

# Woy Woy waterfront cost blows out

Central Coast Council staff have told a council committee that the cost of redeveloping the Woy Woy waterfront is now estimated to be more than four times what was it was two years ago.

The \$1.2 million cost two years ago has risen to a “preliminary cost estimate” of \$5 million.

Staff gave a “high-level breakdown” in a report to the council’s community and culture committee last Tuesday, July 8.

Redevelopment of the Anderson and Pelican Parks would cost \$530,000.

The swimming pool enclosure redevelopment would cost \$1.35 million.

Redevelopment of Memorial Park would cost \$630,000.

The wetlands precinct would cost \$880,000.

Lions Park redevelopment would cost \$820,000.

“Preliminaries and contractor margin” are estimated at \$900,000.

The original redevelopment costs of \$1.2 million were to be paid from rates revenue.

The report states: “Council has secured \$1 million grant from the NSW Government via the Community Assets Program, to upgrade the Woy Woy swimming enclosure with the works to be completed by June 2026.”

It also states that the council’s capital works program for the current financial year has allocated \$589,879 for the Woy Woy Foreshore project.

The council’s budget documents no longer list the source of capital works funding, but the absence of

mention of a grant suggests this comes from rates-general revenue.

The report recommends that the detailed design phase of the project “develops a Foreshore Implementation Plan to identify timeframes and funding sources-opportunities, to develop the entire foreshore including budget allocation over the coming years”.

The committee was told that the revised estimates resulted from the engagement of landscape architect consultant Moir Studio last year “to undertake design services for Woy Woy Foreshore”.

The purpose was to finalise a concept design for the foreshore and to undertake a detailed design “to inform future development of the broader Woy Woy foreshore corridor”.

It included a review of the 2022 draft Woy Woy Masterplan.

The Concept Design Report prepared by Moir Studio is for the Woy Woy foreshore only.

It contains a number of variations from the 2022 plan.

Two options have been prepared for Anderson Park.

“Option 1 proposes a passive green space with seating improvements to utilise the existing shade within the park.

“Option 2, a sculptural deck, is proposed as an iconic feature as an alternate option for consultation.”

The design report proposes the closure of the eastern boat ramp, although it would still “be available to light watercraft that don’t require towing by a vehicle”, such as kayaks and dragon boats.

This would “improve public safety and avoid conflict between users of the park and use of the

boat ramps”.

The western boat ramp would be upgraded with a second pontoon.

Council staff commented: “The closure of the eastern boat ramp at Lions Park, may draw public concern during exhibition.

“In addition to upgrades of the western boat ramp at Lions Park, Council has upgraded the Koolewong boat ramp and car park, which is an east facing access point within a 3.5km catchment.”

The design report also contained an alternate design for Anzac Memorial Park, with an “Avenue of Honour” and relocation of the cenotaph.

However, after taking heritage advice, “the current layout of the Memorial Park has been retained”, with the need identified to prepare a Heritage Conservation Management Plan.

No changes were proposed to the Wetlands other than a raised boardwalk away from the roadside “to minimise desire lines through the wetland vegetation”.

No major changes were proposed were proposed for Pelican Park, with access and amenity improvements included in the concept design.

Council staff also reported that “the project scope will now include the preparation of an Aboriginal Cultural Interpretation report, to be reference in the detailed design of the entire foreshore”.

They recommended that the Concept Design Report be exhibited for 28 days.

SOURCE: Website, 8 Jun 2025 Community and culture committee agenda 1.8, Central Coast Council

## Local sports grants available to help groups grow and thrive

Peninsula sporting organisations can share in up to \$50,000 set aside for the Gosford electorate under the Local Sport Grant Program.

Grants of \$2000 to \$20,000 are available out of the \$50,000 available, said Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch.

She said that the program ensured that local sports groups could grow and thrive.

“The grants are all about the grassroots, organisations that play such an important role in growing local sport and participation.

“This vital funding helps our local clubs and their many volunteers

to provide more opportunities for people of all ages and abilities to enjoy the benefits of active recreation.

“With the critical role sport plays in keeping people healthy, active and socially connected, this funding is vital to community health, wellbeing and sense of identity.”

Applications close at 1pm on Monday, August 18.

Further information, including program guidelines, are available online via <http://penne.ws/6YMYFL>.

SOURCE: Media release, 10 Jul 2025 Joely Langmaid, Office of the Member for Gosford

Produced on the Peninsula

Peninsula news & advertising for the Peninsula community

## How well are we doing?

The Peninsula community has a population of the average council area in NSW: 40,000 people.

We believe a community of this size benefits from its own local newspaper as a source of reliable information, to foster community participation and to help hold public institutions accountable.

Peninsula News aims to serve as a single, trusted comprehensive local news source for our community with coverage that has depth and journalistic rigour.

How well do we do this? How can we improve, given our limited resources?

Readers will have the opportunity to discuss this and put forward their ideas at a meeting at 1pm on Wednesday, July 16, in the Spike Milligan Room at Woy Woy Library.

A discussion paper is available for people who may be interested in thinking about some of the issues before attending the meeting.

For a copy, email [editor@peninsula.news](mailto:editor@peninsula.news).

Mark Snell, 29 Jun 2025

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Next issue: Monday, July 28

Call us on 4342 5333 Email: [contributions@peninsula.news](mailto:contributions@peninsula.news)



Peninsula News  
Community Access

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

**Editor:** Mark Snell  
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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.

Echidna attempts to cross busy road

**NSW Health Pathology courier Ms Jade Mayhew was driving near Woy Woy recently, when she spotted an echidna about to cross a busy street.**

With some quick thinking and a call to Wires, Jade gently scooped up her prickly passenger and relocated him to safety.

Jade said she loved being out on the road, meeting people, and helping her community stay healthy.

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 5 Jul 2025  
NSW Health Pathology



Working bee

**Pearl Beach Arboretum will hold its monthly working bee on Sunday, July 20, from 9am to 12pm.**

The group usually meets on the third Sunday for the working bee, and an opportunity for new members and volunteers of the Arboretum to meet everyone and learn more about its conservation work.

Tools are provided, but those attending should bring their own gardening gloves, hat, bottle of water, and wear sunscreen.

The group meets at The Cottage at the Arboretum, at 69-71 Crystal Ave, Pearl Beach, at 9am.

**SOURCE:**  
Website, 7 Jul 2025  
Pearl Beach Arboretum

Scuba Gym to hold masked ball

**The Scuba Gym will hold a fundraising Masked Ball from 6:30pm to 11:30pm on Saturday, August 2, at the Umina Beach Surf Life Saving Club.**

A silent auction will be held in the lead-up to the evening.

Bids may be placed for luxury escapes and private experiences, wellness packages and one-of-a-kind treasures.

Every dollar raised will go directly to The Scuba Gym, supporting their work helping individuals with

physical and cognitive disabilities reclaim movement, independence, and joy using the weightless environment of water.

The evening will include a drink on arrival and a live "paella theatre".

There will be music, dancing and "stories that inspire and unite".

Tickets are available at \$80 per person, and may be booked at <https://tinyurl.com/5xyj7m86>.

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 2 Jul 2025  
Clean4shore

Most of July average rainfall in a week

**The Peninsula has recorded almost 80 per cent of its average monthly rainfall in the first week of July.**

A total of 62.2mm was recorded in the first seven days of the month, which has an average rainfall of 79mm, according to figures supplied by Mr Jim Morrison of Umina.

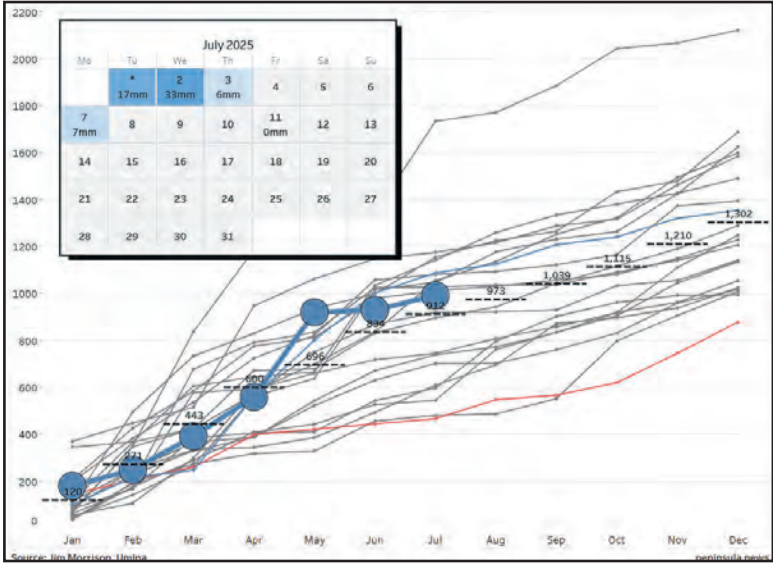
More than half of this was recorded on July 2, which had 32.5mm for the previous 24 hours.

Almost 50mm was recorded in the first two days of the month.

Year-to-date rainfall remains above average, with 989.6mm having been recorded this year.

This is 8.6 per cent above the average at the end of July of 911mm.

More details, including daily



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

**SOURCE:**  
Spreadsheet, 11 Jul 2025  
Jim Morrison, Umina

TIDE TIMES and Heights	Mon, Jul 14	Thu, Jul 17	Sun, Jul 20	Wed, Jul 23	Sat, Jul 26
	0533 0.11	0047 0.99	0401 0.75	0159 0.15	0420 0.08
	1107 0.79	0733 0.15	1001 0.22	0735 0.76	0957 0.82
	1650 0.17	1337 0.92	1642 1.14	1301 0.19	1538 0.14
	2311 1.15	1945 0.27	2345 0.25	1936 1.30	2154 1.21
AT ET TALONG	Tue, Jul 15	Fri, Jul 18	Mon, Jul 21	Thu, Jul 24	Sun, Jul 27
	0613 0.11	0143 0.90	0520 0.73	0251 0.11	0457 0.08
	1153 0.83	0817 0.17	1100 0.23	0828 0.79	1037 0.82
	1743 0.20	1436 0.99	1744 1.21	1358 0.17	1622 0.15
	2357 1.08	2101 0.29		2026 1.30	2232 1.13
	Wed, Jul 16	Sat, Jul 19	Tue, Jul 22	Fri, Jul 25	Mon, Jul 28
	0653 0.12	0248 0.81	0057 0.20	0338 0.09	0530 0.09
	1244 0.87	0906 0.20	0633 0.74	0915 0.81	1116 0.82
	1840 0.24	1539 1.06	1201 0.22	1450 0.15	1704 0.18
		2224 0.29	1842 1.26	2112 1.27	2308 1.03



# St John’s parish relinquishes bingo

The St John the Baptist parish finance committee has announced it has relinquished running bingo on the Peninsula after 71 years.

“There have been many changes since Dr Walter Baker set it up back in 1954.

“In that time, Housie has been run in three different locations with many dedicated volunteers.

“It is now time for the Parish to pass the baton.”

Disabilities charity Fairhaven at Point Clare has taken on Saturday night Housie, in addition to its current charity housie.

“Saturday night Housie is an integral part of the Peninsula and we want to see it continue,” the committee stated.

The committee acknowledged volunteers including Mr Rob Graham who has been promoter for 27 years, Ms Kiara Gapps, Ms Colleen Sharpe, Mr Luke Renehan, Ms Rosie Leek and Ms Sue French, who is retiring from Housie after 38 years.

“Most of the volunteers will continue on with Fairhaven,” according to the committee.

SOURCE:  
Social media, 4 Jul 2025  
Woy Woy Bingo



# Vietnam Veterans to hold memorial service

Vietnam Veterans’ Memorial Day will be commemorated at the Ettalong waterfront at 11am on Sunday, August 17.

Everyone is welcome to attend. Following the commemoration, Sub-Branch members will retire to Ettalong Diggers for a luncheon and concert featuring music of The Beatles.

Both are available to club members and the public, who may join veterans to revisit the music of

60 years ago.

The Ettalong office of the Vietnam Veterans Peacekeepers and Peacemakers Association of Australia has a stock of 50-year medallions as an “Acknowledgement of Service”.

Veterans not possessing a medallion may collect one from the office.

SOURCE:  
Letter, 10 Jul 2025  
Norm Harris, Umina

# Push bikes, trolleys found by divers

The Clean4Shore marine clean-up group pulled push bikes, scooters, an umbrella, an outboard motor and shopping trolleys from waters around the Peninsula with the help of volunteer divers from The Scuba Gym Australia.

On a very chilly morning, three volunteer divers joined coordinator Ms Lyndi Leggett and Clean4shore on the barge.

Departing Lions Park, Woy

Woy, the group’s first task was the two public jetties at Saratoga with push bikes and fishing tackle immediately coming out of water.

Visibility was very poor and the wind freezing, which prompted an exit to Woy Woy public jetty.

A good crowd was present, waiting for the ferry service as the team came across the shopping trolleys.

An outboard motor needed a little more muscle to retrieve, as did a Council street sign still with the concrete footing attached.

Fishing tackle, a camp stove, a plastic mat and a scooter filled the boat.

Smaller items were difficult to find due to the underwater visibility.

A total of 320 kilos was off loaded at Woy Woy Tip with the metal items to be recycled.

Scuba Gym completes monthly field trips with Clean4shore on Central Coast jetties funded by Central Coast Council.

SOURCE:  
Social media, 11 Jul 2025  
Clean4shore

# Population increase of 60 per cent lacks planning, say residents

PCentral Coast Council has recently adopted a strategy to increase the population of the Peninsula by 60 per cent over the next 10 years with insufficient planning, according to the Peninsula Residents’ Association.

The council’s Community Strategic Plan 2025 states that an additional 11,500 dwellings will be built on the Peninsula over the next 10 years, bringing the total number from 19,500 to 31,000.

This puts the Peninsula as the Central Coast’s biggest single growth area, bigger than the “greenfield” development at Warnervale, which provides 10,000 dwellings.

The Association says the

Council is embarking on this action on the Peninsula without any concrete planning, either at the strategic level or as detailed planning provisions.

By contrast, planning for Warnervale has received substantial attention and investment.

“No plans are evident to adjust the Council’s planning provisions to ensure, or at least encourage, the creation of liveable neighbourhoods to accommodate such extraordinary growth,” said association vice-president Mr Julian Bowker.

“Without detailed planning and robust planning processes, there is little standing in the way of the Peninsula becoming an unhealthy, poorly-served, struggling urban

area.”

Mr Bowker said that several council strategies and studies had recommended attention to the issues, even before growth figures of this scale were mooted.

“The Local Planning Panel has identified inconsistencies in planning provisions for the Peninsula, and has called for a strategic planning review.

“Instead, a planning review for the Peninsula, scheduled to take place three years ago, appears to have been abandoned.”

Mr Bowker said the consultant engaged to frame the council’s housing policy said the Peninsula was unsuitable for substantial housing growth, due to a lack of local employment and retail and other services to support such an

increase.

These had not been addressed, Mr Bowker said.

Other areas for which there was no concerted long-term planning included traffic and parking, drainage, open space, neighbourhood design, shade and urban heat, or emergency planning for a population increased by 20,000 people.

Mr Bowker said that 25 years ago State Labor Planning Minister Dr Andrew Refshauge was convinced of the need and funded a planning strategy for the Peninsula’s future.

“The resulting strategy is now obsolete,” said Mr Bowker.

“But the reasons for it remain today as they did then.”

The Association was calling for

a similar exercise to be undertaken before it was too late.

“The Peninsula community deserves a plan with meaningful objectives that are expressed clearly, succinctly, and demonstrably supported by concrete, budgeted actions.

“It should be a roadmap that truly builds resilience in the environment, community, governance, financial sustainability, climate action, and public trust.”

He said the Association had made these points in a recent submission to council.

Mr Bowker said it was a truism that “Failing to plan is planning to fail.”

SOURCE:  
Media release, 12 Jul 2025  
Julian Bowker, PRA

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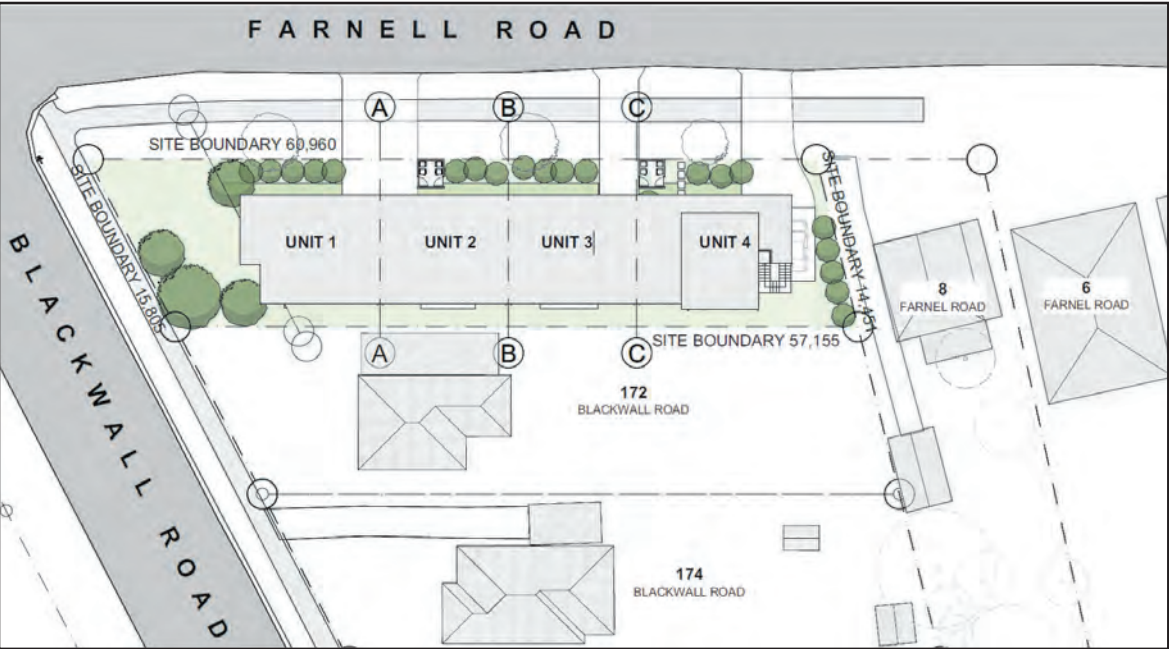
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The Ettalong bank is a major sponsor of 2024 Variety Bash car 26 “Ettalong Eagle”. Driver Barry Henson is pictured with bank manager Pat Italiano and staff member Jay Vandenberg.





# Application for four dwellings at Farnell Rd intersection

The Central Coast Council has received a development application for a four-dwelling development at the corner of Blackwall and Farnell Rds, Woy Woy.

The four attached three-bedroom two-storey dwellings would be built at 170 Blackwall Rd, one of five allotments previously subject to a proposal for a consolidation with an 18-unit development.

The intersection is among those included in the recently-started \$19 million Blackwall Rd intersections upgrade project, expected to be completed over the next two years.

The application, prepared by Osmond McLeod Architects for Amit-Manisha Holding Company Pty Ltd, states that each of the dwellings would feature ground floor living spaces, first-floor sleeping areas, and an enclosed single-car garage at ground level.

Unit 4 will also include a private rooftop terrace.

The exterior will combine masonry or render at the base with cladding, to give the appearance of timber or metal finishes, and skillion roofs.

The design is claimed to minimise direct overlooking of neighbouring properties, with living room windows facing the street and upper-level windows designed with high sills for privacy.

The site is a relatively flat, regular-shaped block of 828 square metres zoned R1.

The application states that the maximum building height for the area is 10 metres but the drawings show a maximum allowable height of 11.5 metres.

The maximum height of the proposal, at the roof over unit 4, is 9.165 metres.

Responding to the general two-storey limit applying within the zone, the application states: "The dwellings are two-storey with the minor exception of the roof over the rooftop."

No exemption from this requirement has been requested.

The proposed total gross floor area is 448 square metres, resulting in a floor space ratio of 0.54:1.

This is over the permissible ratio of 0.5:1, which would be 414 square metres for this site.

A "Clause 4.6 variation" for the increased size of 34 square metres, just under 10 per cent larger, has been requested for Council's consideration.

As a State Classified road, the minimum setback from Blackwall Road is mandated at 7.5 metres.

The application claims compliance because "the proposal has a stepped and varied front setback with the average meeting the 7.5 metre requirement".

"The minimum setback on the upper level is 7.2 metres while the lower (ground) level is nine metres."

The north-facing Farnell Rd setback has the required three-metre setback.

The application states that "as a corner location, the development does not have a rear setback" and that east and south setbacks are "generally compliant".

The proposal claims that 46 per cent of the site area as soft landscaping, exceeding the 25 per cent minimum requirement.

All landscaped areas are designated as deep soil zones.

The application claims that private open space areas provided for units 2, 3, and 4 are compliant, with approximately 35 square metres each at ground level and an additional 20 square metres on upper-level decks.

The planning provisions state a minimum area of 45 square metres is required with a minimum dimension of 4.5 metres.

"These areas are generally required to be located at ground level and must be directly accessible from a living area (other than a bedroom) within the dwelling."

However, exhibited plans do not show the position or dimensions of the private open space.

The application states:

"These areas are north-facing, uninterrupted, and connect to the dwellings, meeting the minimum requirements."

An arborist's report by Advanced Treescap Consulting states that six trees are proposed for removal.

A golden cypress is recommended for removal due to canker and failing the visual tree assessment.

A broad-leaved paperbark and a jacaranda on the property would be removed.

Three street trees on the Farnell St frontage would also be removed: two coastal myalls and a brush box, to allow for driveways.

The application proposes separate driveway access for each dwelling.

It expects traffic movements to be low, with minimal impact on Blackwall Rd.

Six trees are identified for retention: two broad-leaved paperbarks and six brush boxes, including three street trees on Blackwall Rd.

The application claims: "The proposed landscape plans allow for plenty of space for suitable replacement trees to be included, which will provide long-term amenity."

It states "two street trees are proposed to the frontage" and refers to the Landscape Plan.

However, no landscape plan is provided with the exhibited documents.

The application lists a requirement for "acoustic privacy": "Developments adjacent to potential sources of high levels of external noise shall minimise the entry of that noise through building design, window placement, noise attenuation measures and external wall treatment."

The application states that "The site is not impacted by unwanted external noise."

It is currently on public exhibition and open for written submissions until August 1.

SOURCE:

DA Tracker, 12 Jul 2025 DA/662/2025, Central Coast Council

# Council refuses three-unit townhouse development

Central Coast Council has refused a three-unit "gunbarrel" townhouse development at 7 Winifred Ave, Umina.

Concluding that "the application does not provide a suitable design for the site", the council's assessment lists 16 "unsupported variations".

Three of the unsupported variations related to car parking provisions.

These were the inability of vehicles to exit in a forward direction using a shared driveway, the lack of a car wash bay and a lack of suitable screening of car parking.

Commenting on the 281 square metres of concrete driveway, the assessment stated: "The proposal does incorporate excessive amounts of hard stand and insufficient landscaping on the site".

Seven submissions were received from the public, most complaining about the proposed removal of "significant mature trees" especially a large blackbutt at the rear of the property.

The council planner also commented: "It is considered that the design has not suitably addressed the possibility of retaining trees on the site or the possibility of providing suitable landscape areas to allow future substantial landscaping."

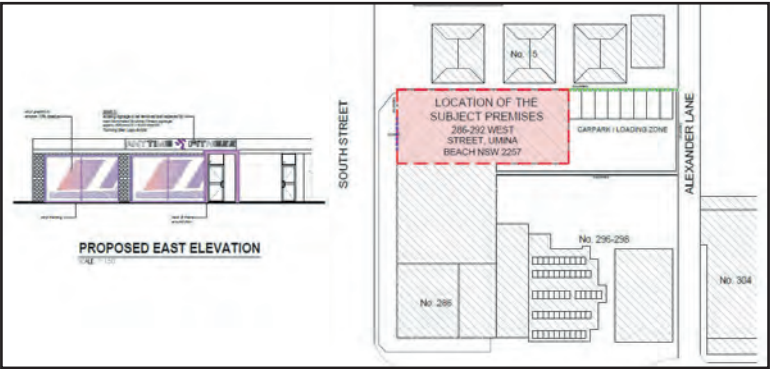
There were several instances of insufficient or missing information with every council officer to whom the application was referred (Water and Sewer, senior development engineer and tree officer) declining to support the proposal for this reason.

Other non-compliance issues were site coverage, setbacks, privacy, inadequate private open space areas, solar access, landscaping, storm water management and garbage and waste services.

The application was lodged on November 19 and put on public exhibition over December and January.

The official date of refusal was June 6.

SOURCE: DA Tracker, 13 Jul 2025 DA/1743/2024, Central Coast Council



# Fitness centre proposal for former fruit market

PAn application to use the former South St Fruit Market premises as a fitness centre has been received by Central Coast Council.

The application is for a "change of use, internal fit out and associated business identification signage for a recreational facility (indoor)" at Unit 1/286 West St, Umina.

The site fronts South St and has no frontage to West St.

It has an associated on-site parking with eight spaces, accessed via Alexander Lane.

The application prepared by Prestige Town Planning Pty Ltd on behalf of Anytime Fitness Umina states the business would operate 24 hours a day seven days a week.

The maximum number of staff on site at any one time would be three.

The fit-out would include a manager's area, an entry area, member lobbies, lockers, bathrooms, showers, change rooms including accessible facilities, training areas, strength

areas, weight training and functional training.

Noise abatement flooring, materials and finishes would be installed.

An acoustic barrier would be installed along the southern boundary of the rear car park.

The barrier is to be 1.8 metres in height with an additional 500mm x 500mm cantilevered extension.

Signage would include two illuminated wall signs, which are described as being on the "northern facade" while plans show one of them on the South St eastern frontage.

One would be 6.1 metres long and 600mm high.

The other would be a backlit door frame.

"Transparent graphic vinyl artwork" would be applied to windows on the street frontage.

The application is currently on public exhibition for written submissions until July 21.

SOURCE: DA Tracker, 13 Jul 2025 DA/803/2025, Central Coast Council



# Significant population growth not projected, says Cr Wright

Despite adopting a 10-year plan for an 11,000 extra dwellings on the Peninsula, Central Coast Council is “not projecting significant population growth in the area”, according to chair of the council’s governance and finance committee Cr Jared Wright.

His comments were made when calling on the community to make more use of the Peninsula Leisure Centre.

He said the council planned to spend \$2.5 million in the Peninsula Leisure Centre over the next three years.

“Investing in these assets is important, but it is also important that they are being utilised to their full potential,” Cr Wright said.

“User rates at the Peninsula Leisure Centre are continuing to increase, but Council is not projecting a significant population growth in the direct catchment area, so it is important that locals already in the area are taking full advantage of what is on offer.”

Cr Wright said improvements would include renewing the main changing room amenities, replacing

and upgrading the play space, and fitness and gym equipment, as well as improvements to the pools, spa, sauna and stream room.

“The Peninsula Leisure Centre is loved by the local community and is used for everything from school swimming carnivals, through to sporting competitions and general recreation for things like gym work and yoga.

He said the Council’s draft Leisure and Aquatic Strategy noted that there were opportunities for facility improvements including expanding the health and fitness centre to accommodate current and future demand, as well as enhancing energy efficiency at the precinct.

“As the facilities become more commercially self-sufficient, that is a win for the community as it means that Council doesn’t have to funnel costs from other parts of the organisation to fund them.

“We must continue to look at how we can attract more people to the precinct, by offering services they want that are affordable and easy to access.”

**SOURCE:**  
**Media release, 9 Jul 2025**  
**Jared Wright, Central Coast Council**

# Soup Kitchen Lunch to support food pantries

The Deepwater branch of the Older Women’s Network will be hosting a Soup Kitchen Lunch on Saturday, August 2, to raise money for three local food pantries.

The event will start at noon at the Ettalong Seniors Centre on the corner of Broken Bay Rd and Karingi St, with doors opening at 11:30am for check-in and a glass of champagne.

Speakers from Peninsula food pantries, Meals-on-Wheels, Hope and Meals Dinner at 6 Program and the Ettalong 50+ Leisure and Learning Centre will speak about their services.

The Madeline Stephenson Tap Dance Troupe will open the event.

The lunch will include homemade soup with freshly baked bread rolls and butter, followed by scones, jam and

cream.

Water and fruit juice will be available, and tea and coffee will be served with the scones.

The Troubadour Folk Club will provide music and entertainment throughout the afternoon.

There will also be raffles and a lucky door prize.

The entry cost is \$25 per person.

For further information and bookings, contact branch secretary Ms Jennifer Brown by phone on 0417 205 377 or email to jennib35@gmail.com.

The Older Women’s Network, Deepwater, belongs to a national group which advocates for the rights, dignity and wellbeing of older women.

**SOURCE:**  
**Media release, 5 Jul 2025**  
**Jennifer Brown, Deepwater OWN**

# Storytime at Umina library

Storytime for five to seven year olds will be held at Umina Library from 10:30am to 11:30am tomorrow, Tuesday, July 15.

The story will be Moxie vs Cat Memes with Crangan Bay author Andrew Dittmer.

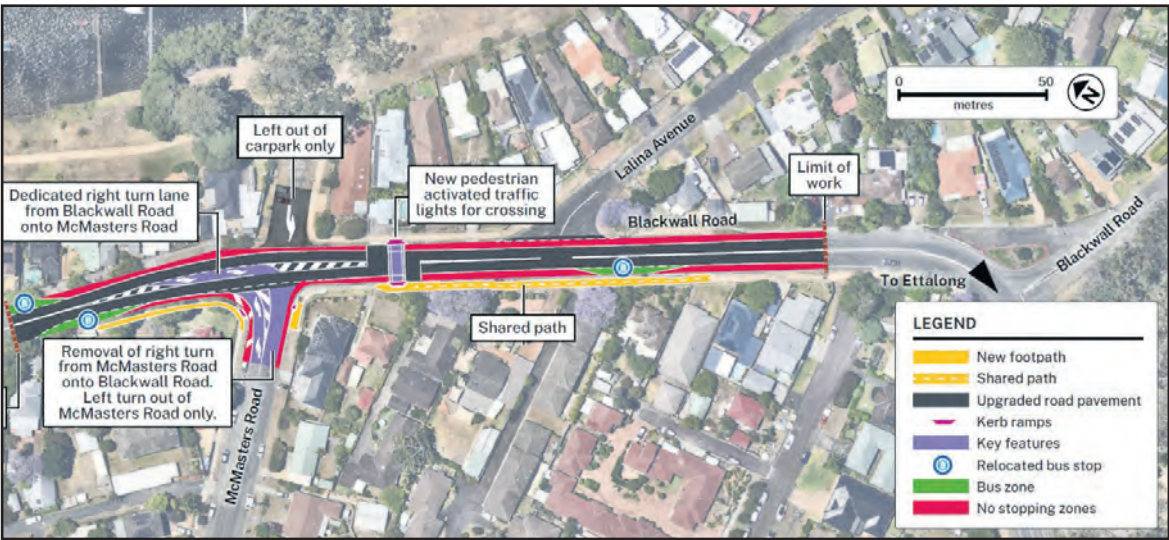
It is described as “a fun story” about Moxie, a dog whose owner

won’t stopwatching cat memes.

Afterwards those attending may create an activity bowl from air dried clay. The cost is \$8.

Bookings are essential, and may be made at the library or by phone on 4304 7333.

**SOURCE:**  
**Website, 8 Jul 2025**  
**Library Services, Central Coast Council**



# Road upgrade ‘fit for future’ increase in population

With Central Coast Council anticipating a 60 per cent increase in the number of dwellings on the Peninsula over the next 10 years, from 19,500 to 31,000 homes, the State Government is claiming that upgrades to three Blackwall Rd intersections will make it “fit for the future”.

Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch said: “As our community on the Peninsula grows, the Minns Labor Government is ensuring that our infrastructure is fit for the future, making sure that our community can get where they need to go on Blackwall Rd, without needless traffic delays.

“Blackwall Rd and Memorial Ave provide crucial links between Woy Woy, Ettalong, Umina and the suburbs on the eastern side of the Rip Bridge including Daleys Point and St Huberts Island.”

In a joint statement with Central Coast Minister Mr David Harris and Roads Minister Ms Jenny Aitchison, Ms Tesch said: “The upgrades will future-proof the Peninsula’s critical transport spine, ensuring this thriving community can expand without sacrificing liveability.

“The proposed upgrades aim to improve travel times and safety for all road users, ensuring faster and safer commutes for our community.

“This investment represents more than just concrete and asphalt.

“It’s about giving families back precious time with loved ones instead of sitting in traffic jams.

“It’s about local businesses thriving with improved freight access.

“It’s about creating safer streets for children walking to school.”

The \$19 million dollar project is focused on “three chokepoints”.

It will provide dual right-turn lanes from Maitland Bay Dr to Memorial Ave at the Maitland Bay Dr-Barrenjoey Rd roundabout.

Separate left and right-turn lanes will be provided for motorists exiting Gallipoli Ave.

New pedestrian-activated traffic lights will be installed on south side of the intersection with McMasters Rd.

A new right-turn bay will be created on the northern leg.

Both sides of McMasters Rd will only be able to turn left.

The design for the intersections

of Blackwall Rd with Allfield and Farnell Rds is currently being reviewed.

“The proposed upgrades aim to improve travel times and safety for all road users, ensuring faster and safer commutes for our community,” said Ms Tesch.

“As a vital link for our community, this investment plays a crucial role in supporting our communities’ connection and growth.”

Mr Harris said: “Population growth shouldn’t mean accepting gridlock as normal.

“These smart, targeted upgrades will unlock the Peninsula’s potential while making every journey safer and more reliable for the thousands of families.”

The project is expected to take two years to complete.

**SOURCE:**  
**Media release, 1 Jul 2025**  
**Liesl Tesch, Member for Gosford**



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News



Mary Mac’s appeal support ‘heartwarming’

The organiser of Mary Mac’s Place annual winter appeal has described the support from the local community this year as “heartwarming”. With the help of Wiseberry real estate, she dropped off over 700 kg of supplies to Mary Mac’s.

“The donations are doing more than just helping feed families,” she said. “It’s restoring dignity, warmth and hope for families doing it tough.”

SOURCE: Social media, 9 Jul 2025 Tammy Jakkett, Wiseberry

Airlifts requested

Helicopters were asked twice last week to help NSW Ambulance with people injured in falls. The Careflight Helicopter was tasked to assist NSW Ambulance after a person fell from a balcony in Pearl Beach on Sunday, July 6. Careflight was expected to land at Umina Oval but, due to incoming storm activity, it had to return to base. The patient was transported by road to Royal North Shore Hospital. Four days later, on Thursday, July 10, the Toll Rescue Helicopter was tasked to help NSW Ambulance with a patient injured in a fall down stairs at Booker Bay. The helicopter landed at Ettalong Oval and this patient was also taken to Royal North Shore Hospital.

SOURCE: Social media, 6 Jul 2025 NSW Central Coast Incident Alerts



Early Tree Day project

The Grow Urban Shade Trees group hosted an early project for National Tree Day on Sunday, July 6. The group planted eight trees on a street where a concrete footpath was recently installed. “The team was disappointed that trees had not been included in this project and requested that

Council install trees to provide shade for pedestrian comfort and safety,” said group member Ms Jen Wilder. “Council obliged by consulting with residents who lived along the length of the new footpath, which led to 11 requests for trees.” With the council unable to proceed with planting, the group took on the task, “not wanting to miss an opportunity for council-approved planting”. With the help of family, friends and supporters, eight trees were planted with another three coming soon. “We look forward to our Council initiating the Street Tree Pilot Program which will see more canopy trees planted in the near future.”

SOURCE: Social media, 8 Jul 2025 GUST

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Folk and Acoustic Music Club  
**Sun July 27, 2-5pm**  
**Paper Collar Pickers (WA)**  
**Bruce Watson (Vic)**  
Everglades Club Woy Woy  
Tickets \$20 members and \$25 non-members at  
[www.troubadour.org.au](http://www.troubadour.org.au)  
**4342 6716**

Soccer club holds RUOK round

Umina United Soccer Club is holding a “charity round” for the RUOK charity next weekend, Saturday and Sunday, July 19 and 20. “We’re supporting RUOK Day to raise awareness for mental health and suicide prevention,” said club president Mr Danny Nelson. The club is holding stalls at Umina Oval and Rogers Park over the next week, selling RUOK merchandise and holding guessing competitions and raffles. Stalls will be held at Umina Oval on Thursday, July 17, from 5pm to 7pm; on Saturday, July 19, from 9am; and on Sunday, July 20, from 9am to 3pm. A stall will also be available at Rogers Park tomorrow, Tuesday, July 15, from 5pm to 7pm. Adult size football socks and shoelaces will be on sale. There is a raffle, the opportunity to guess how many lollies are in a jar and to pick a number on the 100 Board.

SOURCE: Social media, 11 Jul 2025 Umina United Soccer Club



## Double bill at next folk club concert

The Troubadour Folk will present Melbourne singer-songwriter Bruce Watson and the Paper Collar Pickers from WA at its next concert at 2pm on Sunday, July 27, at the Everglades Country club.

"The Paper Collar Pickers play fingerpicking guitar music of high quality," said club president Mr Michael Fine.

"Rod Vervest is a seasoned fingerstyle acoustic guitarist, while Craig Sinclair is an award-winning singer-songwriter, guitarist and dobro player," he said.

"Together, this duo creates truly beautiful music in the style of such greats as Tommy Emmanuel, Chet Atkins, Ry Cooder and Leon Redbone.

"Their debut album, Peddling Rag, recorded in the Blue Mountains, will be available.

The second half of the afternoon will see Bruce Watson take the stage.

Over the last 30 years he has appeared at almost 200 folk festivals across this land.

Many of his original songs have been recorded by artists such as

Eric Bogle, Joe Dolce and other Australian and international acts.

"His keen sense of humour carefully captures the absurdities of life," said Mr Fine.

"A concern for people, the environment, reconciliation and for life's mysteries and ironies runs through his songs."

Both folk club members and non-members are welcome.

Bookings are essential and can be made via the Troubadour website [www.troubadour.org.au](http://www.troubadour.org.au).

SOURCE:  
Media release, 10 Jul 2025  
Bill Young, Troubadour Folk Club



## New theatre production starts next week

A play featuring characters with names from Chekhov plays will be staged by the Woy Woy Little Theatre group from Friday, July 25, with 10 performances over three weekends.

With slapstick and farce, "Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike" is promoted as having "recurrent references to Chekhov, Maggie Smith and TV shows of the past that

will delight your theatre wisdom", according to Little Theatre box office manager Mr Graham Vale.

He said that playwright Christopher Durang was known for his outrageous comedies that, underneath the absurdity, had profound searches for optimism and connection with others.

"The story told by the endearingly eccentric characters in this play show us why Durang is

a member of the American Theater Hall of Fame," he said.

The play has a cast which includes Andy Kabanoff, Darienne Knight, Yvonne Berry-Porter, Chris Cherry, Alicia Medbury and Jake Cain-Roser and is directed by Terry Collins.

SOURCE:  
Media release, 9 Jul 2025  
Graham Vale, Woy Woy Little Theatre

## Pearl Beach artisans in 'Creative Journey'

Seven Pearl Beach artisans will participate in the Central Coast Creative Journey Studio Open Trail from 10am to 4pm, Saturday and Sunday, July 19 and 20.

They will be exhibiting work from their studios and gardens with a selection of creative works.

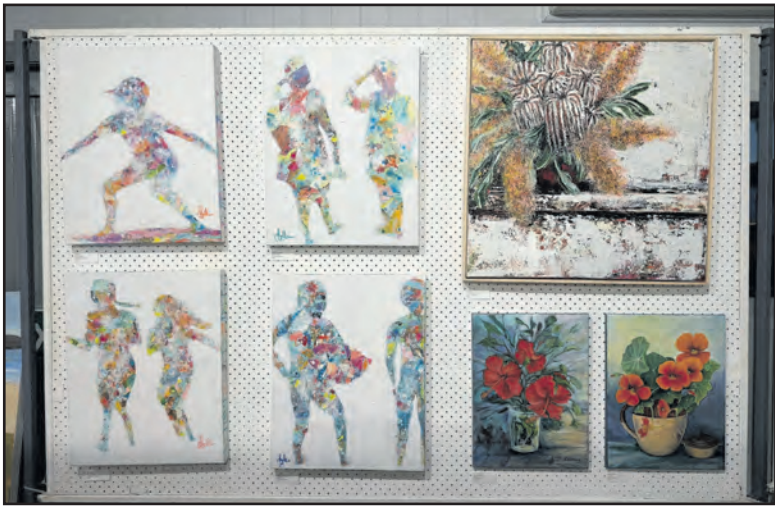
Visitors will be able to meet the artists in their home studios, book a workshop or purchase an original artwork.

Location maps will be available at the Memorial Hall, and outside the closed cafe.

The Creative Journey is an annual open studio art trail that celebrates artistic creativity across the Central Coast.

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

SOURCE:  
Media release, 9 Jul 2025  
Lynne Lillico, Pearl Beach Progress Association



## 'Amazing artwork' at the Bays Art Show

The Bays Community Art Show was held over the weekend of July 4-6.

Organisers were impressed with

the range of "amazing artwork" on display.

SOURCE:  
Social media, 2 Jul 2025  
The Bays Community Group

## Alba Tree celebrated at opening event

Pearl Beach Arboretum will celebrate its Alba Tree art project at the opening event from 10am on National Tree Day, July 27.

"Australia's largest annual nature care event, National Tree Day, encourages people to reflect on the role of trees in our lives, not just through planting, but by honouring, protecting, and reconnecting with the natural world, said Arboretum president Ms Mary Knaggs.

"The Alba Tree is a large steel structure, enhanced with driftwood.

"It is brought to life with handcrafted clay leaves made by members of the community.

"The project is inspired by the word Alba, meaning dawn.

"Like the first light of day, it represents growth, change, and



transformation.

"It will come to life over a two-week period as it is built and displayed in the heart of The Arboretum at Pearl Beach."

Bookings for places at the opening

event, which will include music and refreshments, may be made via a link on the Arboretum's website.

SOURCE:  
Social media, 7 Jul 2025  
Pearl Beach Arboretum

## Open days

Ettalong Beach Arts and Crafts Centre is participating in this year's Central Coast Creative Journey Studio Open Trail.

The Centre will have open days on Saturday and Sunday, July 19 and 20.

Potters and artists may be seen in action on the Saturday, with works available for purchase.

Jewellers, watercolour artists, quilters and potters will be in action on the Sunday.

SOURCE:  
Social media, 2 Jul 2025  
EBACC

## Help wanted at Coastal Twist Festival

The Coastal Twist Festival is seeking help to run this year's Peninsula-based festival which will run from Tuesday, September 30, to Sunday, October 5.

People of all ages, abilities, genders, sexualities and walks of life are welcome to give a few hours or a few days to help run the event.

Roles include marketing, volunteer coordination, admin

support, event production as well as on-the-ground festival support roles, including doors, stage management, venue setup, ushers, raffle crew, gallery minders, and fair day helpers.

Expressions of interest are also open for stall-holders at the Coastie Carnie Fair Day.

For further information, email [festival@coastaltwist.org](mailto:festival@coastaltwist.org).

SOURCE:  
Social media, 11 Jul 2025  
Coastal Twist Festival



# Roundabout upgrade not likely to relieve congestion

I am very sceptical that the upgrade being carried out at the roundabout at Maitland Bay Dr and Memorial Ave will provide much relief to the congestion at the intersection.

Plans as I see them do not properly address the issue. The rock wall on Blackwall Mountain has been cut back to allow an additional lane for traffic turning right from Maitland Bay Dr into Gallipoli Ave. This was never a problem as little traffic heads this way at the moment. There remains one lane from Memorial Ave turning left into Maitland Bay Drive (from Woy Woy). This does not alleviate the

confusion already experienced by traffic coming out of Maitland Bay Dr, turning either left or right. That is the main cause of traffic holdups at that roundabout in both Barrenjoey Rd and Maitland Bay Dr. Why on earth did they not provide a dedicated lane for traffic from Woy Woy turning left onto Maitland Bay Dr? Also, by banning right turns from Memorial Rd into Gallipoli Ave it will only cause traffic wishing to turn there to continue into the roundabout to come back to Gallipoli Ave. I really can't see much benefit from these roadworks.

SOURCE  
Email, 6 Jul 2025  
Peter Shortland, Ettalong

## Thank you for your nice eulogy for the V-set trains (PN June 30).

They will be missed. Nevertheless they were showing their age, and their toilets were not accessible for disabled passengers. Given the high regard in which these trains were held, they needed a worthy successor. In your article, our local State Member, Ms Liesl Tesch, has ticked all the right boxes with the new D (Mariyung) sets, with one very significant exception: the seats. Those non-reversible sets with the flip-down tray tables are widespread on UK trains now, and it's likely that the D-set seats were just copied from that. That's despite feedback that this type of seating would not be

popular with NSW passengers. A survey of South Coast passengers showed that 88 per cent were opposed to non-reversible seats. And the flip-down trays? That's because many UK trains have onboard catering even on short trips as it brings in revenue for the train operators. This has never happened on our interurban trains and there it little demand for it. From observation most people here are not using them. Dutch trains got rid of their flip-down trays as they saw little use and they can sometimes be a nuisance. NSW adopted US-style passenger carriages and seating from 1879 with the first end-platform cars with reversible seats (a US invention) as they suited our climate and operating conditions.

And that continues to the present day with the newest Waratah suburban trains. Tourists and visiting students think that these reversible seats are "brilliant". The failure to provide reversible seats in the D-sets is like ordering a Rolls Royce and having it fitted with Holden bench seats. I have already heard negative feedback from Coast locals about these seats. Still, it seems that Transport for NSW may have learnt its lesson as the new Regional Fleet trains (replacing the XPTs) will have Japanese Bullet Train style reversible seats fitted. Meanwhile, we will be putting up with the D-sets' seats for quite a while to come.

SOURCE:  
Email, 2 Jul 2025  
Bruce Stafford, Tascott

# New Education Department rules dismantle planning process

Once again, I am writing to alert our community to changes in state planning law that significantly reduces our say on new preschools being built on public school grounds. The changes go further than I had imagined. The November 2024 amendment to the State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infra-structure) 2021 effectively grants the NSW Department of Education unprecedented powers to self-assess and approve these developments, bypassing the traditional development application process administered by local councils. The fact that such a significant change to planning law has been largely ignored by the mainstream media is baffling and concerning. The government claims this will "cut red tape" and speed up delivery. What it really cuts is the community's right to a fair and transparent process. For years, the development

application process has been our community's guarantee of having a voice. It ensured that an independent body, our local council, assessed projects against local planning controls that protect our neighbourhood's character, manage traffic, and prevent overdevelopment. We had the right to view the plans, make formal submissions, and have the project judged on its merits by an impartial authority. This new system removes that independent umpire. The Department of Education, the same organisation that wants to build the preschools, now gets to mark its own homework. It will assess its own projects against its own internal guidelines. This creates a clear conflict of interest. Any organisation's primary goal is to deliver its projects quickly and on budget. This can easily conflict with the need to properly address local concerns about traffic, parking, noise, and building design. The three most significant

differences the community will notice are:

1. Less transparency: The process moves from a public DA portal to an internal departmental review.
2. Reduced Influence: Our feedback will no longer be a formal submission to an independent council, but rather "feedback" to the project developer itself. Unbelievably, complaints about a project are directed back to the Department's own project hotline.
3. Loss of local control: State-wide design templates will take precedence over our local council's specific planning rules that have been developed over years to protect our local character.

We all support the goal of more public preschools. But this should not be achieved by dismantling a planning process that protects the community's right to be heard. This change is a step backwards for local democracy, and our community will be the poorer for it.

SOURCE:  
Email, 12 Jul 2025  
Francis Wiffen, Woy Woy

# Transparency, accuracy and honesty is needed

**What is the role of Peninsula News into the future?** It is vital all issues be conscientiously discussed to maintain the standards of the Peninsula News. I was very pleased to read the lifelong achievements of Ken Dixon, supported by members and directores of Woy Woy and Ettalong Bowling Clubs. Similar recognition must continue in the future. The wake held at Ettalong Bowling Club was a tribute to Mr Dixon's lifelong achievements. The report in Peninsula News acknowledged the contribution Mr Dixon made to the Peninsula community without personal regard. He was a pillar of the Peninsula community without expectations of rewards. On the other side of the ledger is the effects of population growth and climate change, which remain unresolved. Allen Strom said many years ago: We do not learn from our mistakes. Who is prepared to oppose the words of the master? Have any levels of government tackled these confronting issues to date? No 1 priority for the Peninsula News is to maintain its very high standards, which will be attacked in the future as problems escalat. The pressure to downgrade transparency in the future should

not be under-estimated as new sustainability is intensely questioned by objective residents, dissatisfied with so called forward planning. Short term decisions are pointless. However political and financial dynamics dictate no other option. This fact must be accepted unless there are major changes, unexpected to me, in the future. There should be a community voice that is objective and independent to oppose subjective government and business opinions, supported by those who do not consider impacts on the Peninsula and it's residents. Edition 622 of the Peninsula News has shown this model is a success on the Peninsula. As I expect conditions on the Peninsula to deteriorate in the future, transparency, accuracy and honesty will be in greater demand in the future. Which other media source will provide this information to the Peninsula residents? Will residents adapt to serious matters in the future or will they be contented with community news? Councillor Jane Smith has advertised frequently in the Peninsula News. Would she advertise if the Peninsula News did not have its freedom of speech?

SOURCE:.  
Letter, 7 Jul 2025.  
Norm Harris, Umina

# Council trees plan is good news

The council plan to provide shade trees is good news. The list of selected trees and their location is the next bit we need. My home has a non-native tree in the "nature strip" polluting the area with annoying seeds. The wrong size tree will soon reach the power lines and need a

savage misshaping. I am 100 hours and \$200 into growing natives of this area to replace the xenomorphic misplacement. The native banksias and similar will fit under the power line without annual abuse. After the first year or two, they will not need massive supplies of

water during summer. Our birds will love the flowers. Their non-invasive roots will let me add rosemary and similar plants underneath for the culinary benefit of my friends in the area. What has the council planned for us?

SOURCE:  
Email, 1 Jul 2025  
Peter Moulding, Umina



### Nursing students sought

**Brisbane Waters Private Hospital is seeking final year nursing students for its 2026 graduate program.**

It will hold an information evening on Monday, July 28, which will include a tour of the hospital.

The evening will provide an overview of the New Graduate Program.

Registration for the evening is available through the hospital's website.

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 10 Jul 2025  
Brisbane Waters Private Hospital

### Health session

**In-home aged care provider Bolton Clarke will present a free health and wellbeing session at Umina library at 10am on Thursday, July 24.**

The session is part of Bolton Clarke's Be Healthy and Active program, which aims to provide practical advice and strategies to get the most out of life.

The session on July 24 will be about Managing Sleep and Fatigue.

Bookings are essential.

Further information is available at the library or by phone on 4304 7333.

**SOURCE:**  
Website, 8 Jul 2025  
Library Services, Central Coast Council

### Donation drive to support Escabags charity

**The Ettalong Diggers Foundation has announced its July Donation Drive in support of the Escabags charity.**

The Australian charity provides free "Escape Bags" to individuals fleeing domestic and family abuse.

"Ettalong Diggers is now a registered stockist, making these life-saving resources more accessible to those in need within our community," said Diggers' community manager Ms Kim Cole.

"The Foundation is calling on members, guests, and the wider community to donate essential items throughout the month of July.

"Donation bins are now located in the foyer of Ettalong Diggers, where people are encouraged to contribute new and unopened items suitable for the Escape

Bags."

Suitable items include travel-sized shampoo and conditioner, soap or shower gel, face cloths, toothbrush and toothpaste, deodorant, sanitary items, small first aid items, and notepads and pens.

"As a community-focused organisation, we believe in creating a safe and supportive environment for everyone," she said.

"This drive is a way for our members and guests to actively contribute to helping survivors take their first step toward safety.

"Every donation, no matter how small, can make a meaningful difference."

For more information, phone Ms Cole on 4343 0140.

**SOURCE:**  
Media release, 9 Jul 2025  
Kim Cole, Ettalong Diggers



### Jackie Bennett retires after 30 years

**A local aged care facility has farewelled its chief operating officer and deputy chief executive after 30 years of service.**

Peninsula Village's chief operating officer Ms Jackie Bennett retired on June 30.

"We were fortunate to celebrate Jackie's incredible legacy with a beautiful afternoon tea," said chief executive Mr Colin Osborne.

"It was heartening to see so many of there to make the occasion all the more special, even as we shared in the bitter-sweetness of saying goodbye.

"Jackie's warmth, leadership, and unwavering commitment to our community will be dearly missed.

"We wish her every happiness in her well-earned retirement."

A week of celebrations marked her farewell.

"From Annali's vibrant Samoan dance and Jerry's heartfelt performance at the residents' party to a maintenance team barbecue in their brand new shed, Jackie was sent off in style.

The celebrations continued at Ettalong Diggers with speeches from board chair Ms Jan-Maree Tweedie, Mr Osborne, and Ms Bennett herself.

Familiar faces, including former chief executive Mr Shane Neaves, also attended.

**SOURCE:**  
Newsletter, 30 Jun 2025  
Colin Osborne, Peninsula Villages

### Barbecue for cancer research and support

**Coastal Cruisers will hold a barbecue to raise funds for cancer research and services on Sunday, August 31.**

The barbecue with sausage and onion sandwiches, drinks and cakes and slices will be held at IGA

Umina.

EFTPOS will be available.

The group is preparing for its 2026 Tour de Rocks ride.

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 8 Jul 2025  
Coastal Cruisers



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Education

## Ettalong students offered free dental care

**Ettalong Public School students are being offered free dental check-ups over the next four weeks.**

A dental van provided by NSW Health is scheduled to visit the school from next Monday, July 22, to Thursday, August 14.

With a parents' and carers' consent, students are given a free dental check-up and free preventive care as part of a school-based mobile dental program.

"Many parents may not realise two important things about their children's teeth," said relieving deputy principal Ms Jane Crawford.

"Good oral health is essential for children to successfully learn and participate at school, and NSW Health offers free public dental health services to all children under 18 years of age.

"Learning and behaviour difficulties at school can start with

tooth and gum problems," she said.

"That's because decay and gum disease can cause pain and difficulties in eating, sleeping, talking, concentrating, and learning, which can in turn affect a child's behaviour in class.

"A child with tooth decay may feel self conscious about the way their teeth look and feel, making it harder for them to join in class and social activities."

A Parent Information and Consent Pack was sent home at the end of last term.

More information is available from Central Coast Local Health District's Primary School Mobile Dental Program at Wyong Hospital on 4394 4842.

**SOURCE:**  
Newsletter, 1 Jul 2025  
Jane Crawford, Ettalong Public School.



## Students have holiday practice exams

**Senior students at Brisbane Water Secondary College have kicked off their Trial Practice exams.**

They have elected to come in during the holidays and power through three-hour marathons with

focus and determination.

This was just one of the holiday activities provided by teachers at the college.

Others included investigating science, IT timber, S/C and ABST, ancient history, maths, CAFS,

visual arts, PDHPE, biology, dance and chemistry

Third term starts on Tuesday, July 23.

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 9 Jul 2025  
BWSC Woy Woy



## Students perform at dance festival

**Brisbane Water Secondary College has appeared at the Central Coast Dance Festival.**

Year 10 Dance students performed Paint, "rocking the navy costumes with strength and style", said Woy Woy campus principal Ms Rebecca Cooper.

"Year 11 Dance brought raw emotion and elegance with Another Love," she said.

"Dance teacher Ms Katrina Dillon dedicated almost every weeknight to support and guide our dancers, and that's not even counting all the behind-the-scenes work..

"We are seriously lucky to have such committed and inspiring staff."

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 2 Jul 2025  
Rebecca Cooper, BWSC Woy Woy



## New academic report format explained

**Umina Beach Public School has explained a new format for academic reports which have been emailed to parents and are available through the Parent Portal.**

"The new format has been developed by the NSW Department of Education in response to feedback from parents and educators to make reports easier to read and understand," said school principal Ms Karen Wardlaw.

"Teacher comments have been modified in line with department policy and will be provided for English, mathematics and the general comment section.

"For Kindergarten students, the general comment for Kindergarten also provides a short statement on all other key learning areas including, creative arts, HSIE, PDHPE, and science and technology.

"Achievement and effort scales have been updated, in line with department policy, and an overview is included on the first page of the report to describe scales.

She said that, while reporting on effort was not mandatory, the school would continue to include student effort in academic reports, to provide a clearer picture of students' progress.

"Parent-teacher interviews

remain an important way to discuss a child's progress and achievement in more detail."

After parents received their child's report, they were welcome to contact their child's class teacher if they wished to make an appointment to discuss their report, she said.

"To ensure parents and carers understand the new report template, we have provided a video overview for you."

Paper copy of the academic reports were also available from the school.

**SOURCE:**  
Newsletter, 2 Jul 2025.  
Karen Wardlaw, UBPS

## Register for external assessments

**EDWoy Woy South Public School is encouraging parents of Year 3- 6 students to register for a number of external assessments next term.**

The assessments are offered by International Competitions and Assessments for Schools, supported by the University of Sydney.

The online academic competition that gives students the opportunity to challenge their higher order thinking and problem-solving skills in English, mathematics, science, writing, spelling, and digital technologies.

Registration is available through the school's Parent Portal and closes on Monday, July 28.

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 9 Jul 2025  
Woy Woy South Public School



## Bush tucker garden started

**Year 7 "Technology Mandatory" students have planted a native bush tucker garden at Umina campus of Brisbane Water Secondary College.**

They are expecting to use the produce in cooking lessons next term.

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 4 Jul 2025  
BWSC Umina





## Woy Woy places 21st in swim championships

**Woy Woy Swim Club has come in at 21st place in the Combined Team Score at the Swimming NSW 2025 Short Course Country Championships.**

Kai Evans swam in the 11 years 100m Butterfly, Breaststroke and Medley Freestyle, in the 200m Medley, Freestyle and Breaststroke and in the 50m Breaststroke and Freestyle.

He set a new country record in the 100m Medley.

Haylie Green finished in the top 10 in the 17 and over 100m Medley.

Alex Hall swam in the 14 years 200m and 100m Butterfly and

finished in the top 10 in the 50m and 200m Freestyle.

Aimee Lockie swam in the 14 years 200m Backstroke and finished in the top 10 in the 50m Backstroke.

Savannah Maynier swam in the 17and over multi-class 100m Breaststroke, 200m Medley, 50m Freestyle, 100m Freestyle and Butterfly, and 100m Backstroke.

Levi Sinclair finished in the top 10 in the 14 years in the 800m Freestyle, and in the 100m and 200m Breaststroke.

In all, 25 personal best times were recorded.

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 7 Jul 2025  
Woy Woy Swim Club

## Cricket club to hold working bee

**Southern Spirit Cricket Club will hold a working bee from 9am on Sunday, July 20, at Rogers Park nets.**

Tasks include fixing the fence matting and tidying the area for the season ahead.

Those attending are asked to bring tools, if they have them.

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 10 Jul 2025  
Southern Spirit Cricket Club



## Two netball rep teams come third in State titles

**Woy Woy Peninsula Netball Association has both its 13s and its 14s representative teams finish third in the Junior State Titles.**

Playing over three days, from July 6 – 8, the 13s won 13 of 16 games, drawing one and losing two.

They were the only team in their division to come close to the eventual winners, coming away with a draw.

The team improved eight places from last year.

The 13s players were Ruby Chadd-Dufficy, Coco Hardy, Georgie Marshall, Emma McCunn, Khloe O'Neill, Harper Reidy, Indiana Robinson, Lila Stewart, Layla Tree and Hattie Wells.

Head coach was Donah Elliott, assistant coach Chelsea Barnes and manager Nichole Barnes.

The 14s team won 17 of their 19 games.

They also finished third and were the only team to defeat the eventual champions.

The 14s players were Grace Blacker, Edie Bonner, Ava Campbell, Aaliyah Farmer Dally, Matilda Kennaway, Chloe Mills, Leila Oxenham, Phoebe Pardey, Bridie Riddle and Andie Schokman.

Head coach was Zoe Wilson, assistant coach Tiah Santarossa and manager Jenni Blacker.

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 8 Jul 2025  
Woy Woy Peninsula Netball Association



## Surf medal

**Umina Surf Life Saving Club member Gavin Robinson has been recognised as one of 107 surf lifesavers awarded the prestigious National Medal in Medal Batch 53.**

Surf Life Saving Australia's National Medal acknowledges long and diligent service by individuals who put their lives at risk to protect and serve the community during emergencies and natural disasters.

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 9 Jul 2025  
Umina Surf Life Saving Club



## Consistency

**Ettalong Women's Bowling Club has named its Consistency Winner for the 2024-25 season.**

She was Anastasia Koutsellis. Runner-up was Michelle Browne.

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 8 Jul 2025  
Ettalong Womens BC



# WHAT'S ON at ETTALONG BOWLING CLUB

Gimme, Gimme, Gimme some magic after midnight! Get ready to channel your inner Dancing Queen and boogie the night away at the ABBA Tribute Show

Saturday, August 30th is the date—mark your calendars and come dressed in your best ABBA get-up! Let's see those flares and sequins shine.

Tickets are only \$20 for this fabulous night of fun! Hurry, they're selling faster than a Super Trouper light beam so don't miss your chance to sing along to all your favorite hits and create unforgettable memories! Grab your tickets NOW before they are all SOLD OUT!

Purchase from Reception or scan the QR code to book.

Our members have the chance on Friday 25th July to win another \$5,000 Travel Voucher in our Travel the World Promotion. Drawn at 8pm. This could be your chance to make lasting memories with friends and family with a luxury Flight Centre gift voucher.

Tooheys Hour of Power & Wine Time beverage offers are now available between 4pm – 6pm on weekdays & 3 – 5pm on weekends. A terrific members offer to end off a hard day or long week. We look forward to seeing you at Ettalong Bowling Club.



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



THE BEST-KEPT SECRET ON THE CENTRAL COAST



# SEU defeats Kanwal to stay at the top of the ladder

**Southern and Ettalong United has defeated Kanwal 5-2 in its round 12 soccer match played on Saturday, June 23.**

Southern is the only team to score more than four goals against the Bulls outfit this year and keep their spot on top of the ladder, one point ahead of Budgewoi.

Southern went on the attack straight away.

A well-struck free kick from Jacob Lepre wasn't able to be held by Kurtis Mahon and invited a 50/50 with Jack Ellwood which resulted in a corner for the home side.

From the resulting corner, a sharp delivery from Lepre was turned into the net by a Kanwal defender, giving Southern a 1-0 advantage.

Directly from the kickoff, Kanwal got the ball down to Logan Moore in the corner of the field.

He delivered a pinpoint cross into the middle where Cal Dunkerley met the cross with a diving header to quickly make the scores level again.

With the game in the balance, a good five-minute spell for Kanwal on the half hour mark put the SEU defence under pressure with two free kicks and a shot that just dribbled just past the post.

Southern had the ball in the back of the net when an Ellwood header from a Lepre free kick struck the post and bounced out to Theo Forsberg who ticked it home, only to see the flag raised for a dubious offside call on Ellwood.

However, two minutes later

Southern would take the lead once again.

Another corner was initially half cleared by the defence.

Lepre delivered a cross to the back post where Todd Balneaves rose and guided a looping header into the far corner of the goal.

Just before halftime, Noah Ajala lobbed a pass over the Kanwal defence to an onrushing Jayke Browne, who brought the ball down well with his first touch.

He tucked the ball past the goalkeeper with his second touch, giving Southern a halftime lead of 3-1.

Each side had chances once returning to the field for the second half, but it was the home side that would further their advantage with a goal in the 63rd minute.

A good ball over the defensive line from Ajala allowed Jacobsen to again get in behind and this time he made no mistake, coolly slotting the ball past Mahon.

Southern made it five 20 minutes later, when a deep cross from Ajala found Lepre on the edge of the area.

A good first touch took him past the defender, and he rifled his shot into the roof of the net.

With time running out, a corner whipped in to the far post found Jason Cozens completely unmarked and he easily converted the chance with his head as the score finished 5-2.

Match official was Jason Blackwood.

**SOURCE:**  
Website, 30 Jun 2025.  
Central Coast Football



# Rugby junior teams wear pink socks

**Woy Woy Rugby Club has held a pink sock day for its juniors, with many of its team wearing pink socks during games.**

The day was held to show support for anyone who was facing cancer or knew someone who has been affected by it.

"Wearing pink helped spread

the message that we care and that we stand together as a team," said juniors vice-president Ms Biana Plunkett Gooley.

"It was a great chance to show kindness and make a difference in our community."

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 11 Jul 2025  
Woy Woy Rugby Club



# Everglades minor singles final played

**The 2024-25 Everglades Men's Minor Singles final was contested on Friday, July 4.**

The match had to be rescheduled as the greens were closed due to the East Coast low that struck the Peninsula during the week.

The contest between Greg Linnert and Kevin Hughes ran over 30 ends.

Midway through, Greg held a four-shot lead.

However, Kevin won some consecutive ends to stay right in the game.

Greg led by just a single shot after Kevin picked up a three on the 29th end.

On the 30th end, Kevin was holding, but Greg was able to draw and take the shot with his last delivery.

The final score was Greg Linnert

25 defeating Kevin Hughes 23.

This was the last event in the 2024-25 Everglades program.

The 2025-26 program is already underway with the Men's Major Singles, being the first event under way.

Pictured are Kevin Hughes and Greg Linnert.

**SOURCE:**  
Media release, 5 Jul 2025  
Grant Ireland, Everglades Men's Bowls

# Semi-finals of Umina handicap pairs

**The Umina Beach Men's Bowling Club has played the semi-finals of its 2025 Handicap Pairs Championship on Sunday, July 6.**

"What a great afternoon we had for the semi-finals: Sunshine, quick greens, cold beers and some great bowls," said club secretary Mr Peter Springett.

In the first semi-final, Allan Rhodes and Mark Hogden played Brian Butterworth and Jazza Bates.

It was a match with "one old bloke with a bowling arm playing with a younger bloke with yellow bowls, playing against another old bloke with a bowling arm playing with a younger bloke with yellow bowls".

"As expected, this was a great game, which was won by Brian Butterworth and Jazza Bates."

In the other semi-final, Ken Robertson and Dave Whitfield played Lindsay Hicks and Kevin Bettridge.

"Lindsay and Kev picked up five shots on the third end, which meant that Ken and Dave were playing catchup from early on in the game."

"Lindsay and Kev then picked up four shots on end 11, six shots on end 15 and another four shots on end 19 to win the game."

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 6 Jul 2025  
Peter Springett, UBMBC

