

Community centre to be rebuilt

The Peninsula Community Centre will be totally rebuilt, following a meeting of the Council's building committee.

The Woy Woy Little Theatre, which was previously part of the same development, is now being treated as a separate project.

Mayor Cr Chris Holstein said that council wanted to progress as quickly as possible.

"We're trying to get things moving," he said.

"We don't want to hold the theatre back."

The decision was made after lengthy discussions on renovations to the community centre failed to produce a suitable result.

However, Community Centre president, Katie Smith, was critical of the decision to rebuild, claiming it will not be cost effective.

"We have had discussions with Council now for almost two years and we are proceeding nowhere in terms of renovations", she said.

"We have never been against demolishing part of the building if it was more cost effective, provided all the current community groups using the centre were accommodated in any new building works.

"However, Council's own various estimates have put the cost of demolishing and building a new centre to accommodate all groups from \$2 million to \$5 million."

She did not believe the new building would provide the same facilities as the current building.

Cr Holstein said the new building would only require an additional \$500,000 more than that already allocated.

"I'm as frustrated as they are with all the delays but they will have a new purpose built structure in 18 months," he said.

"It will be better for all concerned if council were to replace it."

Cr Holstein said the centre had three members on the building committee and the committee agreed unanimously for the need for a new building.

"Every group currently using the building will have use of the new building," he said.

Cr Holstein said the new building would be built while the old building is still being used, meaning little disruption to users.

Cr Lynne Bockholt also supported the move to rebuild the community centre.

Theatre welcomes move - Page 5



Artists paint Ettalong scenery

Twenty artists from the Central Coast Arts Society visited Ettalong Beach early in August to paint scenery visible from the proposed fast ferry wharf location.

According to vice-president Bernard Walsh: "The

group meets at a different location on the Central Coast every Tuesday but this was one of the best attended gatherings of artists for some time." Paintings are exhibited four times a year at the Gosford Arts Centre with many being available for sale.

Taj to open

The 'Taj Mahal' building will be opened as a restaurant in early September.

The building on the Koolewong waterfront has been left unused for many years after disputes with Gosford Council.

The restaurant will be called Murphy's Bay Waterfront Restaurant and owner Lisa Shipton says there will be seating for 150 and also a function room.

Peninsula shares in community grants

The Peninsula has shared in over \$150,000 of Community and Cultural Grants, which were distributed by Council to over 68 community groups throughout the shire by Mayor Cr Chris Holstein.

The presentation was made at Gosford Council Chambers on August 2.

Damyon Wolfe received a grant on behalf of Woy Woy Cottage for an independent living skills program being implemented for young homeless people.

Steven Knox received a grant on behalf of the Peninsula Christian Life Centre for the Peninsula Choir for assistance with the staging of the Peninsula Carols 1999 in conjunction with many other community groups in the area.

Pastor John McCuskie also received a grant on behalf of the Peninsula Christian Life Centre to assist with the costs of holding the "How to Drug Proof your Kids"

program.

Heather McKenzie received a grant on behalf of the Annual Blessing of the Fleet/Oysters' Birthday Celebrations to be held at Woy Woy on November 6.

Mayor Holstein said: "Gosford City Council supports and assists numerous community groups 'throughout the City as part of its commitment to strengthen community development in the area."

At the presentation, representatives from a wide range of projects supported by council came together not just to receive their grants but also to learn more about other groups and discuss innovative and proposed projects.

Grant recipients spoke highly of council's support for their work as well as the support and the assistance received from the Community Services Department staff.

Cec Bucello, August 2

Andrews meets at interchange

Council officers, Central Coast Taxis, the Transport Workers Union and Central Coast Commuters Association met recently with State Member for Peats, Ms Marie Andrews, at the Woy Woy bus and rail interchange.

After the meeting, Ms Andrews said she had "requested council investigate the legalities attached to the non-operation of the dormant lift within the Clock Tower building".

Ms Andrews said she was concerned about pedestrian access to and from the train and

bus station.

"To have this lift operating at all times is most desirable as it will provide another safe alternative access to the railway station for train and bus patrons," she said.

"It seems such a waste to have an inoperable lift in a building which is connected to the station by an overhead bridge.

It just doesn't make sense.

"I call upon council to take whatever action it can to have that ludicrous situation reversed," she said.

Ms Andrews organised a site inspection after commuters and bus and taxi drivers had expressed

their concerns to her.

Ms Andrews said a number of other issues were also discussed, including: providing an area to allow buses and taxis to set down disabled passengers close to the lift, extra space to enable buses to manoeuvre more safely into the bus bays and more parking for taxis.

"I'm pleased that so many agencies and organisations were represented at the inspection," she said.

"I believe the meeting was a very productive one and I'm sure a good outcome will be the ultimate result," said Ms Andrews.

Carl Spears, August 11

INSIDE

Council candidates have their say and address Peninsula residents with their policies and views.

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Forum



On the press Peninsula News rolls off the press at our printers.

Peninsula News

Welcome to our new readers from the Peninsula catchment areas of Empire Bay, Oaleys Point, 5t Hubert's Island, Bensville, Koolewong and Tascott.

We are pleased to be able to add you to our growing band of readers across the Peninsula as far south as Patonga.

We have added news items about your area and look forward to continuing to do so in future.

Please feel free to keep us informed so that we can pass on information to the entire community.

Peninsula News is owned by the Peninsula Community Access Newspaper Incorporated, a non profit association established for the benefit of the community and its catchment area.

Copies are available each month from all bowling, league and social clubs in the area as well as from libraries, nospitals, nursing homes, senior citizens centres, community centres and retirement villages.

All school children are given a copy to take home and copies are also available from specific shops in some areas where none of the above outlets are readily available, particularly in the newer areas.

The total distribution is now 11 000 copies.

Subscriptions are available at \$18 for 12 editions posted to your door on day of publication or you can pick up a free copy at the outlets listed above.

Discounts: The Peninsula News Community Discount Cards introduced last month have been well received and PND logos appear on even more advertisements this month saving money for readers and at the same time helping you to support our sponsors.

Election: Much of this edition has been devoted to the Gosford Council Elections.

Of all levels of government, local government has more impact on our daily lives than any other level and we have therefore given it the relevant level of importance that it deserves.

All candidates that nominated early enough were asked what they plan to do for the Peninsula if elected and the results make interesting reading.

We urge readers to look at this before they vote so that they will be able to make an informed decision.

Volunteers: I would like to welcome to our merry band of voluntary staff author Stan Prytz and arts correspondent Bernard Craft.

The addition of two more writers means that we will now cover all aspects of the arts more effectively.

If you would like to help with writing, typing, research, graphic design and layout., editing, distribution, volunteers co-ordination, web site updating, photography, sponsorship-advertising revenue or clerical support, we would like to hear from you.

No experience is necessary, the work is interesting and the experience gained will help you if you are looking for paid work.

Deadline: The seventh edition of Peninsula News will be published September 13.

All contributions including letters to the editor need to be in by September 8.

We prefer contributions via e-mail or floppy disk, but even clay tablets will be accepted, according to our reporter Carl Spears.

We thank all our sponsors and the Peninsula community for their support.

Mark Snell, President
Peninsula Community Access Newspaper Inc

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

Petition against library renaming

The Woy Woy library has been in existence since 1931 and, in fact, has a Heritage Listing.

In spite of this and the wishes of the majority of the residents of the Peninsula, Council is moving to rename our Woy Woy Library, the Spike Milligan Library.

I understand that a petition of approximately 166 residents who object to this action is being forwarded to the manager, Director of Corporate and Community services, Gosford Council.

Hopefully Council will defer to the wishes of the majority of ratepayers of the Peninsula.

These petitioners have no objections to a room or section within the library being named the Spike Milligan room.

Council should be mindful of the forthcoming elections.

A. Armstrong Woy Woy

Community Forum

Letters to the editor are welcomed and should be addressed to Peninsula News, PO Box 532, Woy Woy 2256. Contributions in word format sent via e-mail to pennews@openwindows.com or on disk save us having to retype them.

Study light rail

Parts of the Central Coast appear suitable for light rail transport with the Peninsula being the best example.

I believe that feasibility studies have already been carried out showing that a light rail system linking Woy Woy, Ettalong and Umina is workable and would vastly improve the quality of life for

Peninsula residents.
The Central Coast Community Concerned Citizens group will be seeking further studies and community consultation to ensure that the proposal is economically and environmentally viable and that it is acceptable by local residents.

P.Leney Umina Beach

Meeting stated club facts

I would like to respond to the letter from Mr Maynard, Woy Woy, in your issue of 27 July.

It is unfortunate that Mr Maynard appears, judging by the comments made, to have been unable to attend the members' meeting held on 14 July.

This meeting was held specifically for the purpose of providing an overview so that the

facts could be correctly stated.
The club premises are not costing \$35 million.
The rent is not \$5 million.
We would have to borrow the money to ' build anyway, therefore the buy-back is simply a vehicle by which the capital outlay is delayed.
Around 60% of the current facilities are seldom used now, therefore there will be no loss of

members' amenities.
Grand Mercure will not operate the hotel complex - the club will run the hotel under that brand name.
I should point out that contact was made with Mr Maynard and an opportunity offered for a meeting with the writer to provide a full personal briefing.
However this offer was declined.
Peter J Hale General Manager

Haphazard development has been rampant for too long

At the Council meeting of August 3, an issue of vital concern to all residents of the Central Coast was voted upon by Council.

That issue was whether to approve an application to rezone conservation land at Bensville for a residential development containing 54 homes.

No one would deny that there must be additional housing for a growing population.

The question is, however, where should that development occur? And what support must the State and Federal Governments provide? For far too long rampant and haphazard development has been taking place on the Central

Coast.
Successive governments have failed to provide the physical and social infrastructure that is essential if we are to maintain our quality of life.
Infrastructure maintenance and development have been left to local councils.
Putting it bluntly, the State and Federal Governments are shirking their responsibilities.
And we, as voters, are letting them get away with it.
Development is for many: "There's spare land, let's build on it."
"And many developers would add: "Especially if we can get rich quickly." But development affects us all.

When you go for a drive with your family what do you want to see?
What attracts tourists to the Central Coast?
I'm sure that neither you nor the tourists will answer: "New houses. Hectare after hectare of new houses.
Everywhere I look, new houses".
A beautiful environment is what we all like to see.
This is the most important and valuable asset that we have on the Central Coast.
Let's not allow development .to destroy it.
Thanks Councillors Holstein, Bell, Bockholt, Brooks and Row for listening.

John Oakley Woy Woy

Thanks for drug program support

Thank you for the sponsorship given through your organisation on How to Drug Proof Your Kids and toward the community meeting last Thursday.

Without the support you have given we would not be able to benefit our community with a program such as this I believe

there will be much gratitude shown as our community sees that you are concerned with the drug issues that many parents are facing.
The night was very successful as we had over 100 expressions of interest shown and we are still receiving many calls for help.
As a sponsor, we will keep you informed with further updated results and of upcoming sessions

in the community.
Our How to Drug Proof Your Kids sessions will kick off on August 17 at 7.30pm end Umina Tea Rooms.
Again we thank you for your whole-hearted support in this venture.
John McCaskie Peninsula Christian Life Centre

Contributions scheme for Ettalong car park

Council is looking at a contributions plan to reimburse public monies spent on the new car park behind Ettalong Beach Dry Cleaners.

Council will collect the money from a levy on new development where the demand for parking is greater than the parking space provided by the new development.

The levy will only apply to developments within the Ettalong business district, which covers the area between the Senior Citizens' Centre, just past Cinema Paradiso, Ettalong Beach Club and the car park.

Mr Murray said Ettalong

currently had a surplus of car parking spaces but this was likely to change.

"As development is expected to increase as a result of the impetus of the Ettalong Beach War Memorial Club redevelopment, it is timely to introduce the collection of contributions," he said.

Council bought the car park land for \$275,000 and the car park itself cost \$57,000.

Contributions collected between 1983 and 1993 totalled \$106,000.

Mr Murray said the new contributions plan will probably fall short of total reimbursement of money from council's general fund.

The new car park provides 48 parking spaces.



Fast Ships reject erosion claims

The Ettalong Beach fast ferry proponent, Fast Ships Ltd, has hit back at claims that the proposed ferry will cause foreshore degradation.

Chairman of Fast Ships, Peter Hale said the claims made by the Fast Ferry Reaction Committee at its July 25 meeting were illfounded.

"The reaction committee has made incorrect claims about alleged foreshore degradation that the ferry will cause, obviously without any scientific or professional evidence," he said.

"I understand the public meeting was shown video footage of the Parramatta River and the damage the RiverCats were causing to the

river banks.

"The assertion is that the proposed Ettalong Beach ferry will have a similar impact on the local foreshore.

"This is totally untrue and fallacious," he said.

"To make any sort of comparison between the two locations is totally misleading," said Mr Hale.

Mr Hale said it was easy for opposition groups to make statements without providing any evidence to substantiate those claims.

"Our reports have been prepared by some of the best coastal engineering and environmental experts in the state," he said.

Carl Spears, August 13

Youth start own business

Year 7 and Year 8 students, Lauren Shannon, Danielle Mills and Kimberley Beer, have opened their own dog walking business.

Although listing on the Stock Exchange may be a little way off yet, the business has grown well since it started eight weeks ago.

All three deny coming up with the idea.

"It was everybody's idea," said Lauren.

Showing business acumen beyond their years, they have devised marketing strategies including discount package deals.

"We walk the dogs and it costs \$3 for a small dog, \$4 for a medium dog and \$5 for a large dog," said Kimberley.

Danielle chimes in: "It costs the same (again) if you want us to wash the dogs as well" Completing the answer as a team, Lauren adds: "If you want both

walking and washing it's \$5 for a small dog, \$7 for a medium dog and \$9 for a large dog."

The three have managed to avoid bad dogs although they get a couple that are untrained.

They want the business to grow despite having to juggle study and a social life.

Lauren has past work experience baby sitting and Danielle currently also delivers medicines for the Soul Pattinson Pharmacy in Way Woy.

Kimberley has jumped in the deep end by making her first job her own business.

All three have ambitions beyond dogs.

Lauren wants to become a policewoman, Danielle an environmental scientist and Kimberley a photographer and marine biologist.

Their success in these fields will leave many Peninsula pooches sadder.

Carl Spears, July 30

Cottage faces increasing demands

The accommodation refuge Woy Woy Youth Cottage is finding it hard to meet demands, despite a recent grant from Gosford Council.

Youth Cottage manager Anne Cichra-Harrison said: "Over the years, the demand on our service has increased while the resources have not.

"The Woy Woy Youth Cottage provides a safe place where young people, aged 12 to 17, can stay in the hope of resolving some of their

immediate problems," she said.

"Some of the reasons for the increased demand on our service include; the area's rapid population growth, isolation of disadvantaged families, lack of support structures, family breakdown and unemployment, which all contribute to the problem of homeless youth"

The cottage has provided emergency accommodation for homeless youth for the past 24 years and operates 24 hours a day.

It provides six beds which can

be used by individuals for up to three months.

Ms Cichra-Harrison thanked Gosford Council for the \$1140 grant, which will be used to purchase a video camera and some art equipment.

However, the service was facing a difficult year financially and would appreciate further assistance, she said.

Phone 4341 9027 for further information.

Carl Spears, August 9

Beach building lines row continues at Pearl Beach

A long running disagreement over the definition of building lines on beach front properties in the Pearl Beach area has failed to be resolved by Gosford Council.

The issue was on the agenda again because a property owner in Coral Crescent wants to demolish an existing dwelling to build another.

The owner's neighbour said the new dwelling would impede their view and would result in a loss of winter sun, among other concerns.

Council's director of development and the environment

said the loss of view was negligible and the loss of winter sun would be confined to about two hours per day between 10am and noon.

Councillors deferred the application until an appropriate building line could be decided.

Considerable debate on council's policy on building lines led Cr Lynne Bockholt to say: "Council has no strategy on building lines (on the Pearl Beach waterfront).

"It's been going on for 12 years and every time something comes from Pearl Beach it takes an hour to resolve.

"We must look like chumps."

Carl Spears, August 13

More units for Daleys Point village

Daleys Point Peri don retirement village has sought approval to build more units on the fringe of the existing village.

On the recommendation of Council's director of development and the environment, Mr John Murray, the council accepted the proposal providing the usual statutory provisions and some key

issues were met.

Under the current State environmental policy, the maximum height for the new dwellings is eight metres.

The proposed buildings are up to 8.5 metres high.

Council officers will approach the Department of Urban Affairs and Planning (DUAP) to vary the height limit for the proposal.

If DUAP agree to vary the height limit, council will allow peridon to go ahead providing they comply with 131 conditions set by council.

These conditions are mainly statutory and include safety, environmental protection, access and provision of service and amenities.

Peri don has five years in which to begin work.

Carl Spears, August 13

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Chamber News

Exciting opportunities in new Chamber year

A new Chamber year has now commenced and the Peninsula business community has some exciting opportunities ahead as we approach the new millennia.

It is up to all of us to maximise those opportunities and turn them into strong economic growth.

The Chamber will also be focusing this coming year on advocating for a co-ordinated approach to the long term planning of the Peninsula.

For many years the Peninsula has lacked an integrated approach to planning issues such as the interaction between development, traffic management, environment and social infrastructure.

Whilst plans have been developed for individual areas and town centres, a holistic approach is needed for the Peninsula to define its role into the next century.

The Chamber will be actively encouraging Council to review these strategies in consultation with both the business sector and the wider community.

This approach will also include the debate over the long term planning of the Umina Beach CBD and the need for a Development Control Plan to guide its future.

Umina DCP

Umina Beach businesses including Chamber of Commerce members have formed a working group to review the long term planning problems facing the Umina Beach business centre. The aim of the working group, which is being co-ordinated by the Chamber of Commerce, is to develop a submission to Gosford City Council for the (preparation of a Development Control Plan for the CBD.

The submission will advocate for the allocation of funds from Gosford City Council to appoint an independent planning consultant to develop a centre study document for the Umina Beach town centre which will form the basis of a draft

Development Control Plan.

The plan will look at the future redevelopment potential of the CBD and the opportunities for the long term revitalisation of the town centre.

This is an important step for what is arguably one of the busiest retail shopping strips in the City of Gosford.

Congratulations to Cheryl Bennett (Century 21 Real Estate) and Jeramie Cusak (Ocean Beach Hotel) for getting the working group under way.

Old KFC site

As recently reported in the local press, the old KFC site in Trafalgar Avenue has once again come under the spotlight as the owners struggle with Council to gain redevelopment approval.

This is a 'prime example of how a Development Control Plan could have assisted the development process.

The Chamber recently met with the Mayor, Chris Holstein to discuss the problems confronted by the owner and his building designer.

It is proposed to construct an upmarket commercial/residential building on the site containing two restaurant size ground floor shop! with covered parking, first floor residential apartments and second floor penthouse style residences.

The proposal is a high quality benchmark development which will set the standard for similar high quality developments in the area.

The meeting with Mayor Chris Holstein was highly encouraging.

Councillor Holstein has arranged a meeting between the owners and Council's senior staff to resolve the outstanding issues with a view to the development proceeding to the satisfaction of both parties.

Main Street

The Chamber has endorsed the continuation of the Mainstreet Program for another 12 months



and has re-appointed Debra Wales as the Peninsula Mainstreet Co-ordinator.

Debra will continue the work of the program in each of the three business centres of Woy Woy, Ettalong Beach and Umina Beach together with the villages of Pearl Beach and Patonga Beach.

The program will also continue its role on each of the three CBD building committees so as to provide constructive input into the Streetscape Masterplans under Council's Financial Strategy.

Ettalong Upgrade

The upgrading of the Ettalong Beach town centre is progressing well under Council's Financial Strategy.

Footpath paving is continuing through the western end of the CBD with heritage style seating and rubbish bins to be installed over the next few weeks.

The Council's Traffic Committee has also recently approved the Picnic Parade landscaping, works which will form part of the entry statement into Ettalong Beach.

Ettalong Resort

The Champagne was flowing last week with the announcement of the Ettalong Beach Resort complex.

The Premier, Bob Carr officially opened the excavation works for the 270 vehicle basement car park which will start in earnest over the coming weeks.

This will have huge impacts on

the local economy creating jobs and business opportunities.

Vacant floor space is already at a premium in Ettalong Beach with only three or four vacant shops.

This is a far cry from those days four of five years ago (before the Mainstreet Program commenced) when there were up to 20 vacant shops.

Business inquiry is at an all time high with many prospective restaurant and cafe operators looking for suitable premises.

Many will notice the demolition of the old waterslide site and the Corona's Night Club (formerly the roller skating rink).

Both properties will be used for temporary car parking for the Memorial Club until the new basement level parking area becomes available.

It is envisaged that the site will then be redeveloped for additional tourist and commercial uses.

Fast Ferry Service

The advertising period for the final fast ferry reports has now closed.

It is hoped that Council's officers will expedite the final assessments so that the formal development consent document can be issued to the fast ferry company, Fast Ships Limited.

Once the formal consent has been issued, the company will be lodging a Construction Certificate application with Council for the construction of the new wharf at Bangalow Street for the berthing of the fast ferry.

It is pleasing to see that the fast ferry company has canvassed all the issues raised by the specially convened Council Sunset Committee.

The concerns of the local residents have been acknowledged and the company has agreed to look at refuelling the fast ferry in Sydney rather than fuel tanks in the, public reserve.

It has also been confirmed that whilst the issue of parking in the Lemon Grove Netball Courts was assessed, the company has agreed that this will not be an option for the fast ferry service.

IT Working Group

One of the biggest challenges for the business sector over the coming years will be the increasing importance of information technology and how we can apply it to our every day business operations.

It is a reality that computer technology is advancing at a rapid rate and to this end, the Chamber has formalised an information technology working group headed by Mark Snell (Open Windows) which will explore the opportunities for Peninsula businesses.

The Chamber believes the Peninsula could become a "test bed" for new information and telecommunications technology, to the benefit of local business and the community generally.

This could create long term jobs and provide important local investment opportunities.

The Chamber is looking forward to the coming year.

The next few months will be very important to the community with the upcoming local government elections which will have long term implications for our community.

The Chamber encourages all eligible voters to use their vote wisely and wishes all prospective candidates every success in the coming ballot.

Matthew Wales
President
Peninsula Chamber of Commerce

The remaining mangrove islands of Brisbane Waters are very important places.

Mangrove forests provide safe nursery areas for the juveniles of many species of fish, crabs and prawns and are vital to ensuring on-going species survival.

They are also a haven for many birds.

Pelican Island opposite Fisherman's Wharf at Woy Woy and nearby larger Riley's Island help maintain the health and life of the waterways.

Riley's Island was saved from development in the late 1970's by a band of dedicated residents who could foresee disaster for our waterways if every island went the way of St Huberts Island.

For several years, the 'Save Riley's Island' group lobbied and fought the Hooker-Rex Corporation, Gosford Shire Council and the State Government, until finally the then NSW Premier, Neville Wran, declared it a passive

recreation site and disallowed development of the area.

Today, Riley's and Pelican Islands are Nature Reserves managed by the National Parks & Wildlife Service.

Riley's in particular is an important site as it shows a classic vegetation progression from seagrass beds through mangroves and salt marsh to casuarina and eucalypt forests.

The island supports over 50 bird species and is an important breeding site for the rare Bush Stone Curlew.

The Bush Stone Curlew is on the threatened species list.

They are nocturnal birds that can sometimes be seen at high tide foraging on exposed sand spits.

As they are ground nesting and

The environment with Jeannie Lawson

feeding birds, they are at great risk of predation, so islands such as Riley's offer a safer option.

Foxes, however, also like the vegetation cover of Riley's Island and are a concern.

"There is a fox eradication program using snares carried out regularly on the islands with mixed success," said NPWS area manager Alan Henderson.

"Foxes have 'been seen swimming over to the islands from the mainland on a few occasions so the eradication program is ongoing.

Curlews have recently been sighted near Riley's Island so it is important to keep the fox situation

under control.

Other nearby sand spits provide nesting grounds for pelicans but as they do not have vegetation cover, foxes do not venture out to them." The juveniles of many bird species can be seen at this time of year around the Peninsula waterways.

They can be difficult to identify as they often have plumage that differs from the adult bird.

Juvenile Caspian Terns, the largest tern found in Australia, have a pure white head rather than the black bonnet of an adult and a bright vermillion beak.

They have been seen off Lion's Park at Woy Woy.

These birds are on the list of bird species that come under an International Agreement for the protection of migratory birds and migratory bird breeding sites.

The Eastern Curlew, the Whimbrei and the Bar-Tailed Godwit are other species found around the islands that are also on this list.

Other juveniles observed are those of the Sea Eagles which are mottled brown/fawn and can be confused with other species of hawks or eagles, whilst the adults are a distinctive white and grey.

They have been seen participating in spectacular aerial battles around Davistown and Empire Bay.

There is an extensive bird survey programme underway by Birds Australia.

They are seeking bird-watchers from every corner of the country to record bird species and numbers in a local wea.

If you would like to participate contact the co-ordinator for this region, Alan Morris, at the NPWS office in Gosford on 43 244 911, or Birds Australia on 03-9882 2622.

The Bird Atlas website is <http://www.vicnet.net.au/-birdsau/atlas>

Mangroves are a haven

Little Theatre welcomes 'green light'

"Quietly confident" are the words used by Woy Woy Little Theatre spokesperson Barbara Hickey to describe her outlook after the latest Building Committee meeting. While the committee continued to combine the Little Theatre construction with the refurbishment of the Community Centre, the group saw their dream of having their own venue being continually thwarted. The latest meeting decided to undertake the Little Theatre as a separate project. "The Committee were making very positive noises regarding our plans and have in essence finally

given us the green light." The project has exceeded the original budget allocated, but Ms. Hickey does not perceive this as a problem. "Some aesthetic aspects may have to be altered and we are at the ready to begin fund-raising to help meet the shortfall." After waiting for over 20 years of bureaucratic stalling, the group see themselves as close to achieving their goal. Despite no official commencement date being given for construction, Ms. Hickey is hoping that the next meeting at the end of August will provide more definite details.

Kerrie Friend

Architecture students look at Woy Woy

Over 50 second second year architecture students accompanied by lecturers from The University of Sydney visited Woy Woy recently as part of their studies. The students were completing stage two of a three part assignment and chose Way Woy as their preferred option from a number of destinations to use as a hypothetical base for their project. Lecturer Glen Hill said: "We asked the students to choose between Woy Way and Leura, Kiama and Sydney and they chose here by an overwhelming majority

The students spent all day in Woy Woy moving from building to building making several drawings and taking the recently approved Woy Woy DCP with them to include in their work. Mr Hill said he would consider returning with third year students to undertake a practical project to look at Umina and make submissions on how it could be upgraded in conjunction with the Peninsula Chamber of Commerce. He agreed that a practical project would be more beneficial for all rather than a hypothetical as Signment.

Cec Bucello, August 11



Michelle Hart and the safer buss

Seat belts donated for mini-bus

Ettalong real estate agents, Ifflands The Professionals, have sponsored the fitting of new seatbelts for the minibus used by Peninsula Before and After School Care. The BAS.C. service is vital for working parents, and in particular the large number of commuters based in the Peninsula area, providing care for over 70 children on a daily basis. An integral factor in that care is their transport to and from Peninsula primary schools. Running on a tight budget, vehicle maintenance is a major drain on finances. Before and After School Care Co-ordinator Megan Miller said: "As a community-based organisation, our funding is very limited. "Through their generosity, Ifflands have ensured the children's safety and made it possible for us to use our funding to provide alternative equipment for

the children. "The staff really appreciate their assistance". The goodwill generated by the purchase is being aided by another local business, Deepwater Signs, who will display Ifflands name on the minibus free of charge. Already sponsoring personal alarms for elderly Peninsula residents, Ifflands the Professionals see their ongoing support of local services as a way to advertise. Spokesperson Michelle Hart claims, "We see much greater value in putting our money back into the Peninsula as opposed to spending it on posters and signs in foyers. "By purchasing the new seatbelts we are making a positive contribution to the community and helping ensure the safety of local residents," she said.

Kerrie Friend, August 9

Olympic proposal for Patonga park

Council's strategy and policy forum has discussed the possibility of hiring out council's Patonga caravan and camping area for the Olympics next year. A report to the forum noted that Easts Caravan Park is already booked out for the Olympic period and they foresee a strain on other accommodation facilities. Council's recreation services department has been approached twice canvassing the possibility of

the whole park being booked for the entire Olympic period. However, the report said limitations at Patonga, including over 50 per cent of the 81 sites being unpowered meant a partnership with a provider to extend electricity availability at the site would be needed. The extension of electricity would make the site a more attractive package for tourists looking for budget accommodation during the Olympics, they said. Regular users would have their

regular booking in 2000 held over to 2001. Council would ask for expressions of interest to hire the sites in 2000 and qualified providers would be asked to propose how they would provide the accommodation facilities. The Patonga community would be advised of the plans and any profits would be spent in the Patonga area. Around \$20,000 is expected to be raised from the plan. Carl Spears, July 30



Vote

1

Preece, Geoff – Independent
Boughton, Dr. Richard – Independent
Caldicott, Dr. Helen – Independent

For Real Community Input In Decision Making,
and a healthy, sustainable environment.

Vote for the group that cares about
quality of life issues.

Authorised by Laura Stanley, Kateena Ave., Tascott

Voting for the team headed by Geoff Preece, with Dr Richard Boughton, and Dr. Helen Caldicott, is a vote for greater and more meaningful community decision making. I still haven't given up the idea of a modern tram system looping around the Peninsula. Geoff is a member of the Unending growth of population Australian Democrats but is in the Peninsula and the rest of 100% independent when it the Central Coast is of grave comes to local government. concern. Traffic management issues Consider this: from 1992 to come in as major environmental 1998, our water storage and community concerns of ours. decreased from 75% to 38% and Road quality is important on has only inched its way up to both levels. about 42% in 1999. A flat place like the Peninsula If we have another period like should be easy to make transport that the water will be so low it will friendly. be undrinkable, and that is at our present population. That's just one issue of many Bicycle riding is the most present population. That is not being addressed friendly way to travel but it has to be made super safe and easy, that is not being addressed without hostile competition from adequately. cars. Countries like Holland The community must get achieve this. involved in the solutions.

Council candidate statements

70 candidates to fight for 10 places

The quadrennial Gosford council elections have attracted 70 candidates to stand for 10 positions in what looks like being a hotly fought campaign.

Eight of the 10 existing councillors have re-nominated with only councillors Row and Donald deciding that they have

had enough.

Nominations closed on August 11 and the elections will take place on September 11.

On behalf of Peninsula residents, each candidate was asked to respond, in 250 words or less, to the following question and their responses have been published so that readers can make an informed decision on

election day.

It will be noted that many did not bother to take advantage of the opportunity offered to them even though the information is published at no charge to the candidates.

The question was: What do you propose to do for the Peninsula and its immediate catchment areas, if elected, with particular reference to traffic management,

town planning, storm water management, local employment including micro businesses, arts funding, sports facilities, tourism and, last but not least, the environment? Whilst each of these topics are worthy of 250 or more words, a brief summary will give readers an indication of the ability and intention of candidates.

You be the judge.

FINDLAY: From local community to council

I have been living in Tascott for 39 Years, attending Gosford High School 1961-1965.

During my high school training, I studied Local Government under the Administrator, Mr W.H. Dane I worked in the administration department of John Fairfax Ltd.

Since then I have studied environmental issues through to Open Learning programme from New England University in 1991, and while travelling in Europe in 1980, investigated the German System of recycling all waste products.

Joined the Point Clare Tascott Progress Association in 1973 as a member, elected 1981 as Secretary, 1982, President (1982-1991), and have served the people as Secretary from 1995 until the present.

I am a devout humanitarian Christian and believe that my community service standing to the Gosford community is of importance before attempting Local Government Office

HOLSTEIN: Stands on past performance

I am not a resident of the Peninsula but my wife does operate a business in Woy Woy.

For the last 2 years as Mayor, I have worked closely with the Councillors from the Peninsula to ensure the needs and concerns of the community are heard.

I acknowledge the massive backlog of works required (e.g.

kerb and guttering, road improvements) and have always been mindful of ensuring the Peninsula got their fair share of Council's expenditure.

I have worked carefully representing the Peninsula on matters before the Traffic Committee and on several building committees for the Financial Strategy projects which will see funds for the Peninsula Community

Centre, the new PCYC, Woy Woy Little Theatre and a new sporting facility.

I have been active in the Safety Audit conducted with the NSW Police on the Peninsula and pushed for funding for the Umina skate park and upgrading of the surrounds.

This September, 10 Councillors will be elected and I know most of the Peninsula residents would like them to live west of The Rip Bridge and no further: north than the Taj Mahal.

But if you vote for a "northerner" I believe that I have given good representation to the Peninsula in the past.

I hope for your favourable consideration somewhere on the ballot paper

MAWSON: Management skills for council use

The September local government elections will be very important to all of us.

Who you elect will shape the future of our city into the next millennia.

That's why I've decided to stand for Council because I'm passionate about my local area and want to see the best deal possible for local residents.

I am 34 years old, married and live locally at Umina Beach.

I commute daily to Sydney where I am employed as the National Business Development Manager for large service company responsible for preparing large tender submissions for government departments and private companies alike.

I am also a qualified Health & building Surveyor and was

previously elected to Warringah Shire Junior Council.

With my background, I have developed significant management skills and an understanding of the needs of local communities.

It is these skills that I look to bring to Gosford City Council.

My goals, if elected, are:- the future - balanced and carefully considered decisions will need to be made over the next four years to ensure that our city is carefully planned and responsibly managed.

the environment - we have a unique environment which needs to be protected.

Future development needs to be assessed carefully so that a balance is obtained between the needs of our community and the protection of our unique natural assets.

PENTON and MYERS: Working together for Peninsula

As a long term local resident, I care about our area.

That's why as your local representative I will continue to fight so hard for Peninsula residents' interests.

Over the last four years I have been listening to the views of local people.

Many still complain about the wrong priorities of Gosford City Council and many of its councillors.

As locals, Helen Myers and I share your concerns over our substandard roads; neglected kerb and guttering; lack of footpaths, poor drainage and flooding problems; and the absence of youth and recreational facilities on the Peninsula.

Since I was elected to Council in 1995, new services and facilities have been achieved.

HOWEVER MUCH MORE

NEEDS TO BE DONE - Peninsula residents cannot be ignored.

The demands of local residents are increasing as the area grows.

It is vitally important you have representatives who are prepared to stand up and fight for our share of the funds.

Working together and supporting my team on Saturday September 11, WE CAN MAKE THE DIFFERENCE.

Judy Penton and Helen Myers know that as the Peninsula continues to grow, we will need more community and youth services and that basic services such as roads, drainage, footpaths and kerb and guttering will have to be upgraded.

**Judy Penton
Helen Myers**

\$8 million for Peninsula projects

Council general manager, Mr Peter Wilson, has released an update summary of projects including those being undertaken on the Peninsula.

The total budget for the Peninsula projects is just under \$8 million.

Mr Wilson said the following ongoing Peninsula projects were up to various stages by the end of June:

Woy Woy Library - Council has called for expressions of interest in a conservation study of the site.

Mr Wilson said an investigation on how to avoid extensions detracting from the building's current heritage value was still needed.

The budget for the project is \$710,000.

Peninsula Youth and Recreation Centre to be built near the Woy Woy pool A needs assesment has been completed and presented to council after a consultant's report and consultation with the community.

Mr Wilson said the \$1.5 million construction is due to start in February.

Woy Woy Community Centre in McMasters Rd, Woy Woy - Community facilities and Woy Woy Little Theatre construction due to

start in April, finishing in October 2000.

Mr Wilson said council were waiting for detailed designs and a development application for the \$1.25 million project.

Umina SEC site, also known as the Police and Community Youth Club (PCYC) - Mr Wilson said stage one of the \$500,000 project had been completed and a PCYC manager had started working in May.

A design brief for stage two has been completed.

Woy Woy CBD - Mr Wilson said construction began in June and was due for completion in December.

The budget for the project is \$1.5 million.

Umina CBD -Footpath, paving and roadwork for the \$1.5 million project began in the June quarter and is due for completion by November.

Ettalong CBD - Mr Wilson said stage two of the \$1 million construction is due to be finished in December.

In the June Quarter a traffic circulation study was completed.

Mr Wilson said an outstanding issue was to review the need for foreshore works.

Carl Spears, August 4

Cheaper Internet

A new local information technology group will fight for cheaper costs and faster communication.

The Internet Service Providers' Group (ISP Group), is a subcommittee of the Central Coast Economic Development Board's Information Technology Taskforce.

Different interests are represented including business, ISP's, and programmers.

Project Manager, David Abrahams, said, "We are looking at substantially reducing local internet costs.

"The strategy is a simple one - by grouping together, we can negotiate cheaper network costs.

Cec Bucello July 17

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Council candidate statements

BARR: Community worker with youth in mind

Lachlan Barr established Earthquake Entertainment in July 1995 and now operates in the market of corporate consultation and festival coordination.

Lachlan is a long time voluntary worker for the community.

Some of the initiatives and organisations Lachlan has contributed to have included Founding member and inaugural president of Gosford City Youth Council - a body of young people who advocate for and on behalf of youth in the Gosford LGA.

; Central Coast Area Assistance Scheme : local and regional member 1995/6/7.

The CCAAS is a funding committee that distributes \$500,000 per year to community groups.

PCR-FM community radio : Board member, also Lachlan has produced several radio documentaries on issues as diverse as youth suicide, youth facilities and cultural issues.

A long term supporter of youth facilities on the Peninsula, Lachlan has been a big supporter of the Web youth centre, Umina skaje park and the PCYC.

Lachlan is a member of the Robertson Centenary of Federation Committee and has also been a member of many Gosford City Council committees,

include including sporting facilities, Australia Day and others.

"Sustainable development and infrastructure is also a large concern for the shire.

The Gosford shire is rapidly running out of new land release parcels and we must make sure that development in our shire is sustainable, ecologically and investment wise, and that adequate infrastructure is in place" "I believe in Councillors being accessible, accountable and available.

Social equity and environmental awareness".

Lachlan is a strong and committed community worker and now is putting forward his nomination for local government to further his service to the Gosford area.

Earthquake Entertainment's clients have included The Big Day Out, C. C. Area Consultative Committee, Glenworth Valley Music & Arts Festival, NSW Depts of Education & Training and Sport & Recreation, Gosford and Wyong Councils, and many more.

Youth Employment Solutions : a body of young people who investigate and advise on innovative and original concepts in employment, education and training issues for young people.

Lachlan has been the coordinator of the 1997, 98 and 99 Youth Week festivals Lachlan Barr

Candidates asked about Peninsula

The Peninsula News asked council candidates to write 250 words about their policies with respect to the Peninsula. Candidates whose statements addressed Peninsula issues are published here.

WALES: Community input encouraged

As a local resident for 18 years, I know the problems and pitfalls of our city very well.

With an active community orientated background in the Mainstreet Program and other community organisations, I understand the enormous benefits that can be achieved through an active community consultation process.

Community input should be encouraged so that we can tackle the problems that face us as we enter the new millennia.

My goals if elected to Council are: To have a greater say - to encourage greater community consultation so that we all have a say in the direction that our city and the Peninsula take.

Better planning - to instigate better long term planning for our towns and residential areas so that we have sensible and sustainable development Better roads and drainage - to better manage funds so that our roads are upgraded

and our stormwater drains are improved.

Safety and security - to improve the safety and security of our community through Crime Prevention Plans and implementing safety audit recommendations.

Protect our environment - manage our natural assets and protect sensitive areas for the benefit of future generations.

Youth and the elderly - continue to support youth projects and provide facilities and services for our elderly These are all-important issues.

They are all attainable. These goals can be achieved through.

greater community input, participation and ownership.

Through the community consultation process, we can take ownership of our built environment and natural assets.

If elected to Council on September 11, I intend to give my very best to achieving those goals.

Debra Wales

Local estate agency rates highly in Australian industry awards

Peninsula real estate agency, Century 21 of Umina rated highly in recent industry awards recognising them as one of the best real estate agencies in Australia.

The awards, held at Rosehill Gardens in Sydney, rated proprietor Frank Serra as a top ten principal in the Australasian region and sales associate Lee Bolton-Munro gained a silver award which placed her amongst the leading salespeople across the country from all companies.

This award follows the three awards received in April by the same company.

Frank Serra said, "It's great to be recognised by our industry peers, but the most important recognition that we receive is from our customers.

"We often receive unsolicited thank you notes and flowers from satisfied clients, whether they be buyers, sellers, landlords or tenants.

BUT WHAT IF ?
IF GOSFORD COUNCIL WAS PERFECT
We Would Not Need to be
Worried About...

- Roads
- The Local Environment
- Drainage
- Development

We WOULD have

- ✓ Traffic Management
- ✓ Environmental Networks in Place
- ✓ Kerb and Guttering & Footpaths
- ✓ Decent Roads



✓ Vote

1

Errol & Eileen
Baker

"Let us do the worrying for you"

Errol & Eileen Baker

When people have conversations about Gosford Shire they talk about the beautiful waterways, magnificent beaches and the friendly locals. Unfortunately during these conversations there is always a 'But'.
'But it takes too long to get anywhere..'
'But the roads are in such terrible condition, some roads don't even have kerbing..'
'But I wouldn't swim in Terrigal Lagoon now..'

Gosford Shire Council has paved the way for more and more tourists to come to Gosford Shire, But they haven't provided the infrastructure required to meet the needs of the local residents, never mind the hordes of tourists.

For the sake of the environment, for business, for the local residents, and even for the sake of tourism, Gosford Shire Council has to provide the basic infrastructure required to meet current demands before trying to lure more and more people to the region. This is the common sense thing to do. Unfortunately current Gosford Shire Councillors have proven one thing, common sense just isn't that common any more.

Errol and Eileen Baker are a local husband and wife team running for Council. They have had enough But's for a lifetime. Haven't you?

Business Awards

WHYTE: Accessible work needed

Living on the Central Coast I've made it my business to know what is happening in my area and how it will affect my family.

As my children are now teenagers I'm well aware of what other families are experiencing.

For my children obtaining work that is accessible by public transport can be impossible.

With such limited opportunities for employment close to home, I fully support suitable employment development in appropriate areas linked by better public transport.

With an increasing youth population more money should be spent in upgrading and developing sporting facilities, children's

playgrounds and parks.

These should be monitored and maintained on a regular basis and funding should be put aside for this purpose.

The aging population on the Peninsula needs a secure nonthreatening environment.

Self-contained villages for the elderly are preferable to scattered villas that lack a supportive atmosphere.

With the residential development happening on the Central Coast, there is now a lack of infrastructure (for example, roads, drainage, footpaths, transport).

As I have an "ear for listening", I can hear what people are really

saying and would continue to represent the community as I have done for many years.

There is a need to slow down the rate of development.

The State Government must be made aware that our community is not happy with overdevelopment.

Council should be working with and encouraging the community to be involved and to take a personal interest so that a better community spirit develops.

Procedures within Council are to be more effective.

Too much time and money is spent on consultants preparing management plans/strategies that are filed away and not acted upon.

Lyn Whyte

LENEY: Experience as Sydney councillor

Peter Leney is the candidate with experience.

He was a councillor with Sydney City Council for 10 years and served as chairman of the Finance Committee and as a board member of Sydney Cove Authority.

As a resident of Umina, he has been studying the issues that affect the Peninsula, a unique location that contains 25% of the voters in the Gosford City Council area.

Traffic management is becoming a major issue for commuters.

The widening of the F3 plus the provision of transit lanes and the improvement of the rail service to Sydney are obvious areas for improvement Peter also supports the feasibility studies that have been undertaken for a light rail system linking Woy Woy, Ettalong and Umina to improve traffic flow and access to Woy Woy station.

The new town planning initiatives for Woy Woy CBD are excellent.

The Umina shopping centre

needs a master plan and Ettalong Planning must incorporate the enormous impact that the new club development and the fast ferry will have on the area.

The major impact of stormwater on the Peninsula is not just the run-off and pollution of our beaches, but the amount of water that is left on the streets.

Peter will fight for an increased share of Council funding to improve drainage, footpaths and kerbs and guttering.

Local employment issues need the coordination of Federal, State and Council resources to develop initiatives in conjunction with the Peninsula Chamber of Commerce.

As a member of the Umina Tennis and Sports Club, Woy Woy Tennis Club and Gosford Arts Centre, Peter will take a special interest in sporting facilities, the environment, sustainable development and in funding the arts.

Peter Leney, Independent

DOYLE: Protect our coastal lifestyle

This September 11, you will be asked to cast your vote on the 10 people who will lead the City of Gosford into the next millenium.

I'm a young family man who believes that whilst we need to create greater job opportunities, we need to protect the lifestyle of our beautiful coast.

Although I don't reside on the Peninsula, I serve many residents and trade through my business (Amber Tiles) and I'm in touch with relevant local issues.

The Peninsula has a definite lack of even the basic infrastructure such as footpaths, kerb and guttering and the roads are well behind the rapid growth the area has and is experiencing.

Increased and improved

sporting facilities are essential, such as the old electricity site, the community centre upgrade and the Olympic pool renovation.

Job opportunities need to be provided and facilities for youth need creative investigation.

Housing densities should be left unchanged until the current infrastructure is upgraded to cater for the existing population base - providing at least the minimum acceptable.

Gentrification of the town centres should continue and be encouraged.

The environment should be protected with the principles of ecological sustainability with regard to any development.

I have a proven record in working in the community, school,

church and sport.

I ask for your consideration when voting.

I will, if elected, provide all residents of Gosford City a fair go, regardless of what suburb they reside.

Craig Doyle, Independent.

OAKLEY: Listen, research and think

Local government is very big business.

Councillors should have the expertise to make the right decisions.

The Peninsula deserves strong representation by councillors who are prepared to listen to the people, research the issues, think, and then vote upon each issue on its merits, independent of the dictates of any political party.

A major problem on the Peninsula is the dramatic increase in medium density housing and its associated environmental, traffic, drainage and social problems.

Residential developers should not be allowed to create tile and

concrete jungles, which not only destroy the natural environment, but create major drainage problems.

They should be required to contribute much more substantially to community infrastructure such as roads, open space development, recreational and other facilities for the increased population generated by their development.

Traffic has increased dramatically but there is no integrated traffic plan in place.

Both Gosford Council and the R.

TA have adopted band-aid solutions which are ultimately very expensive and inefficient.

There is some town planning

carried out by community-based Main Street and CBD committees but this type of planning needs to be extended to the whole Peninsula.

Urgent action is required with respect to Woy Woy Road and Brisbane Water Drive.

A "think tank" is needed to develop a wholistic approach to the developmental problems of the Peninsula, be they infrastructure (roads, drainage, footpaths, public facilities, etc.), social issues, employment, or the environment.

If Council doesn't "stop the rot" our environment and quality of life will suffer.

And will the tourists visit then?

John Oakley

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Business Awards

BARLOW: An endangered species

I am starting to feel like an endangered species.

The area is undergoing rapid change and I feel we are losing so many of the things that made us want to live here in the first place.

I want to ensure that the unique Peninsula lifestyle is preserved, to ensure our local environment is protected and that our children will enjoy the same sense of community that we did.

I would like to curb the continuing march of villas and units all over the Peninsula as we are knocking down so many of our old fibro houses which help give the area its sense of character and uniqueness.

I have noticed that young

families are moving into the old fibro places and renovating them in a heritage manner and adding greatly to the attractiveness of the area.

I am concerned about the effect the Fast Ferry may have on foreshore at Ettalong.

I am keen to ensure that the foreshore remains for the use of the public and don't support the ferry being refuelled in Ettalong.

I am also concerned about parking on the waterfront and do not support the use of the netball courts.

As President of Youth on the Peninsula, I am keen to get more youth facilities for the area.

I would like to see the Umina

skate park expanded and a bicycle track in the same area.

It's a shame the PCYC has not opened as a generation of children have missed that golden opportunity.

I am also President of the Multi Arts Confederation and would like to see more community arts on the Peninsula.

It's important to get people involved in local art projects which don't cost a fortune but can bring a sense of well being into people's lives.

I was a Gosford councillor in 1994-95.

I believe in working with the local community to make the Peninsula an even better place to live.

Lorraine Barlow

BOCKHOLT: Priority is basic infrastructure

My highest priority is provision of basic infrastructure which can make such a difference to our lives: kerb and gutter, better roads, more footpaths, better public transport, more youth and community facilities are essential to a better quality of life.

I also believe local jobs are important.

We must get people as many people as possible off the F3 and trains.

The computer giant Tibco chose Woy Woy as its Australian home and will soon have a staff of over 20.

Eight other new businesses have opened up close by, bringing good jobs for local people.

I have worked hard to get more local community and youth facilities.

Council plans to open the Umina PCYC early next year and the Community Centre at McMasters Road will be remodelled and upgraded.

Planning is currently underway on turning Woy Woy pool into a regional aquatic centre, at affordable admission prices, when

the current lease expires in mid-2001.

I am very concerned about the amount of unit, villa and townhouse development.

In Council, I moved a moratorium on medium density housing until infrastructure was in place.

Unfortunately, this was not supported.

To get better control, I have been working towards making the design criteria so strict it would stop much of the bad development.

I will continue to move down this path should I be re-elected.

I am deeply concerned about Woy Woy Rd and believe it to be very dangerous especially when commuters are using it.

Council is currently investigating options to Bulls Hill and whether trucks over a certain size could be banned from the road.

We need an overall traffic management plan which can take us into the future.

I believe councillors should be accessible and should listen to the local community and vote accordingly.

I believe my voting record shows that I have done this in every case. I think this is important.

Lynne Bockholt

MILLS: Business woman offers assistance

Elsie Mills was born and lived in Gosford until she moved to the Peninsula when she established the Lady Anne Handicrafts at Peninsula Plaza 18 years ago.

With four children, she has been involved with Scouts, Guides, school groups, football and netball, East Gosford Inner Wheel Tennis clubs and a Toastmaster for over 20 years.

She established the East Gosford Post Office, Handicraft shop, and catering at Erina Drive-

in Theatre.

She was Promotion Officer for East Gosford Shopping Centre and Chamber of Commerce and the Peninsula Plaza.

Having always been interested in the local community and the above groups, she is keen to see a road established parallel with the railway line from Point Clare to Gosford diverting the traffic from the bottle-neck at West Gosford.

Having been in business so many years, she is very concerned with crime and violence in the area and would like to see more security

and policing implanted.

Working with youth in Youth Leadership Programs, she sees a great need for young people to be encouraged in courses building self esteem and activities to motivate them: More programs for the elderly but using their expertise and knowledge to teach the young literary skills, trade skills, living and parenting skills in workshops that could be funded by Government and local groups.

Pollution and drainage are another important issue.

Elsie Mills

The Peninsula Deserves a Better Deal- Let DEBRA WALES Represent You in Council

I'm passionate about my community.

That's why I chose to stand as the Liberal Candidate at the last State elections for the seat of Peats

That's why I have chosen to stand at the upcoming Council elections on the 11th September, 1999

I have been a local resident for the past 18 years. This is where I have chosen to live, earn a living and raise my family. I want the best possible for the local community so that we can all prosper and enjoy our

unique environment. As the Peninsula Mainstreet Co-ordinator, I have been active in many community organisations such as:-

- Peninsula Mainstreet Co-ordinator under the Peninsula Mainstreet Program
- Ettalong Beach Heritage Committee
- PCYC Steering Committee
- Peninsula Community Forum
- Official Observer on the Gosford City Council Traffic Committee
- Mainstreet Representative on the CBD Building Committee's for Woy Woy, Ettalong Beach and Umina Beach

I am passionate about

advertisement

the future of our area. This is why I have become so involved in these organisations. It is important that we all make a contribution to the planning of our City so as to ensure that we encourage sensible development and growth yet preserve our unique environment.



I want to represent you in Gosford City Council so that our common goals are achieved. My goals if elected to Council are:-

- to give you a

greater say - to encourage greater community consultation so that we all have a say in the direction that our city and the Peninsula take.

- better planning - to instigate better long term planning for our towns and residential areas so that we have sensible and sustainable development
- better roads and drainage - to better manage funds so that our roads are upgraded and our stormwater drains are improved.
- safety and security - to improve the safety and security of our community through Crime Prevention Plans and implementing safety audit recommendations.

- protect our environment - manage our natural assets and protect sensitive areas for the benefit of future generations.
- youth and the elderly - continue to support youth projects and provide facilities and services for our elderly

These are all important issues. They are all attainable. These goals can be achieved through greater community input, participation and ownership. Through the community consultation process, we can all take ownership of our built environment and natural assets. If elected to Council on September 11th, I intend to give my very best to achieving those goals.

Council candidate statements

BOUGHTON, CALLDICOTT and PREECE: Campaigning in close co-operation

Doctors Richard Boughton and Helen Caldicott will be campaigning as independent candidates in close cooperation with Geoff Preece.

They see an absolute need for new jobs in this area so that its residents will not have to commute to Sydney which can be so disruptive to family and social life.

Co-operation between community groups, small business and Council can produce an environment which fosters local job creation and commerce.

As an example, the Woy Woy Village Renewal Committee has been a catalyst in its area.

Tourism, hospitality, recreation and the arts are other obvious targets for economic stimulation, and there is still much untapped potential here.

Economics aside, good facilities for the arts and recreation are basic ingredients for a healthy vibrant community.

Umina Surf Club, the sailing clubs, sporting oVpls, boating facilities and so on play a central role in the life of the community.

Therefore, Council has responsibility to support and fund the maintenance and improvement of facilities.

Recent mural painting of the Surf Club by local youths gives a hint of the more creative possibilities.

Aspirations, potentials and problems of specific groups will continually be sought and services maintained, e.g.

youth, senior citizens, and the unemployed.

Council initiatives will focus on reducing problems such as loneliness, boredom, delinquency, and suicide.

We will continue, as do current councillors, the humane tradition of assistance to charitable organisations; Life Education, funding for medical research and families in need.

Of course, better roads, pedestrian safety, public transport links and commuter services will always be a high priority.

However, one of the greatest challenges facing us is the current rate of urban subdivision and population growth which impact directly on infrastructure issues such as roads and traffic, adequacy of sporting facilities and management of urban run-off.

The Peninsula in particular has experienced flooding in low-lying areas and council will need to look for innovative solutions to these problems, many of which were created by inappropriate planning decisions in the past.

For example, rather than piping and channelling all storm water into concentrated areas, we should perhaps be utilizing the natural absorptive capacities of soil, the sand-beds and wetlands.

Such an "environmental engineering" approach will help to ensure that development can be sustainable without being destructive.

While the expansion of housing stock is an inevitable need, we must remain very clear-sighted about those areas which should be preserved in perpetuity.

At recent Council meetings

there have been serious attempts by developers to have 7 A (conservation) lands rezoned for residential subdivision.

Drs Boughton and Caldicott view this as one of the most serious planning issues that the community faces and are strongly supportive of Council's decisions to maintain the conservation value of these green spaces.

Geoff Preece is a well known local musician, environmentalist and educator.

He lives with his wife in Tascott.

Geoff's musical and sporting interests have led him into an association with community groups such as the Gosford Musical Society musical director and orchestral member.

He has also played first grade soccer for Woy Woy.

He is deeply committed to a sustainable future for the Gosford region and ensuring that its many natural attributes are preserved for future generations.

Geoff is aware of the problems confronting small business and the need to create more business and employment opportunities for people on the coast.

Richard Boughton is a medical practitioner living and working on the Central Coast.

His association with the area is life-long.

He lives in North Avoca with his wife Kym, a local general practitioner, and their three young children.

Prior to becoming a doctor he studied landscape architecture environmental science and worked as a landscape designer.

This background helped shape his appreciation of the magnificent landscapes of the Central Coast and underlies his determination to preserve as much of them as possible, while ensuring that the area's economic viability is also taken into account.

His initial involvement in local politics was with the neighbourhood Progress Association of which he was formerly treasurer.

He is a member of Amnesty International and the Australian Conservation Foundation.

His two older children attend a local primary school and through his work and family life he has had a broad exposure to and involvement with a range of issues that concern every resident.

Helen Caldicott is a paediatrician, the author of four books, a public speaker and wellknown campaigner for nuclear disarmament and environmental protection.

Her work and career have been the subject of two prize-winning documentary films, "Eight Minutes to Midnight" and "If You Love This Planet." She lives on the Central Coast, as do her daughter, son-in-law and three grandchildren.

With three generations of her family here, she has a large stake in the future of this area.

Her involvement locally includes membership in the Tree Committee of Gosford Council and she has addressed a number of forums on future directions for this region.

**Geoff Preece
Dr. Richard Boughton
Dr. Helen Caldicott**

Candidates asked about Peninsula

The Peninsula News asked council candidates to write 250 words about their policies with respect to the Peninsula. Candidates whose statements addressed Peninsula issues are published here.

Humpty Dumpty file presentation

Nurse Unit Manager of the medical ward at Brisbane Waters Private Hospital, Ms Owens, recently presented the Humpty Dumpty file at the New South Wales Nurses Association, "Nurse Achievers Conference" in Sydney.

The Humpty Dumpty file outlines

different strategies taken by the medical ward to prevent patient falls, including risk assessment and prevention.

The new interventions included a risk chart, non-slip socks and modifications to patient call bells.

Ms Owens commented that she was pleased with the feedback she received from her presentation and slide show, and had been invited to present her talk to other groups from Wollongong to the Central Coast.

Karen Booth

DEBRA WALES

CANDIDATE FOR GOSFORD CITY COUNCIL



- ♦ Peninsula Mainstreet Coordinator
- ♦ Ettalong Beach Heritage Committee
- ♦ Police Citizens Youth Club Steering Committee
- ♦ Peninsula Community Forum
- ♦ Official observer – Gosford City Council Traffic Committee
- ♦ Mainstreet Representative, CBD Building Committees, - Woy Woy; Ettalong Beach; Umina Beach
- ♦ Passionate about the community

On **SEPTEMBER 11**
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FOR
GOSFORD CITY COUNCIL

New policy for footpath leasing

Councillors have approved a recommendation to make footpath leasing more workable for businesses with outdoor eating facilities.

The Peninsula has many cafes with outdoor eating facilities especially in the main CSDs at Woy Woy, Ettalong and Umina.

Businesses with outside eating areas are charged footpath rent by council and the new lease arrangements will mean, for many of those businesses, lower costs, which may benefit consumers.

Council's director of corporate and community services, Mr Chris Gallagher, said the old formula for working out rent structures was cumbersome.

"The rent was based on seven percent of the adjoining properties land value as issued by the Valuer

General's Office and the minimum rent was not to be less than \$500 per annum," he said.

"The policy has not been readily accepted by shop owners, one reason is because of the difficulty in interpreting the amount of rent required to pay after the three year period," said Mr Gallagher.

The new policy has a flat fee of \$200 plus \$25 per seat per year subject to a CPI adjustment in the fifth year.

The three year rent free period will still apply.

Mr Gallagher also suggested the footpath lease be tied to the businesses' lease so as to avoid the possible situation where the owner of the footpath lease is different to the business owner.

Carl Spears, August 12

\$160,000 to be spent on Peninsula

Council's director of works, Mr Darryl Dutton, has recommended a \$160,000 budget for capital works on the Peninsula for the 1999/2000 financial year.

The budget includes \$44,500 as part of the Footpath Program, \$15,500 for kerb and guttering, \$10,000 for minor works, \$17,500 for car .

park and linemarking, \$10,000 for bus stop improvements and \$52,500 for traffic facilities.

All the footpath projects are high priority where the paving is in high pedestrian use areas such as in front of shops, schools' and retirement villages.

The kerb and guttering projects targeted are in residential areas

Mr Dutton said the lack of kerb and guttering in these areas can require high maintenance, cause drainage problems, limit parking and create hazards for traffic and pedestrians.

The line marking and car parking projects are targeted for residential areas where a high demand for parking is experienced, said Mr Dutton.

The traffic facilities program includes projects such as providing a pedestrian refuge between Deepwater Plaza and McDonalds.

The Peninsula budget of \$160,000 is part (19 per cent) of the total budget of \$850,000 ' for this type of work .in the Capital Works Program.

Carl Spears, July 15

Funding for respite care

Member for Robertson Jim Lloyd has announced a supplementary funding grant of \$63,750 over 15 months to the Central Coast Carer Respite Centre.

"This will enable the centre to provide more respite for carers to meet emergency, unplanned and short-term requirements of carers needing a break," Mr. Lloyd said.



Elizabeth Payne in front of the new day care cottage

Free respite care for dementia sufferers

A new three bedroom day care cottage for people with dementia has opened at Peninsula Village Retirement Centre.

The Community Day Care Cottage is provided free as a community service.

The service is designed to allow carers respite from the often stressful job of caring for dementia sufferers.

The cottage is a charitable, non-profit project and Peninsula Village is looking for community support.

The cottage is designed to meet the needs of dementia patients while retaining a home-like atmosphere.

The cottage is open from

Monday to Friday from 9am to 3pm and is free except for a \$3 charge for lunch.

Any person with dementia who is cared for at home is eligible for day care.

The day care co-ordinator, Elizabeth Payne said the cottage could care for six dementia sufferers a day.

An enrolled nurse for 20 years, Ms Payne has been with the retirement village since 1989.

Ms Payne and volunteers will look after the dementia clients.

She said this is the first day care facility on the Peninsula to open for five days a week.

There are plenty of activities to keep the dementia sufferers

occupied and the patients are encouraged to help care for themselves.

"Part of the activities are such things as letting them make their own lunch," said Ms Payne.

The business community has supported setting up the cottage, with donations from Kellys Carpets, Watty and Allan Maidment of Simplicity Funerals in Woy Woy.

Ms Payne said the service would start small but depending on demand and the amount of volunteer help offered could reach capacity soon.

She said they already had four volunteers.

Carl Spears, August 14

Woy Woy pool prices set

Gosford Council's director of corporate and community services, Mr Chris Gallagher, has clarified admission prices at Woy Woy pool.

They are: adult (15 and over), \$3; child (2-14) and pensioners

\$2; non-swimming adult other than teachers, \$3.

Council officers investigated another 10 councils to gauge the local rate and found similar pricing.

The prices must remain until the end of the lease in April next year.' Mr Gallagher has requested

the pool lessee to provide better admission rate sign age and council staff will check the signage to ensure its visibility to the public.

Council had been asked to review non swimmer charges.

Carl Spears, July 30

Council meeting date change

The Council meeting set for September 7 will be rescheduled due to council elections.

The new date is August 31.

Ordinary Council meetings are held at council chambers in Gosford on the first and fourth Tuesdays of each month.

The meetings are open to the public and begin at 6pm.

Agenda papers for the meetings are available from local libraries on the Thursday before the meeting.

Any requests to address the council on an agenda matter must be made before noon on the Monday preceding the meeting.

To make a request, telephone the Secretariat on 4325 8336.

Carl Spears, July 23

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News

Special ANZAC march for Patonga

Patonga Beach Tennis, Sports, Social and Community Club together with the Patonga Beach Progress Association and Patonga Beach Pensioners and Superannuees are organising a special Anzac Day March for the year 2000.

Peter Segol of the PBTSSCC is hoping that the year 2000 will mark Anzac Day in Patonga as an event to remember.

"Each year Anzac Day is remembered here by a handful of people leaving flowers at our war memorial," he said.

"It would be a good opportunity to make more of this special day in

the year 2000.

"Ideas and suggestions regarding format of the day's eve'nts would be welcome." It is hoped that the day will be a reunion of Patonga residents and visitors past and present, including service veterans, their families and friends.

It is envisaged that the day will start with a dawn service and breakfast followed by a march and a social get-together to finish the day.

"This will be a day to remember the sacrifices of war but also a day to celebrate friendship and peace," said Peter.

Inquiries 4379 1193

Special young Australians sought

Mayor Cr Chris Holstein is asking all members of the community to consider nominating local young people for the National Australia Day Council's Young Australian of the Year Awards.

"These awards are a very positive way in which we can encourage our young people to continue to strive for excellence and publicly acknowledge their achievements," said Cr Holstein.

Nominations are open to people aged between 14 and 27 in seven categories: career .

achievement, arts, sports,

science and technology, environment, regional initiative and community service.

All nominees receive a commemorative certificate in recognition of their achievements.

A winner in each category will be announced at a presentation in Sydney later this year.

Catagory winners receive a \$4000 bank account and a trophy.

One of these winners will be selected as the NSW Young Achiever of the Year and will receive a further \$4000 plus a trip for two to any Australian capital city for five nights.

All state winners will go on to

national final, where the winners will share in a further \$40,000 and have the opportunity to be named Young Australian of the Year for 2000.

"These prestigious Awards are one way in which we can bring out talented young people before the local community," said Cr Holstein.

"I urge everyone to consider who in our community deserves to be acknowledged for their contributions and nominate them," said Cr Holstein.

Nominations close on Tuesday, August 31 .

Forms are available from the awards office on 98997099.



Lifeline manager and volunteers on sale day

Lifeline perform important tasks

The Lifeline retail outlet at the Boulevarde, Woy Woy, held a 50 per cent off everything winter sale in August to raise much needed revenue to fund its various services.

The staff took the unusual step of placing merchandise out on the footpath and serving drinks and

finger food to passers by to involve them in the exercise and found this to be an ideal ice breaker when approaching strangers.

Lifeline provide a 24 hour crisis telephone service , a caring service for lonely or isolated people, crisis food parcels, crisis visits and training of volunteers as telephone counsellors.

It is a national charity that relies greatly on a core of over 200 volunteers.

Lifeline have recently introduced a new service as a youth suicide prevention line.

Anyone requiring assistance should feel free to ring 13 1114 anytime.

Cec Bucello, August 11

Council trials stormwater infiltration method

A novel "infiltration" method of stormwater disposal is being trialed on the Peninsula, following the adoption of a Stormwater Management Plan by Gosford Council.

The project involves the installation of 16 stormwater "infiltration devices" at several locations on the Peninsula.

Stormwater movements and pollution removal in these devices will be compared to the equivalent processes in areas with conventional drainage systems, according to the plan.

"The aim of the project is to establish the pollution reduction of stormwater infiltration devices and to assess their potential for

reduction in volumes and peak flows of run-off," the plan states.

The "devices" will include soak wells, infiltration trenches and plastic cellular systems.

"Different devices may be employed on the one site.

The devices will be monitored for at least one year.

"Bore holes will be drilled at each site to monitor general water table levels and to sample groundwater quality before and after installation of the infiltration devices.

The Council hopes the trials w411 lead to groundwater replenishment, reduced need for conventional drainage systems and better control of pollutants and nutrients.

Mark Snell, August 14

THE DRAIN IS JUST FOR RAIN



You may have noticed a number of litter traps located on beaches and in waterways throughout the Peninsula.

These devices have been installed by Council as a trial to assist Council in determining the type and quality of litter reaching our waterways and to determine the need for a permanent litter collection device.

Council would be happier if these devices were not necessary, as they are very unsightly and costly to maintain.

However, before they can be removed, Council needs to be assured that the community is doing the right thing with their litter and putting it in rubbish bins where it belongs.

In the past six months, the litter traps have caught over

three tonnes of litter which would have reached our beaches and waterways.

This litter has included plastic bottles, cigarette butts, food packets, aluminium cans, foam packaging, syringes and grass clippings. Other litter found included a medicine cabinet and an exercise bike.

In Sydney, a trial has been undertaken to determine the mobility of litter.

Items were tagged and dropped through the stormwater system at selected drains in the Mosman catchment area.

A litter tag item was found a week later on the beach at Port Stephens and other items were found as far south as Bateman's Bay.

How can YOU help?

- Put your litter in a bin

where it belongs

- Pick up other people's litter in the park or on the street
- Put your cigarette butts in the bin after they have been extinguished
- Sweep your gutters and driveways regularly of leaves and twigs and dispose of the sweepings in the compost or on the garden as mulch
- Rake up lawn clippings and leaves and mulch as compost
- Cover piles of sand, soil or mulch to stop them washing into drains
- Never put litter or clippings in a location that could be blown or washed into a drain or waterway

Remember - the drain is just for the rain

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Creativity's magic surrounds our lives

In this issue, we introduce our new art reporter, Bernard Craft.

Bernard introduces us to his thoughts on creativity.



Art and the creative output have always been the cement which held communities together.

Our community, the Peninsula, is the amalgam of varied lifestyles and origins.

While many work far away, some try to make their living here, others do not work; because they cannot, they have done enough, or nobody wants them.

Artistic activities can be of use to anyone of us, to give us relief and pleasure, to find solutions in our work or life, or to give us a goal.

Creativity is latent in everyone of us.

We were all born creative, although sometimes there is attempts to delete the creative software of our hard disk.

My column will try to encourage the development of the artistic abilities we all possess.

There will be a main article Art reporter, Bernard Craft about

one facet of our artistic side, surrounded by information on local examples, sources, events, venues and profiles of people doing it here on the Peninsula.

It will also be a forum where you can share your views.

The first main article is an attempt to clarify and demystify creativity.

We use creativity all the time and everywhere, but if we gain a little understanding of its magic, we...

can gain much more benefit from it.

Creativity can be used in the creation of software, in the making of a soup, in a relationship and in the search of the inner self, shopping, painting a bathroom, gardening and drawing, to name a few.

Art and creativity are not elitist, it is an integral part of each one of us.

Bernard Craft

Time to flee mortal constraints

Creativity is the ability to conceive something which has not been thought of before.

Creativity also implies that this ability is not a one off, but a regular aptitude.

Nothing can be created out of thin air, anything new is a combination of existing elements in a pattern that has not been tried before.

This definition applies to anything related to newness, whether it has never been seen before or it is simply an adaptation or improvement, planned or not, fabricated, an accident or naturally developed in a Darwinian way.

Creativity can happen in three ways: the planned, the naturally grown and the accident.

All three interest the artist.

Although creativity cannot be ordered, systematic research and trial and error is a well known way of discovering new concepts, compounds and theories.

Naturally grown creativity happens to the artist while working on a project or even while sitting idly and letting the mind wander, going for a walk, or snoozing and dreaming.

Accidental creativity happens when a jar of water is tipped over a work, the brush is absentmindedly tipped into the wrong pot and so forth.

The artist's main problem is to have to be told over and over, while a child, that one should do Telephone (02) 4341 1166

Facsimile (02) 4342 3639 For the Information of members & their guests something in the proper way.

There is no proper way.

The artist must struggle incessantly to wander away from the highways of artistic production.

The artist must travel alone, on foot or with a special vehicle.

The artist must soar above the crowd, bank and dive on obscure inspirations, skim lightly above unexplored prospects, reach for the panorama beyond the horizon and regularly refuel on the bizarre, the fantastic and the peculiar.

Creativity grows on adventures, exposure to novelty, humour and challenges.

It wilts in an atmosphere of habits, abhors classification, strict labelling and simple policies.

Creativity is the right to be wild, to try and to fail.

The artist needs above all to give authorisation to the emotional treasures within to interfere, mingle, guide the hand which pushes the medium.

Yes, the artist must dare to place unrelated things together, dare to accept the result, dare to accept it and dare to show it.

The artist must avoid falling into the trap of doing something new for its own sake.

I have seen in museums of contemporary art, chairs that could not be sat on, teapots which could not hold tea, the contents of backyards strewn on the floor as instant art and much more

absolute rubbish.

My opinion without apology.

Artistic failure is the price that every artist has to pay.

Failures, lots of them is the price of creativity.

Each failure is a teacher, necessary and an integral part of the creative process, but they have no place in museums.

Creativity is the result of many experiences, zillions of tiny, but focused observations, consciously or not, of the collecting, storing and indexing of gigabytes of facts and information.

It is the knowledge of what others are doing in the same fields, in related fields, and especially in completely unrelated fields.

A creative person is creative during sleep, on the toilet, while driving, in the doctors surgery, in bed, alone or in someone's arms.

A creative person is always open to stimuli, always receptive, always collecting and storing, always mixing and interpreting.

It is not easy.

Yet that is the way that we were born.

This ability has been deleted out of most of us.

Try to make the effort to consciously separate financial matters from art.

Drawing is inexpensive.

Then jump in the ocean, learn to swim, learn to be carried with the flow, be creative in your responses.

Drowning happens to those who fight the water.

Bernard Craft

Tivoli By Night Saturday 4 September



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News

Paralympic torch to pass through Peninsula

The Paralympic torch relay will pass through Blackwall, Woy Woy, Umina, Pearl Beach and Patonga before being ferried over to Palm Beach for its route through the Northern Sydney beaches.

"I'm delighted that the Paralympic Torch is coming to the Peninsula," Marie Andrews, Member for Peats, said.

"There were a number of people upset because the Olympic Torch would not be visiting the Peninsula, but the recently announced route of the Paralympic Torch relay will more than compensate for this area missing out," she said.

"I'm more convinced than ever that our Paralympic athletes are the real heroes of this world.

"They display tremendous courage in the face of much adversity and are a real inspiration to others with or without disabilities.

"Every Australian should give them all the support and encouragement they can muster.

"One excellent way that residents of the Peninsula can do that is by volunteering to be a torch bearer.

"If that is not possible, then the next best way would be to line

the streets along which the torch will be carried and give lots of vocal encouragement to the torch bearers,"she said.

The Paralympic Torch will be on the Peninsula on October 16 next year, while the Games themselves will take place from October 18 to 29.

Member for Robertson, Jim Lloyd, is also pleased that the Paralympic Torch relay will pass through the Peninsula area, giving many people the opportunity to be part of the Olympic experience.

Jim Lloyd said: "Many local residents were disappointed last year when they discovered that the Olympic Torch would not be visiting the Peninsula and I raised those concerns directly with SOCOG." "The Australians competing in the Paralympics have in many cases overcome what to many of us would be insurmountable obstacles to reach the pinnacles of their sporting careers.

"They are truly great Australians and each and every one of them deserves our full and wholehearted support and I urge all Peninsula residents to ensure that they are part of the event," Mr Lloyd concluded.

Cec Bucello, August 13

Hospital volunteers wanted

An admission to hospital can be stressful and daunting or calm and friendly.

At Brisbane Waters Private Hospital volunteers enhance the healing environment by greeting patients as soon as they have booked in at reception.

According to Chief Executive Officer, Mr Graham McGuiness: "Volunteers have become a vital link in the hospital care team.

"Volunteers offer extra care and company for patients complementing the care provided by nurses, doctors and other health care professionals.

Volunteers can be men or women of any age with sincere and caring attributes including patience, compassion and a good humoured approach to all activities.

Volunteers have high regard for patients' rights and strive to

maintain their dignity and identity. Confidentiality is of utmost importance.

Activities may include delivering messages, mail and flowers, writing letters, playing cards, reading, arranging flowers and providing a kiosk and library round.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer call Mrs Tricia Wright, on 4341 9522.

Karen Booth



Veterans to review own entitlements

State Member of Parliament for Peats, Marie Andrews is urging Central Coast Veterans to have their say in a Commonwealth review of entitlements for those who served in South East Asia from 1955 to 1975.

This review will be conducted by retired South Australia Supreme Court Judge, Mr Robert Mohr.

It will look at anomalies in the recognition of, medals awarded and the repatriation benefits to Australian's who conducted military service overseas.

The review will examine areas of service such as The Far East Strategic Reserve, where Army and Air Force service was recognised but Navy service was not; those who served at RAAF Butterworth in Malaysia and RAAF

Ubon in Thailand; all service in Malaysia during the Indonesian Confrontation; and any other Australian Defence Force service in South East Asia where there is any evidence of an anomaly in recognition.

The review will also consider any posthumous awards.

Ms Andrews said: "Anomalies in recognising South East Asian military service between 1955 and 1975 may have cost local veterans due recognition for service.

"The local community now has a chance to address this historical oversight.

"I welcome this step by the Commonwealth to finally investigate past lapses," she added.

Submissions to the review will close within the next few months.


"I urge the Central Coast community to get behind this review and make sure all local veterans receive the recognition they deserve for the sacrifices they made serving our country overseas," said Ms Andrews.

Veterans or any local resident who knows of any veteran, who have not be recognised for their service during this period should call Marie Andrew's office on 4342 4122 and the details will be passed on to Mr Mohr.

Alternatively, veterans, residents or veterans families can write directly to The Secretariat, Review of Service Entitlement Anomalies in South East Asian Service, Russell Offices, Canberra ACT 2600.

Geoff Barnes, July 16

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Samples can be seen at the **Bakehouse Gallery** in Bay St. Patonga on weekends.

Andrews requests local investigation into petrol prices

As petrol prices hit 80 cents a litre on the Peninsula, Member for Peats Ms Marie Andrews welcomed an investigation into Central Coast petrol prices.

Ms Andrews said the State Government's investigation into petrol prices in regional and country areas will now also include the Central Coast, after she had

approached the Minister of Fair Trading.

Ms Andrews said the Federal Government had failed to take action against the "oil barons" so the State Government was taking up the challenge.

"Motorists are fed up with being at the mercy of oil companies," she said.

"The ownership of a private motor vehicle is regarded as a



necessity rather than a luxury and it's pretty miserable to think that the oil companies are taking advantage of that fact." Motorists can make submissions by writing to the Project Officer, Petrol Issues, PO Box 0168, QVB Post Shop NSW 1230.

Traffic review committee suggests roundabouts

A review of traffic flow in Woy Woy has recommended that a roundabout be installed at the Victoria Rd and Charlton St intersection.

It has also recommended that a roundabout be installed at the Ocean Beach Rd and Railway St intersection.

The review was conducted by Gosford Council's traffic planning section and presented to the Woy Woy CBD Building Committee.

Other recommendations included installing a fence in Railway St, alongside the station, between Blackwall Rd and George St, with a pedestrian refuge being installed at George St.

The building committee endorsed these recommendations. However, other proposals suggested in the review were not endorsed.

A number of recommendations designed to facilitate traffic flow

through the "village renewal area" was 'not endorsed.

These included proposals to provide signals "in the long term" at the corner of Railway St and The Boulevard and a roundabout at the corner of the The Boulevard and Chambers Place with an associated pedestrian crossing.

The committee resolved to ask the Council to investigate U-turn alternatives for northbound traffic in Railway St.

Mark Snell, August 14

Council reports petition outcomes

Council's director of corporate and community services, Mr Chris Gallagher, has reported action taken between April and June regarding petitions received.

Drew St petitioners, who had requested the installation of a stronger fence to deter traffic using their dead end street as a

thoroughfare to James Browne Oval, were advised that a works order had been issued.

Petitioners requesting the removal of a Clothing bin from a residential area in Woy Woy were told council is reviewing its clothing bin policy to control the number and placement of bins particularly in high scenic and recreation

areas.

A request to seal a laneway between Park and Victoria Rd was answered: "the sealing of the laneway does not meet the criteria for a high priority ranking compared with other unsealed roadways".

"However, comments have been noted and the laneway will be monitored".

Carl Spears, July 23

Verandah enclosure proposal accepted

Council has accepted Umina Child Care Centre's request for a floor to ceiling verandah enclosure.

The centre director wants a glass and window enclosure as a protection barrier from the weather and safer play space for children.

Gosford council's director

of corporate and community services, Mr Chris Gallagher, had recommended council approve the lodging of a development application for the verandah.

He also recommended waiver of any council fees.

The verandah modifications will cost about \$17,500.

Carl Spears, July 23

List of upcoming events

Peninsula News now offers a calendar of local activities, as a free service for the Peninsula community.

We will gladly publish dates, venues and details.

It can include fairs, AGMs special events, special meetings and so forth.

But it is up to local organisations to supply us with the information, preferably six weeks in advance by phone or fax.

It is one easy and efficient way to increase attendance at your event, and to ensure that you do not miss anything that interests you.

Upcoming events August 17: Empire Bay Progress Association meeting, Empire Bay Progress Hall, 7.30pm.

August 21: Old Time Dance Club, Ettalong Beach Memorial Club, 1pm.

August 25: Umina Neighbourhood Watch meeting, Everglades Country Club, 7.30pm
August 28: Old Time Dance Club, Ettalong Beach Memorial Club, 1pm.

September 4: Old Time Dance Club, Ettalong Beach Memorial Club, 1pm.

September 4: Family Fair, Orana Retirement Village, Pt Clare, 8.30am - 1 pm
September 9 - 12: Australian Springtime Flora Festival, Mt Penang Kariong.

September 10: Games and Dance Night, Empire Bay Public School.

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News

Religious instruction highly regarded

Jeff Roffey and Adam Frost are teachers at Umina and Woy Woy High schools but they are not employed by the Education Department.

A group of churches on the Peninsula employ them to teach religion to the students.

These churches feel it is so important to teach students about a God who loves them, offers hope for the future and clear guidelines to live by, they have committed to this financial undertaking.

Umina High has had a Religious Education teacher for the past 10 years and Jeff Roffey is into his seventh year.

He conducted a survey on the impact of religious studies on Umina High.

Umina principal Mr Pat Lewis commented on the benefit of the program.

"The students learn tolerance, goodwill towards each other, and an understanding of the Christian message and the importance and place of religion in our society."

Mr Lewis said: "Jeff himself is a great asset to have in our school.

"He is a wonderful friend and mentor to our students and has been of great support and comfort to us in several times of crisis and sadness." Woy Woy High has had an RE teacher for five years and

Adam Frost is into his second year.

Adam is a talented musician and sportsman and last year organised a Christmas Carols concert which was well attended and a great success.

He was involved in Woy Woy's annual variety concert recently, organising and accompanying students on guitar and piano.

He said: "My job is to provide the skills, ideas and encouragement and a clear understanding of the gospel so that students can make informed choices."

Melanie de Jager 43421731



Every Friday evening, Frank Whitling plays the sitar at Gandhi Indian Restaurant, adding authentic live background Indian music for patrons to help them enjoy their meals.

Frank started his musical career playing classical piano twenty years ago but found that playing other peoples' music was not very satisfying.

He then took up the sitar, a

traditional Indian instrument with twenty strings, where playing requires constant adlibbing working within given scales and in set keys.

Frank has been to India seven times to further his knowledge of the instrument and is also taught by a master sitar player in Sydney.

Frank will be returning to India in November for further development of his skills.

Proprietor of Ghandi's, Ajay

said that he is pleased to have a musician as talented as Frank playing for his patrons.

"Sometimes when he is playing, we can't tell whether it is him or one of the masters' recordings being played as background music through the restaurant's sound system." Frank can be contacted via his web site on frankw@idl.net.au Cec Bucello July15

Discount cards for readers

The Peninsula News community discount card is a free discount card for Peninsula News readers entitling them to discounts from all participating retailers and service businesses.

Discounts can change each month and are only valid for one month, in line with the publication of each edition of Peninsula News.

Participating businesses have the option of being involved whenever they want to, one month at a time.

Each outlet can choose the size of their advertisement and the discount they wish to offer.

Cards are available from the Peninsula News office, from participating businesses' outlets

and from Peninsula News distribution points.

All that readers have to do is pick up a card and show it when making a purchase from a participating business to claim the advertised discount.

Those businesses will also have cards to give out.

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Woy Woy
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Artist passes on skills

Judith Hoste, an established Peninsula artist, believes that everyone can paint, everyone can be an artist and she has proven it through 15 years of teaching. She herself learnt through Ethel Jamieson and she passes on the knowledge of skilfully achieving recognisable scenes with detail and a crispness which allows full appreciation of the wilderness of the Central Coast.

Judith is aware of and teaches the basic rules of composition and colour combination which gives an artist the control needed to reproduce any chosen scene and mood.

She works in oils, pastels',

watercolours, drawing and acrylics with a preference for landscapes native fauna and flowers.

Judith Hoste teaches no more than nine students at a time in her studio to guarantee personal attention to everyone, while the rest of her time is spent painting and preparing for exhibitions.

Judith's works can be found in several shops on the Peninsula as well as other outlets on the Central Coast and entered in competitions.

She revels in the rugged escarpments, and the mists that hang over areas of wetlands and the expansive waterways in the early mornings.

Ms Hoste's pupils include many Central Coast students keen to experience the thrill of producing their very own work of art.

Bernard Craft, August 4.

Folk club does it again

A new folk club in Woy Woy has attracted a wide variety of musicians and an even larger number of spectators to its second meeting last week.

Featuring three guitarists, bag pipes, keyboard, bodhran, didgeridoo, flute, recorder, two button accordion players, tin whistle, several percussionists, singers and dancers, the evening provided a range of music that spanned over 100 years of history, from early colonial to contemporary.

Known as The Troubadour at CJays, the folk club welcomes

musicians, singers or just appreciative listeners in the cozy environment of the newly-opened CJays cafe restaurant by the water near the wharf at Woy Woy.

In a friendly environment, new and experienced musicians are able to participate in sessions playing a variety of music, sharing knowledge and learning from each other.

Meetings are held on the second Monday of every month with the next gathering on September 13 at 7pm.

A cover charge applies.

With inquiries, call Frank on 4341 4060.

Cheesecake on the move

The Peninsula's only Cheesecake Shop has moved to Blackwall Road to be part of the main street activity.

While Cheesecake shops normally only have a take-away service, proprietors Jenny and Malcolm Minns have broken with the traditional retail cake shop approach by adding tables and chairs to their much larger

premises.

Customers may now also purchase hot drinks and enjoy slices or quarters of cakes and pies in the cake shop environment.

The move to Blackwall Road has added further life and atmosphere to the Woy Woy business district and is seen as a good move by adjacent retailers.

Cec Bucello, August 11

Arts and Crafts

NATURAL SELECTION

"The survival of the most fit", Darwin's decree which moulds our DNA like so much genetic plasticine,

tempered by the environment to define our parameters - a new disease, the weak succumb, the breed grows strong. Mind and reason also in its grasp, the smart survive.

When peers push limits the brave do not always win. Death takes those who stray beyond their own potential. So, a youth to climb that cliff, to jump that gap or swim that current, the smart say "no", the breed grows wise. A time of testing rests with experiments of youth,

shaping future minds. Today the needle is the test as peers pursue the risks the young demand. Who will survive? The smart say "no". The future rests in wiser hands.

Jeannie Lawson.

Woy Woy High students excel

Woy Woy High School has been busy in artistic endeavours.

The school has had some excellent representation in performing arts in the first weeks of term three.

The year 11 drama group provided a moving and insightful

performance at the Central Coast drama Festival on July 26.

Congratulations to Megan McGreal, Amy Haddadi, Michelle Gordon, Donny Bell, Amand Pearce and Mr Howes who prepared them for the performance.

Cec Bucello, August 16



Site plan: Community Centre and Little Theatre

Peninsula Community Centre and Woy Woy Little Theatre sites As reported elsewhere in this edition of Peninsula News, the existing Peninsula Community Centre is to be demolished but not until a new one is built on the existing bitumen car park adjacent to it as shown above.

The Woy Woy Little theatre will

be built on the Northern end of this site on the present playground which will be relocated.

While we have been assured that all existing users of the centre will be accommodated in the new centre, the new centre will only be a single story while the one to be demolished is a two story building and occupies a larger floor.

Hopefully, a better design will make the difference.

Cec Bucello, August 15

Umina Bowling Club has world-wide audience

Peninsula organisations such as churches, small businesses and community groups are increasingly providing information to Internet users.

A new section devoted to providing regular reviews of Peninsula Internet sites will interest many members of the community.

Umina Beach Bowling Club has an interesting site that is quick to download and provides plenty of information.

The site provides the basic contact details and has a nice picture of the bowling green.

Links provide further information on major events, the weekly bowls

schedule and summaries of past events.

The restaurant link was not working when the site was visited.

Interestingly the site is accessible through two addresses (URL's).

Try <http://www.tac.com.au/goldeni/ubbowls.html> or <http://www.centralcoastsports.com.au/ubbowls.html> If your community organisation is on the Internet and would like your site reviewed, send the information including contact details to stephenmncnamara@start.com.au or mail to PO Box 532, Woy Woy 2256 or fax 4342 2071 Stephen McNamara, August 9

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PND



One of the litter booms on the Peninsula

Council set to educate public about cleaner waterways

Litter currently pollutes Gosford City's beaches and waterways.

As a result, Gosford Council has installed a number of litter trapping devices throughout Gosford City which aim to catch litter carried to the stormwater before it is discharged onto the beach.

On the Peninsula, council has installed a litter boom at Woy Woy and litter trapping devices on stormwater outlets discharging to Ettalong Beach at the end of Schnapper Rd and Umina Beach at the end of Berith St.

In conjunction with this, council is embarking on an extensive community education program on littering.

This program will include a drain stencilling component, a television commercial and projects by school students.

Council is monitoring the type and quantity of litter caught in the

traps each month.

It is expected that, over time, the amount of litter caught in the traps will reduce as the community becomes more aware of the impact of littering and puts their rubbish in the bins where it belongs.

In the past seven months, the existing litter traps have caught over three tonnes of litter, which would have reached the beaches and Waterways.

This litter has included plastic bottles, cigarette butts, food packaging, aluminium cans, foam packaging, syringes and grass clippings.

In Woy Woy channel, a medicine cabinet and exercise bike where found.

If you have any queries regarding the litter traps or the community education program, please contact Jane Whiteley, council stormwater officer on 4325 8175

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FOR THE INFORMATION OF MEMBERS AND THEIR GUESTS

Schools

Ettalong Beach accepts enrolments

Ettalong Public School is now accepting enrolments for next year.

Children who turn five before July 31 next year are eligible for enrolment in Kindergarten classes starting at the beginning of the new year. Application forms can be obtained at anytime from the school, Karingi Street, Ettalong or the school can post them to you. Parents are encouraged to visit the school and be shown around to see the many resources available in Ettalong Public School's pleasant environment. For more information phone 4341 3655.

Head Start

From Wednesday September 1, Ettalong School will again be running its successful Head Start Program. It is the program's seventh year. Parents' comments from previous years have included "The program helps children mix and let them know what school will be like", "It made Kindergarten easier,

my daughter was prepared and eager, it was all enjoyment", and, "It made the first day of school so easy". Head Start classes help new school children to become familiar with the school, the teachers and their new friends before the school term begins. These classes will be for children starting Kindergarten in 2000. A meeting for parents to inform everyone about Head Start will be held on Tuesday, August 3, in the School Library. The meeting will start at 7pm with tea and coffee served.

Disco

Ettalong Public School's recent disco was a great success and everyone seemed to enjoy it enormously, said principal Mr Bruce Donaldson. "Big Chief Peter" and his two funny clowns from "Sounds Unreal" provided the music and some entertainment with the help of "Men in Black". The P & C helped raise \$1050

at the same time for the Computer room, he said. Life Education

Ettalong Public School sent a \$500 cheque to the appeal for the replacement of the Life Education Vans. This included all the money contributed with the disco money and \$50 from the marble competition. We have asked Life Education to proceed with their visit this term despite the loss of their van. A temporary classroom has been organised for the program so the Life Education teacher can continue presenting lessons. The program will begin at the school on Wednesday, July 21, and the book material will cost \$4 per child.

Fete

Ettalong Public School's Parents and Citizens Association have some great plans for this term culminating in the School Fete to be held on September 11.

So, please start sorting through old toys and books. A special stall will focus on preloved children's toys and books. If you have any, don't throw them out, send them along to either the office or gold classroom.

Computer Room

Ettalong Public School's Parents and Citizens Association (P & C) held their June meeting in the newly established computer room. Mr Tim Nash, the School's Computer Co-ordinator, said the computer centre will be up and running this term in order to give Year 6 children some hands on experience before transferring to High School. The school intends to provide parents with basic computer skills as a gesture of thanks to the many who helped in getting the project running. The P & C would like to thank the dedicated group of volunteer parents and helpers who have run the computer cabling underground to each block and placed extra

cable under tiles and inside walls to link up every classroom. The Ettalong Memorial Club is also supporting this project.

Guide Dogs

Ettalong Public School pnn/pal, Mr Bruce Donaldson said he would like to thank all the students who brought in labels from Pal dog food. The school sent off 140 labels to Pedigree Pal, which represents \$70 towards training a Guide Dog. "Great effort," said Mr Donaldson.

Volunteers Needed

Classes of Ettalong Public School would like some parent volunteers to help in the mornings with reading in Terms 3 and 4. Please send a note to the school with your child if you can help. The school canteen urgently requires helpers on Mondays. Please contact Cheryl at the canteen if you are available.

School development day

With the September school holidays almost upon me, I think back to the last holidays. The last home-note from the school gave me more than reasonable notice of the school's development day, which was the first Monday after the holidays. My defence lies in the mysterious disappearance of the homenote, which was located after the holidays, while cleaning under the lounge.

With the mayhem of the holidays behind us the children were in bed at 8.30pm Sunday night. I went to bed and set the alarm before going to sleep. The neighbourhood cats woke me at 2am, and it took me some time to be sure there was no baby screaming, just cats.

At 4am, I was sure they'd moved the airport to Ettalong, when my mind cleared a little the garbage truck had moved along, the room grew quiet.

It seemed to be only a few minutes before I woke again, sounds coming from the television, and sun streaming into the house. I lifted and ran to the lounge to see the children, seated in front of the telly remarkably relaxed. I armed myself with the iron and school uniforms in one arm, and breakfast cereal, milk and plates in the other. A knock at the front door was answered by my son. The plumber had finally arrived ready to work, two days late. Somehow the kids were dressed and fed in my mad rush, the plumber had worked his way to the back yard, then I heard the dog's toenails on the lino, in his break for freedom. Instinctively, the children followed in an attempt to save the neighbourhood from the freedom-

bound hound. I stood at the door with my keys in my hand, and in due time the three returned. The dog on the chain, and the kids in the car which refused to start. My willing and pleading was no help at all, but a neighbour's help saw us on our way an eternity later. My blood pressure must have been three figures high and low, but we were progressing well when my eldest child said: "We haven't got our bags. They're still in the house near the door." I stopped at the ATM, which was closed. then drove like someone possessed to the nearest garage. With my head still in a spin, I stopped the car at the gate to the school, gave the kids lunch money and told them to hurry, we were an hour late. They started toward the building, I wasn't game to stop the motor, but more relaxed, I drove slowly home. First things first, I made a cup of coffee and sat down to enjoy the tranquillity, though the plumber made the occasional taping noise. For a moment I felt good, then noticed a flickering red light out of the corner of my left eye. Contrary to my first thought, it was the answering machine, not my pulse in my eye. Bravely I leaned over and pressed the button and waited for the message. "Hello, it's the principal here. It is a school development day today. "The children don't actually start till tomorrow. You'll have to come and collect them. Thank you." I listened to the beeps, and somehow smiled through gritted teeth.

Stan Prytz

Fossils unearthed at Woy Woy

This year's theatre restaurant performance at Woy Woy High School sees students unearthing the Manual - Aston play "Fossils". The play is being produced by Woy Woy High School Animal House Productions which launched last year with its version of "Year 9 Are Animals". Teachers Peter Howes, Bill

Donald and Year 11 student Amy Haddadi have led up to 16 students during rehearsals and, have noticed the rise of some real stars. The play is on the HSC Drama list for this year and next year. It satires the relationship between parents and their children, the rules placed on children and the way we see our parents.

The play has many wonderful moments and is shaping up to be very funny. "Fossils" commences on Friday, September 17, and continues until September 21 in the School Hall. Tickets are \$15 including a two course meal, on sale from September 1. Book by calling the school on 4341 1600.

Woy Woy High does well at zone athletics

Woy Woy High achieved pleasing results at the recent zone athletics carnival at Adcock Park. Team manager, Mr Towbridge, said the school team effort was excellent with some outstanding individual performances. Aaron Hamstra came first in 14 boys javelin; Mary Hohua, first in shotput, Aaron also came second in both discus and shotput. Stephanie Loder came second in the 100m and 200m and Haley Oliver came second in 100m in their respective age groups. Sixty students represented Woy Woy High at the carnival. Mr Towbridge said the team manager's job was a pleasurable one.

"An encouraging sign was the leadership and motivation shown by many of our senior students who helped out with many additional duties on the day, besides competing in the events," he said.

Surfing

Jai Settree and Jarrod Fletcher represented Woy Woy High in the regional titles held at Avoca Beach. The two achieved the best results the school has ever had, coming sixth. Dane Evans and Daniel Martin went to Avoca as a backup team but did not get to compete. Dane and Daniel's reward for their support was a day of stress free surfing.

Relationships

All Government school Year 11 and 12 students must participate in a course focusing on relationships and drugs. Family Planning NSW representative, Reet Krabi, provided Year 11 Woy Woy High students with up to date information and communication strategies needed to form the basics of a good relationship. By all accounts, the students enjoyed the seminar, which was

informative, humorous and thought provoking.

Rugby Union

Woy Woy High's Rugby Union team are central coast champions after defeating Northlakes High 29-12. Woy Woy coach, Ian Towbridge said the Northlakes team was well drilled and the score was not indicative of the game's closeness. "The game was in doubt until the last five minutes, when Jake Westerman crossed for his second try," said Mr Towbridge. "Players player was Scott Wilesmith, who had a great game in both attack and defence." Woy Woy, as central coast champions will now take on Epping Boys High in a state quarter final. Mr Towbridge said he believes in the boys' ability to beat Epping providing the forwards take control of the rucks and mauls

School News

Woy Woy South endowed with future scientists

Top students from Woy Woy South Primary School have shown they have the answers and a bright future following their success in the world's largest Science Competition.

Rhiannon Baker, Cameron Bruce, Rachell Willer (Year 3); Elizabeth Brickley, Anthony Cheetham, Emma linnenback, Nicholas Sainty, Aaron Silver (Year 4); Alex Beaton and Cameron Matthews (Year 6) all received Distinction Awards In the Australian Schools Science Competition organised by the Educational Testing Centre at The University of New South Wales.

Student Helpfest

Woy Woy South Public School is presently in the middle of its annual Student Helpfest As a part of the School's student welfare program, the Helpfest involves a number of activities aimed at developing positive lifestyle outcomes across the whole school

range from Kindergarten to Year 6.

The School's current program is in its' third year of operation and fills the premises with fire engines, school buses, training bicycles, dental assistants, and the always welcomed Happy Healthy Harold Usually with the life Education van, Harold this year has set himself up in one of the school's reading resource rooms foil lowing the recent burning of both the service's vans.

All classes participate in the life Education program, and this year its' content included a whole School Breakfast, with cereal and fruit In abundance.

Helping Harold and the teachers give out the good food was local star North Sydney Bear forward Glen Morrison.

The school also took the opportunity of the time to present a cheque valued at \$832 to life Education presenter Belinda McCombe on behalf of the children who had raised the money shortly after the recent fires.

Empire Bay joins news readers

Gosford City Citizen of the Year, Ms Terri O'Brien and local aboriginal member Mr Ken Warren educated Empire Bay Public School students on aspects of aboriginal culture recently.

Ms O'Brien, a retired school teacher grabbed the children's attention with stories of aboriginal history and depictions of aboriginal heritage.

Transition

Empire Bay School will run its 'Baystart' Transition Program for children starting kindergarten next year.

The program started in the third week of Term Three and continue until the third week of Term Four.

The sessions run weekly o,n Tuesday and Wednesday between 12.35pm and 1.30 pm.

For more information phone 43691796.

Internships

Brooke Murray and Wendy Martin from the University of Newcastle taught at Empire Bay School as part of finalising their degrees.

These Term Three internships enabled Brooke and Wendy to become Casual Teachers in Term Four.

They performed the same tasks

as class teachers during their internships.

Oval

Empire Bay School principal, Mr Gordon Fraser, is asking for advice to help fix the school oval's drainage problem "We are experiencing some problems and a number of students are finding the mud hard to resist," he said.

Drug education

The Peninsula Lioness Club donated a drug education CD ROM to Empire Bay Public School.

The CD, called Boswell's Dilemma, is a drug education program for Years Five and Six.

The CD has the Department of Education's support.

School Principal, Mr Gordon Fraser, said he appreciated the Lioness Club's donation.

Canteen

Empire Bay School canteen supervisor, Ms Anita Jung, has asked for more volunteers to help run the canteen.

Ms Jung said split shifts where available, which means volunteers can choose to work for a few hours or the whole day.

If you would like to discuss helping phone Ms Jung, phone her on Monday, Wednesday or Friday on 4369 1796.

Subscriptions

If you want to ensure that you receive every edition of Peninsula News, why not subscribe? In this way you will be certain of keeping up-to-date with all of the latest news and information on the Peninsula.

Our subscription service will ensure door to door delivery within two days of publication every four weeks.

Simply choose one of the following and send us your payment with address details and your subscription will commence with the next edition unless you request specific back copies.

6 months subscription - \$9 12 months subscription - \$18

Umina High students visit Uluru

Umima High students had a great three weeks safari in central Australia.

The students travelled just over 12 000 kms and saw five states.

They travelled west into South Australia, visiting Wilpena Pound and the Flinders Ranges before moving on to Coober Pedy via the Onondatta Track.

Travelling north the group visited Uluru and Kings Canyon, before biting Alice Spring.

Back on the Stuart Highway, they saw the Devils Marbles, Tennant Creek, the beautiful swimming pools at Mataranka and Edith Falls before eventually

visiting the wonders of Kakadu National Park.

They went to Darwin and camped for a couple of nights at Katherine Gorge where they had a very interesting birthday party.

On to Western Australia for a cruise along the Ord River into Kununurra.

They stayed at the famous Daly Waters pub on their return, and then travelled down through western Queensland on the long trip south to Umina.

Larry Thomson

Umina Public School news

It was with great surprise and sadness that we received the news last week that our senior school assistant, Mrs Irene Calvert, will be transferring to Central Mangrove Primary School.

Mrs Calvert has held this position as part of the front office staff at this school for 11 years Her contribution to our school during this time has been phenomenal, often giving time and effort above and beyond her regular duty.

Of particular appreciation, has been her generous support afforded to principal Mr Bob Bourke.

In addition to giving our school service of the highest calibre, she has been very much everyone's friend, and as such will be missed by all.

We express our sincerest gratitude for the part she played in her role at the school and best wishes for a happy and rewarding time at Central Mangrove.

Performance

Audiences left Laycock Street Theatre last week raving about the quality of this year's Central Coast

District Dance Festival.

The dance group from Umina, made up of 30 year 5 and 6 students trained by Miss Gibbs was exceptional, easily being the stand-out performance of the primary schools represented.

Thank you parents for your help with transport and to Miss Gibbs for the months of hard work in preparation for the performance.

The dancers will be holding a performance for the whole school at a assembly later this term.

Paralympics

Sydney will be hosting the Paralympics in October 2000.

Our Kinder to Year 5 children will have an opportunity to experience elite sports people in action with an excursion planned for the whole school.

The day session costs \$8 plus transport costs which approximates to a total of \$15 to \$20 dollars for the day.

The money would have to be paid by mid-March 2000 We are hoping to obtain some subsidies towards the transport costs.

Early Birds

The school will be starting its

Early Birds Program on August 18,1999.

This program is to help children enrolled for Kindergarten in 2000 to become familiar with school and classroom activities.

We have 75 children in the program and it will run for six weeks in term 3 and six weeks in term 4.

A parent meeting for those. involved will be held on Tuesday August 3 at 6 pm in the School Library off Melbourne Avenue.

Internet Access

This is held in the School Library Monday to Thursday from 3 to 5 pm.

The program provides access to the Internet.

Children must be supervised by a responsible adult at all times For assistance talk to Mrs Darmody or Mrs Usher at the school.

Father's Day

The Father's Day stall will now be held on Friday, August 27.

Gift making is well on the way.

Traditionally, we also hold a Mufti Day and request the children to bring a suitable gift for dad (value \$2) or a gold coin in exchange for

wearing mufti.

This will be held on August 20 and we hope it will be supported by everyone.

Jeans for Genes

Thank you to all the children and staff who wore their jeans on Thursday, August 5.

The school raised \$292 for children's medical research.

Blood Bank

The Blood Bank will be held at the school on Wednesday, September 1, from 9am to 2pm.

New donors are always welcome.

School Watch

Some volunteers have indicated that they can no longer participate, therefore we need more volunteers.

Also, some of the previous participants have yet to disclose whether they want to continue or not.

It would be much appreciated for those or for new volunteers to contact Anne Austin, Monday to Thursday, the school if they can be of help.

Safety

Here are some rules' to keep your children safe on the streets.

The rear kerb side door must be used for getting in and out of a car.

Children should wait for an adult to let them in and out of a car and should hold the adult's hand.

Always hold hands with an adult when walking, when crossing' roads and when in car parks.

Hold onto the stroller, shopping bag or trolley if the adult's hands are full.

Stop and check driveways before crossing.

Stop, look, listen and think when crossing the road even at lights.

Sport

Umina Public School cross country competitor Blake Vanderwoude produced a creditals resuit, coming fourth in his division at the NSW P.S.S.A. Champlonships and with this achievement has been chosen in the NSW team to compete in the National Championships to be held in the Northern Territory at Darwin.

Arts and Crafts

Art classes available

The Ettalong Beach Arts and Craft Centre covers many artistic activities and has space available for beginners and advanced artists.

Activities include pottery and sculpture, drawing and painting, needle work and embroidery.

Members exhibit their work in several shops around the Peninsula.

They benefit from the support of the organisation and also learn through seeing what others are doing.

Several members are busy on a patchwork and embroidery quilt, which will be auctioned for charity.

Inquiries, Penny 4360 1873

Woy Woy little A's recall great year

A club record eleven Woy Woy Peninsula Little Athletics athletes reached the State Championships at Homebush last year ..

They were: Emily Mullen U10 400m, 800m.

Kylie Wildman U13 200m Hurdles, 200m.

Katherine Peksis U15 400m, 800m.

Aaron Hamstra U13 - Javelin, Discus.

Kara Shackleton U15 - Triple Jump, Long Jump.

Jessica Morrell U15 - Javelin.

James Treloar U15 - Triple Jump.

Samantha Tomlin U11-1100m Walk.

Susan Sobczak U13 - Javelin.

Luke Donahie U9 - 70m.

Amanda Morris U11 - 400m.

Club Secretary, Joy Morrell said the Woy Woy Peninsula Little Athletics club was more than competitive.

"Although competitive the clubs main base and interest lies in its Friday night events where athletes of varying ability attend to compete, socialise with friends and have fun in age groups from under 6 to under 15," she said.

The coming season looks promising already with a Pentathlon planned for November.

Leonie Barnes, July 13

Hairdresser controls her own destiny

Ettalong has a new hairdressing salon called Waves.

The new salon was formally the salon Hi Gorgeous but has been bought by new owner Allison Mills.

Ms Mills found it hard to find work in Sydney.

"Once you say you're from the Central Coast, many Sydney employers don't want to know you," she said.

"I decided since no-one would give me a job, I'd start my own business at Ettalong."

Carl Spears, August 6



Peninsula couple Kylie Thistleton and Andrew McDonald were married recently at Holy Cross Church at Kincumber.

The bride's dress was designed and made by Annette Fallon of Woy Woy.



Fred and Joyce Hall of Umina recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

They were married at the Methodist Church, Railway Street, Merewether, and have lived on the Peninsula for 12 years.

Fred and Joyce had seven children, all boys.

Woy Woy to receive artistic decoration

The Woy Woy CBD Building Committee will work with local groups and council's arts officer to provide some interesting artistic treatments to the area.

Council's community arts and cultural development officer, Janine Carter, said in the newsletter Arts News, that council will consult.

different sectors of the community such as retail, youth, seniors and tourists.

"A local artist will also be sought to make the ideas a reality," she said.

"The idea is to revamp some areas with murals, interesting seats, planter boxes, garden beds, tiles, interesting light use and so forth."

Carl Spears, August 10

Watch meeting

The Umina Neighbourhood Watch will hold their regular meeting on August 25 at the Everglades Country Club at 7.30pm.

New auditorium for bowling club delayed

Ettalong Memorial Bowling Club is seeking a rezoning of land near the club to accommodate a proposed auditorium and associated carpark but two nearby property owners have stalled the process.

While the land proposed for rezoning is already owned by the club, two residential lots nearby remain in other owner's hands.

The club intends purchasing the remaining lots later and include them then in the rezoning.

Gosford Council's director of development and the environment said rezoning should be deferred until all the land was acquired by the bowling club.

"While having no objection in principle to the rezoning, the current proposal represents an incremental approach to land use planning," he said.

"The two (remaining) residential lots would be surrounded by club activities and separated from other residents.

"(The proposed rezoning) could also reduce the value of the land (of the two remaining lots) and place the club in an un-fair market

position.

"Rezoning should be deferred until all the lots are owned by the club." The club says the isolation of the two remaining lots is a perception from a mapping perspective rather than actuality.

The club says that time needed to plan the auditorium and carpark means the club cannot afford to wait for all lots to be purchased.

However, the club said they are a community based enterprise and therefore are interested in a non aggressive approach towards the owners occupiers of the lots.

Council's director of development and the environment said council will support the rezoning once the lots are purchased by the club and a holistic approach can be taken.

He said the owners of the lots were concerned about vehicle noise, property value and club activities surrounding their homes which would result from the proposed rezoning.

Gosford councillors decided to defer the matter until after a site inspection.

Carl Spears, August 4

New security system for Umina library

Council has brought forward a capital works budget of \$32,000 for a security system at Umina library.

Originally, the funds were part of the 2000-2001 budget but are being brought forward to 1998-1999.

The general manager said the reason was because Woy Woy library had funds allocated for 1998-1999 but as renovations were still under discussion the funding was going to Umina.

Umina library's original 2000-2001 funding will now be allocated to the Woy Woy branch in 2000.

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Sport

Ferry proponent gives netball assurance

The Ettalong Beach fast ferry proponent, Fast Ships Ltd, is “quite happy” not to use the Lemon Grove netball courts for parking, according to its chairman, Mr Peter Hale.

The assurance followed recent criticism about the possibility from Cr Lynne Bockholt.

“I am disappointed that the revised EIS currently on exhibition has an option for parking on the Lemon Grove Courts,” she said.

“As patron of the Woy Woy Netball Association I can assure netballers and local residents that the courts will not be used for parking if the ferry is approved.”

“There was no support for this proposition at councillor or officer level when the matter came to Council.

She said the council had resolved not to have car parking at the Lemon Grove Courts as part of the proposal.

“There will be car parking on this facility over my dead body,” said Cr Bockholt.

In a press release issued last week, Mr Hale said the company was not proposing either the netball court or the foreshore parking option.

“The community have clearly stated that they want minimal

impact on the foreshore with regards to parking and we have agreed with that stand,” he said. The Council’s fast ferry sunset committee had also indicated that it did not want the netball courts taken over for commuter car parking.

“Again, the company agrees with that position,” said Mr Hale.

He said the consultants’ reports prepared for Gosford City Council had looked at all the parking alternatives, including both the foreshore and the netball courts options, “so that Council has all the information it requires to make its final assessment”.

“The consultants have clearly

been diligent in their assessment,” he said.

Mr Hale said that the company had been working with the Woy Woy Netball Association since 1995 on the issue of parking and the Lemon Grove Netball Courts.

“I want to assure the netball association that we will continue to work co-operatively with them and that we respect their wishes to retain the Lemon Grove courts for the use of the netball playing community,” he said.

Cr Bockholt said the netball association recently celebrated 25 years of netball at Lemon Grove courts and she had been involved for all of that time.

“Both my daughters played netball there and I played, coached and umpired on these courts for a number of years,” she said.

“I am now patron of the association and retain a close involvement with the association and players.

“I have worked long and hard with the Woy Woy Netball Association to ensure that courts remain where they are.

“Over 700 women and girls use these courts for sporting purposes from most of the year and the thought of this excellent community facility being lost to the community is abhorrent to me and I am sure to all councillors.”



Central Coast Kuring-gai Team CHS State rugby champions Photo by Marlin Gallagher Photographics

Swans sides in finals in all six grades

The Peninsula Swans Football Club has exceeded all pre-season expectations, with all six grades making the finals.

The first and second Australian Rules grades are set for a berth in

the grand final after they take on a win in the second semi-final to be held at Tacoma on Sunday, August 15.

“We are very confident about bringing all the flags back to the Peninsula, where they belong,” said coach Peter Tulk last week.

Major bowls event

The Umina Beach Bowling Club is to stage a major mixed bowls event for the Peninsula.

Club Co-ordinator, Charlie Robinson advises that totals prize money of \$2500 is there for the taking at the next event set down for the October long weekend.

Each team of mixed fours will

play over five games, with the final game each day to be played under lights.

A tournament to crown the king and queen of the Central Coast open mixed pairs will be held at the end of October again with large prize money on offer.

All interested should contact the club. 43412618

Umina High rugby never better

Several Umina High School students have achieved well in rugby in recent weeks.

David Hendricks, one of the Year 12 students, was a member of the Central Coast-Kuring-gai Open Rugby team which won the C.H.S State Rugby Championships.

These were held at Woy Way Oval at the end of last term and it is the first time that the local team

has won the State Championships.

David played both in the second-row and as a loose forward during the tournament.

The Central Coast team defeated Sydney West in the Final by 22 points to nil.

Three girls from the school - Kersheena Hill (Year 12), Lauren Kelly (Year 10), and Louise McCabe (Year 9) - all gained

selection in the Sydney North Area Girls Rugby team that recently won the Sydney C.H.S. Rugby Championships which was held at Waratah Stadium at Concord.

This team, coached by Umina High teacher Mr L.Thomson, defeated Sydney South West in the semi-final by 35 points to nil, then defeated Sydney West in the final by 38 points to nil.

L Thomson

Bowls carnival every first Monday

Umina Beach Bowling Club’s new bowls coordinator, Mr Charlie Robinson, reports that a carnival day of bowls consisting of three games on each first Monday of every month will be permanently fixed in the club’s program for the year.

This day was designed and organised to allow bowlers on the Peninsula to participate in a day of bowls with \$1,000 prize money.

The first of these days was held July 5.

“It was an outstanding success,” said Mr Robinson.

Other clubs were well represented, with bowlers coming from Ettalong, Gosford City, Woy Woy and Everglades Club.

Eventual winners were a composite side of Paul Erwin, Les Morrison and Bill Thompson.

There is a fee of \$7 per person and prize money will be allocated to 25 players on the day.

For anyone requiring further information please call Mr Robinson on 43412618 or 4341 8862.

Rugby win for Umina High

Umina High School defeated Morisset High School in a very tense and close 15 Years (Buchan Shield) rugby union game at Morisset last Friday.

The Umina boys won by 15 points to 14.

The team had the perfect start with plenty of ball movement and a considerable amount of control in the forwards.

Our team has an excellent backline, with players like Justin Maskill, David Hyde, Ian Willis and John Payne.

They all played exceptionally well.

But like every football team, the backs cannot play well without good ball support from the forwards.

This is where Shane Wilson (Number 8) had a great captain’s game and led by example.

He was ably assisted by hooker Shane Ngaheu, second-rower Darin Tanti and prop Brendan Klein.

Most of the forwards are having

their first experience of rugby and this takes quite awhile for them to get used to.

A converted try in the first half by Shane Wilson, following a penalty goal to John Payne, saw Umina take a handy 10 points to nil lead.

Another try, soon after the halftime break by five-eight Justin Maskill saw Umina take this lead to 15 points to nil.

From this point, the boys still played very well, but the Morisset team lifted their game and a lot of the penalties from the referee fell mainly against us.

This , with a couple of errors, let Morisset into the game.

But, the Umina team showed real spirit to hang on for a great win.

With this win, the team has now reached the last eight in the State, in a competition which started with 256 teams from right across NSW.

The team is now Sydney North Area and Hunter Area Champions.

Congratulations must also go to the Cheer Squad who came north to support the School.

They did a great job and were well organised in their support.

To reach the last eight in the State, the 15 Years Buchan Shield team had a bye in the first round, defeated Kincumber High 28-0, in the second, Berkeley Vale High, Northlakes High (after being down by 12 to nil at halftime) and then Gosford High by 26 points to 12.

We wish them all the best in their State Quarter-final match against Granville Boys High.

The players who have been involved in these games are : Craig Hopping, Shane Ngaheu, Brendan Klein, Darin Tanti, Joel Mitchell, Cameron Dixon, Joe Parmeter, Glenn McLellan, Shane Wilson, Owen Maher, Glen Ngaheu, Ben Hyndes, Justin Maskill, Ian Willis, David Hyde, Madison Rodier, Shane Campbell, John Payne, Tadd Walford, Nathan Griffiths, Robbie Henderson, Jason Israel, Wade McFarlane, Scott Silvia, Glen Astley, Sean Stevenson and Ryan Clarke.

L.Thomson , R.Williams

WOY WOY PENINSULA LITTLE ATHLETICS

Registration Days 1999/2000

Saturday August 28	9am – 12pm	Ettalong Beach Club
Saturday, September 4	9am – 12pm	Ettalong Beach Club
Friday, September 10	3.30 – 6pm	McEvoy Oval, Umina

Proof of age required Club competes on Friday evenings

Enquiries: 4341 7175 or 4369 2965

Mountainbike rider reaches for peak

Peninsula resident Dan Cleary, 25, is leading the Central Coast Mountain Bike Club championship in the first year he has competed.

Dan said the competition was three quarters completed and will end in November.

Mountain bikes are now Dan's life, being both his leisure and livelihood.

Life sometimes takes an unexpected turn and Dan had never contemplated competitive bike riding before.

Dan started riding bikes regularly after a cricketing injury

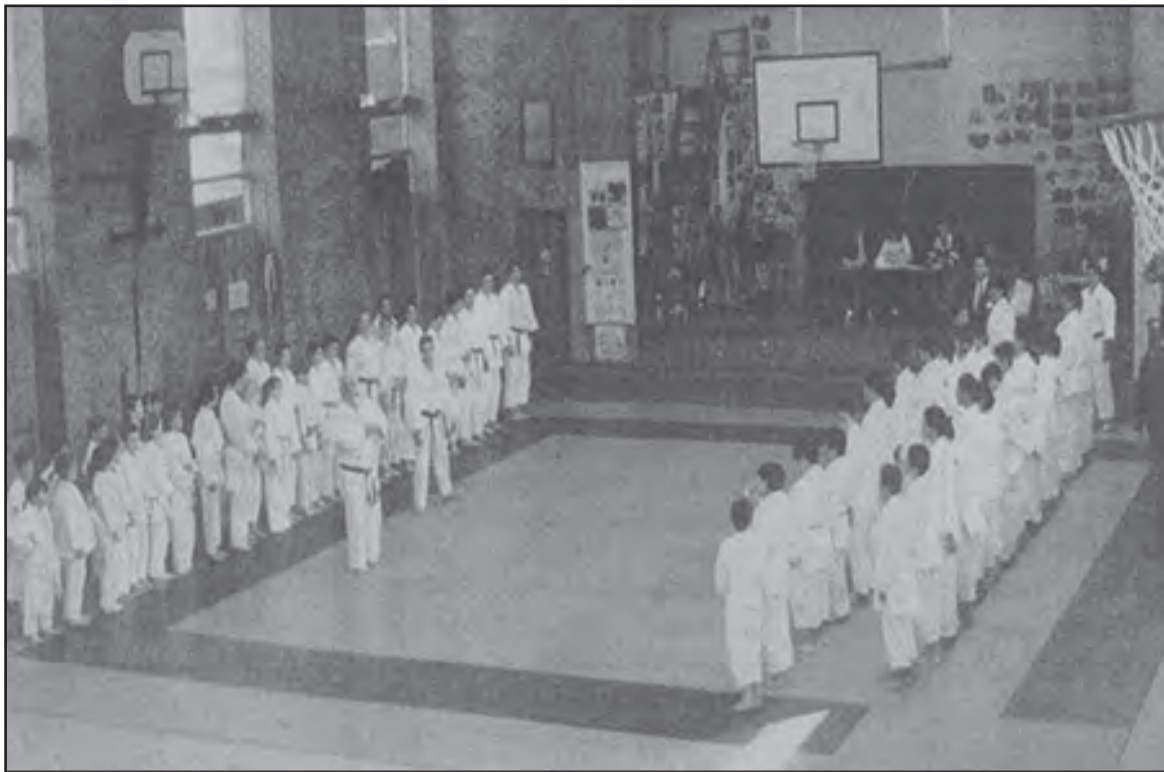
six years ago required knee reconstruction.

"The doctor told me to start riding bikes as a low impact way of strengthening my knee," he said.

"My first bike was a dog of a thing, and I ended up buying a better one.

"I kept getting slightly better bikes and in January I bought Peninsula Cycles in Umina." Dan has turned misfortune to his advantage, changing his life from insurance industry worker and self-admitted average cricketer, to small business owner and possible mountain bike champion.

Carl Spears, August 6



Visiting Okayama judo squad line up against local talent

Kids get kick out of Judo Goodwill Games

The Woy Woy Judo Club hosted the Okayama-Woy Woy Goodwill games on Sunday, August 1, with club secretary Lindy Simmons hailing the event as "a great success".

The friendly games provided 67 students with the opportunity to display their skills in 3-minute bouts.

Of particular interest was the 9 to 11 year old weight division which saw the strength and skill of some Woy Woy girls more than surprising their male Japanese opponents.

Held in the main auditorium of

the Peninsula Community Centre the tournament was attended by over 200 spectators and reach its conclusion with a presentation ceremony officiated at by Community Centre Vice President Les Mitchell.

The tournament was the culmination of a weeklong visit by the Okayama Club, which included sightseeing to local attractions.

Okayama official Mr.Yoichi ago nominated the highlights included Old Sydney Town, Dangar Island, lunch at the Red Herring Restaurant at Brooklyn, and some homecooked Woy Woy hospitality.

Closure of Woy Woy Judo's regular training rooms by Council

earlier this year put the Okayama visit in some jeopardy.

But Peninsula Community spirit pulled through and ultimately assured the smooth running of the Games.

Chief Instructor Danny Simmons voiced his appreciation.

"We would like to say thank you to all our sponsors and local businesses who helped support the children of the Woy Woy Peninsula to host their fellow judo players from Okayama.

It was a great opportunity for us all." The Woy Woy Judo Club hopes to make a return visit to Okayama sometime in the future.

Kerrie Friend, August 13



The -15 years Netball team - (L-R) Back Row: Karli Muller, Charmaine Samsely, Shannon Cooper, Amy Walters, Cassandra Dawes, Kellie Cook, Coach: Maureen Samsely. Front Row: Emma Fairclough, Joanne Hill, Vanessa Young

Peninsula nets good results

Junior Peninsula netball teams have done extremely well at the recent NSW State Netball Championships.

The Woy Woy Peninsula Netball Association sent four teams to the championships and came in the top third in all age groups.

Over 60 districts sent teams to the championship held at Illawarra in July.

The Peninsula 15 years old came ninth, 14 years old tenth, 13 years old eleventh and the 12

years old nineteenth.

Councillor Lynne Bockholt said the teams did very well indeed and pointed out how important this year was for Peninsula netball.

"It is the seventieth year of netball in NSW and the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Woy Woy Peninsula Netball Association," she said.

Netball is the most popular female team sport in Australia as regards participation.

Carl Spears, 10 August



Craig Merryweather and the Skg schnapper he caught in Broken Bay South recently

Fishing news:

Good winter spots to catch the big one

Well it's August, traditionally the slowest month of the year as far as estuary fishing is concerned.

Yet, there are a few fish around for those who are keen enough to make an effort.

Woy Woy Channel is producing a few nice Whiting on the run up tide late afternoon into the night if you don't mind putting up with the cold.

If you like a good feed of Mullet,

try the Tee Wharf at Woy Woy also at night.

Burley with bread and use bread bait Mosquito Bay and Cockle Creek are worth a try for Bream and Blackfish But, if all else fails, try the rocks, with good catches of Taylor and Salmon coming off Putty Beach and Killcare.

Drummer and Bream can also be caught from the rocks at Copacabana and Winnie Bay, burley with bread, using prawns or

cunjevoi as bait.

For those outside fishers, Broken Bay wide is the hot spot.

Schnapper catches up to the bag limit of 5kg are fairly common.

Last, but not least, if you like a little sport there is plenty of Salmon around Lion Island and Barrenjoey That's all for now.

Good fishing and Good luck.

But always remember 20% Luck, 80% Skill.

Jamie's Bait and Tackle

Cricket training begins

Umina District Junior Cricket Club will be holding their Pre-season Training Day on the afternoon of Sunday, September 12.

With the 1999/2000 season fast approaching, the day provides an opportunity for all team members registered with the club to meet

with their coaches and managers as well as participate in some general training drills and brush up on skills that may have been neglected over the winter break.

Anyone interested in attending should be at Umina High School oval on September 12 between 1 and 3pm.

Kerrie Friend, August 13

BMX rider wins Terrigal trials

Woy Woy BMX rider, Jeremy McNally won the 24 to 29 year old cruiser event at the Terrigal BMX trials held on August 7 and 8.

Sponsored by Peninsula Cycles, Jeremy won each of the

four races on the day and then went on to win the final.

Also competing was Dan Cleary who entered in the 19 Plus class.

Dan finished in the top four in each of the four heats and then came fourth in the final.

Cee Bucello, August 11

Been to the Rocks Arcade lately?
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The changing face of Ettalong markets

Over the past twelve months, a great deal of expense and effort has gone into upgrading Ettalong Markets to what is now a cosmopolitan centre in the midst of traditional suburbia that needs to be seen to be believed.

Using a mixture of architectural designs and decoration, combining federation styles with contemporary and adding Mediterranean colours, live greenery and a variety of outdoor eateries, the Markets have become an extremely interesting place to visit.

There are over 50 different stalls

holders providing a wide range of merchandise and food outlets. Added to this is an ultra modern picture theatre and a motel, complete with tennis court in the centre of the complex.

Visitors can have their fortune told, paint plaster models, have a key cut, choose from an enormous range of gift items, buy unique designer clothing, visit the plant nursery or just be entertained by the live music in the courtyard.

Open on weekends and public holidays, one could be forgiven for losing track of time or place when visiting these markets, for they are a truly unique experience, not just on the Central Coast but anywhere.



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The newspaper that cares about the Peninsula community

16 AUGUST 1999

Beach Club: construction underway

"Never, never, never give in except for good sense and honour" has been the motto adopted by Peter Hale, General Manager of the Ettalong Beach Memorial Club.

He said at the official opening of construction, that over the past four years, he has fought against all odds to build the Central Coast's best tourist development.

Mr Hale said many thought that it would never happen and there have been plenty of detractors along the way, many stringent council requirements to be met, enormous legal difficulties to be overcome and almost impossible financial institution requirements to be satisfied, but at last the first sod has been turned and work has commenced on the new Ettalong Memorial Club as the first stage of the Grand Mercure Ettalong Beach Club Resort "The new club is the first step in restoring the Peninsula community to its heyday of the 60's and 70's", Mr Hale went on to say.

The project will also include the regeneration of the beach front to its former glory.

To do this, the club will donate sand to the value of \$250,000 and \$300,000 in cash for fore shore developments.

So as not to create an environmental problem the sand has been matched with the existing sand, down to the grain size and composition.



Official table at the opening

Well known stock broker, Rene Rivkin, said that he does not normally recommend property investment because gains are too slow, but in this case he made an exception and was so confident of the resort's success that, "if it failed, he would run naked down the streets of Ettalong".

The first stage is the building of the new club, a 6000 square metre entertainment facility that will replace the existing Ettalong Beach War Memorial Club and form the ground floor of the resort.

The resort will be operated by the Club under the Grand Mercure name, a subsidiary of the Accor Asia Pacific Group, which itself is part of the largest hotel management company in the world with over 3000 hotels under management.

Mayor Chris Holstein was keen to congratulate fellow councillors for having the foresight and courage to make the hard decisions such as approving the new club and resort in the face of a very small but vocal minority.

Mayor Holstein said the resort is seen as a tourism bonanza for the Central Coast as well as an economic and social benefactor providing 1000 jobs during construction as well as 200 full time jobs on completion.

Mayor Holstein said this will be supplemented by jobs in the area in response to the additional demand to be created by resort guests as well as the social and environmental benefits to be gained by the large number of residents that will no longer need to commute elsewhere for their employment.

New South Wales Premier, Mr.

Bob Carr, said that he was extremely pleased to see such a huge investment in the future of New South Wales.

"The location of the resort is in one of the most spectacular regions in the state and yet still retains the charm and nostalgia of yesteryear to be retained as part of the development," he said.

"The ferry service will bring many tourists to this region creating further opportunities for all concerned."

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