving work on local waterways," Ms Tesch said.

"This impressive new facility means the members of Marine Rescue Brisbane Water now have an operations base specifically designed to support them in their vital work of keeping watch over the local boating community."

The new two-storey base, built on the same site as the previous facility, features training and meeting areas, a crew readiness room, radio and communications areas, offices and storage, she said.

"It can also serve as a command centre during multi-agency operations."

Commissioner Barrell said the project was delivered on time and

within budget.

"This unit was the fifth busiest of our 46 across the state in 2024, with volunteers completing 240 search and rescue missions, including 43 emergency responses, safely returning 538 people to shore.

"Already this year, volunteers at the unit have performed more than 100 missions.

"The unit's name has been changed to reflect the area's beautiful waters and to ensure that all five Marine Rescue NSW units in the Central Coast local government area have their own clear identity," he said.

he unit's Commander Ian Morrow said: "Our new name and new base are both warmly welcomed by the 142 volunteers at the unit, and I am confident the local community will embrace Marine Rescue Brisbane Water just as they did our former name."

"After working out of a temporary facility for nine months, we are delighted to now be operating and training from our new home.

"Our members have shown incredible patience and dedication during the transition and construction period."

SOURCE:
Website, 12 May 2025
Marine Rescue Brisbane Water

Body found at Box Head

A body found at Iron Ladder Beach, Box Head, on Saturday, May 10, is believed to be that of a 79-year-old woman reported missing from Ettalong.

She was last seen on Ocean View Rd at about 1pm, on Thursday, May 8.

When she could not be located, Brisbane Water Police commenced inquiries into her whereabouts.

Emergency services located the body of a woman at Iron Ladder Beach, Box Head, just after midday on Saturday, May 10.

While the body had not been formally identified, police believed it to be that of the missing woman.

A report will be prepared for the Coroner.

Anyone with information about the incident or a dash cam footage is urged to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

SOURCE:
Social media, 10 May 2025
NSW Central Coast Incident Alerts

Blanket drive

Umina Beach Rotary Club president Mr Dave Tanare, has launched his annual winter blanket drive.

"The cold weather is upon us again and we all know about the homes crisis we are having," he said.

"This blanket drive is to help keep those people warm whose only place to sleep is on the streets."

To arrange drop-off or pick-up, phone 0419 995 404 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday or 0403 036 104 after hours.

SOURCE:
Social media, 11 May 2025
Dave Tanare, Rotary Umina Beach



Students take first communion

A number of students from St John the Baptist Catholic Primary School took their First Holy Communion on Sunday, May 4.

The ceremony took place at St

John the Baptist Catholic Church in Woy Woy.

SOURCE:
Social media, 8 May 2025
SJB Catholic Primary School Woy Woy

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News

Deserving community members recognised

The Rotary Club of Woy Woy "recognised the dedication and work of some of our well deserving members of the community" at its Community Service Awards Night on Tuesday, May 6.

Ms Anne Taylor from Legacy was presented with a Vocational Award, for her never-say-die attitude in representing the

interests of relatives of ex-service personnel.

Mr Duncan Dalgleish and Ms Genevieve Page from Empire's D'Lite in Empire Bay were presented with a Community Service Award for their service to Empire Bay community through their shop and other involvement.

SOURCE:
Social media, 6 May 2025
Rotary Woy Woy



Umina Beach Rotary community service director Mr Paul Quinn presents Mr Wiffen with his award.



Woy Woy Rotary award recipients Mr Duncan Dalgleish, Ms Genevieve Page, Mr Mark Snell, Ms Anne Taylor with club co-presidents Mr Tom McCann and Mr Trevor Walker.

Award for Disabled Surfers

Disabled Surfers Association Central Coast president Ms Rae Fiechter has been presented a Rotary Community Service Award by the Rotary Club of Umina Beach.

The award recognised her as a tireless leader in supporting disabled people in a life-changing experience of surfing.

She had demonstrated "service

above self", volunteering her time, talents,

and resources to address this local need.

Earlier this year, she was awarded life membership of her branch in recognition of her work.

This was presented by NSW Minister for Disability Inclusion Ms Kate Washington at the branch's 20-year celebration on March 29.

SOURCE:
Social media, 11 May 2025
Rotary Umina Beach

Peninsula News volunteers honoured

Two Peninsula News volunteers have been recognised by Rotary clubs on the Peninsula this month.

The Rotary Club of Umina Beach presented a community service award to distribution manager Mr Frank Wiffen for his voluntary contribution to the newspaper, in picking the paper up from the printer and organising its distribution.

He was also recognised for raising awareness of the impact

of planning issues on the quality of community life, both through articles in Peninsula News and in his involvement and advocacy through the Peninsula Residents' Association.

The Rotary Club of Woy Woy named Peninsula News editor Mr Mark Snell as a Paul Harris Fellow for his 26 years of voluntary service as editor.

"The presentation of a Paul Harris Fellow to Mark Snell was met with sheer disbelief on his part and great delight from everyone

else in the room," said club president Mr Tom McCann.

Mr Snell said that the Fellowship was one of the highest awards for community service that a non-Rotary member could receive from within his own community.

"It is a great honour, very much appreciated and it will be proudly treasured."

SOURCE:
Social media, 6 May 2025
Rotary Woy Woy
Social media, 11 May 2025
Rotary Umina Beach

Forum

Can consultation happen in busy shopping centre?

I refer to Cr Jane Smith's advice (Peninsula News 618) of the council consultation in Deepwater Plaza on May 31.

How is consultation with councillors and council staff expected to happen?

The hubbub of Deepwater Plaza on a Saturday morning is not conducive to confidential or detailed discussions with councillors.

Is this the reason for selecting this venue?

The shopping centre character will dominate the consultation.

Where is the respect for Peninsula residents?

Will there be changes to the format following objection

by Peninsula residents or do councillors and council staff know best?

The only West Ward councillor having power in the council chamber is Cr Trent McWaide, a member of the eight-member majority in the Council.

Therefore, all questions and inquiries should be directed to one councillor, not three.

This raises many more questions about the purpose of the event.

Plaza management and tenants must be very pleased with this free publicity and extra custom.

SOURCE:
Letter, 12 May 2025
Norm Harris, Umina

The teeth of the poor are still sacrificed

Now that the Greens' election hopes and dreams have been somewhat disappointed, are some of their excellent policies going to wither on the vine?

A lot of people were hoping that the Greens would be able to nudge the government in the right direction regarding some common sense reforms that can't come soon enough.

One of these which has become an overriding concern for me is the inclusion of dental treatment into Medicare.

A few weeks ago my dentist identified the terrible pain in my tooth as caused by an abscess, and

referred me to an endodontist in Gosford.

The latter would not start work without \$5000 up front.

Even though I have extras insurance it is limited to \$1000 annually.

My attempts to borrow money have been unsuccessful.

Banks don't like lending to old age pensioners.

Public dentistry?

The Sydney Dental Hospital said to try the dental hospital in Gosford, who said it would be weeks before I could hope for the chance of being put on their waiting list.

And even so they were not sure

if they would have an endodontist on their payroll.

This all makes me wonder why we never talk about this egregious situation.

Is it because the people who can't put their hands on \$5000 don't write letters to newspapers? Because they don't complain?

I can't help thinking about the 19th century fairground tooth pullers who paid desperate people for their teeth.

No, it's not the same thing at all.

Except that in modern day Australia poor people's teeth still get sacrificed.

SOURCE:
Email, 17 May 2025
Jane Hendy, Blackwall

Peninsula News enriches our civil society

As a citizen the Woy Woy Peninsula, I write to thank you and your team of volunteers for the valuable work you do in producing and distributing Peninsula News to us every fortnight.

With the Federal election now behind us, it was particularly valuable that you kept us abreast of the election campaigns of our local candidates and of the voting requirements with information about where and how to vote.

Indeed I understand that about half the voters in Robertson voted

before election day, either through absentee voting or pre-polling.

Your work certainly enriches our civil society and our ability to keep abreast of issues with the Central Coast Council, State Government and Federal Government, and with events, personalities and possible solutions to our local concerns and problems.

I understand Peninsula News is particularly valued by our older citizens, some of whom are not connected to social media.

Keep up the good work.

SOURCE:
Email, 15 May 2025
Stephanie Short, Woy Woy

Has someone turned up with a walker?

On Monday, May 5, after having lunch at Michelle Patisserie Woy Woy, I left my husband there while I went over to Services Australia.

I saw the back of a lady with medium length grey hair and a pink jumper or cardigan as she walked independently further down the cafe.

We had put my husband's almost new red walker against the wall so it did not impair other customers' movements in the cafe.

On my return, my husband was still sitting in his seat and I looked around for his walker and it was nowhere to be seen.

He had been reading the paper.

The manager of the cafe went to centre management and on viewing the CCTV we saw the lady described above walking out on the centre with our walker.

He is totally dependent on the walker and I was concerned about holding him up while we walked out to the car park.

If he stumbled we could both go down.

I solved the problem by getting a trolley from Woolworths to assist him get to the car.

If someone has a mother, nanna, partner or wife who turned up at home with a walker that was not hers (perhaps confused) I

would sell it to her for a reasonable \$100.

I have a wire basket that goes with the walker that is obviously of no use to me whatsoever.

If she does not wish to buy it, I would like the walker returned.

She should also be made to understand the implication if her actions by leaving an elderly man who is dependent on his walker, being only able to shuffle a few steps, stranded without any support.

Thank goodness for Woolies' Trollies.

SOURCE:
Email, 11 May 2025
Christine Fry, Forresters Beach

Writers' festival returns to surf clubs

The annual Words on the Waves writers' festival will be held in Umina on the weekend of Saturday, May 31, and Sunday, June 1.

Four major sessions will be held at each of the Ocean Beach Surf Life Saving Club and the Umina Surf Life Saving Club, with other sessions in a marquee in the adjacent recreation area.

Writing workshops will be held in the Umina Country Women's Association hall.

The festival claims to have attracted some of Australia's best authors, from politics to poetry,

memoir to spy crime.

Authors will include Kate Grenville, David Marr, Clare Wright and Gail Jones.

TV and radio broadcasters will include Virginia Trioli, Julia Baird, Steve Vizard, Jane Caro and Gideon Haigh.

Fiction authors will include Emily Maguire, Inga Simpson, Jumaana Abdu, Charlotte McConaghy, Nikki Gemmill, Jessie Tu and James Bradley and non-fiction authors Debra Dank, Lech Blaine and Peter Greste.

The Dip marquee will host guests Blanche d'Alpuget, Rosie

Waterland and Hugh Mackay, as well as the launch of an inaugural poetry slam.

Some events will be held at other locations around the Peninsula on Thursday and Friday.

A number of book launches, a literary cruise and other activities including a children's program will take place at venues outside the Peninsula, including at several council libraries and Ourimbah campus.

More information is available at <https://wordsonthewaves.com.au/>.

SOURCE:
Website, 15 May 2025
Words on the Waves

Warren Fahey to perform at folk club

Australian song collector and performer Warren Fahey will perform at Troubadour Folk Club at the Everglades Country Club at 2pm on Sunday, May 25.

He will be accompanied by Garry Steel on accordion and Marcus Holden on strings.

"This special concert has been a long two years in the making," said folk club president Mr Michael Fine.

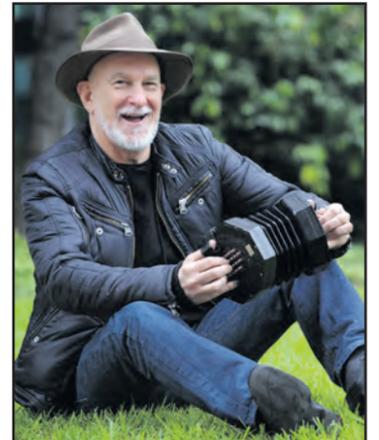
"It will certainly have been worth the wait."

The concert, Bush Songs and City Ditties, will be a collection of bush ballads, folksongs, recitations, yarns and curious stories, delivered by one of Australia's most celebrated storytellers and music entrepreneurs, he said.

"Now, you can experience over two hours of marvellous music and stories from an Australian folk music legend up close and personal.

"Warren is a folk legend in this country as a performer, song collector and cultural historian.

"He has been honoured with the Order of Australia, the Prime Minister's Centenary Medal, Golden Gumleaf Award and Australia's highest award for lifetime achievement in music, the



Don Banks Music Award.

"He also founded Folkways Music and Larrikin Records in the early 1970s.

"This enabled great artists, such as Eric Bogle, Kev Carmody, Redgum, Robyn Archer, Sirocco, Jeannie Lewis and Renee Geyer, to make a mark across the globe," he said.

"In the 1990s Larrikin became part of Australia's Festival Records."

Bookings may be made through the folk club's website at troubadour.org.au.

SOURCE:
Media release, 9 May 2025
Michael Fine, Troubadour Central Coast

Music scholarship concerts at Pearl Beach

Pearl Beach Music Scholarship and Irvine Family Piano Scholarship Concerts will be held on Saturday, May 24.

The Junior Showcase Concert will start at 11am with the Pearl Beach Scholarship Concert following at 2:30pm.

The event is a celebration of music by talented students from Central Coast Conservatorium of Music, presented by the Pearl Beach Progress Association.

In the morning junior students will perform a showcase concert,

including performances of previous Irvine Family Piano Scholarship recipients.

In the afternoon, senior students will take the stage and will feature advanced performances on a variety of instruments.

Winner of the 2012 Pearl Beach Scholarship flautist Alyse Faith will make a guest appearance at the Saturday afternoon concert.

With inquiries and for bookings, phone 4344 2319.

SOURCE:
Media release, 15 May 2025
Lynne Lillico, Pearl Beach Progress Association

Artists wanted

The Bays Community Group is seeking artists for its Annual Bays Art Show to be held at The Bays Community Hall in Woy Woy Bay from Friday to Sunday, July 4-6.

Entries close on June 22 or earlier if capacity is reached.

Artworks must be delivered between 9:30am and 11am on Wednesday, July 2, and picked up on Sunday, July 6, between 4pm and 5pm.

Both established artists and hobbyists are encouraged to apply.

SOURCE:
Newsletter, 15 May 2025
Marie Davies, The Bays Community Group



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Education

Mother's Day is not always easy, says principal

Umina Beach Public School principal Ms Karen Wardlaw has recognised that Mother's Day is not always easy for all students.

"While Mother's Day is a wonderful celebration for many, we understand that for some students, this day may bring mixed emotions," she said.

"Whether due to distance, loss, or family circumstances, not every student experiences Mother's Day in the same way.

"In light of this, our school is committed to providing extra care and support to students who may find this time challenging.

"To ensure all students feel supported, our staff are offering additional care this week.

"This includes providing safe spaces for students who need them, offering alternative activities for those who may find Mother's Day activities difficult, and ensuring that no student is left without a supportive adult during school and community events, including our P/C's Mother's Day stall.

"We are here to listen, understand, and provide care and comfort where needed."

She offered parents, carers

and children needing support to contact the school via a link to our Additional Support form.

"Together, we can ensure that all our students receive the care and support they need.

"Considering the diverse needs of our students and families, we're planning our Mother's day classroom visits during morning play time, so that our students who may find this occasion difficult (and children whose mums who can't make join us for this visit) can enjoy some fun play outside together."

Ms Wardlaw said: "At Umina Beach Public School, Mother's Day is an important time to honour the important women in our lives (and those amazing people who have stepped into the role of mother) across our community.

"We recognise and celebrate the diverse family settings across our community and the special and unique ways in which love and care are expressed.

"We extend our deepest gratitude to all mothers and caregivers for the love and care they provide."

SOURCE:
Newsletter, 7 May 2025
Karen Wardlaw, UBPS



Reconciliation plan film

The NSW Department of Education has made a film at Woy Woy Public School about the school's Reconciliation Action Plan.

The Woy Woy "case study" is expected to be showcased during Reconciliation Week.

"The video will highlight our school and preschool's reconciliation journey and highlight how our Reconciliation Action Plan

is contributing to the development of culturally responsive and inclusive learning," said principal Ms Sandy Knowles.

"This video aims to inspire and support other schools in their Action Plan journeys."

The Aunties from Mingaletta who were involved in the process were included in the film.

SOURCE:
Social media, 9 May 2025
Woy Woy Public School

Vaccination on Friday

NSW Health will be at Woy Woy campus of Brisbane Water Secondary College on Friday, May 23, to administer meningococcal ACWY immunisations for Year 10 students.

Parents have been encouraged to provide their consent online.

They were told the benefits of doing so were to easily update their child's details, to get text message notifications when vaccinations were given and faster upload of vaccination records to the Australian Immunisation Register.

SOURCE:
Social media, 8 May 2025
BWSC Woy Woy



Super SRC has new house system vision

The "Super SRC" at Brisbane Water Secondary College has outlined its vision and research findings to "re-imagine the College house

system". The "super" students' representative council has students from both campuses. They delivered their

presentation to staff "with clarity, purpose and pride".

SOURCE:
Social media, 12 May 2025
BWSC Woy Woy

Three play for Sydney North in rugby union

Three primary school students from the Peninsula will represent Sydney North at the NSW Primary Schools Sports Association rugby union championships in Term 3.

They were Finn Dixon from Woy Woy South, and Reuben Long and Will Heap from Ettalong.

They were three of 11 students from the Southern Central Coast to participate selected at the Sydney North Boys Rugby Union Trials on Tuesday, May 6.

SOURCE:
Social media, 7 May 2025
Southern Central Coast Primary School Sports Association



Teachers learn about 'gifted education'

Teachers and staff at Ettalong Public School have attended three workshops to develop their understanding of "high potential, gifted education".

The school has a policy on the topic, according to assistant principals Ms Janelle Chapman and Ms Renee Robertson.

"All students, regardless of background or personal circumstances, require access to learning programs that meet their learning needs and support to aspire to, and achieve, personal

excellence," they said.

"Our commitment to high expectations for all students includes high potential and gifted students.

"Achieving excellence for high potential and gifted students is underpinned by effective school environments including quality teaching, learning and leadership.

"Potential exists along a continuum, where differing degrees of potential require differing approaches and levels of adjustment and intervention.

"Through our student register,

we identified students in at least one of the four domains and our Enrichment Groups go across all grades including our Support Unit.

"This term students have been selected for either multi-step problem solving, writing and/or maths.

"Enrichment Groups have commenced this week.

"Parents were notified if their child was attending one of those groups."

SOURCE:
Newsletter, 6 May 2025
Ettalong Public School

SRC starts peer tutoring

The Student Representative Council at Umina campus of Brisbane Water Secondary College has started a Peer Tutoring program.

It will be offered initially to Year 7 students.

Students can fill out an application form to receive peer support during Tutorial Tuesday or Thursday in the library from 8am.

SOURCE:
Social media, 12 May 2025
BWSC Umina





Bowling men organise Mother's Day event

Everglades Men's Bowling Club organised a special Mother's Day celebration at the club on Friday, May 9.

The event was described as "a huge success with a fantastic turnout, plenty of laughter, and great company".

The room decorations, the food

and the hospitality of the staff all added to the atmosphere.

SOURCE:
Social media, 12 May 2025
Everglades Country Club

Netball association celebrates 50 years

Woy Woy Peninsula Netball Association held its open day to celebrate 50 years at Lemon Grove Netball Courts on Saturday, May 3.

The day started with NetSetGo games are scheduled at 9:30am and 10:30am.

At 11:20am, a 50 Years drone photo was taken, with members assembling in the shape of 50 on the middle courts, using a chalk outline to guide everyone.

A march past was held at 11:30am from the rear courts in alphabetical order; BWNC, EENC, Fever, PLNC, Rays, TKT and UBNC.

Rep players marched with their clubs.

The president's address and annual awards were held in the front of the clubhouse at 11:40am.

Round 3 of junior and senior games were played from 12:15pm.

As well as 50th birthday cake, the clubhouse had some memorabilia as well as photos and videos on rotation on the clubhouse TV.

SOURCE:
Social media, 2 May 2025
Woy Woy Peninsula Netball Association



Surf club receives grant

Ocean Beach SLSC has been granted \$94,000 for buildings upgrades for safety and accessibility.

The upgrades will include fire and smoke detection systems and enhanced accessibility.

The club was among 38 to share in \$5.4 million NSW Government funding for the upgrade, restoration or construction of surf life saving facilities.

Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch said: "Each and every year, the volunteers at Ocean Beach Surf Life Saving Club provide a watchful eye, keeping our community safe in the water and on the sand."

"As our beaches bring our community together, so too do our surf life saving club houses."

"It is fantastic to see the club house get these upgrades."

"This grant will support the creation of upgraded facilities, allowing top-tier facilities while our local surf life savers continue to do what they do best, look after our community."

Club president Mr Michael Cairns said: "The NSW Government has provided Ocean



Beach SLSC with much needed funding to increase safety and accessibility for our much valued volunteer members and the community.

"While our primary focus has always and will always be on aquatic safety and saving lives, having the ability to provide a safe learning, recreational and sporting facility, that all can access and use, enables us as a club to broaden our impact within the local community to areas such as youth development, tourism and the environment."

SOURCE:
Media release, 16 May 2025
Liesl Tesch, Member for Gosford

Southern Spirit cricket club holds annual meeting

Southern Spirit Cricket Club will hold its annual general meeting at 7pm on Monday, May 26, in the Ettalong Bowling Club auditorium.

Members have been emailed

a notice of the meeting with an agenda.

With inquiries, phone Chris on 0421 781 782.

SOURCE:
Social media, 12 May 2025
Southern Spirit Cricket Club

WHAT'S ON at ETTALONG BOWLING CLUB

Save the Date ... Classic Hits and Memories of the 50's and 60's Rock & Roll Dance Party with the Hit Makers 4 Band & DJ hound dog George Galea. Saturday 26th July. This is a free event in the club auditorium boasting one of the biggest dance floors on the Central Coast.

NRL season has officially kicked off and we are the venue to cheer on your team in our TAB or outdoor heated area. Enjoy the daily blackboard specials from the Alfresco Brasserie or an authentic Chinese meal along with a PINT for Happy Hour prices from Monday - Friday 4pm - 6pm or Saturday and Sundays 3pm - 5pm.

Coming Soon ... Exciting new Club promotion for our members. Join now for only \$7.50 so you don't miss the chance to WIN!

Download the Club app to keep up to date on all upcoming entertainment and events.



103 Springwood St, Umina Beach NSW 2257 (02) 4341 0087

Saturday 26th July
Hit Makers 4 *With* **DJ HOUND DOG GEORGE GALEA**

50s, 60s rock n' roll and beyond!!

Classic Hit's & Memories Rock n Roll
7pm Live & Free!
103 Springwood St Umina Beach Ph 43410087

THE BEST-KEPT SECRET ON THE CENTRAL COAST

SEU give Wyoming a goal-scoring clinic

Southern and Ettalong United have defeated Wyoming 6-1 in Round 5 of Men's Premier League soccer.

Matt Page's Lions put on another goal-scoring clinic to continue their unbeaten run as Southern and Ettalong now find themselves out right on top of the MPL Ladder and Wyoming drop down to the middle of the pack.

Four goals from Jacob Lepre saw the previous MPL Player of the Year walk away with the match ball and three crucial points to see Southern enter the week as outright leaders.

His first goal of the game came in the 21st minute.

Lepre whipped a corner in which was rebounded back out to him.

Lepre then guided the ball back into the box with a first-time cross that beat every player and ended up in the back of the net at the back post.

Lepre was on the scoresheet again 15 minutes later, this time on the right side.

Lepre hit a direct ball into the box which once again beat everyone including the goalkeeper to double Southern's advantage.

Still in the contest, Wyoming looked to build into the game in the second period but a third goal to Southern in less than five minutes after the break made their comeback feat almost impossible.

Trying to play out from the back, a misplaced pass from the Wyoming keeper found the feet of

Lepre.

Lepre drove into the box and finished well with his right foot for his hat-trick goal.

Wyoming responded 13 minutes later.

A free kick in the opposition's half saw defender Henry Walker get on the end of a well-placed ball to head home and give the Tigers a lifeline.

However, an Alfie Martin run just moments later saw him brought down in the box.

Todd Balneaves stepped up from the spot for his side, firing low to the bottom right corner to extend Southern's lead to 4-1.

Next on the scoresheet for the Lions was right-back Preston Daniel.

Daniel received the ball out wide and yet another cross turned shot saw the ball fly into the back of the net despite a touch from the Wyoming goalie.

Last but not least, Lepre eventually got his fourth goal.

A switch of play from the left to the right saw Lepre make an unmarked run into the box.

Teammate Keith Gumbs was able to play the ball in front of Lepre who placed the ball into the top corner, cementing Southern's 6-1 victory.

Match official was Mikayla Ryan.

SOURCE:
Social media, 13 May 2025
Southern & Ettalong
United Football Club



Canoe crews win medals at State titles

Central Coast Outrigger Canoe Club ended a successful racing season with six crews competing at the NSW State Titles in Port Stephens on Saturday, May 3.

Five of the Central Coast crews won medals in their categories, including the mixed crew (silver) in the novice race; the platinum (gold), master women (silver) and golden master mixed (bronze) crews in the short course, and the

master men (bronze) in the long course.

The master women's long course crew narrowly missed out on a medal after race organisers changed the course due to the rough conditions.

"The 2.5 metre swell and wind chop turned the race into a wrestle for the steerers" said platinum crew steerer John Iliffe.

A few canoes from other clubs capsized, but managed to reboard safely.

Women's long course paddler Cath Cameron said: "We felt like we had been on the spin cycle of the washing machine for 90 minutes, but as we came through the heads, a pod of dolphins was surfing in front of us and we lifted again."

The club will continue training regularly throughout the year from Woy Woy and Patonga in preparation for the next season.

SOURCE:
Media release, 16 May 2025
Linda Donnini, CCOCC

Mixed pairs bridge was qualifying event

Brisbane Water Bridge Club's Mixed Pairs Championship attracted 11 duos.

The championship also doubled as a State Championship qualifying event, with the best available pairs being sponsored for the tournament final held at the NSW home of bridge.

Jaan Oitmaa and Sylvia Foster had a comfortable five per cent win.

While first place was clear-cut, the battle for the other places was red hot.

Both pairs scored great percentages, with 0.7 per cent separating them.

Donelle Foate and Matt Raj Mal were second and Kevin Hughes and Carolynne Mucharsky third.

Results were:

1 Jaan Oitmaa, Sylvia Foster



286.7 (59.72 per cent).
2 Donelle Foate, Mal Matt Raj 262.2 (54.63).
3 Kevin Hughes, Carolynne Mucharsky 258.9 (53.94).
4 David Bowerman, Dasha Brandt 256.7 (53.47).
5 Judy Wulff, David Adams 243.3 (50.69).
6 Hope Tomlinson, Barry Foster 241.1 (50.23).
7 David Snow, Jenny Buckley

238.9 (49.77).
8 Elaine Hume, Peter Hume 227.8 (47.45).
9 Karen Ody, Jim Routledge 218.3 (45.49).
10 Wanda Little, Roy Cotton 207.8 (43.29).
11 John Drew, Denyse Stephens 198.9 (41.44).

SOURCE:
Social media, 7 May 2025
Brisbane Water Bridge Club

Umina defeats SEU in women's soccer

Umina has defeated Southern and Ettalong 2-1 in Round 6 soccer in Women's Premier League.

The local Peninsula derby was played under lights at James Browne Oval.

It was almost the dream start for the visitors Umina who hit the post in the fifth minute after a breakaway from Kiara Kelly.

Southern started strongly with slightly reshuffled player positions that helped their press high up the park with Larna Homer working overtime.

Umina hit the post for a second time in the 35th minute and had a goal disallowed two minutes later.

An evenly-matched game for most of the first half saw the deadline broken when Umina's prominent goal scorer Kate Styles found an over-hit through ball and capitalised with a well-placed finish one-on-one.

The second half started much the same, with both teams battling for control of the midfield.

The longer the contest went on, the more the game got physical as the Southern sideline protested for cards to be shown.

At 25 minutes into the second half, Umina doubled their one-goal advantage, when another through ball saw Tori Sheriff poke home the ball despite the Southern defender almost intervening.

Following an off-the-ball altercation, both Southern and Umina would have to play the final 10 minutes with a player down.

With time running out for the Lionesses, a freekick for handball was given in the 85th minute just outside the corner edge of the 18-yard box.

Emily Trengrove hit a superb strike that found the back of the net, above and beyond Umina's keepers reach to pull one back for Southern but the result would end in a 2-1 scoreline in favour of Umina.

Match official was Jeffrey Smith.

SOURCE:
Website, 13 May 2025
Central Coast Football

Mariner players help at under-10 SEU training

Central Coast Mariners players Isabel Gomez and Jessica Garrett have helped at a soccer training session for U10-U12 girls at Southern and Ettalong United Football Club.

They joined 30 girls for a night under the lights at James Browne Oval as part of Female Football Week.

"The energy, smiles, and inspiration were off the charts as our young players trained alongside two amazing role models from the Mariners," said club president Ms Stevie Skene.

"Nights like this remind us just how bright the future of women's football is at SEUFC."

SOURCE:
Social media, 8 May 2025
Southern & Ettalong
United Football Club

