

Latest lung surgery comes to Peninsula

Brisbane Waters Private Hospital will perform the first lung function reduction surgery on the Central Coast next month.

The surgery is aimed at improving the quality of life for emphysema sufferers.

The procedure was only recently pioneered in Sydney.

Brisbane Waters Private Hospital chief executive officer, Mr Graham McGuinness said the hospital has been responsible for introducing a high level of hospital care in the area.

He said the hospital had

established itself as the Central Coast's critical care centre and the Peninsula should be proud to have such a first class facility available.

The hospital also performs bypass surgery and cardiac angiography.

Deepwater Plaza celebrated its 15th birthday recently with a wide variety of activities and prizes.

The major prize of a 3.8 metre Stessco Bass Trailer boat and Boeing 12 trailer fitted with a 15 HP Mercury outboard motor and \$200 worth of fishing gear was won by Joe Richter of Ettalong who correctly guessed the weight of a Jewfish at 15.2 kg.

The birthday cake was cut by 2GO celebrity Michelle the Roadrunner and fishing expert Steve Starling (pictured) from the Rex Hunt Fishing Show.

Plaza celebrates 15th birthday



Library expansion is planned

Council has set aside \$980,000 to extend the existing Woy Woy library significantly.

Mr Alan Flores, Gosford Council's library services manager, says "It won't be worthwhile unless the building is expanded to at least double its current size".

The expansion will probably take place by absorbing the parking lot behind the current library and possibly the council offices to the side of the existing building, he said.

The fire station on the other side will remain.

"We want to do a good job once and the new facility will be technically up to date with re-wiring and Internet access," he said.

"We hope to have the new building complete by December 2000, but anything can happen."

Mr Flores said the completion date relied on many factors.

"We want the building to retain its heritage value and perhaps become of central historical value and it will take about 12 months to build after final approval," he said.

Council's Building Committee is looking at ways to retain the building's historical appearance.

Mr Flores said the new building would probably remain single storey to enable disabled, the very young and elderly easy access to the library's holdings and to restrain cost.

OPINION SOUGHT:

Is another youth centre needed?

Gosford Council has sought public opinion on the need for another youth centre on the Peninsula.

Council's Building Committee has employed consultants, CD Recreation Services, to gauge public sentiment.

The Building Committee wants to ensure the present Peninsula Community Centre; the Police Citizens Youth Club and the proposed youth centre will cover the needs of residents.

CD recreation Services had been conducting surveys at Woy Woy Pool in early April.

Gosford Council's acting recreation facilities manager, Mr Ian Rhodes, said council did not get a large response from the surveys.

"We didn't get a huge response from the surveys which we left at Peninsula schools, libraries and at the pool, but what we did get back were constructive," he said.

"A draft report is due on my desk next week."

Mr Rhodes said the survey was to see if another youth centre was viable.

While not wanting to pre-empt the report's findings, he said the youth centre at Osborne Avenue in Umina and the Web at Woy Woy already cater for 'at risk youth' and the new centre may be for other youth.

"Many Peninsula areas were being considered, including combining the new centre with the existing Woy Woy Pool to create a wet and dry indoor multipurpose recreation centre," said Mr Rhodes.

Gosford Council would build the centre.

Council is considering the option to lease the centre to the private sector to run.

The centre may have a cafe, kiosk, child minding facilities and a large area for basketball courts or other indoor activity.

Funding would come from council's allocation of \$1.5 million towards youth on the Peninsula and at Kincumber.

Theatre to be built during next year

The Peninsula will gain its first purpose-built theatre mid-way through next year.

The \$700,000 performance based theatre will be used primarily by the Woy Woy Little Theatre group but will also accommodate seminars and chamber music recitals.

It will be located in McMasters Road with the Community Centre.

The architect is Don Neil, who designed the Laycock Street Theatre.

The Peninsula theatre will be on a smaller scale than the Laycock Street Theatre and will have raised seating for 120.

Barbara Hickey, treasurer of the Woy Woy Little Theatre group says they have been "waiting 38 years for this to happen".

"We expect the theatre to be finished by about July or August

2000 but of course that depends on any red tape.

"Councillor Lynne Bockholt, with help from Councillor Judith Penton, has worked on our behalf.

"The building will start in about October this year," she said.

The group formed in 1962 and for the last 14 years has used the Woy Woy Primary School hall.

The hall has flat seating and little space for prop storage and dressing rooms.

Gosford Council set the land at McMasters Road aside in 1975 and plans were drawn up for a theatre at the time but the arrangements fell through.

The plan to incorporate the theatre with the community centre was revitalised two years ago and the new plan is, according to Barbara Hickey, "set in concrete".

Detectives unlikely to return

The re-instatement of detectives at Woy Woy police station is not likely, according to Member for Peats Marie Andrews.

Calls from Liberal candidate Debra Wales in the March election were unlikely to affect the situation.

The detectives were originally removed due to the Royal Commission into police corruption findings, said Ms Andrews.

The commission found that small groups of detectives were more open to corruption than when they were placed in larger groups, she said.

"Central Coast police did not end up with a good record from the commission", she said.

She said the centralisation of detectives and pooling of resources into a regional group in Gosford was more efficient in response to crime and was saving the taxpayer many millions of dollars.

Gosford, Terrigal and Woy Woy detectives now all work in Gosford as Brisbane Water police.

"Overall numbers haven't been depleted," said Ms Andrews.

"At first there was some resistance from the old hands but the younger police coming through find the newer system to be better

"A duty officer is now available 24 hours a day," she said.

Ms Andrews also said the new call centre for non-urgent reporting of crime was freeing up local police and detectives for more urgent matters.

Civilians in Sydney's Campbelltown staff the call centre and victims of minor crimes can officially record misdemeanors on a toll free number.

Ms Andrews said a similar call centre, the first outside Sydney, will be set up on the central coast creating 170 well needed local jobs.

Major sponsor for this issue is

the Gosford office of the

NSW Department for State and Regional Development

Level 3 The Kinsman Building, 131 Donnison Street, Gosford Phone 4324 2300 Fax 4324 2698



Peninsula COMMUNITY ACCESS News

Welcome to the second issue of the *Peninsula News*, the new monthly newspaper for the citizens of the Peninsula - now on "the web" as well as in print!

This month our major sponsor is the Gosford office of the NSW Department of State and Regional Development.

The paper is a non-profit venture, written by Peninsula residents for Peninsula residents. This means that anyone can express an interest in becoming involved. It is truly your paper.

The newspaper is published by the Peninsula Community Access Newspaper Inc, a community-based non-profit association. Your support in becoming a member, just \$5 a year, would be most welcome.

The association's aims are:

- To provide a viable news medium exclusively for the Woy Woy Peninsula.

- To engender a sense of community on the Peninsula.
- To provide a voluntary community activity where participants mix with a broad cross-section of the community.

- To provide training opportunities for youth and the unemployed.
- To provide an avenue through which retired people may continue to make a valued contribution to the community.

- To provide a forum for personal expression.
- To provide a skills or assistance "exchange", where people can offer to teach their skills or give assistance and in return seek help and teaching from others.

The association's committee sets the paper's policy. For instance, it is policy that around 75 per cent of the content of this paper is local news.

This 12-page issue has the equivalent to 36 pages of a suburban newspaper with a 25 per cent news content.

The committee has sub-contracted sponsorship and newspaper production to local resident.

Cec Bucello The committee currently includes people with experience in journalism, community development, labour market programs and education.

Your participation in the newspaper is welcomed, whether it be as a contributor, a voluntary writer or production person, a member of the newspaper association, a subscriber or a sponsor.

Please contact us to discuss our writing guidelines if you intend submitting an item for publication.

Deadline for the next issue of Peninsula News is close of business **Wednesday, May 19.**

Mark Snell, President
Peninsula Community Access Newspaper Inc.

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Sponsorship & production: Cec Bucello

Contributors: Lynne Bockholt, Joan Fenton, Kerrie Friend, Jeannie Lawson, Jamie Pocock, Mark Snell, Carl Spears, Debra Wales, Matthew Wales.

Print run: 10,000.

(Extra copies may be ordered by clubs and businesses for their own distribution at about \$100/1000, depending on numbers of pages and printcolors.)

Legal responsibility for editing, printing and publishing, and election comment in, Peninsula News is taken by Mark Snell of Homan Close. Umina, for Peninsula Community Access Newspaper Inc.

Teeth like the Third World

Are we living in the Third World?

Well, if you look at our children's teeth, you might think again.

Gosford Shire children, under the age of six, are consistently suffering from elevated rates of decayed, missing or filled teeth (DMFT).

Sydney children have DMFTs of less than one.

Countries like Papua New Guinea and Mongolia have DMFTs of four to six.

Gosford lies somewhere in the middle.

It seems that our children are paying the price, due to the high sugar content found in our highly processed Western diets.

There has been a steady increase in sugar consumption since the early 1900s with a resultant increase in tooth decay.

Regular check-ups, oral hygiene awareness and use of fluoridated tooth pastes have kept our shire's decay rate below the Third World.

Letters to the editor

Letters to the editor are welcomed and should be addressed to *Peninsula News*, PO Box 585, Woy Woy 2256. Contributions in Word format sent via e-mail to openwin@openwindows.com or on disk save us having to retype them.

Yet, is there a cost-effective way to go that extra step?

On September 17, 1977, a referendum voted against the introduction of water fluoridation in Gosford Shire.

It seems that the repercussions of this decision are still being felt today.

Daily bathing of tooth surfaces with extremely low levels of fluoride (one part per million or less) has been shown to be the most cost-effective and efficient way of preventing decay.

When a tooth erupts through the gum and comes into contact with food and saliva, it is at best

60 to 70% mineralised (resistant to decay).

The remaining 40% is acquired over the next three years and it is water fluoridation that aids this process and is the most cost effective.

It also helps maintain the toughness of our teeth through life, preventing tooth decay in the aged.

It is unbelievable that as we approach the new millenium, the City of Gosford is still dragging its feet on some issues of public health.

Brian E Freeman
Gino B Perrone
Umina

One Nation calls for refugee billets

The hapless plight of the refugees from Kosovo parallels that of the Jews in Nazi Germany and territories prior to 1941.

The Nazis were content enough to force these people out until the world closed its borders to them, and this is when the exterminations began in earnest.

If ever there was a case for helping genuine refugees then this is it.

Australia, to its credit, took proportionally more Jewish refugees than most countries prior to the outbreak of war, and there would be many descendants of these people living on the Peninsula today.

We need to do more than pay

lip service to our ideals of mateship and giving the battler a fair go.

Perhaps, through your paper, you could compile a list of those on the Peninsula who would be willing to billet some of these people, should the Federal Government ever consider this option in the future.

Craig Spears President
Robertson Branch One Nation

Groups work on our local environment

Several groups on the Peninsula are working to improve the environment.

The three Bushcare groups (Blackwall, Woy Woy and Umina) have on-going bush regeneration projects and always welcome volunteers.

These groups are supported with training and equipment from Gosford City Council.

There are two main sites for the Clean & Safe Water Team, one at Correa Bay and the other, Pearl Beach.

The aim of this project is to monitor water quality in selected areas over a period of time, as well as erosion and siltation.

It aims to improve environmental education and encourage public participation.

The Correa Bay Water Quality Management Committee is also

The Environment

with Jeannie Lawson

This column will give reports and updates on current projects. If you have a project or a special event you would like mentioned or discussed, please contact Jeannie Lawson on 4341 4291.

conducting a separate scientific study investigating pollution levels.

One environmental project, begun 23 years ago; has become a natural asset to the Peninsula.

The Pearl Beach Arboretum provides an accessible respite with a number of habitats such as wetlands, dry sclerophyll forest and palm grove, linked by walkways and bridges.

It is home to platypus, lyre birds, brush turkeys and has a resident koala.

The arboretum is open every

day for self-guided walks a working bee is held on the third Sunday of each month to maintain the area.

Following successful walks on other local beaches during the summer Pearl Beach and Umina Beach will shortly play host to guided rock pool walks, which aim to educate the public about the beautiful yet fragile inter-tidal zone.

These will be a forerunner to the Project Aware seminars to be held soon on the Central Coast by CoastCare.

Fancy yourself as a writer?

Would you like to join the hard working team of writers at Peninsula News?

There's so much going on around the Peninsula and elsewhere affecting Peninsula residents that we can't get to it all.

As a community based newspaper owned by a non-profit association, our aim is to keep the community informed of everything that is going on.

To do this, we need your help.

If you have ever fancied being a reporter and have the enthusiasm to seek local news, we would like to hear from you.

Experience is not necessary and the amount of work that you do will be up to you.

If you belong to a community group that would like publicity, we would also like to hear from you.

If it's happening on the

Peninsula, we want to know about it.

Call the Peninsula News office on 4344 6543 or send us a fax on 4344 6487.

You are also welcome to join us as a member of the Peninsula Community Access Newspaper Inc, the non-profit incorporated association which owns the Peninsula News, for just \$5 a year.

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Foster carers are sought

Short-term and long-term foster carers are being sought for a number of children and young people on the Peninsula.

A typical example is "Jane", a teenage girl who goes to a Peninsula school and is dealing with normal teenage issues.

In her case, Jane cannot live with her family for a variety of reasons and so needs another family to support her while she

completes her schooling and attempts to become a young adult leading a normal life.

Unfortunately, Jane is only one of several children and young people on the Peninsula who currently need families to live with because they are unable to return to their own families.

The NSW Department of Community Services (DoCS) is now seeking expressions of interest from people who could

care for children and young people like Jane.

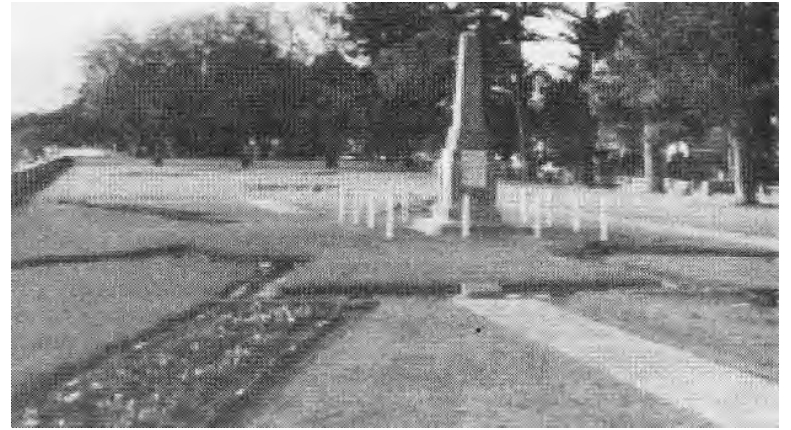
As well as long term care, DoCS also need carers on a crisis, short term and respite basis.

Training, remuneration and support is offered to foster carers.

The Central Coast Substitute Care Service at Woy Woy coordinates and supervises these placements.

For further information, call Carol van der Gaag on 4341 7738

ANZAC Day 1999



Hospital organises campaign for Heart Week

A number of activities will be held on the Peninsula for Heart Week from May 2 to 8.

They have been organised as part of Brisbane Waters Private Hospital's community health campaign.

Deepwater Plaza will host events from 9am to noon on Monday, May 3, including a line dancing display, free blood pressure checks and chest pain emergency service information and registration forms.

Colouring-in competition entries from local schools will be displayed and the winner announced at 10am by local artist Paul Haggith.

Brisbane Waters Private Hospital hosts events for Tuesday, May 4 Starting 10am, North Sydney Bears, Jason Taylor and Steve Trindell will participate in healthy heart assessments, Gosford mayor Cr Chris Holstein will sign up as a chest pain registrant and free cholesterol checks will be conducted by

Douglass Pathology. A cardiologist will attend cardiac assessments of guests.

On Wednesday, May 5, staff from the hospital will attend local clubs offering free blood pressure checks and information on chest pain emergency service: Woy Woy Bowling Club 11.30am to 12.30pm, Everglades Country Club 12.30pm to 1.30pm, Ettalong War Memorial Club 1.45pm to 2.45pm.

The hospital will provide a free "healthy heart breakfast" from 7 to 10am on Thursday, May 6.

Free cholesterol checks will be held by Douglass Pathology.

On the Friday, the hospital will hold a focus group of heart surgery patients over the past six months, a sharing of information and suggestions over morning tea at 10.30am.

Staff lunchtime walks will be held at noon and 12.45pm.

Club plans Anzac Day activities

The Ettalong Beach Memorial Club has a special day organised for Anzac Day.

From 4.40am buses travel to the club picking up those wishing to go to the dawn service and then leave the club to go on to Memorial Park at Woy Woy to arrive by 5.20am.

Dawn Service takes place at 5.30am after which the buses return to the club for a free breakfast. The breakfast is served by club management and staff who come in at no pay to do so as a

special gesture.

At 9am, buses again take all comers to Woy Woy Memorial Park for the march which commences at Deepwater Plaza at 10am.

A service is held from 10.30am till 11.15am after which, the club's entertainment centre will open for a special family luncheon and show.

At the same time, the RSL Luncheon commences in the Seaview Room. At 12.30pm, the Anzac variety show commences.



Unknown Soldier

Do you know this person? This photograph was taken to Bowens Photographics in Deepwater Plaza some time ago for touching up and enlargement but was not picked up. The name left was Carlson. Can you help us return this valuable photograph to its rightful owner?

Differential rating rejected for Woy Woy Tip

Central Coast Waste Planning and Management recommends the implementation of a differential pricing strategy at Woy Woy Tip to encourage the sorting of recyclable waste.

Recyclables such as car bodies, whitegoods and metals should not be charged while items such as excavated natural material should be charged a small rate of about \$10 per tonne.

Special and hazardous wastes such as shredded tyres and asbestos should be charged at \$95 per tonne said the waste planning board.

Council said differential pricing was not feasible because the current severe lack of space means the storage and processing of sorted products would be near

impossible.

Council currently charges \$55 per tonne of mixed waste.

The Waste Planning board then suggested that this rate be increased to match Wyong Shire's rate of \$58 per tonne to discourage waste being brought in from outside the area.

Council will introduce the new rate for the 1999/2000 financial year.

Booker Bay meeting

A meeting to discuss Booker Bay foreshore land will be held at the Ettalong Beach Senior Citizens Centre this Thursday at 7.30pm.

Member for Peats, Marie Andrews, will chair the meeting.

Guides in Anzac march

Ettalong Guides will be participating in the Anzac Day march and service at Woy Woy and are also planning to go dolphin watching in April.

Gosford City Council has recently paid for and installed a new disabled entry ramp for the Ettalong Guide Hall.

The Guides are collecting corks

for an on-going recycling program.

Congratulations to Jessica Morrell who will be receiving her BP Award on May 8.

Ettalong Guides meet at the Ettalong Guide Hall, Memorial Ave, Ettalong, on Wednesdays, girls 7 to 10 years from 4:30 to 6pm and girls 10 to 15 from 7 to 9pm Contact Mrs Phyllis Thomas on 4341 2264 for further information ..

Anzac events at bowls club

The Ettalong Memorial Bowling Club will hold special events on Anzac Day.

The bar will open from 8am. At 8.45am, there will be a Rum Parade and Men's morning bowls will start.

A free breakfast will be available at 9.15am and a free barbecue lunch will be served from 11.45am.

A service will be held at the flagpole at 1.15pm followed by free entertainment in the lounge area

from 2pm to 6pm provided by Sync or Swim.

At the same time, games of two-up will take place in the auditorium with proceeds to be donated to Legacy.

Free food will be available from 2.30pm onwards and the courtesy bus will take members and their guests home from 4pm.

Bockholt calls for Peninsula Beach watch

The local area should involve itself with the State Government's Beachwatch program says Councillor Lynne Bockholt.

Councillor Bockholt made the suggestion after approaches by concerned residents.

"I think the program is vital. It has credibility," Cr Bockholt said.

The Beachwatch program currently samples water to monitor the amount of faecal coliforms and enterococci in recreational swimming areas, to see if they are safe places to swim.

The Beachwatch program provides daily assessments of pollution levels at major swimming areas.

Umina and Pearl Beach would be part of the local program.

Faecal coliforms and enterococci are indicators for faecal contamination, which in most cases comes from sewage.

While the Peninsula is considered not to have a significant sewage problem, stormwater run off is also a threat to water quality says Environment Minister Ms Pam Allen.

Cr Bockholt agrees.

"Currently, no environmental beach monitoring is done," said Councillor Bockholt.

"There are no figures at all, we assume the beaches are clean, but who knows?"

"I would like to have figures

to re-assure the residents our beaches are safe to use," she said.

The community can help to minimise faecal coliform in waterways by preventing septic tank overflows, pet animal faeces and fresh animal manures on gardens from entering the waterways.

The Beachwatch program currently tests all Sydney, Hunter and Illawarra beaches.

So far only three Sydney beaches do not meet all of the criteria of a clean beach.

The council says the cost of the local program would be about \$50,000 per year.

Council officers believe our beaches would be likely to pass all

the tests.

The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) runs the Beachwatch program.

They believe faecal coliforms and enterococci are a reliable indicator of water contamination.

However, they concede there is "considerable debate in the scientific community on the usefulness of faecal coliforms as an indicator of public health risk." Gosford Council has approached the Beachwatch Program and is devising a coordinated water sampling regime between Beachwatch, Council's health Program and Dr Ken Zimmerman, a marine scientist at Newcastle University's Ourimbah Campus.

At least five times a month water samples are collected.

The samples are taken from the most used swimming areas, such as between flags.

The laboratory takes up to 48 hours to analyse the samples so the most recent results are not included in a day's bulletin.

After 10 years monitoring, the EPA says it is finding long term trends.

The EPA has a web page - <http://www.epa.nsw.gov.au>. Click on the Beachwatch icon for more details or call the EPA on 131 555.

Chamber News

Congratulations to Peninsula Community Access News on the successful launch of its first edition.

From all reports, the newspaper has been well received with many comments on the high quality of the publication.

The Peninsula Chamber of Commerce and its members are proud to take part in the publication as it will provide a community-based forum for Peninsula specific issues.

The following update is provided by the Chamber.

Fast ferry

The supplementary reports, being prepared by the Ettalong Beach fast ferry proponent Fast Ships Pty Limited, are being finalised as a result of the consultative approach with the community through the Ettalong Beach to Sydney Fast Ferry Sunset Committee.

This Council committee consists

of community representatives together with Council and Fast Ships with the aim to identify and address the community's concerns.

It is chaired by Councillor Lynne Bockholt and its meetings attended by Councillor Judith Penton.

The Chamber's view is that the fast ferry project is vital to attract investment and employment opportunities to the Peninsula into the next millennia.

This is a dynamic region and the fast ferry service will provide an exciting link into new investment opportunities.

Ettalong Beach Resort

The Chamber has been advised that the Ettalong Beach Resort is still awaiting final Stage 1 building approvals for the commencement of bulk excavation works on the basement level car park.

Therefore, the construction on the project will be delayed for approximately one month.



Woy Woy DCP

The adoption of the Woy Woy DCP has been deferred for approximately 6 weeks by Gosford City Council for some amendments to the plan.

These amendments came about as a result of community input during the recent public meetings.

I am pleased to note that many of the recommendations made by the Chamber have been taken on board by the Council's consultants Keys Young for inclusion in the

draft plan.

It is anticipated that the revised plan will be returned to Council in approximately six weeks after which the final plan will be reexhibited.

Intersection upgrade

The Chamber has welcomed the announcement by the State Government during the election that an amount of \$100,000 has been allocated to the upgrading of the Maitland Bay Drive and Picnic Parade Intersection at Ettalong

Beach.

This intersection has been notorious over recent years for long delays and accidents and has been the source of much complaint by both local residents and the business community.

However, the Chamber is concerned that the \$100,000 allocated by the State Government will not be sufficient to fully upgrade the intersection.

It is understood that the upgrade would involve a roundabout rather than a simple right turn storage lane and slip lane.

Consequently, the Chamber has written to both Gosford City Council and Member for Peats Ms Marie Andrews to establish the nature of the work to be carried out, the projected cost and when the State Government funds will be made available.

Matthew Wales
President

Strip shopping is on the way back

Strip shopping is coming back in a big way.

From a poll taken of 60,000 shoppers, the Director of KPMG Centre for Consumer Behavior, Ross Honeywell reported in the Daily Telegraph last week, that 66 per cent of shoppers said they preferred street shopping.

The fact is that shoppers are getting tired of the sameness of shopping centres with the same stores and the same design and the same musak.

You could enter any one of the huge shopping malls anywhere in Australia and not know the difference.

It is time for the major developers to take heed of the warning signs.

It is also an encouraging sign for small business operators in our local shopping centres.

Life in the 90s means little time to be standing in long queues and coping with a fully loaded shopping trolley and a maze of ramps and car parks.

The shopping trend is slowly

coming back to the streets where the retailer knows his/her customer and their needs.

Mr Honeywell described strip shopping as a place where shoppers recognised each other and would interact.

"Consumers want the engagement with the elements and the theatre of the streets," Mr Honeywell said.

If the retailer tailored their business to the needs of the consumer and not what the retailer would like, they would have a greater chance of success.

Knowing your customers' needs and catering for them is so important.

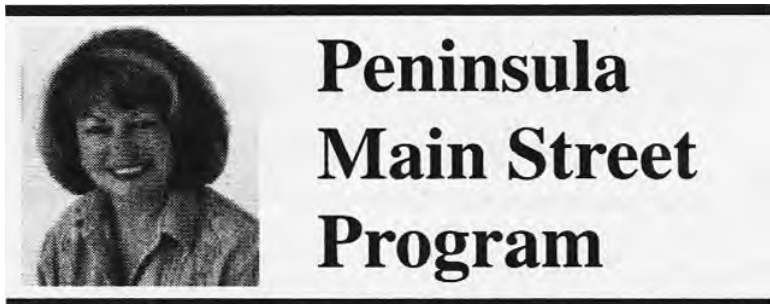
In the fashion industry, the success stories are where the retailer takes the time to co-ordinate their garments, know their clients and provide personalised service.

When you walk into a major ladies fashion store, there is rack after rack of clothes, there is little time to be sorting and putting tops and bottoms together, it becomes bewildering.

So, you walk out. Come out of the huge shopping mall, walk along the street, your eye catches the colours in a window, you spy outfits co-ordinated so well by your local retailer, you're immediately drawn inside ... snagged.

Now it's up to the retailer who knows you look great in red and black, to put your look together for you.

It's all part of the SERVICE. Imagine if you will, the smell of



freshly brewed coffee or beautiful sweet smelling flowers, the aroma of fresh vegetable soup from the local deli ... try walking past that!

It really is the theatre of the street.

Our local retailers have the ideal opportunity to cash in on the trend to local shopping centres. Mainstreet's role is to help in that process.

New Year's Eve

The Mainstreet Co-ordinator is working in conjunction with Ettalong Beach Memorial Club for the Carnivale 2000 on New Year's Eve. Lots of colour and entertainment is planned for the street party. More to come.

Business awards

The Peninsula Chamber of Commerce & Peninsula Mainstreet will be holding the Peninsula Business Awards gala dinner dance on Friday, July 2, where the Business of the Year will be announced.

There are a number of categories where any business from the Peninsula may be nominated.

A Courtesy Award will be presented as well as the Outstanding Business Promotion Award.

One person will be recognised by the Chamber of Commerce for his or her service to the local community for the Service to the Community Award which will be presented on the evening.

Nomination forms will be available at local outlets from mid May for businesses to be nominated.

Anyone can nominate a business and as many times as they like to go into a draw for a major prize which will be drawn on the evening. More details will follow as they are finalised.

However, you may contact the Mainstreet Office on 43427510 with inquiries.

Landscape design

Mainstreet is finalising the landscape design for Ettalong Beach and Woy Woy Town Square. The Mainstreet Co-ordinator is working in conjunction with the Gosford City Council's Building

Committees to finalise the concept landscape drawings for both Ettalong Beach and Woy Woy Town Square.

The works will begin in Woy Woy town centre in the coming months while the works in Ettalong Beach are continuing.

Country music

Ettalong Beach Country Music Festival will be held on Saturday, October 2, of the long weekend.

There will be country bands and entertainment for all the family.

Once again, street stalls will be invited to set up their wares in the street. More down the track.

New businesses

C'Jays Restaurant opened last week on The Boulevard, Woy Woy, a fully licenced restaurant which opens onto a courtyard overlooking Anderson Park. The menu offers a variety of choices in a perfect setting.

Bookings 4342 9922. Congratulations to the owners of the Bayview Arcade who have completed a beautiful renovation on the complex which complements the foreshore of Woy Woy.

Let's hope other property owners follow suit to upgrade their properties in conjunction with the street beautification soon to start.

Cheers for Now ...
Debra Wales

Who or What Controls Your Life?

- Is this a question you have been asking yourself?
- Come and hear an inspiring talk on this subject.
- It is free and will be given by Rhonda Hutchinson-Brooks CS.
- The talk is sponsored by the Gosford Christian Science Church.

Where?- The Masonic Hall, Railway St, Woy Woy (opposite station).

When?- Saturday 24th April at 2pm.

Child minding facilities available. All welcome.

If you're getting married soon, why not let Bowen's Photographics take care of those all important wedding photos?

Bowen's will send a professional photographer to your home, to the ceremony and to the reception and will present you with over 150 photographs and enlargements in a special album for a fixed price.

Let Bowen's look after you.
Shop 8, Deepwater Plaza, Woy Woy. 43443255

Volunteers are wanted

Do you have a few hours to spare and want to learn new skills, meet new people, achieve personal satisfaction and at the same time benefit your community? If so, the Central Coast Volunteer Referral Agency would like to hear from you.

Established as a non profit association, the referral agency receives information from community groups seeking

volunteers and interviews prospective volunteers to place them in the best areas that will suit them.

If you want to know more without committing yourself, there will be a free information session held at the Peninsula Community Centre, 95 McMasters Road, Woy Woy on Thursday, May 13, at 10am.

Please phone 4325 2402 to book.

Everglades start \$2m extensions and renovations

The Everglades Country Club has started extensions and renovations valued at over \$2 million.

Established in 1957 and with over 6000 members, the Everglades Country Club in Woy Woy will be totally refurbished and will have additions of a new members' amenities building and a new pro shop.

The refurbishments will provide a new central foyer, main bar, gaming area, TAB lounge, and a renovated auditorium, an expanded main lounge and upgraded food areas.

Secretary-manager Mr Wayne Dean said: "The objective is for the club to be one of the best sporting facilities on the Central Coast."

"The club is already a community

asset with three full size bowling greens and an 18 hole golf course in an urban area. This cannot be repeated elsewhere."

He said members could be "even prouder of their club" once the renovations were completed.



"However, while they are in progress there may be some disruption to normal activities and their patience will be appreciated," he said.

The project management is being undertaken by local

company, Raybal, with work being given to local tradespeople.

Club president Mr Brian Crawley said he was pleased that the work had commenced and looked forward to completion by the end of September.

Social tennis

The Pearl Beach Tennis and Recreation Club will be having a social day from 10am to 4pm on Monday, May 3.

With a bowls competition and plenty of social tennis, the day is open to members and visitors.

Cost is \$5 per person with BYO lunch.

Call 4341 8817 for further information.

IN BRIEF

Club pays for beach improvements

Improvements to the Ettalong Beach foreshore will be made under an agreement between the Ettalong Beach War Memorial Club and Gosford Council.

Taking the view that costs resulting from the club's redevelopment should not be borne by the ratepayer, it sought an agreement with the club.

More light for oval carpark

After a series of attacks on commuters and others in the Woy Woy Oval car park and in the playground behind Woolworths, Council and Energy Australia will fix current lights and add more

Fast ferry opposition grows

The Ettalong Reaction Group has decided to pursue their opposition to the fast ferry through the Environmental Defenders Office and the State Ombudsman.

It was standing room only in the Ettalong Progress Hall as more than 100 local residents, fishermen and members of community groups attended the public meeting on April 14 to discuss the fast ferry proposal.

Under the umbrella of the Ettalong Ratepayers Association, the group heard the sometimes hostile arguments both for and against the fast ferry and its possible impact on the region.

According to Chairperson Mr Rob Molin, the group "was not against the principle of a service from the Central Coast but in a sensible, environmentally-friendly location with close access to the open sea".

Ettalong was basically shallow sand banks, if these were removed the whole environment would change, he said.

A letter from residents requesting an independent EIS had been sent to Gosford Council. This was resoundingly supported by the meeting.

Local fisherman Mr Warren Campbell claimed: "A boat this size will dredge its own channel and the sea bed will be drastically altered."

This notion was backed by Mr Ian James representing the Commercial Fishing Association.

Mr James cited correspondence received from NSW Fisheries that the ferry proposal would adversely effect the "small but scattered seagrass that provides for many juveniles".

NSW Fisheries had required a \$20,000 bond for potential damage the ferry may cause to fish stocks.

Concern was also expressed at the potential impact on both the prawn and oyster industries.

There was further discussion with regard to parking and increased traffic impact in the immediate vicinity of the proposed ferry wharf.

A possible utilisation of the nearby netball courts to provide a parking facility was dismissed

when an adamant Margaret Toombs of the Netball Association stated: "There is no way we are losing our netball courts."

Concern was also voiced over a higher number of tourist coaches to meet the ferry and the consequent increase in traffic flow, which local roads are not designed to manage.

Issues of safety for ferry passengers and recreational craft and the loss of the Ettalong foreshore were raised; as well as the more positive notion that the ferry service would provide stimulation to the Peninsula economy.

The meeting concluded with the formalisation of the concerned residents group.

The date for the next meeting of the group is to be advised, all inquiries 4342 4511.

Bush dance is on again

Several locals were seen at the "Fourth Saturday" bush dance at East Gosford last month.

The next dance will be held on Saturday, April 24, at the East Gosford Progress Hall at 8pm.

Central Coast Bush Dance Association secretary Robyn Northwood, of Umina, is keen to see more Peninsula residents come along and enjoy the evening.

"We've engaged The Bishops as our live band for the next dance."

"They will bring with them a number of new dances not having been attempted here before. All dances are taught before they are called," she said.

Phone 4344 6484 for details.

Bockholt calls for honest appraisal

Cr Lynne Bockholt last week released the following statement about the fast ferry:

I have always encouraged and participated in community debate on any issue of importance to the Peninsula.

I find it outrageous that the local community is being bombarded with material on the Fast Ferry, some of which is outrageously untrue, designed to frighten people into believing that the world is going to end if a ferry comes to Ettalong.

The current propaganda states that Council intends to allow the Fast Ferry proponents to locate two 50,000 litre underground fuel tanks on the Ettalong foreshore.

In fact, Council has expressed deep concern over the refuelling issue and resolved that the applicant present options for refuelling including all environmental and safety aspects.

Council also agreed with my suggestion that an eminent independent expert be engaged to advise Council on the refuelling options.

Council voted unanimously in support of the Ettalong Ferry but indicated that it will not allow the environmental degradation of the Ettalong foreshore.

Council has informed the Fast

Ferry applicant that it must review all its proposals and find more acceptable solutions to matters such as parking, traffic, refuelling and environmental concerns.

Council also agreed that a committee of councillors, local community, Ettalong Ratepayers Association reps and Fast Ships be established to give the community input into the process.

As chair of this committee, I believe this is an excellent forum for discussion on the main issues relative to the coming of a Fast Ferry to Ettalong.

The recommendations from this committee will be put before Council as part of the public consultation process and I would be surprised if councillors chose to ignore community concerns.

What's annoying is that the people spreading lies and innuendo believe that they are the only ones interested in the environment and the future of Ettalong.


I have lived on the Peninsula for nearly 30 years and I have worked hard for the betterment of the local community.

I strongly support the Fast Ferry as I believe it will bring much needed jobs, particularly for our young people, in tourism and IT, which are the growth areas of the future.

I do not intend to let the Ettalong foreshore be destroyed in order to achieve these aims.



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ENJOY THE MUSIC OF THE 60s, 70s & 80s

- FOUR HOUR CRUISE ON HAWKESBURY RIVER
- MUSIC OF THE 60s, 70s & 80s
- CHOICE OF TWO SPITS, SALADS & DESSERTS
- BAR FACILITIES
- GUEST DJ's
- DANCING COMPETITIONS & PRIZES

All aboard MV HAWKESBURY
at Brooklyn
12 noon Sunday, 2ND May
BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL
as space is strictly limited.

Call now before you miss out: 4341

History and heritage of the Woy Woy Peninsula

By Joan Fenton

Thank you for the response to last issue's History & Heritage column.

I've been able to answer a few of your questions this month, and I'll be happy to receive any feedback or requests.

If you have a question about the history of Woy Woy, or of the Central Coast, or if you have a special request for the column, please drop me a note (PO Box 720, Woy Woy, 2256).

Local historical organisations

Gosford District Local History Study Group is a small band of local historians dedicated to the preservation of our past.

The Group has also published local history books, several of which have been included as recommended texts for university courses.

Books such as the Rev Alfred Glennie Journals 1855-62, Agnes Fagan's Diary 1885 and The Brisbane Water Case 1836-7 give a clear picture of what life was like on the Central Coast last century.

Some of their books are now out of print, but are available at local branch libraries.

Their next book will be a typescript of one of the first Magistrate's Bench Books from the 1830s.

The Group has an office at the Niagara Park shopping/community centre, courtesy of Gosford City Council, and is open from Tuesday to Friday, 9am to 3pm for historical research.

Phone 4328 5960 to make an appointment.

Web page: <<http://www.terriganet.au/history>

Woy Woy Shire

Apart from a period in the 19th Century when Brisbane Water District Council was in existence, local government began in Woy Woy when Erina Shire was formed in 1906.

Woy Woy was part of the 'C' Riding of that Shire with two representatives.

The Shire was divided into six Ridings in 1908, with one representative each.

The Woy Woy area then became part of 'D' Riding of Erina Shire.

Mr CJ Staples of Woy Woy took office as 'D' Riding's representative in 1920, and was subsequently on two occasions elected as Erina Shire President.

In June 1921, a large public meeting was held and an organisation known as the Brisbane Water Ratepayers' Association was formed, with the specific aim of working for the separation of Woy Woy from Erina Shire.

This was in response to a perceived need that a tourist resort such as Woy Woy needed selfgovernment.

The 'New Shire' movement was active and vocal, and a public inquiry was held in Gosford at the end of 1922, but the proposed separation was not approved by the Minister for Local Government.

The Association continued its agitation and there was a further public inquiry a few years later which resulted in Ministerial approval.

There was much discussion by



Erina Shire Council as to what the 'New Shire' would be called.

The Ratepayers' Association wanted 'Brisbane Water Shire', but Erina Council would have none of that! Their suggestions were either 'Patonga Shire', 'Broken Bay Shire', 'Ettalong Shire' or even 'Burrawang Shire'.

A compromise was made, and Woy Woy Shire was formally constituted on 1 st August 1928.

Cr Staples became the Chairman of the Provisional Council and the first President of Woy Woy Shire Council.

Other Shire Councillors were: AE Smith, EW Williams, WHW Bassan, MJ Green and JW Morris.

In 1931, Woy Woy Shire Council erected a building (now Woy Woy library) to accommodate the Shire officers, records and Council Chambers.

The Peninsula in 1952

Count the number of houses in your street.

Now compare that figure with the total number of houses in the Peninsula area in 1952:

Woy Woy	996
Booker Bay	501

Ettalong Beach	1124
Umina-Ocean Beach	975
Tascott	26
Koolewong	114
Orange Grove	92
Pearl Beach-Patonga	182
Total	4010

Woy Woy Horse Club

The Woy Woy Horse Club was formed late in 1950 and had a steady growth over the next few years.

By 1952 there were 55 active members.

Although the Club started in Woy Woy, it attracted members from all parts of the Central Coast, as well as Sydney and Newcastle.

The Club conducted regular gymkhanas.

These were held at either Woy Woy Oval, Ettalong, or the Woy Woy Airstrip (now Trafalgar Avenue).

The Club also held fortnightly riding outings.

Places visited on these rides were Pearl Beach and Patonga, Mt Sugarloaf and Point Clare.

As well, a full day's ride to Somersby was a popular activity.

A fledgling polo competition

was underway in 1952 between the Woy Woy team - the 'Galloping Bunyips' and the Narara team - the 'Geebungs'.

(From The Gosford Times, 9th May 1952)

On the Internet: Honouring Anzac Day

First AIF Order of Battle <http://www.bluedog.apana.org.au/~hawkeye/FirstAIF/index.html>

Commonwealth War Graves Commission

<http://yard.ccta.gov.uk/cwgc/register.html>

Heritage Festival

'Towards 2000 - The Century in Review' is the theme of this year's Heritage Festival held April 17 to 25.

The Festival is presented by the National Trust with major financial support through the NSW Heritage Council's Heritage Assistance Program.

Communities all over NSW will be celebrating their heritage through special events and activities.

[PHOTO: JOAN FENTON]

'Herstory' of Peninsula Women's Health Centre

In June 1993, a group of women came together to discuss the possible formation of a Women's Health Centre to serve the Peninsula area.

A temporary steering committee was formed, and at the first meeting a survey of needs was designed and circulated, in order to gauge community interest.

In February 1994, an information morning was conducted for women who expressed their willingness to volunteer and help if a new Women's Health Centre was formed.

Orientation and volunteer training courses were commenced in June, and the steering committee commenced negotiating with Gosford Council and the Central Coast Area Health Service, for a permanent site for the centre.

By mid 1995, the Peninsula Women's Health Centre (PWHC) was operating as a drop-in centre, working from the Community Centre at Woy Woy.

Despite numerous setbacks and delays, we eventually obtained a house provided by Gosford City Council, which was moved onto land at 20A McMasters Road, Woy Woy and in July 1997, we moved into our relocated, renovated cottage.

A 14-member committee was elected to oversee the running of the Centre.

A well-timed and welcome influx of 16 newly trained volunteers expanded the number of volunteers to 26.

Furnishing and setting up the cottage became the primary focus of the first six months.

Telephones, chairs, vertical blinds and fencing between the next door property.

Screenings, for privacy, were obtained from money remaining from Council's establishment grant.

Community responses to a request for the donation of items to furnish the cottage resulted in a typewriter, fax machine, fridge, tables, lounges to name a few.

We also held a garage sale of unwanted items.

Ceiling fans and an answering machine were installed, and a sign for the front of the building erected.

A large wall pamphlet stand was built and installed.

Umina Retravisdon donated a new oil heater.

Council provided screening trees and erected Peninsula Women's Health Centre signs at either end of McMasters Road.

Financial contributions were received from Community Chest, Zonta (International) local women's

group and Ettalong/Umina Lion's Club.

In September, we applied successfully for a Hall Upgrading Grant to fence the entire premises. We hope to see this completed by the end of the year.

Volunteer meetings were held weekly because of the enormous volume of work to be done.

The setting up of day to day activities and services as quickly as possible was the other major priority.

It was decided to open the Centre three days a week, on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays from 9.30am to 3pm, and rosters were drawn up.

A three-month promotion campaign strategy was developed and implemented for the period from November 1997 to January 1998.

Letters of introduction and PWHC fliers were sent to local agencies, 2000 letterbox drops were completed, media promotions organised and an information day was held at Deepwater Plaza on the January 30.

Cr Lynne Bockholt officially opened the Centre on May 1, 1998.

Gosford Mayor Chris Holstein planted a commemorative tree and Claire Hayes entertained the crowd.

Over 70 people attended the

opening of the Centre despite the rain.

The programming committee did a tremendous job of programming and promoting groups over the six months from December to June.

189 women attended the following one-off talks and groups - Meditation, Herbal Remedies, Menopause, Osteoporosis, Let's look at anxiety, Aromatherapy, Celebration of Life (Senior's Week), Iridology, and Women's Survival Course.

Astrid Nichols from Area Health Women's Health Unit commenced monthly nurses' clinics at the Centre in October.

Due to demand, Raimunda Elhage extended her massage clinic at the PWHC to two days per month.

Marina George, alternative therapist, has volunteered her time to run monthly meditation and Reiki sessions.

The volunteers have participated in training on post-natal depression and domestic violence training, in conjunction with Court Support volunteers.

Jannette Walsh from CentreCare facilitated the training.

Two volunteers completed a two-day domestic violence and two-day child sexual assault course and will be providing in-service training for other volunteers.

The promotion of the Centre is continuing.

Another information day was held at Deepwater Plaza in May this year.

Schools were approached to include PWHC information in school newsletters, which met a favourable response.

In the first six months of this year, volunteers have had face to face contact with 47 women, and phone contact with 162 women providing services such as active listening, resourcing, information on groups, clinic and counselling referrals.

Despite the demanding pace, volunteer social events were included in the yearly calendar.

Two picnic mornings, a health workshop, Christmas party and lunch get-togethers have allowed volunteers to savour their achievements, relax and enjoy each other's company.

It has been a satisfying and rewarding year thanks to the superb effort and enthusiasm of all the women dedicated to getting the PWHC up and running.

We look forward to continuing and expanding our work in the local community.

For more information on volunteering or services provided by the PWHC, telephone 4342 5905.

Council allows Ettalong cinema to reopen while work is finished

Gosford Council has issued an interim occupation certificate for Ettalong's Cinema Paradiso.

The interim certificate means that the cinema can now re-open and operate while further building work is completed.

Movies such as Elizabeth, Shakespeare in Love, Patch Adams, Waking Ned Devine and Rug Rats are currently screening.

Council's Building Assessment Team manager, Mr Steve Huntington, said the certificate was valid for 60 days.

"Council is very supportive of the cinema," he said.

"We acted as fast as we could to get the cinema open over Easter."

Mr Huntington said the main item still to be completed was a lift for elderly and disabled access to the cinema.

Other items include the installation of a landline alarm system to the fire brigade rather than to the current security firm and the installation of more exit signs.

Mayor Cr Chris Holstein said that there was no obligation on the council to issue an occupation certificate until the project was totally completed.

The council had issued an interim certificate because work had been undertaken to meet the council's concerns and the work

which remained to be done did not endanger life.

He said the council saw the social benefit of a cinema for the Peninsula and was keen to have it operational, particularly for the youth of the area.

However, despite the apparently conciliatory attitude of the council, cinema owner Mr Jerry Altavilla was still angry at the treatment he had received.

He was critical of what he called "the unnecessary force" with which the regulations were applied, as well as "the way that they took me to court with only two hours notice".

Mr Altavilla said the closure at short notice left over 600 patrons stranded on the footpath, many of those being children dropped off by their parents unaware that they were left unsupervised.

Cr Holstein said the council had spoken to Mr Altavilla for months about his need to comply with the regulations and the fact that the cinema would not be permitted to operate until it did.

The owner had plenty of warning of the closure, he said.

He said the council had a "duty of care" to ensure the cinema was safe and had adequate fire protection.

The council had voted unanimously to close the cinema until the required measures were taken.

He said that had the owner

adhered to the building code in the first place the closure would not have been necessary.

Cr Lynne Bockholt said that the cinema had originally opened in the first place without the required completion certificate.

The matter had been before the Land and Environment Court three times with the outcome in the council's favor each time, she said.

Mr Altavilla said: "I was willing to comply with all requirements and needed only a notice of what was needed to be rectified and a few days to do so and the closure could have been saved."

"What they did to me was totally unfair and unnecessary.

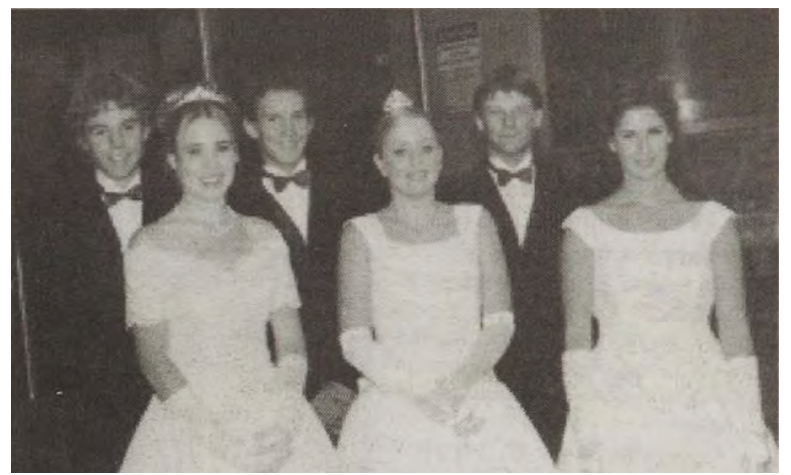
It cost me over \$16,000 a day and 15 people were put out of work for two months," he said.

As Mr Altavilla spoke to Peninsula News, he became increasingly agitated: "It all came down to a secondary stairwell that didn't have a fire proof wall," he said.

"In any case, the stairwell only affects one cinema and the other cinema could have remained open.

"Closing of the entire venue appears to be extremely drastic."

Mr Altavilla said he could not agree more with the utmost need for the safety of patrons and he had spent thousands of dollars to ensure that there was not even the slightest risk.



Lions hold deb ball

The Ettalong Umina Lions Club held their Debutantes' Ball at the Ettalong Beach Memorial Club on Friday, April 16.

Pictured are a group of excited debutantes from Woy Woy High School (back from left) Aaron Dewar, Luke Cook, Dane Budd and (front) Melissa Varley, Lauren Robertson and Aimee Cardwell.

Music cruise dream

Woy Woy resident, Richard Brookes, is about to see his dream come true.

Richard has always wanted to organise music "theme" cruises in and around the Central Coast.

Having been involved in the music industry for many years, he has seen the high interest in music on the Peninsula as well as the high interest in cruising on our beautiful waterways.

Combine this with good food and Richard believes you get an entertainment combination that can't fail to attract great interest, especially if the price is right.

To be known as Richters Rock'n'Roll Cruises, the first will launch on Sunday, May 2, at noon from Brooklyn on the MV Hawkesbury.

Catering for 120 people, the cruise will feature four hours of cruising on the beautiful Hawkesbury River, entertained by guest DJs and fed from a choice of two spits, a number of salads, two desserts, tea and coffee.

Bar facilities will also be available.

"With dancing competitions and prizes as well, everyone should have a great time," said Richard

Anzac Day 1999

Sunday 25 April

3 Course Lunch From 12 Noon

PLUS

A Fabulous Production Show

BLESS 'EM ALL

Featuring Slim De Grey

Tickets Just \$10

Free Entertainment In Our Foyer From 2.30pm



GREASE

The 50's Music Spectacular

Live On Stage

Fabulous Sets....Fantastic Sound Full Production Show

Friday 14 May 7.30pm

Tickets \$15

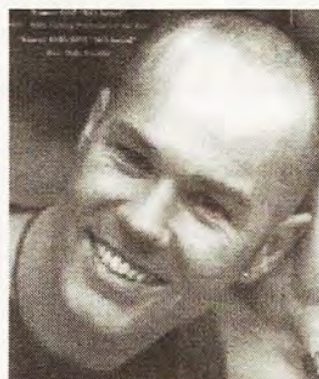
Book now to avoid disappointment

Ettalong

BEACH CLUB

MEMORIAL AVENUE, ETTALONG 4341 1166

For the information of members and their guests.



Musical of the Night

Friday, May 21, 11am

Tickets \$2

Two of Australia's most dynamic and energetic performers, Stephen Fisher King and Alison O'Carroll, come together in a spell binding performance worthy of any international stage.

A Salute to the Boyz From Oz

Saturday, May 22, 7.30pm

Tickets \$7

This show is action packed with all the great songs from all of the exceptional Australian artists such as Peter Allen, the Bee Gees, John Farnham and many more.

This riveting show is supported by a fabulous band, great costumes and a full stage production all to the spectacular voice of Mike Mathieson.



Crime a worry

The New South Wales Carr Government and the opposition all see crime as a particular worry.

A Bureau of Crime Statistics report, Juvenile Crime in New South Wales, says the overwhelming types of crime were theft, although physical and sexual assault are on the increase.

The Bureau, part of the New South Wales Attorney General's Department, says nearly two thirds of crime offenders are less than 30 years of age while less than half of the population are in this age group.

Ten percent of offenders were less than 18 years old.

The report says youth arrests outnumber actual recorded crime incidents.

Among the reasons for this are that youths tend to steal in groups, so one offence results in many convictions and they commit crime close to home so that they are easily caught because they are inexperienced.

Recent State Government law and order policies have been heavily promoted, often being a major policy at the recent elections.

The 'law and order' policies often target youth.

The election in March and the drive-by shooting at Lakemba police station last year has spurred Premier Bob Carr to "get tougher on crime".

Mr Carr places importance on new legislation called the Weapon Prohibition Bill.

"The new weapons laws will protect the community by removing even more dangerous weapons," Mr Carr said.

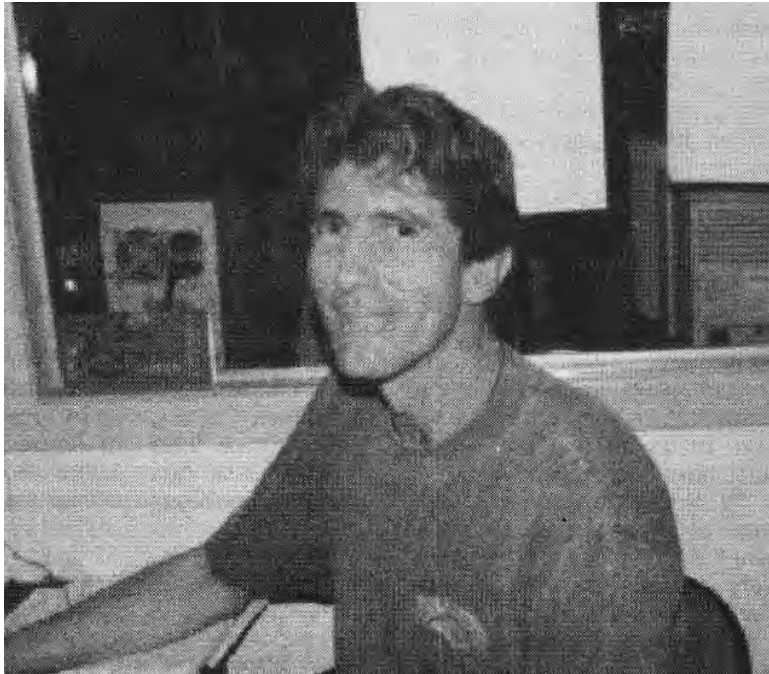
"They come on top of the toughest knife laws in Australia and unlawful possession of a prohibited weapon will attract a penalty of up to 14 years."

Youth festival for May

Peninsula musicians featuring in local bands '1 Short', 'Fuba' and 'Shaft' will form part of the line-up celebrating the Youth Festival to be held at Gosford Showground on Saturday, May 1.

Organisers are expecting a crowd of around 3000 to attend.

The main stage will also feature headline acts, 'Downtime', 'Nancy Vandal', 'Muzzy Prep' and 'The Hard Ons' who have released their best of album to coincide with the Festival.



Adolescent Support Worker Dion Richardson

However, Australian Bureau of Statistics figures state between 1985 and 1995, the proportion of prisoners under 25 in jails has decreased from 39 percent of all prisoners to 29 per cent.

A spokesperson for the member for Peats, Ms Marie Andrews said, "Ms Andrews sees youth crime as the biggest issue on the Central Coast, she is heavily involved with community groups and the police in these areas."

Ms Andrews has said the New South Wales Labor Government is targeting local 'hotspots', alcohol and drug offenders near licensed premises and waterways in the local area.

A youth liaison and a community safety officer have also been recently employed.

Other jobs have been created in

the local area to assist police.

The State Government announced the creation of 170 public service jobs on the central coast to build a 'police call centre' to help police concentrate on being off the telephones and into the streets.

The call centres are staffed by public service employees who will take minor crime incident reports over the telephone.

Mr Carr said the freeing up of police would create the equivalent of 500 new police state wide.

New youth club

Ms Andrews' spokesperson said preventative measures are also important.

One preventative measure being the soon to be opened Police Citizens Youth Club in Osborne Avenue, Umina.

The local authorities would like to target "at risk" youth before they embark on a life of crime.

Dion Richardson, Adolescent Support Worker for the Peninsula Community Centre, says the new Police Citizens Youth Club is a good idea.

"I hope it will assist me by providing more activities for young people in a safe environment," he said.

Mr Richardson runs a program in which youth can meet called the Web.

"There needs to be more focus on what our youth do in idle time," Mr Richardson said.

"There needs to be semi-structured activities that are supervised and attractive for young

people."

The Web, is one of the few places young Peninsula youth can indulge in semi-structured activities.

Mr Richardson said the Police Citizens Youth Club should help him in his objectives of semistructured and supervised activities.

Mr Richardson says funding restrictions hinder what he can do.

I see up to 250 young people a week that use this service," he said.

"Their needs range from nothing to do, a place to go, time out away from parents, some one to talk to that is not biased, information, education, health issues, drug and alcohol issues, law issues, family breakdowns, social issues and peer pressure to name a few."

"I get very frustrated sometimes because the system makes us compete for funds to provide this sort of service.

"My service attracts so many youth but I still have to struggle to get funds and assistance."

Lack of State Government funding temporarily shut down the Web in July last year.

However, an on-going funding donation from Gosford Council and the Ettalong War Memorial Club saw the doors re-opened.

The State election saw promises of funding which will secure the future of the centre for the immediate future.

Providing a safe environment

Paul Hanna, the Youth Programs Coordinator with Gosford Police, sees the merit for facilities such as the Web.

He and Central Coast police will open the Police Citizens Youth Club at Umina.

"It will be run by civilian personnel but with police help," Mr Hanna said.

"The Police Club is not just for youth in trouble with the law.

Young people are not only

perpetrators, a high percentage of crime committed is against youth and they need a place that is safe."

"We see it as an all hours youth 'drop-in' centre, where youth can come and use the facilities we provide."

Mr Hanna said the youth centre will have activities such as TV, a pool table, ping-pong table and perhaps basketball courts that the youth can use.

"We are keen to see what kids want to do rather than have them told what they want to do," he said.

Mr Hanna agreed that the State Government's tougher laws had their benefits in some cases.

"The new increased power to search for knives has been very successful around the state and the hit rate for finding concealed knives is quite high," he said.

However, Mr Hanna said the Government's tougher stance on crime was due in some regard to the Government's need to make the wider community feel secure.

"Youth were being made out to be the baddies in the area," Mr Hanna said.

"Youth make up almost half of the local population with the other half being retirees.

So, the few bad youth there are in the area are very visible."

"If a youth steals a packet of Life Savers from a service station and is charged, they have a criminal record for larceny, the same as if they had stolen a million dollars."

Official reports show that the main type of offences committed by young people is property theft, mainly shop stealing.

Mr Hanna said most adults would not steal small items, whereas youth through peer group pressure, boredom or lack of money may do so.

Mr Hanna said these factors play a large part in the high rate of youth crime and that most of the population's fear of youth, especially regarding assault, were unjustified.

Runner-up in national skating

Umina's Toby Miller, 13, came second in a National Inline skating competition, in February.

Toby, a year eight student at Umina High, was competing in the under 14 section of the 12 foot National Vert Competition.

This involves skating up

and down a 12 foot half pipe, for a maximum of two minutes and performing as many tricks, including hand plants, flips, turns and spins as possible.

The event held in Canberra, attracted competitors from Japan, the USA, New Zealand and Australia.

Rotary focus on youth

Umina Rotary launched its "focus on youth" year late last year with a particular emphasis on Peninsula youth.

Umina Rotary's major objective is to "seek to improve literacy and numeracy skills through local schools."

Child psychologist, Dr John Irvine launched the initiative when he talked about the many problems facing young people today.

To get the year started Dr Irvine conducted a Trivial Pursuit night,

which raised over \$3000 for Umina and Woy Woy High Schools.

Rotary also announced a \$5000 donation to Woy Woy South Public School to help the school with its ongoing literacy programme.

Umina Rotary will also involve itself in trying to improve job prospects for young people on the peninsula.

Rotary says youth unemployment in the area is almost 30 percent.

For more information contact Geoff Melville on 4369 2275.

CINEMA EXPERIENCE OF A LIFETIME

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- 5 sessions daily in each of two theatres
- Coffee shop and restaurants
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Articulate, confident, personable, charming ... and unemployed

Dina Memic, 21, is articulate, confident, personable and charming.

On one's first meeting with her, she gives the impression of youthful vigour that implies the world is her oyster, as perhaps it should be at that age.

Dina is also a member of that too large a group, the long-term unemployed.

However, Dina recently had the opportunity to meet federal members of Parliament, including Prime Minister John Howard, to put forward her views on youth unemployment.

Dina was one of 51 selected out of over a thousand applicants to take part in a National Youth Forum in Canberra.

The forum took place over three days and topics covered included unemployment, education and training, the environment, lifestyle and health.

Dina was assigned the topic of unemployment.

"It was hard work and I worked from about 6 am to midnight to prepare for the forum," she said.

"We had a tour of Parliament House which took two hours - the place is huge and we would have got lost if it wasn't for the security people." Dina said the politicians were impressed with the work and character of the forum participants.

"We definitely got through to them," she said.

"However, some of them seemed to be more concerned than others and on some issues they ignore you, for example about work for the dole.

Most of them seemed genuinely concerned though."

"Mr Howard was not what I expected, he was very down to earth."

"We also had a private meeting with Sir William Deane, the Governor General and Dr David Kemp, former Minister for Employment, who were fantastic and very nice fellows."

Dina will return to Canberra in September for a second forum.

However in the meantime she continues the trials of unemployment.

Dina originally came from Bosnia just over three years ago.

She found the English language difficult to learn but now speaks fluently with barely a trace of

Peninsula News reporter Carl Spears asked one local young adult how she faces unemployment

accent.

She is a customer of the local Work for the Dole Scheme through Personnel Attention and Associates.

Centrelink introduced Dina to Personnel Attention and Associates.

"The long-term unemployed can have their dole cut by between 20 percent and 50 percent if they do not participate in a Work for the Dole scheme," said Ms Memic.

"It means you have to do it or you will be punished", she said.

She says she was happy to oblige and in fact volunteered to be in the first intake of unemployed.

"We are not on the dole because we choose to be, but because we need to be".

"I wanted to volunteer for the first project but enough people were already enrolled in it so they didn't take any volunteers", she said.

When she did become accepted she worked in Marketing of Special Projects.

A recent success of the marketing group was the Environment Forum held at Gosford Leagues Club.

"It was a great challenge for us, because we just started the first day with the introduction to the course and the second day we started work on the Environment Forum straight away", she said.

"It's hard sweat and tears and use of brains.

We got home brain dead.

It demanded so much of a person," she said.

Dina says she wants a job in Public Relations or marketing but at this stage is "happy to start with any job".

She says she has been in and out of jobs since first arriving in Australia.

"The company has either been shut down, or they don't need me anymore, or I wasn't happy with the employers".

She has worked in many jobs in the past and has much experience, yet she still finds it very difficult to

get a secure full time job.

"I have done Administration assistant work, waitressing, interpreting and social and welfare work" she said.

"Dina's overseas birth has been a problem with some potential employers saying they can not take her on because they do not know if she will leave the country or if she may be deported.

Dina said personal confidence diminishes with constant knock backs.

"Personnel Attention and Associates helped us get our confidence back and to feel like we are something and somebody, not just anybody", she said.

"You don't have any more confidence to get up there and find a job, you say I am not worth anything when you've been unemployed for so long.

When you do this program it's completely different".

About a quarter of Dina's colleagues have left the program because they have already found jobs.

"Personnel Attention and Associates have helped us with resumes, public speaking and how to behave and what to do in interviews", she said.

"We support each other one hundred percent and if someone goes for a job we are there praying they get the job", she said.

"It's really wonderful to be working with them".

Dina also worked on marketing an under 18 dance party that was held at West Gosford on January 25.

After that, her involvement with Personnel Attention Associates ended and she has been looking for a job.

Dina said the government has not helped them as much as they could.

She cited the cutback in education funding as an example of the government's lack of initiative.

All these issues were discussed at the Youth Forum but no promises were made.

Dina said Local Member Jim Lloyd was helpful in getting her a spot at the forum.

"Jim Lloyd did quite a few things for us by promoting us", she said.

Dina added that, "For those without much confidence, please



The Deepwater Plaza Seniors' Excursion for April saw a full coach load of lucky seniors on a winery tour.

The next trip will be to Maitland

to visit historical sites at Morpeth and surrounding townships on May 18.

Both tours were organised for the shopping centre by Tony Arico's Traveland.

Help with work on the Peninsula

Recent changes to what was the Commonwealth Employment Service (CES), have left many Peninsula residents and employers confused as to what to do about finding a job or where to list vacancies.

The Peninsula still has a Centrelink office at Ettalong where part of the work done by the old CES is still being performed as well as some of the work of the previous Department of Social Security.

This is where anyone looking for work should first register.

However, to supplement this, there are also three major employment agencies on the Peninsula.

These agencies provide a wide variety of free services for people looking for work as well as for employers.

The agencies are Employment National at Ettalong, ET Australia

at Woy Woy and Mission Employment at Ettalong.

All these services aim to offer both employers and prospective employees a high level of service and assistance.

In addition to these, the NSW Department of Education and Training can arrange apprenticeships and traineeships on the Peninsula through Umina resident Steve Cummings, who works from the department's New Apprenticeship Centre at Chatwood.

Steve can help identify the most suitable traineeship or apprenticeship, advise on benefits available and access information about traineeship and apprenticeship programs.

He can help with the paperwork to register a trainee or apprentice as well as that required to claim government financial incentives.

He can also source appropriate training.

Umina students win cattle ribbons at Easter Show

Umina High School has been gaining accolades for its successful cattle breeding program.

The school has produced some of the finest Limousin cattle in Australia.

A team of cattle bred on the Ashwapai Clarence Town Stud were prepared on Umina High's agricultural farm for a three month period prior to a round of Hunter Valley and Sydney agricultural shows.

The trust put in the Umina High School Cattle Club by the stud resulted in a broad ribbon win at the Royal Easter Show in April and provided opportunities and experiences for students to understand the Australian

cattle industry.

The cattle were first exhibited at the Maitland Show and won the Grand Champion and Junior Grand Champion ribbons.

The Newcastle Show hauled in another 10 first and one second place awards.

Two Umina High students, Kelly Lawson and Shane Higgins, reached the finals in the Handlers Section at the Royal Easter Show.

The Ashwapai Stud manager, Mrs Lori Sellers, was delighted with the results.

"The allegiance between Ashwapai Stud and Umina High School's agricultural farm has proved a success," she said.

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School News

Valediction Arthur Beckinsale

Arthur Beckinsale died on Thursday, 18th March 1999 after a short illness.

Arthur was a teacher and Assistant Principal at Ettalong Public School for over 20 years, before his retirement in January, 1997.

He is remembered with fondness by teachers, students, parents of Ettalong Public School and by other members of the community and the teaching service across the Central Coast.

He was a gifted teacher, a respected professional leader, a valued Ettalong School member and friend.

He will be truly missed by so many people.

Ettalong P&C News

We have had a dynamic start to our school year by setting a goal to establish a computer network throughout Ettalong Public School.

The aim of the project is to allow each class access to the Internet and other valuable resources which will enable children and parents to become computer literate.

As you can imagine the costs are considerable, but our parents and community are excited and committed to achieving this target.

As a result of this enthusiasm we enjoyed increased P&C membership and attendance at our annual general meeting on March 17th.

We have .also introduced a weekly craft morning to make special gifts for our Mother's Day Stall and Fete.

This is a very productive and fun filled session.

All our fundraising this year will go towards financing the computer room.

This term we held a bush dance which was a great night, thoroughly enjoyed by everyone.

We also ran a sausage sizzle and coffee and cake stall on Election Day which was also very successful.

We thank all our parents and members of the community who contributed to both these functions.

We have lots of big plans for Term 2, so any thoughts or ideas readers may have would be very welcome.

We are very fortunate in our core group of P&C team leaders who run the canteens, the Little School House and the Uniform shop because they offer such a wonderful service for our school.

Student contributions

The following contributions have been written by students of Ettalong Public School:

The library monitor - My job at Ettalong School is a Library Monitor.

I have to choose people to use the computers, ring the bell for changeover and pack up.

I stamp the new books for the library collection.

I also scan people's barcodes for borrowing and returning books.

I put books on the shelves in the correct place and straighten up the book shelves.

I turn computers on and off and straighten up after the children have left the library.

I am proud to be a Libray monitor at Ettalong School. (Ben).

Boys' softball

Ettalong Public School played in the boys softball round robin at Kincumber's Frost Reserve against various Central Coast schools.

The first game was against Woy Woy Public School and we won 32 to 2, although Woy Woy played better than the score indicates.

Our second match was against Kariong.

Unfortunately for Ettalong, Kariong won 17 to 13.

Kariong will go onto the next district school's softball competition.

The last game Ettalong played was against Brisbania school.

Luckily Ettalong won even though Brisbania played well.

Mr King was a really excellent coach for softball.

On behalf of all the boys who played in the team, I would like to thank Mr King.

(Paul)

Buddy classes

At Ettalong School kids care for each other and every Wednesday 4H, 4W, 4G and 3/4L all go dancing.

One week the boys will have to choose the girls and the next week the girls will choose the boys.

We all stand in circles and dance.

It is great fun at lunch and recess times at our school because we play with all our friends.

Ettalong is a great school. (Elle)

Year 5 Bush Camp

The trip to the bush camp took two hours and when we arrived we met the camp leaders, Will and Therese.

Once we met them we found our tents.

Our first activity was archery.

We had a competition to see which team won.

Cameron's team won.

Our next activity was canoeing and everyone went in the reeds.

We played a game where we had to raft up and a person had to swap with another person.

After canoeing we had afternoon tea, a shower and a rest in our tent.

We had a baked dinner every night.

Later we played commandos.

We met around the logs and had milo and ice cream.

We sailed on the Marine Explorer for a dolphin cruise.

This was a great cruise.

We stopped at Mt Yaccaba and climbed to the top and went onto the surf club for lunch.

We caught the bus back to Ettalong School on Friday.

(Vic, Cameron, Est, Rhett)

Shelley Smith breaks four records

Umina High School student Shelley Smith continues to perform brilliantly in the pool.

Shelley broke four school records in her 17 years age group at the annual school Swimming Carnival this year: 100 metres freestyle (old record K Rogerson 01.09.60 set in 1980, new record 01.03.37); 50 meters freestyle (old record R Glew 00.33.11 set in 1998, new record 00.29.10); 50 metres butterfly (old record A Read 00.32.40 set in 1991, new record 00.31 .07); 50 metres backstroke (old record A Read 00.37.20 set in 1991, new record 00.34.25).

Age champions at the annual Swimming Carnival were: Keira Pride and Chris Wilmot (12 Years); Arlion Kissick and Matt Waugh (13 Years); Samantha Rose and Daniel Robinson/Matt Winner (14 Years); Natalie Engelshus and Nathan Young (15 Years); Leah Langford and Chris Pore/Byron De Jager (16 Years); and, Shelley Smith and Nathan Lakajev (17 Years).

Webb House were the champions once more.

Webb House has now won every school sports carnival for the last two years.

House point scores for the Swimming Carnival were: Booker 299; Crommelin 501; Davis 513; Webb 712.

Female calf born Umina High School's

Agriculture department has made a great start to 1999 on the school farm with the birth of a female calf.

Both mother and baby are doing well with the calf weighing in at 120kg at 2 months of age.

Last week we competed in the Maitland Show where our school cow and calf won the Grand Champion ribbon.

The Limousin heifers and bull that we are preparing for the Newcastle and Sydney Shows also won their respective classes.

Work has begun on the shearing shed, we are now at the roof stage.

The Year 11 Agriculture class have been preparing a paddock for fertiliser and variety trials on oats.

Year 9 and 10 have been working on sheep and cattle assignments.

Three of our Year 12 1998 students are now pursuing careers in agriculture.

Troy Chapman is doing Ag Economics at Sydney Uni, Paul Best is doing Agriculture at the University of Western Sydney (Hawkesbury), and Ben Lawley is doing one year at Tocal Ag College and then going to the University of Western Sydney to complete his Ag Science degree.

Congratulations to all three boys.

The school's heavy weight Limousin steer, Spencer, was the outright winner at this years Royal Easter Show beating all comers.

This includes all other schools as well as commercial stud breeders.

Grandparents invited in Seniors Week

Woy Woy Public School celebrated Seniors Week by inviting along grandparents and local Senior Citizen groups to a special Seniors Day on Friday,

19th March.

Over 150 visitors enjoyed watching a morning of activities including: sports; singing; dancing and acting.

The P&C then provided morning tea before the visitors were taken on a tour of the school and classrooms by the students.

Our Year 5 and 6 students **annual mini fete** was held on Friday, 26th March to raise money for their major excursions to Myuna Bay and Canberra.

They organised a wide variety of stalls and activities which all parents and students could participate in.

Donations for prizes were received from a great number of local businesses and over \$2,700 was raised on the day.

MPs visit Woy Woy in election lead-up

Woy Woy High School received a visit from the Minister for Education, Mr John Aquilina, on Tuesday, 16th March.

He was accompanied by Mr Bill Low, District Superintendent, Ms Marie Andrews, MP for Peats, and Mr Grant McBride, MP for The Entrance.

Visits were made to a Year 10 Computing Studies class and a Year 9 History class.

Mr Aquilina gave the Year 9 History students a lecturette on Cleopatra.

Our Canteen, Food Technology students and Ms Aspley prepared a morning tea for staff, P&C representatives and our school captains, Brooke Preston and Jason Yeo (who helped the Principal, Miss Carter, host the Minister and his entourage).

Whilst at the school Mr Aquilina announced that \$120,000 would be allocated towards refurbishing the junior toilets.

Several students have been chosen to represent Metropolitan North in the following sporting teams: Cricket, Jayheart Starkey and Jason Moore; Rugby League, Scott Wilesmith.

Our girls Tennis team defeated Wyong High School 7 - 0 in the first round of the CHS knockout.

Team members are: Erika Russell; Melissa Varley; Kim Neilan and Sarah McWilliam.

In the first round of the CHS Open Rugby League knockout our boys defeated Gosford High School in a very close game.

Congratulations to Ben Crowson who played in the Central Coast Under 14 Touch Team the weekend before Easter - his team won the State Championships.

Year 7 students have made an excellent start to high school.

Mini reports were being completed at the end of Term 1.

They enjoyed a Peer Support Camp held on March 15 and 16 where they got to know each other better.

They also got to know their Mentor Teacher and some of their Year 11 Peer Support Leaders better as well.

Everyone returned to school very happy.

To mark the end of the organised Peer Support sessions a fun one

day excursion was held on the last Wednesday of Term at the Mingara Leisure centre.

Again our students had a great time and the teachers were very pleased to be told by Mingara staff that our students' behaviour had been excellent.

A special Year 7 Parent!Student! Teacher night was held on the last Wednesday of Term 1.

Despite the downpour this evening was well attended.

Parents were able to hear what the class Mentor Teacher had to say about how their child's class had settled into high school and to ask questions and pass on some advice to the teachers.

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'Traumatic' premiership

"Traumatic, but satisfying" was the description Umina Cricket Club president Peter Barry gave the club's recent first grade cricket premiership victory.

The "trauma" was a nail-biting finish to the final.

Setting Narara 157 for victory, Umina's major contributors with the bat were Matt Duggan (33) and Jason Riley (28).

Victory looked assured with Narara collapsing at one stage to 8/59.

However a ninth wicket partnership clawed Narara back into the match.

Umina's Mick Barry made the crucial breakthrough bowling Smythe (42) shortly after tea, giving Barry outstanding figures of 4/13.

Within eight runs of victory, the last Narara wicket fell to a crucial run out, and Umina became the premiers for the first time since

1993-94.

Team captain Jamie Doran described the victory as, "a great finish to a good all round year."

Doran gave special mention to the consistency of both Duggan and Riley with the bat throughout the season, and Mick Barry's performance under pressure.

After several close matches during the season, Doran claims the team learnt from their loss in the previous final.

"This year we knew what we had to do to win."

Club president Peter Barry said a strong team focus and healthy junior club were also contributors to the victory.

"We lost a lot of players at the end of the 1995 season.

This team took some time to rebuild.

"It is very satisfying to know that nine members of the 13 man squad came from the Umina Juniors," he said.

Rugby League season kicks off

The Central Coast Rugby League season kicked off on Sunday, April 11.

Defending Premiers, Woy Woy RLFC hope to fend off strong challenges from a revitalised competition to win back to back premierships in the shadow of a large black bear.

Woy Woy, like many other football clubs, experienced many player changes during the off season.

Losses were Simon Chappell, Keiran Casey, and Warren Staunton to Umina, Danny Mamo to St Marys, Rob McTeare to The Entrance, Adam Wade who is touring and Shane McDermott to Joondalup in WA.

Gains in the off season were Jade Mason from Gosford, Nathan Grey from Erina, Roger Best from the London Broncos, Duncan Smith from Keighley (UK),

Nathan Johnson from Coogee Dolphins and Luke Moffitt from the Queanbeyan Blues.

Additionally, Dave Maryska has returned after trialing with Manly and five Central Coast Juniors have returned from North Sydney.

They are Adam Moore, Shane Ward, Danny Somerville, Corey Jaeger and John Griffin.

Coach Alan Emery is looking to the more experienced players such as Paul Heffernan, Craig Eveleigh, Hayden Berry and Jason Carpenter to assist the younger players to gain the confidence and experience to be able to take the final step up to first grade.

Apart from winning the first grade premiership last year, the club was also proud to have had Hayden Berry selected for Country Seconds.

Jason Carpenter won the Sterland Medal as best and fairest player on the Central Coast and

Dave Maryska achieve the status of highest point scorer on the Central Coast.

Last year will be a hard season to top.

This year sees the return of the Umina Bunnies to the competition making it one of the strongest competitions for some time.

Round 1 saw a tight grand final replay with Woy Woy controversially edging out Erina 8-6.

Umina lost to Ourimbah/Wyoming 16-30.

Round 2 will see Woy Woy play The Entrance and Umina play Gosford/Northern Lakes.

Woy Woy is currently running third after round one, equal on points but separated by goal difference.

All past and present players are invited to The Old Pub on Tuesday, 20 April for a send off for Noel Annand.

English soccer club fights over Umina boy

Soccer Australia and English Premier League club Leeds United are fighting over the talents of a Peninsula teenager.

Jamie McMaster, 16, of Umina, had to choose between club and country when signing a four-year contract with Leeds.

The Leeds contract stipulates Jamie cannot play for Australia during the contract, which has caused Soccer Australia to come out fighting.

Soccer Australia says this type of contract drains Australia's talent and leaves Australian national

sides without their best talent.

Jamie has dual citizenship which means he can also play for England.

This could mean that he never plays for Australia.

Soccer Australia retaliated by refusing to give Leeds clearance allowing Jamie to play in an under 18 FA Cup match.

Jamie's mother, Sandra McMaster, believes Soccer Australia is just seeking compensation and does not have her son's interest at heart.

"His main aim is to get on the park and play soccer, that's what he loves," she said.

Ettalong Club's sponsorship reaps rewards

Ettalong Beach Club's sponsorship of Umina Surf Club's Coaching Academy is beginning to reap rewards.

The Juniors "Learn To Swim" program has seen a 100% improvement in all participants.

The program, which is funded by the Club, uses pool lanes to improve stroke and fitness levels and incorporates two sessions each week in the surf, with qualified coaches.

"Our Surf Safety program is an essential part of our education and coaching" said Umina President Brett Harod.

"Without Ettalong Beach Club's support, over 150 children would not have undergone this expert tuition, which has resulted in their ability to be safe in the surf and eventually teach Surf Safety themselves.

Ettalong Beach Club's 99/2000 financial year commitment to Umina Surf Club totals \$12 600, which has also allowed funding for equipment and rash vests for the highly competitive and successful Senior team.

Anzac Day derby

The popular Southern and Ettalong United Soccer Club Anzac Day Derby will take place at James Brown Oval this coming Sunday, April 25.

Fixtures will commence at 12 noon with entertainment commencing at 10.30am.

The main attraction will be the first grade derby between Southern and Ettalong United and nearby Umina United - two old foes

ready to do battle.

Other fixtures will be the Reserve Grade, under 5s, women's soccer matches and another popular event, "The Golden Oldies" which commences at 12 noon and is always good entertainment.

The annual ANZAC Day derby - has always been a family day with fire works, a jumping castle, face painting and barbecue.

All are welcome.

Fishing News

Some good catches of bream and whiting have been reported off the bars at Woy Woy, Brickwharf Channel, Paddy's Channel and the Woy Woy Railway Bridge.

The first two hours of the run-up tide have been the most productive.

Best reported baits are chicken gut, mullet gut and prawns.

Large catches of leather jacket have also been reported at the Rip Bridge.

Mainly fishing on a 1.1 m to 1.3m high tide.

This enables the angler to fish the full length of the tide both in and out, as the rip runs very strongly on larger tides.

Best bait was prawns that are lightly salted 30 minutes before use.

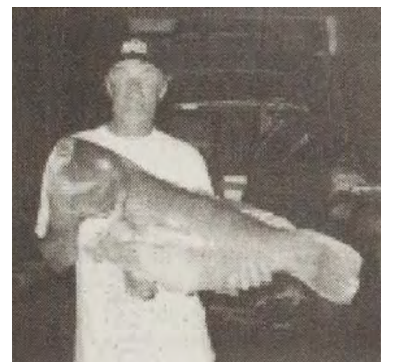
"Mike the Mud Crabber" reveals that a few muddies are still coming in, but with the water temperature slowly dropping due to change of season, there are only a few weeks left to catch these bruised before they hibernate.

Outside Good catches of salmon and tailor have been reported off Putty Beach, with a spotted mackerel mixed in as well.

Best bait has been a full pilchard on a set of 5/0 ganged hooks.

Cast the awaiting bait, then slowly retrieve.

Good catches of drummer have been reported off Copacabana, Avoca, Winnie Bay and



Pictured is Bob Hall of Umina, with his 9.4 kg Blue Groper caught outside near Macmasters Beach on March 17

Macmasters.

Best baits hooking up have been cunjevoi, abalone gut and shelled prawns, burleying with bread soaked in water beforehand.

For all the manic outside anglers, Schnapper up to 5 kgs have been coming in wide off Broken Bay - just watch then current as this plays an important part out there.

Competition Results The results of the Brisbane Waters Combined Fishing Clubs Competition are: Champion Club Wot Woy Hotel, Champion Angler Dave Ayling, Lady Champion Fay Lewis, Junior Champion James Haynes.

**By Jamie Pocock
Jamie's Bait & Tackle
Woy Woy**

The Bunnies are back

The Umina Rugby League Football Club is back after four years in the wilderness.

The Umina team withdrew from the Central Coast competition in 1995 but, with the help of a sponsorship from the Ettalong Beach War Memorial Club, have

returned for season 1999.

The \$50 000 sponsorship will support Umina's four senior grades and junior teams over the next three seasons.

Umina won the competition in 1994, but had to withdraw in 1995 due to financial hardships.

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Pets

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Public Notices

Learn from and enjoy guided rock pool walks in your area. Pearl Beach - 7 May Umina - 2 July
Whale watching tours commence June. Group enquiries welcome.

Tibetan Buddhist Master

Vasep Tulku Rintoche
Giving a public talk. Friday May 7, Kincumber Multi-Purpose Centre. 7.30pm. \$10
Mahamudra Meditation Retreat May 8&9, Somersby
For information phone Bess Hope 4341

Sports Notices

Southern and Ettalong United Soccer Club PLAYERS WANTED its not too late. Under 7s, 8s, 9s, 10s & 11s. Also All Age Players. Contact 4368 6176 or 4341 2973

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Peninsula COMMUNITY ACCESS News

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No. 2

The newspaper that cares about the Peninsula community

May 1999



The serene waters of Way Way Channel on a typical autumn day

Stormwater drain study recommends big spending

A stormwater drainage study for Veron Rd, Umina, and Dulkara Rd, South Woy Woy, has recommended measures costing \$1.9 million.

Several severe downpours, causing flooding above floor level in seven houses, were the catalyst for Council to make an extensive investigation.

Council wanted to determine the cause of the flooding problem and assess drainage strategies.

Engineering consultants, Kinhill Engineers, were commissioned to perform a drainage study and the study drew four public submissions.

The submissions were mainly concerned with stormwater run off quality.

The submissions' authors requested that future drainage studies are based on ecological sustainable principles which will improve the water environment.

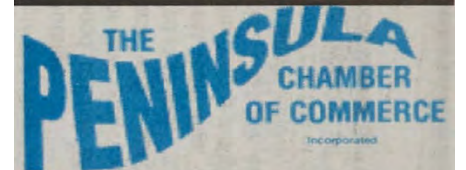
Council officers said the recommended strategies in the drainage study would not cause environmental problems and included the construction of pipelines and gross pollutant traps.

Council's annual Special Drainage Levy Funds were not adequate to complete all the works and the drainage solution will be built over a number of years.

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