

Holstein gains re-election easily - Majority of councillors set to be re-elected

In a historic election with a record number of candidates, at close of counting at 8.48 pm on Sunday, September 12, it appears that seven of the eight candidates seeking re-election were successful.

With the only sitting councillor likely to miss out being Mick Whalan who was listed as 17th out of 70 candidates.

Councillors Rowand Donald did not stand for re-election and it looks as if their places have been taken by Debra Wales and dark horse, as far as Peninsula residents are concerned at least, Daniel Cook from Narara.

Tenth place and last position on the council looks like going to Geoff Preece although he is the only one of the top ten with less than half a quota and therefore more likely to need preferences to get through.

The largest number of votes was received by past Mayor Chris Holstein and on this showing is likely to retain his position as Mayor.

There was a total number of 88,077 votes cast, nearly 10% of which (7237) were informal.

The high number of informal votes is thought to be a result of the large number of candidates and the size of the ballot paper that many people had difficulty with.

No doubt, some were a protest against the councilor just having to vote at all.

The Peninsula looks like being well represented and should be able to look forward to its fair share of expenditure on the area as well as, perhaps, some arrears on monies that went elsewhere in the past.

Cec Bucello September 13



Peninsula pre-polling office and volunteers gearing up for the election a week ago for election '99

Top twenty candidates



Cr Chris Holstein

Following are the top twenty candidates as at 9pm on Sunday, September 12.

The results show place, name, votes, (primary vote) and quota (1 = 100 per cent of quota needed)

- HOLSTEIN, Chris 10880 (9382) 1.503
- BELL, Robert 7431 (6785) 1.027
- BROOKS, Malcolm 6537 (5745) 0.903
- SANSOM, Tony 5664 (5236)

- PENTON, Judy 5579 (5439) 0.783
- WALES, Debra 5452 (4988) 0.771
- BOCKHOL T, Lynne 4593 (4142) 0.635
- MCGOWAN, Margaret 4206 (3772) 0.581
- COOK, Daniel 3737 (3529) 0.516
- PREECE, Geoff 3264 (2938) 0.451
- PHILLIPS-TIBBETTS, Jenny 2696 (2496) 0.373
- COHEN, Adam 2668 (2473) 0.369
- WILLS, Kevin 2495 (2386) 0.345
- DE MARTIN, Louise 1658 (1376) 0.229
- ADAMS, Bev 1568 (1480) 0.217
- OAKLEY, John 1487 (1337) 0.205
- WHALAN, Mick 1337 (1182) 0.185
- EADE, Daniel 999 (917) 0.138
- BARR, Lachlan 817 (724) 0.113
- HUDSON, Bob 707 (627) 0.098

Alphabetical results to date

Following are the results of the election, in alphabetical order, for all candidates, at 9pm Sunday, September 12.

ADAMS, Bev 1,568 (1,480) 0.217
ADAMS, James 367 (322) 0.051
BAKER, Eileen 7 0.001
BAKER, Errol 692 (602) 0.096
BARLOW, Lorraine 44 0.006
BARR, Lachlan 817 (724) 0.113
BEATON, Mandi 1190.016
BECKERS, Glen 44 0.006
BELL, Robert 7,431 (6,785) 1.027
BOCKHOL T, Lynne 4,593 (4,142) 0.635
BOLAND, Graham 310.004
BOUGHTON, Richard 72 0.010
BROOKS, Leon 21 0.003
BROOKS, Malcolm 6,537 (5,745) 0.903
BULL, Owen 180.002
BYRNE, Mar/lene 41 0.006
CALDICON, Helen 1580.022
CHAN, Darren 30 0.004
CLEMENTS, James 537 (482) 0.074
COHEN, Adam 2,668 (2,473) 0.369
CONNORS, Scott 3 0.060
COHEN, Barry 182 0.025

COOK, Daniel 3,737 (3,529) 0.516
COOK, Lyn 38 0.005
COOK, Max 111 0.015
DE MARTIN, Louise 1,658 (1,376) 0.229
DOYLE, Craig 67 0.009
DUNLOP, Mark 13 0.002
EADE, Daniel 999 (917) 0.138
FINDLEY, Robert 397 (236) 0.055
FITZGERALD, Brian 21 0.003
GAY, Neil 34 0.005
HASKELL, Kevin 140.002
HEXTALL, Joanne SO 0.007
HOLSTEIN, Chris 10,880 (9,382) 1.503
HOOD, Lyall 180.002
HOWES, Martin 6 0.001
HUDSON, Bob 707 (627) 0.098
Informal 8,471
JACK, Adrian 1030.014
JUDD, Donna 9 0.001
LENEY, Peter 537 (499) 0.074
MARCH, Bob 1290.018
MAWSON, Glen 8 0.001
MAWSON, Greg 549 (521) 0.076
MCARTHUR, James 40 0.006
MCGOWAN, Margaret 4,206 (3,772) 0.581
MCKENNA, Tommy 16 0.002
MILLS, Elsie 160.002

MITCHELL, Bernadine 54 0.007
MITCHELL, Rhonda 140.002
MUNNINGS, Craig 157 0.022
MYERS, Helen 80.001
O'BRIEN, Terry 15 0.002
O'BRYAN, Mark 507 (470) 0.070
OAKLEY, John 1,487 (1,337) 0.205
OLIVER, Johanna 373 (330) 0.052
PARKER, Clifford 3 0.000
PENTON, Judy 5,579 (5,439) 0.771
PHILLIPS-TIBBETTS, Jenny 2,696 (2,496) 0.373
PREECE, Geoff 3,264 (2,938) 0.451
PROSS, David 39 0.005
SANSOM, Tony 5,664 (5,236) 0.783
SIDIROPOULOS, George 69 0.010
SOLLY, Blake 8 0.001
SPRING, Jacquie 7 0.001
WALES, Debra 5,452 (4,988) 0.753
WHALAN, Mick 1,337 (1,182) 0.185
WHYTE, Lyn 34 0.005
WILLIAMS, Stephen 1 0.000
WILLS, Kevin 2,495 (2,386) 0.345



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Forum

Peninsula

COMMUNITY ACCESS

News

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This seventh edition of Peninsula News is published in the week after one of the most important elections in Gosford's history.

The local Government election saw a record number of 70 candldates stand for 10 positions on the council.

In our last edition, we approached all candidates to seek their policies as they related to the Peninsula and those that replied accordingly had their policies published for all to see.

In this way, we hoped to be able to better inform readers so that their decision on election day would become easier.

Now that the election is over, we will watch with interest to see if promises and policies as published are met.

New initiatives

In this edition, we have added a new section on property on the Peninsula put together by multi-talented arts reporter Bernard Craft.

We expect that this will be a regular addition in future editions to add a new dimension to the paper.

We have also added a competition in the arts section (with a prize) and have continued with the calendar of events commenced in the last edition.

The health and welfare page has also been expanded due to the hard work of our medical reporter, Karen Booth.

The popular history and heritage page also makes a welcome return.

We have a new e-mail address: pennews@ozemail.com.au. and big things will be happening soon on our web site.

Your feedback on these initiatives, or in fact anything to do with the paper is most welcome, as is your input into the calendar, so that we can make it as complete as possible.

Well-being

While there is no doubt that some Peninsula residents are having problems, be they social, personal or financial, as is to be expected in community of 40 000 people, there is also no doubt that the Peninsula is going through a boom period at present.

Property prices are up, businesses are busier than ever f?r thiS time of the year, tourists and holiday-makers are already having an impact and there is a general air of optimism about.

We hope that we have contributed to this.

The Peninsula has seen in the last month many residents winning major sporting events, receiving special awards and in general receiving special recognition.

These include a first grade rugby league team, a school principal and a recipient of a Premiere's award.

We have also had recent visits from the Premier of New South Wales and several members of Parliament, State and Federal from all sides of the political spectrum.

All of this augurs well for the future and the Peninsula New.s w.ill continue to bring you this infomlation so that we can all take pride In local achievement.

Contributions

The Peninsula News continues to be supported by a large number of Peninsula businesses who see it as one of the major means of communication with the community.

In all cases, they like what the paper stands for and the effect that it is having on their community and are keen to be part of It.

Additionally, there are many individuals without whom the paper would not be possible.

Apart from those already mentioned, they include Geoff and Leonie Barnes who devote a great deal of time in the office, typing articles and working on graphic design.

News director Carl Spears, sports and community news reporter Kerrie Friend, history writer Joan Fenton, environment reporter Jeannie Lawson all make a valuable contribution to the paper.

Behind the scenes, hard-working computer expert, Stephen McNamara always seems to have yet another problem to sort out, as well as training us all in the most efficient use of the latest programmes.

If you fancy yourself as a writer or would like to contribute in any way, please contact the office where we would be pleased to hear from you.

Distribution and membership

The paper now has 12000 copies printed every four weeks.

They are distributed through all the schools on the Peninsula, direct to businesses and through community locations.

Outlets include social, leagues and bowling clubs, senior citizens centres, libraries, hospitals, the community centre, retirement villages and selected retail stores.

Next edition

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

Give some 'brass' to the Peninsula

In regard to the local government elections and the needs of the Peninsula, it is imperative the candidates should make sure that the big end of town (Gosford, Terrigal and so forth) does not get all the 'brass'.

Councillors like Lynne Bockholt and Judy Penton are certainly competent to that task.

Naturally, drainage, roads, footpaths and sporting facilities need to be maintained and upgraded and traffic flows studied.

Council support for a casino at Ettalong would be a boost for employment, as would a light industrial, techno-park to be developed at the old quarry site at Woy Woy Rd.

A theatre, concert hall and art gallery should be built at Woy Woy.

Why should Gosford have it all? - Geoff Preece's idea of a light rail linking Woy Woy, Ettalong and Umina and a tourist line to Pearl and Patonga Beach, perhaps - an excellent idea.

Also a massive tree and shrub planting, with consultation with the resident and ratepayer is much needed, because of the rapid destruction of native trees because of council's urban consolidation policies.

K.Whitfield WoyWoy

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.

Which sand?

How very amazed I was, and I am sure many other residents, to discover that the grains of sand under the' Ettalong Club are the same size as those on the beach.

The fact is, the club is sitting on what was once part of the "beach" system and therefore, in reality, it really should never have been placed there.

I hope that the planned structure

to be placed on this site does not do to the surrounding environment what the pink monster at Terrigal has done as was predicted by the better informed and environmentally aware groups that opposed that structure.

It is now a beach resort with precious little beach! The same for Ettalong?

Zoe Russell Swansea

'Taj Mahal' questions

I have watched the "Taj Mahal" stand vacant since it was built, a reminder of building code abuse.

Advertising for functions, catering for up to 150 people are 'now appearing.

Could someone tell me where these people and staff will be

parking? Doesn't a commercial premises need available parking per square metre of the building? The "Taj Mahal" story continues and as a concerned resident, I'm ready for the next exciting chapter.

I wonder if I'll be reading fact or fiction.

I. Cromer
Umina

Community has final say on caravan park

I write in reference to an article which appeared in your paper on August 16.

It concerns the proposal, before Gosford Council, to enter into some form of commercial arrangement with 'private interests' to utilise what is commonly referred to as 'Patonga Caravan Park - Camping Area', over the Olympic, Para-Olympic period (September - October 2000).

Like so many other schemes put before council, this proposal would appear to have some merit and be worthy of approval by the general public.

This will be the year of the Olympic Games and we should all do our bit, and not only will we be doing our bit, but the council stands to profit by the not inconsiderable sum of \$20,000, which will be expended within the village of Patonga.

Unfortunately, just like so many other similar schemes, it just "ain't" that simple.

Firstly, the land in question is not a caravan park.

It is, and has been since 1917, an area of public recreation, under the control of the Department of Land and Water Conservation, and as such was never intended to be used for commercial purposes.

It provides an important amenity, not to only the residents of Patonga but also to the wider community.

Through common usage over many years, the caravan park and camping section of the area has evolved.

While the majority of the residents of Patonga have no objection to the continuation of the operation of that section as it is presently conducted by Gosford Council (on behalf of Land and Water Conservation) they are also adamant that they will not allow the commercialisation of their 'recreation area', and over the years have fought and won many batt/es against the powers of avarice and greed.

In the most recent battle to preserve the land, a ruling sought from the then minister responsible Mr Kim Yeadon, not only supported the views of the people but through a thorough 'land assessment' determined that this area of public recreation was not to be used for private commercial purposes and that although the caravan camping section could remain, it was not to be extended and "intensifying it's use as a caravan park should be discouraged".

Gosford Council, or at least some of those who occupy executive positions within the council, have never accepted this ruling.

The reason is a constant puzzle to those who have for many years, actively opposed the council's plans.

Also puzzling to the residents of Patonga, is that according to the written report placed before council, "the sum of \$20,000 is expected to be raised from the plan".

This is all the more intriguing if one considers that if council does no more than charge the current

highest scale of fees over the subject period, the gross return to council will be at least in excess of \$90,000.

If a private entrepreneur were to conduct the site as proposed and charge the conservative (by industry standards) fee of \$100 a night, then the return would be \$494,100.

Stranger still, if one understands the requirement, that under the deed of trust between Gosford Council and the Department of Land and Water Conservation all monies generated through the use of the area of public recreation must be reinvested - in that land and therefore cannot and will not be used in the general, as quoted "Patonga area".

After over 40 per cent of the population of Patonga attended a public meeting convened by councillor Lynne Bockholt and thoroughly rejected and condemned the proposal, Gosford Council has abandoned the plan, and contrary to its reputation, instituted regulations to prevent the recreation area from being used for the purposes of profiteering.

However,1 think it worth illustrating to other residents within the local government area who may find their local areas of public land under threat from council and commercial interests, they can win, if they are determined and if they understand there is now State legislation in place designed specifically to protect, what is, after all, our land!

V. Jefferies
Patonga Beach

Building line debate set to be resolved

A long-running disagreement over building lines on beach front properties in Pearl Beach seems likely to be resolved.

Building lines in Coral Crescent are used to determine how close a building can be to the waterfront.

Council will amend their development control plan to identify building lines and hence avoid or reduce future argument.

The latest disagreement was on the agenda after a Coral Crescent property owner wanted to demolish an existing dwelling to build another.

Council's director of development and the environment, Mr John Murray, said council had only used the general "foreshore development policy" for Coral Crescent in the past.

He said there were further options available to determine building lines in Coral Crescent.

Some other options included; the existing building.

line contained in the development control plan (six metres from the high water mark), a "join-the-dots" method derived from adjacent dwellings to avoid new properties sticking out or a 50-year erosion line.

The director said existing building line guidelines and a joint-dots method were unclear.

The director recommended a formal building line for Coral Crescent, which follows the general line of existing development.

He said, on most allotments, this was consistent with the 50-year erosion line.

Carl Spears, August 30



New playground under construction at Pelican Park in Woy Woy is due to open soon

Peninsula petrol prices drop

Petrol prices on the Peninsula have dropped below nearby Sydney suburbs, following State Government scrutiny of petrol prices across the State.

Member for Peats, Ms Marie Andrews, said the NSW Petrol Hotline had been hailed as the most successful Fair Trading initiative.

The hotline received a record 3500 calls and submissions from across the state in six days, she said.

A little under 300, or about eight per cent, came from the Peninsula area.

"This clearly demonstrates the high level of interest in petrol prices," said Ms Andrews.

"The Minister for Fair Trading, Mr John Watkins, is forging ahead with his campaign to have petrol prices in regional and country NSW reduced and I am backing the minister all the way on this issue." Ms Andrews said: "The sceptics virtually said that nothing could be done about the great disparities occurring in petrol prices throughout the state.

"The minister is pulling out all the stops to get something done about this deplorable and unacceptable situation." Information and evidence to the

hotline included; oil companies refusing to supply stations if they sold at lower than recommended prices, threats and intimidation of service station managers, price increases on public holidays and pension 'days and bowser prices differing from posted signboard prices.

Although the hotline has closed, written submissions are still being accepted.

You can write to Project Officer, Petrol Issues, PO Box 0168, OVB Post Shop, NSW, 1230 or email: petrol@fairtrading.nsw.gov.au

Carl Spears, September 6

New Patonga mooring planned

NSW Waterways has told the Patonga community that they will place a public mooring in the area.

Patonga Village Planning Committee Chair, Mr Robert Osborne, said the mooring was for use in emergency situations and overnight use by the public.

"It is a much needed facility and improvement for Patonga," he said in the newsletter Patonga Village Voice.

Mr Osborne also said Gosford City Council surveyors were busy mapping the Patonga waterfront for a planned replacement of the boat ramp.

"Contrary to some advice, the replacement ramp is not planned until funds are found and at the earliest sometime next year," he

was reported saying.

"The Patonga Village Planning Committee will be making the strongest possible representations to council to secure adequate funding for a dual carriage ramp that the community wishes.

"It is an appalling situation when one reflects that council states they do not have the funds to undertake this \$50,000 project, yet they have announced a \$3.6 million tender for a Terrigal seawall." However, Mr Osborne was delighted with the \$10,000 federal grant secured by Gosford Council for the heritage pavilion project.

"This is a good example of how it is possible to work constructively with council," he said.

Carl Spears, September 12

Councillors decide to retain Bensville conservation zoning

Councillors have knocked back a plan to have some Bensville properties rezoned from conservation to residential.

The land owners said they would give some of the rezoned land to the public for recreational use such as new sporting fields.

However, in a closely fought debate, councillors declined to support the plan for the Empire Bay Drive and Kallaroo Rd properties.

Councillors defeated the proposed rezoning by five votes to four.

One councillor was absent for the debate through illness.

The reasons given for the decision included: the majority of the land is flood liable, council does not need more land for public purposes with the extra land being a maintenance burden and the unsuitability of saturated soil for recreation use.

Councillors considered the proposal inconsistent with numerous council and state policies.

Councillors Bell, Bockholt, Brooks, Rowand Holstein were against the proposed rezoning, while councillors McGowan, Whalan, Donald and Sansom were in favour.

Carl Spears, August 25

The environment with Jeannie Lawson

Pelicans breed on the Brisbane Water

In 1987 the National Parks & Wildlife Service were contacted by residents in the vicinity of Blackall Bay, near Woy Woy, who were enquiring about unusual odours and noises coming from a small sandy island in the Brisbane Water.

When Rangers investigated, they found that Pelicans were using the island as a nesting ground.

This was an important discovery as it was not known until then that Pelicans nested anywhere on the Central Coast.

The next closest nesting areas are the Wallis Lakes, near Forster and some islands off Port Kembla.

The pelican breeding islands in the Brisbane Water are now protected areas to ensure that the young are not disturbed.

Baby pelicans were once taken from the island by local fishermen

for bait.

These days the major threat to our pelicans is still _ our fishing habits, with entanglement in fishing line, infections from rusty hooks and ingestion of plastic bait bags causing death to many.

Pollution of our waterways also takes its toll.

If you see a bird in distress, please telephone the volunteer animal rescue group, WIRES, on 43232326.

Council drops caravan plan

Council's has dropped plans to hire out the Patonga Caravan and Camping Area to visitors for the Olympics next year.

Council had expected to raise about \$20,000 in the exercise.

Council held a public meeting to present a case for the hiring of the area and to field questions from Patonga residents.

Council's director of works,

Mr Darryl Dutton, said there were many speakers against the proposal at the meeting.

"The main issues (were) fears of privatisation and disruption to the normal booking pattern," he said.

He said the meeting passed a motion, by an overwhelming majority, that they did not want the proposal to go ahead.

Carl Spears, August 30

Priority Peninsula black spots

The four highest priorities for funding to Gosford Council from the Federal Road Environment Safety ("black spot") Program are on the Peninsula.

The four priorities in order are a re-alignment for Woy Woy Rd, new roundabouts at the Ocean Beach/

Rawson Rd and Barrenjoey/Bourke Rd intersections and an upgrade for the Maitland Bay Drive/Picnic Parade intersection.

The original funding of \$500,000 was granted last financial year of which \$66,000 has been spent.

The remaining \$434,000 was carried into this financial year.

Carl Spears, August 30

Chamber News

Peninsula on the move with start of Ettalong resort

The Peninsula is certainly on the move this month with the commencement of the Ettalong Club Resort.

The bulk excavation works being undertaken by Fletcher Constructions (Sydney) and Pluims (West Gosford) has added renewed confidence to the area which will be reflected in business operations right across the Peninsula.

It is important now more than ever for Peninsula businesses to take close stock of their business operations and capitalise on the opportunities that these infrastructure projects will bring.

Many local agents have reported improved business and investment inquiries and the local CBO's have reported renewed activity in vacant retail floor space uptake.

These are important and encouraging signs for a healthy retail/ commercial sector.

Such renewed confidence will work in well with some of the initiatives that the Chamber will be undertaking over the next twelve months.

Umina development control plan

The Umina Beach OCP Working Group which has been developing the development control plan (OCP) submission has now completed its initial works under the co-ordination of the Chamber.

An overview document has been prepared which has now been endorsed by the Chamber for referral to Gosford City Council.

The document sets out the main development issues for Umina Beach and targets the key opportunities as seen by the business people.

The opportunities include rationalising zonings, improving floor space ratios, encouraging sensible and sustainable commercial redevelopment, rationalising traffic and parking and mapping out the future direction of the town centre. These are important issues that need to be

addressed as an overall plan for Umina Beach.

The town is arguably the busiest strip retail centre in Gosford City and deserves to have its planning controls reviewed and modified where appropriate for the future growth and revitalisation of the town centre.

The Chamber will be referring the document to Gosford City Council and asking Council's land use planners to prepare a report to the earliest Council meeting for the allocation of funds for the DCP process to be undertaken.

It should be stressed that the process will take into account full community consultation and the Chamber advocates the appointment of an independent planning consultant to undertake the study.

Congratulations to the business people of Umina Beach for taking the initiative in getting the preliminary document together.

Woy Woy streetscape upgrade

Works have now started in the Woy Woy CBO under Gosford City Council's Financial Strategy.

Pelican Park is now being upgraded and will provide a first class recreation area on the Woy Woy foreshore.

The Chamber is advised that the footpath and street upgrading works will follow closely in accordance with the recommendations of the Woy Woy CBO Building Committee.

Umina Beach CBD upgrade

Gosford City Council has now line marked the proposed pedestrian blisters and five new raised pedestrian crossings prior to the street works being undertaken.

It is the Chambers understanding that the Umina Beach CBO Building Committee will be re: viewing the works to be carried out and assessing the loss of kerb side parking in the main street.



The Chamber is opposed to the proposed works as it will lead to the further loss of kerb side parking for shoppers and business people.

It is also the Chambers opinion that the five proposed raised pedestrian crossings will congest traffic and discourage shoppers from accessing West Street.

Further, the Chamber will be strongly advocating through its representatives on the Umina Beach CBO Building Committee for an independent planning consultant to be engaged to review the streetscape plan to ensure that the \$1 .5 million dollars of ratepayers money is efficiently and wisely spent in the town centre.

Ettalong Beach Forshore upgrade

Many will have noticed the changing face of the Ettalong Beach foreshore.

Thanks to the generosity of the Ettalong Beach Club and the hard work by the Ettalong Beach Heritage Committee, 15,000 cubic metres of pristine sand is being transported from the new resort site to the beach front under the supervision of Gosford City Council.

Works are being undertaken between Ferry Road to the north and Beach Street to the south.

Council should be congratulated for ensuring that the required approvals for the operation were put in place quickly and efficiently to minimise delays in the project.

As a result, the beach is now being reshaped to restore the profile that existed back in the 1960's and 1970's.

Families and visitors to the beach this summer will now enjoy a rejuvenated shoreline with much of the scour and erosion repaired.

A further 5,000 cubic metres of sand will be placed on the beach next year when the existing Memorial Club is demolished and the underground car park extended.

Ettalong Beach to Sydney Fast Ferry

The Chamber has been advised that the final reports for the fast ferry project are being currently assessed by Gosford City Council with the view to the formal development consent being issued in early October.

The design work for the new wharf and berthing facility is also underway in readiness for the lodgement of a Construction Certificate application.

Preliminary bore hole testing has commenced and will continue' over the next few weeks as part of the design process.

The ferry proponent, Fast Ships Limited has confirmed that it will not be seeking parking within the Lemon Grove Netball Courts.

Nor will the company be adding any further parking on the foreshore.

The concerns of the local community have been acknowledged and ferry proposal modified to reflect these concerns.

Chamber Christmas dinner dance

You will all remember the fantastic Peninsula Business

Awards Night last July.

The Chamber is now holding a gala Christmas Dinner Dance with all the same razzamataz with additional night club dancing.

The dinner dance will be held on Saturday December 11, from 6:30pm at the Ettalong Beach Club.

Don't miss out.
NUMBERS ARE LIMITED.
Book now by telephoning the Mainstreet Office on 43427 510.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

The Chamber is pleased to confirm that Cec Bucello will continue as the Chamber of Commerce Executive Officer on a part time basis.

Cec's roll is extremely valuable in terms of the organisational structure of the Chamber.

He will also be responsible for new membership and membership renewals.

If Cec calls on you at some time, take advantage of his knowledge of the Chambers services and ask any questions you may have.

We welcome all new members and encourage business people to take part in the Chambers events.

Local Government elections

At the time of going to press, the final outcome of the Council Elections will not be known.

However, the Peninsula Chamber of Commerce wishes all candidates for the election much success and looks forward to working with those Councillors elected on the day.

The Chamber will continue to take a pro-active roll in affairs that effect our community.

The organisation has developed an extremely good working relationship with Gosford City Council and will continue to work closely with the new Councillors over the next four years.

Matthew Wales
President
Peninsula Chamber of Commerce

Business Watch program designed to help local business

PENINSULA BUSINESS WATCH

With the increase in crime in our retail sector, the NSW Police Service is offering a number of programs to help business people become more pro-active in our business community.

The Business Watch Program is sponsored by the Peninsula Chamber of Commerce (with Mainstreet responsible for implementing the program) and is working with the Community liaison Officer Senior Sargent Irene Juergens.

The program offers a number of options such as staff training, retail premises survey and a business network.

For the small cost of \$5 you will receive a window sticker, information booklet and a network system.

At the last Business Watch Meeting at Woy Woy, the business people present expressed their concerns at the number of drug and alcohol related crimes on the increase in our community.

Sen. Sgt. Juergens offered advice on how to deal with certain situations and explained the procedure once a complaint call comes through the police system.

Sen. Sgt. Juergens has offered to facilitate a workshop at the next meeting.

The workshop will be 'What to do in an armed robbery' and 'How to deal with the aggressive client/



Peninsula Main Street Program

customer.

'The program can provide the business people and their staff with training skills that will help them in their everyday business lives.

Retailers will be notified of the date, time and place of the next workshop with a flyer distributed by the VIP's (Volunteers in Policing).

Many thanks for their help in getting the information out Business Enterprise Centre Workshops Feel like you are going around in circles in your business and not getting anywhere fast? Well, we might have some answers for you.

The Central Coast Business

Enterprise Centre is a division of the Central Coast Mentor Services Inc.

and is funded by the Department of State & Regional Development.

Peninsula Mainstreet have sought their assistance to conduct a number of workshops to give advice on better business practices.

The workshops will cover a number of options such as:- How to Promote & Sell Your Products & Services Record Keeping.

The Easy Way How to Write Your Business Plan Anyone interested in the workshops can contact the Mainstreet Office for more information by telephoning 43 427510.

Debra Wales

Traffic report released

Council's traffic committee has released a summary report on Peninsula traffic matters.

• Council has adopted a traffic committee recommendation to apply to the RTA for a three tonne load limit for Paton St, Woy Woy.

The limit, if accepted by the RTA, will apply to be on the southern end of Paton St and the northern end of Cogra st.

The two streets are near Rawson Rd.

• Busways representatives and council traffic officers met to determine ways to relocate a bus stand in Charlton St, Woy Woy.

The bus stand is currently in front of Central Coast Autobarn.

Autobarn owner, Mr Neil Crocker, requested the relocation because the stand made it difficult for his staff and customers to enter and leave his business safely.

"The bus stand is right across one of my driveways and customers can not see oncoming traffic when they are leaving," he said.

"The buses can be there for an hour or two." The traffic committee said the existing stand is long enough to cater for two parked busses.

"As there is no need for the busses to be parked together, the existing stand (could be) split into two sections," said the report.

The committee recommended that an 18 metre stand be provided at the intersection of Charlton St and Victoria Rd.

The committee also

recommended the existing stand be reduced to 18 metres and one hour parking be introduced to the vacated section.

• The traffic committee referred a proposed Woy Woy pedestrian refuge across Railway St to the Woy Woy CBD building committee for comment.

The refuge is at the southern end of Railway St, in line with George St.

The traffic committee recommended the \$19,000 budget be held over to the next financial year.

• A request from a resident through Cr Lynne Bockholt for a taxi rank in front of Peninsula Plaza is being considered by the traffic committee.

The committee said they would seek comments from Central Coast Combined Taxis and the Woy Woy CBD building committee.

• The traffic committee recommended the provision of 10 sixhour parking spaces on the ground level of the Woy Woy carpark.

This would provide additional parking for later train travellers because the six hour limit is insufficient time for commuters said the committee's report.

The parking spaces will be on the ground level, along the northern side, adjacent to the police station of the carpark.

• The traffic committee has referred a matter to the Woy Woy CBD building committee after petitioners had approached council.

An investigation into road vibration problems and a possible imposition on load size, speed or

other restrictions will be done.

• The traffic committee has recommended the erection of no standing signs at the northern end of Park Rd, Woy Way, after a request from Deepwater Court Retirement Village.

Village residents had complained that parents picking up children from Woy Woy Public School were parking across the village's car access.

• The review committee of council has recommended the erection of "no standing" signs in Mascot St after the Woy Woy Peninsula Community Child Care Centre requested for the provision of "no parking" signs at the rear of their premises in Woy Woy.

The centre's board has approached council on several occasions over the matter.

The board said Mascot St residents were parking across the rear gate of their property preventing the use of the gate in the event of an emergency.

Originally, council's traffic committee had denied the request.

The traffic committee said at the time of a site inspection the gate appeared locked with a padlock and chain.

Council had originally written a letter to the centre suggesting the centre attaches a suitable no parking sign to the gate instead of official signs.

• The traffic committee has recommended an endorsement of a proposal for an upgrading of the central median in Picnic Parade.

The Ettalong Beach CBD had requested a review of the review.

Carl Spears, August 30

Recent petitions

Gosford Council has received many Peninsula petitions recently.

The renaming of Woy Woy Library after Spike Milligan has drawn a petition with 167 signatories asking council to reconsider the naming.

The petitioners said Mr Milligan had lived off the Peninsula for many years and point out that he is an overseas resident.

The petitioners said they have no objection to a section of the library being named after Mr Milligan.

However, the entire building should not be in his name, they said.

Empire Bay residents have asked council to close Rosella Rd where it meets Greenfield Rd.

The petitioners said they feared for the safety of residents and pedestrians who use the road regularly.

Motorists used the road as a speedway, they said.

They said the road was narrow and lacked a footpath making the situation even more dangerous.

The Fast Ferry service has come under fire from 146 petitioners who said council

were irresponsible for allowing a deferred commencement on the project.

The petitioners said they would lose public parkland, have an unacceptable increase in traffic flow, have the Ettalong environment and ecology destroyed and lose professional and recreational fishing grounds.

In the signatories' opinion, Fast Ships Ltd had not addressed all the public's concerns.

Pretty Beach and Wagstaff District Progress Associations added 14 signatories to the petition on behalf of Peninsula residents.

Sixteen Umina, Bensville and Kincumber residents have asked for jacaranda and gum trees in Winifred Av, Umina, to be lopped.

Residents of Elanora Rd, Umina, have asked council to not build a bus shelter in part of their street.

They said council failed to maintain the existing seat at the bus stop and that youth used it as a place to consume alcohol.

They said they had to pick up beer bottles frequently and reposition the seat after the seat was turned over.

Carl Spears, August 26

Council manager releases performance review

Council's general manager, Mr. Peter Wilson has released a performance review of his officers for 1998/99.

The Performance Review Finalisation Report comments upon each of council's objectives and whether it was achieved.

Mr Wilson said the information in the report assisted council

management in monitoring performance and highlighted deficiencies, lack of resources and outstanding achievements.

"Over" the objectives were successfully achieved and staff are to be commended for their efforts," he said in the report.

The full report is available from council.

Carl Spears, September 6

Parents praise program

Parents have praised Umina Christian Life Centre's "How to drug proof your kids" program, according to Pastor John McCaskie.

The program teaches parents about prevention and intervention with young people and drugs.

The parents that have attended the six week sessions, have reported that they felt they were not alone, they gained greater understanding of drug problems and they realised they did not know their kids as well as they thought.

Program coordinator, Pastor John McCaskie, was asked to start a local program to help parents keep their kids drug free, and help other parents who may already have kids involved with drugs.

While pleased with the feedback from parents, Pastor McCaskie said it was too early to gauge concrete results.

"The Lord told me to do this," he said.

Because of his own past involvement with drug use, he had "a compassion" to run the program, he said.

Pastor McCaskie said parents were given the tools to help in their parenting skills and many parents found support amongst the other parents at the meetings.

Pastor McCaskie said he was still getting calls from concerned parents.

He said word of mouth is bringing in requests.

The Christian Life Centre was pleased with subsidies from organisations such as Gosford Council and the Peninsula Community Forum that have reduced the cost to \$15 per participant.

For more information, contact Christian Life Centre on 4344 2509.

Leonie Barnes, September 2

Fees Waived

Council has accepted a proposal to waive development application fees for the Police Community Youth Club.

Council has decided to donate the usual fees to the youth club in Osborne Ave, Umina.

Carl Spears, August 26

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Health and Welfare

Gym owner combines business with community responsibility



The Active Over 50's group keeping fit and having fun at Fitness City

John Moore's Fitness City gymnasium seeks more than producing beefcake.

Mr Moore invites local health professionals including general practitioners, physiotherapists, sports physicians and other allied health workers to develop

strategies for their patients.

"A lot of people get bored" going to the Gym, said Mr Moore, or are intimidated by the equipment.

The hardest part is walking in and signing up for the first class, he said.

This is not the case at 'Fitness .

City' where most of the clientele are over fifty years of age.

One reason is due to the 'Active over 50's' program developed by the Central Coast Area Health Service.

This program is well supervised, gentle, lots of fun and achieves good results.

It slows down the ageing process and lets older people enjoy life.

According to Annie Warn, the health promotions officer for the Central Coast Area Health Service, the program was designed as a falls prevention initiative to reduce the staggering figure of 250 people dying each year as a result of a fall.

The elderly do not fall because of their age, they fall from reduced mobility, said Mrs Warn.

Fitness city encourages a healthy lifestyle for young and old, which combines health, fitness and having fun.

For further information contact Mr Moore and his team on 43413370 or 43430130.

Karen Booth, September 13



Dr Ron Ross discusses the operation with Mr Kevin Culey

Revolutionary heart surgery at Peninsula private hospital

Revolutionary new cardiac surgery was recently performed by cardiothoracic surgeon, Dr Don Ross at Brisbane Waters Private Hospital, a hospital fast becoming known for it's new innovations and breakthrough surgery.

Dr Ross, one of the first surgeons in Australia to perform heart bypass surgery without the use of a heart lung machine, operated on 69 year old, Mr Kevin Culey at Brisbane Waters Private Hospital on August 13.

Traditionally this kind of surgery is performed while the patient is connected to a heart-lung bypass machine, which circulates blood around the body while leaving the heart motionless and bloodless to perform surgery.

Mr Culey's heart continued to beat while Dr Ross used instruments and devices which stabilised the portion of his heart where the bypass was being performed.

This allowed natural blood flow to the rest of his heart and body to occur.

The ability to operate without the use of a heart-lung machine has significant advantages and can well be considered minimally invasive.

These advantages include reduced trauma to the patient, reduced risk of bleeding, stroke and kidney failure and reduced need for a blood transfusion, decreased time in intensive care

and a shorter hospital stay.

This eliminates many costs such as running the heart-lung machine and reduces operative and hospital costs making it more cost effective for the patient and the hospital.

Beating heart bypass surgery was inspired because of difficulties in obtaining and maintaining heart-lung bypass equipment in lesser developed regions.

Mr Culey has had previous bypass surgery eight years ago performed by Dr Ross at Royal North Shore Hospital.

Both times he was discharged after seven days.

However, Mr Culey said he could not walk and passed out in the car on his way back to the central coast and suffered loss of memory for four days.

This time however, he walked out of the hospital and attended a barbeque celebrating his grandsons 21st birthday the same afternoon and has since celebrated his 60th wedding anniversary with his wife Mary.

Dr Ross believes that, ultimately, the majority of by-pass surgery will be performed using this new technique.

The fact that Brisbane Waters was one of the first hospitals in which this surgery was undertaken says much for his confidence in the capabilities of the hospital, said Brisbane Water Private Chief Executive Officer, Mr Graham McGuinness.

Karen Booth, September 13




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NSW Govt. commits

The Governor on New South Wales, His Excellency, the Honourable Gordon Samuels, A.C.

opened the second session of the 52nd Parliament on Tuesday, September 7.

In his speech, the Governor made mention of the High Speed Rail Links to the Central Coast and Illawarra, representing an investment of \$796 million.

That is 36 per cent of the Olympics' capital works budget.

This project is an important part of the NSW Government's Post-2000 Capital Works and Investment Plan.

The Central Coast rail link will generate 740 jobs.

Stage 1 of the high speed rail link from Hornsby to Newcastle, which goes as far as Warnervale, will be commenced in 2001 and will be completed by 2007.

Its completion will reduce travelling time for Central Coast commuters by 15 minutes.

CityRail will also be able to provide additional services during peak hours, thus making the journey to and from Sydney more comfortable and reliable.

The State Government is also committed to the decentralisation of agencies and functions involving the creation or relocation of hundreds of public sector jobs to regional areas, including the Central Coast.

As part of this process, WorkCover will shortly be relocated from Sydney to Gosford and the New Police Line (PAL) Centre at Tug'gerah, employing 120 people, will be opened in the near future.

Undoubtedly, both these projects will employ a number of Woy Woy/ Peninsula residents.

Police and Community Youth Club (PCYC) Local businesses and residents would be aware that the first PCYC to be built on the Central Coast is due to be opened at Umina Beach in the first half of the next year.

This long awaited facility will, I feel quite sure, provide the young people of the Woy Woy/ Peninsula area with a variety of programs which they will find very appealing.

Already, the club has a coordinator, Mr Tony Johnson, and Senior Police Constable Paul Hanna has been appointed to run the club's programs.

The PCYC is a charitable organisation and is looking for the support of local businesses, including registered clubs, to assist in the purchase of gym equipment and other items once the building at the former Sydney Electricity depot on Osborne Avenue, Umina Beach, has been completed.

Any businesses or residents wanting to assist in this worthwhile community project are asked to contact Mr Johnson on 43447851.

Marie Andrews
State Member For Peats

Property damaged

A group of six teenagers has been reported as causing damage to shops in Ettalong and to houses nearby, Ettalong Markets and Cinema Paradiso owner, Mr Jerry Altavilla, has had damage done to his home and to his business.

He has called on Gosford Council to use one percent of rates collected from the area to provide the security needed to keep the area as trouble free as it has been until recently.

Without police presence to deter trouble makers, the increased tourist development in the area was bound to bring some undesirable element with it, he said.

Main Street Program coordinator Ms Debra Wales said she had personally fronted the trouble makers and would be bringing the matter up with the Peninsula Chamber of Commerce

to find a solution to the problem.

She said that, some time ago, the Ettalong Beach Heritage Committee arranged with the Ettalong Beach Memorial Club and several Ettalong businesses to share the cost of providing security guards for the area.

The arrangement seemed to have worked well and all signs of trouble in the area quickly disappeared.

After a while, retailers stopped supporting the arrangement leaving the club to pay for the lot, which it continued to do for some time.

However, due to redirection of payments for club improvements, the club recently reduced its security provision to its immediate vicinity leaving the rest of the area for the relevant retailers to look after, with the result that problems have occurred.

Cec Bucello September 8



Mr Bob Pearse receives his Premier's Award from Marie Andrews

Bob wins Premier award

Mr Bob Pearse, received a Premier's Individual Award for services to the community.

Mr Pearse is a member of the Patonga Beach Combined Pensioners Association.

Member for Peats, Ms Marie Andrews, made the presentation.

Ms Andrews said Mr Pearse has been a dedicated and tireless worker with an outstanding record of service to the aged community in the Peninsula area.

Mr Pearse was a member of the Patonga Beach Bush Fire Brigade for 26 years, holding the position of First Aid Officer.

He has also been a volunteer for the Woy Woy Peninsula Neighbourhood service for eight

years, the last four years as an We have driver to doctors for those unable to use other transport.

From 1993 until 1998, Mr Pearse took residents in wheelchairs from Woy Woy Community Aged Care NurSing Home on Friday tours around the hospital gardens.

The Ettalong Senior Citizens Centre had Mr Pearse's help for eight years from 1990 as a kitchen hand.

He also helped senior citizens with there income tax returns for nine years.

Ms Andrews said: "These awards were not given lightly and I am very much aware that Mr Pearse is a very worthwhile recipient indeed."

Carl Spears, September 2

Unprecedented new. business says Mainstreet coordinator

The economic benefits of the Ettalong Fast Ferry are already being felt locally with unprecedented growth in new businesses opening in the area, according to Mainstreet program coordinator, Ms Debra Wales The opportunity had recently encouraged seven new businesses to choose Ettalong Beach as their preferred business location, she said.

Ms Wales believed the Fast Ferry operation and the new Grand Mercure Resort had created a turning point in the prosperity of the area.

"It is a rare opportunity for a town like Ettalong Beach to be able to reap the benefits of a major transport infrastructure project

such as the Fast Ferry," she said.

"The project will create both direct and indirect job opportunities, encourage new boutique tourist based businesses and create investment opportunities for small to medium business." Among the new Ettalong businesses are three quality restaurants, a delicatessen and an icecream parlour.

A kayak tour operator and a bike and activity equipment hire company were planning to relocate to the area in the near future, she said.

Ms Wales said the benefits of the Fast Ferry operation would be felt by business people and residents alike.

"The Fast Ferry will provide the impetus for further infrastructure funding to upgrade the Ettalong

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Feature

The role of local government and councillors

Australia has three spheres of government; Federal, State and Local.

Local government has within its jurisdiction such areas as town planning, libraries, waste collection, child care and the maintenance of local roads.

The three spheres of government are interdependent.

For example, local government looks after local roads while state and federal governments look after main roads.

However, as local roads lead to main roads, often there needs to be cooperation between the different spheres to achieve a sensible outcome.

Local councils sometimes join a regional organisation of councils, which is a way for local councils to combine to discuss issues affecting more than one council.

For example, job creation, regional planning and air pollution go across council boundaries.

Council receives funding from rates, charges and fees, grants from state and federal governments and loans.

Councils operate under New South Wales Parliament legislation, The Local Government Act 1993 (The Act), which sets out the parameters within which local government can manoeuvre.

Within the Act, there is a Council Charter, which tells councils and councillors what is expected of good local government.

The charter says a responsible council is one which: Provides either directly or on behalf of other government levels, adequate, appropriate and equitable services and facilities to the community; makes sure services are managed efficiently and effectively; exercises community leadership; actively promotes cultural diversity principles and conserves, protects and enhances the environment.

Under the charter, local government should also: consider carefully the cumulative and long term effects of its decisions; effectively account and manage assets; facilitate councillors, the public and council staff in the improvement and coordination of local government; keep the public informed about its activities and act consistently and without bias.

The four broad categories

The local council elections are over and the new councillors chosen.

Now they face the task understanding what local councils are meant to do and how they operate.

Here is a run-down from our reporter, Carl Spears

council is responsible for are, public health, community development, environment and infrastructure.

Examples of public health services performed by council include; vermin control, sewerage services, public toilets, noxious weed removal and monitoring food standards.

Community development includes: retirement homes, meals on wheels, child care centres and immunisation services.

Environment includes: land zoning, traffic control, protection of heritage buildings, recycling centres and garbage collection.

Infrastructure includes: local road network, water supply, sewerage and parks and gardens.

Often there is an overlap between the four broad categories.

For example, sewerage services come under the jurisdiction of public health, environment and infrastructure.

Although councils have discretion about the services they provide, they face limits on the extent of that provision.

Limits include: a commitment to maintaining existing services, availability of finance and community views and wishes.

Council decisions are debated in the public forum of council meetings.

These meetings are held at Gosford Council on the first and fourth Tuesday of each month, starting at 6pm.

The Act requires council to hold at least 10 meetings a year.

Gosford Council holds about 25 per year.

Generally, council meetings are open to the public.

Sometimes, because of commercial in confidence, legal advice and so on, meetings can be closed to the public.

However, council must resolve and state why a meeting is closed

to the public.

Council also sets up various committees to examine proposals in more detail than would be possible at an open council meeting with the summary of committee findings being debated at the public forum.

Gosford Council has 10 councillors, who elect one of their number as mayor.

The councillor's role can be divided into two categories: as part of the council's governing body and as an elected representative of the community.

As an elected representative, a councillor should represent the interests of residents, provide community leadership, facilitate communication between council officers and the community and promote the local interests to other spheres of government.

Although councillors are elected because of their views about certain issues, they must recognise and act upon the wishes and views of all residents.

In other words, even though they are elected on a mandate to do certain things, they must take into account all residents in decision making and not only those who voted them in.

Councillors should look beyond immediate issues and develop long term solutions.

Councillors should take a considerable amount of time in formal and informal consultation with the public to ensure all adopted policies are acceptable to the community.

Councillors are not employees of their council and do not receive a normal salary.

Remuneration (currently about \$14,000 for councillors and \$49,000 per year for the mayor) is determined by a body independent to council.

Councillors can expect to work at least five hours per week on council matters but many work longer.

The mayor decides how much time they will devote to the position in order to fulfil their obligations.

Cr Holstein while mayor undertook the position full time.

Councillors, unlike state and federal politicians, are not protected by absolute privilege as

regards defamatory comments.

Absolute privilege entitles politicians to make any statement they like while in the chamber without any fear of prosecution.

However, councillors have qualified privilege, which allows them to make possible defamatory statements providing they are said in good faith, while in an official capacity.

and in the public interest.

A councillor normally holds office for four years.

Vacancies can occur if a councillor dies, becomes bankrupt, becomes mentally incapacitated, resigns or is dismissed.

If a councillor's private interests conflicts with a public discussion, the councillor can choose to abstain from debating and voting on the matter.

If the conflict involves the councillor's financial interests then they must abstain from debate and voting.

It is considered appropriate for the councillor to physically leave the chamber while the matter is discussed.

Councillors usually deal with council officers through the general manager as a matter of courtesy and to avoid any allegations that may arise if they are seen to have unfettered access to files.

The general manager is a paid employee of council and is responsible for day to day management, ensuring policies are implemented and hiring and firing.

The general manager must be appointed on a performance based, maximum five year contract.

The general manager is selected and appointed by councillors.

All other staff are appointed by the general manager, but councillors must be consulted about appointments of other senior managers as a check to the possibility of corruption.

To ensure transparency and accountability in local government, the Act stipulates that councils must develop a management plan each year, which is available from council on request.

The management plan is to communicate the council's policies and programs it intends to pursue over the next 12 months and beyond.

The management plan must have statements on council's principal activities, objectives and performance targets, how council will achieve these ends and how the council will assess its performance.

When a draft of the management plan is prepared, it must be placed on public exhibition for 28 days (usually Woy Woy Library will have a copy).

During the public exhibition period, any member of the public can make a submission to council either approving or disapproving any part of the management plan.

Before council adopts the plan, they must take into account any submissions made.

The management plan is one of the most important documents needing public discussion as it is the map to navigate council decisions for the next 12 months.

Public consultation can include surveys, task force groups, strategic planning meetings, focus groups and public meetings.

Public consultation helps ensure that local government is held accountable to its stated objectives.

Other reports council must produce under the Act are a State of the Environment report and annual report.

Council is required to provide information on many of its activities and any person is entitled to inspect, free of charge at council offices, current versions of certain publications.

These publications include auditor reports, payment of councillors expenses, land owned by council, register of investments, returns of the interests of councillors, council business papers, records of building certificates and community land leases.

There are 177 local governments in New South Wales and more than 700 across Australia.

Most of the information in this report was gleaned from the booklet, Becoming a councillor, which is available from the Local Government and Shires Association of NSW.

Ph (02) 9242 4000 or visit the website: www.lgsa.org.au

Carl Spears, August 20

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Council rate exemptions

Gosford Council has received a report on Peninsula organisations that receive exemption from paying full rates.

The policy means a council owned facility leased to a community based organisation can receive up to 75 per cent off its rate bill.

Public halls and community or neighbourhood centres receive up to 60 per cent discounts.

Facilities with a social welfare, community development or cultural focus can receive a 50 per cent discount and facilities with a benevolent society focus, up to 25 per cent.

The Peninsula currently has at least nine groups under the exemption.

The Peninsula Women's Health Centre, Umina Child Care Centre, Woy Woy Peninsula Community

Childcare Association and Woy Woy District Meals and Wheels will receive a 75 per cent discount for the financial year.

The Umina Country Women's Association, Woy Woy Country Women's Association, Ettalong Ratepayers' Progress Association, Empire Bay Progress Association and South Woy Woy Progress Association Incorporated receive a 60 per cent reduction in rates.

The Ettalong Country Women's Association no longer exists and the Independent Order of Old Fellows (IOOF) also lost their exemption.

The IOOF lost their exemption because they failed to spend 20 per cent of their total annual expenditure on their facility, said Council's director of corporate and community services, Mr Chris Gallagher.

Carl Spears, August 26

Calendar of local 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

September 15: Open Night, Woy Woy High School.

September 17 - 21: Fossils theatre restaurant production, Woy Woy High School Hall, evenings, except September 20 - matinee

September 19: Bushcare work day, Ettymalong Creek, 9am-12pm.

September 23: Central Coast District Schools' Showcase, Central Coast Leagues Club

September 25: Ettalong Beach Arts and Crafts Centre Paper Tole Workshop September 25: Empire Bay Public School Trivia Night, \$5

September 29: Umina Neighbourhood Watch meeting, Everglades Country Club, 7.30pm.

October 2-4: Peart Beach Craft Group, Third BiAnnual Craft Exhibition and sale, Sat/Sun 10am - 3.30pm, Mon 10am - 1pm.

October 4: Indoor Bowls, The Patonga Beach Pensioners & Superannuees, Patonga Progress Hall, 1.30-4pm.

October 11: Central Coast Folk Club, CJ's Cafe, Woy Woy, 7pm.

October 20: Woy Woy Youth Cottage AGM, 78 Carpenter St, Umina, 10am.

October 30: Fire Awareness Week Open Day, Empire Bay, Peart Beach and Patonga NSW Rural Fire Service Stations, 11am - 2pm.

Federal Govt seeks to smooth employment path for students

Cubs awarded Yellow Cord

Two local cubs, Christopher Bowen and Adam Beattie, were awarded yellow cords at a ceremony at the Woy Woy Sea Scout hall on August 29.

The yellow cord is one of the highest awards attainable by a cub and is only achieved after many months of hard work.

The boys are members of the 1st Woy Woy Sea Scout Group.

Present at the presentation were Member for Peats, Marie Andrews;

Regional Commissioner for Hunter and Coastal Region, Alan Currie; Regional Commissioner, Gosford operations division, Alan Currie; Regional Commissioner for Cub Scouts, Julie Smith; Group Leader, 1st Woy Woy Sea Scout Group, Bryan Davis; Cub Scout Leader, Blackwall Scout Group, Jeanette Morison; and Commissioner Bob Seal who acted as MC.

Cec Bucello September 9

The Federal Government has contracted Central - Coast Business Education Network to help school leavers smooth their path to employment.

The Jobs Pathway Programme (JPP) contract lasts 12 months and is designed to help eligible young people in high schools.

Peninsula schools Umina and Woy Woy High are involved in the scheme.

Federal Member for Robertson, Mr Jim Lloyd, said JPP was designed to help young people avoid long periods of unemployment when leaving school.

"The Federal Government aims to give young people a strong message that the best way to secure their future is to invest their time and energy in building up skills and experience, as well as knowledge and awareness, in the pathways that lead to

employment," he said.

"Opportunities to get from school to work include new apprenticeships, vocational education and training in schools, Work for the Dole, the Green Corps and of course, Job Pathway." Mr Lloyd said the JPP complements other support mechanisms such as school career guidance, Commonwealth and State career information services and other advice services.

Carl Spears, September 7

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Virginia Chambers Licensee

Ray White Umina Beach
327 West St Umina Beach
Ray Shipley Principal 4342 3733 - 0417 412 230

The Professionals Ifflands
3/382 Ocean View Rd Ettalong Beach 4342 7900
Marlene Iffland Licensee

Centu ry 21 Realty Associates
264 West St Umina Beach 4341 2611
189 Ocean View Rd Ettalong Beach 4344 1313
Frank Serra Licensee

Empire Bay Estate Agency
Kendall Rd. Empire Bay 4369 2275
Geoff W. Melville Licensee



Virginia Chambers of Chambers Real Estate

Chambers relocates

Virginia Chambers has moved Chambers Real Estate Pty Ltd to new premises in The Boulevarde in Woy Woy.

For the last 9 years the company has specialised in property management and is now expanding to include sale.

Virginia says there is demand for homes for one parent family and she wants to match the needs of investors with those of tenants.

Virginia is offering a different outlook on relations between owners and tenants to maximise the potential of the investment and to provide quality homes to the tenants.

The investor wants a good, trouble-free tenant, while the tenant wants a clean home to be proud of.

Both investors and tenants can work together with their managing agent at Chambers to bring a

satisfying arrangement to both parties.

The key to this is finding the right property and Virginia has 29 years of real estate experience (9 as a property manager) to develop her understanding of the tenant and owner needs.

Kerrie Taperell & Jenny Burrell have both been with Virginia for 4 years.

Robin Wills who handles the maintenance has recently moved to the Peninsula.

Together the four have had fun setting up the new office with a sophisticated warm decor, designed by Finesse Interior of Patonga.

Together, Virginia and her team plan to raise the level of quality and confidence in residential tenancy for both owners and tenants.

Call them on 4341 2001 Or visit the new office at 5/11 The Boulevarde, Woy Woy

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Prefer back lane access.
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Beachfront home required by Sydney retiree - prefer low maintenance home but will rebuild or renovate if necessary.
Call Lee 4341 2611

Alex from North Ryde requires an investment property near shop or beach to \$190,000.
Call Larry 4341 2611

Developer requires villa sites or any site zoned 2(b) - price range very flexible. Will buy outright or subject to d/a.
Will build on your block and allow you to retain a villa.
Call Larry 4342 2611

Chiropractor requires property in good location with good exposure for home business. To \$250,000 Brick home, preferably with double gargae and near beach - must be in good condition - up to \$350,000.
Will consider purchase and demolition of an old cottage near beach. Call Larry 4341 2611

Home Creation shares nine years experience

Peninsula based furnishings company, Home Creation specialises in window dressings and soft furnishings and has operated since 1991.

Here, designer Chris Argeat shares some of her knowledge and experience.

"Fabric representatives who visit me regularly often ask, what fabric styles do I sell the most of on the Central Coast.

" I explain that I do not believe that the Central Coast follows any particular style, unlike other regions in the country.

"The gold coast and sunshine coasts have a resort influence.

"Inner Sydney suburbs are adopting a minimalist theme.

"The Central coast has a diverse market, which I find constantly inspires my designs.

"When selecting a theme of decoration for your home, be conscious not to be influenced by trends set by major companies' marketing strategies.

"These trends tend to date very quickly, and after spending a lot of money on a particular trend, you may find that you tire of the treatment quickly.

"When investing in quality fashion apparel we tend to purchase the "classics" which look great each year.

"These classics can be highlighted by smaller less expensive decoration.

"Treat your most expensive items in a room as classics that can be built on as your taste and needs change over the years.

"Instead of introducing a trendy theme such as daisies, cherubs, suns and moons, aztecs or marine life on the expensive items in a room such as upholstery or curtains, introduce them on items which are easily removed and replaced.

"Framed prints, cushions, valances, tablecloths and ornaments can be substituted 'easily with new items to create a different atmosphere.

"Some people like to alternate their decor items between seasons, creating a cosy atmosphere for the colder months and a cooler.

casual atmosphere during the warmer months.

"In this way they can enjoy a change of scenery every six months ..

without breaking the budget.

" Each year, winter curtains can be taken down and cleaned while light airy curtains take their place for the summer months and vice versa.

"Also, the different fabrics and colour changes add warmth in winter and a cool atmosphere in summer by carefully selecting the rights colours and fabric types.

"I hope that this helps save you some money on your furnishings and would be pleased to be of more assistance if required.

Catherine Argaet, Home Creation September 9

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Proper presentation adds value to property

As soon as you decide to sell your home, it becomes "a house".

Home is a part of you, a 'house' is a commodity with a price tag., same as a pair of socks.

Your home's faults and quirks are part of its charm, to you.

To a buyer they may be objectionable.

They can also be arguments to reduce the perceived value.

Just as car detailing can jackup the sale price, effort in presentation can bring thousands of dollars to the seller.

It can also shorten the time spent on the market and reduce the number of visitors.

Because you are used to your property, it is a good idea to bring in a complete stranger who will look at it from a buyer's point of view.

Real estate agents sometimes offer this service or can recommend a specialist who will go with you through a list of check points.

The whole thing will take some time and should be planned at least a month in advance.

First appearance is important, many buyers will drive in front of a house as an initial contact.

Anything which will improve the outside appearance at little cost should be tackled early on.

A fresh painting of gates, flower beds in bloom, a clean roof, trimmed bushes and neat lawn are all top investments.

It costs, but painting the outside in a safe colour scheme will be most rewarding.

Access is next on the list., it should be easy, clean and safe.

Welcoming plants and flowers on the porch will bring dividends.

A freshly painted or varnished door is the equivalent of lipstick, clean windows and gutters, a fresh shave.

Remember that your house is going out for a date with eventual new partners, and that there are plenty of fish in the sea.

The exterior attracts, but the interior sells.

Now is the time to look at

these decoration magazines for presentation ideas.

The obvious start is in clean-ing, scrubbing and polishing, it is time for the best Spring cleaning ever! Again painting with safe colours should pay of, but a do-it-yourself.

One lick of paint with an amateurish finish will be the most efficient turn-off! The week before inspection day should be used to chase clutter the lived-in look.

Personal bits and paraphernalia belong in cupboards, draws, shelves and attic in an orderly fashion - storage space is a strong selling point.

In every room change the light bulbs to 100 watt keep them on during the inspection day.

In the living area, display fresh bunches of flowers.

Use odour spray in the morning, and have some coffee brewing in the kitchen., but clear everything from the benches and the fridge - front and top.

Place new bath towels in the bathroom and beware of mildew.

You are selling living space and atmosphere, not a shelter, make it as pleasant as possible while allowing the new owner to visualise their own stuff inside.

The amount of expense and care sellers are willing to spend in the preparation of their house will depend on the depth of their pockets and their desire to sell.

If you want your house to spend a year on the market with strangers trampling through every room each week end, don't bother, if you want to sell it quickly at a top price, plan ahead for the best cost effective presentation plan of attack.

Most real estate agents will gladly advise in this area and will have many of their own tales to tell of successes through presentation.

Open fires blazing on a cold day and/or a cake in the oven on an auction day have been known to add many hundreds of dollars to result in bids being well above expected reserve prices.

The suggestions may seem minor but they have been proven winners, time and time again.

Bernard Craft

Elaine is a touch of finesse

Elaine Doolin has 10 years of experience in interior decorating, and can help solve the problems created by the bewildering choice of material, colours, fabrics and schemes available today.

Home decorating is not the preserve of the rich and famous, it is a worthwhile investment to enrich everyday life and to increase the value of any home.

Guidance in home decorating is

the cheapest way to avoid costly mistakes and to get it right first time.

Elaine completed an interior decorating diploma course 10 years ago and has been a consultant ever since.

She loves working with colours fabrics and accessories and 'she enjoys helping people transform their homes.

She also advises businesses and community organisations .

You can see her work in

Chambers Real Estate's new office and the Fork and Finger Cafe on The Round in Avoca.

Lots of people don't know where to start or are unsure of the best sequence for each job.

Elaine offers a choice of consultancy or one-day workshops held at "Cupids" 273 Ocean View Rd Ettalong.

She can also advise on the best cost/presentation concept to sell your house



Draft masterplan for Umina Beach area

A draft Umina foreshore and oval area masterplan was presented by Andrews Neil Consultants to a public meeting held at the Umina Surf Life Saving Club on August 31.

The plan provides a broad frame-work for future development in the area while addressing the requirements of the general community.

The plan identifies opportunities and constraints of the given area and serves as a guide for a staged implementation program and to attract funds for development once it is approved.

Copies of the plan are available from Council and from Umina Library.

The plan is on exhibition until September 21 during which time community submissions are sought.

Once these are received, the plan will be amended accordingly and passed on to council for implementation subject to funds being available.

Council's aim is to improve and enlarge picnic areas, to survey the existing flora, to prepare a tree replacement program, to develop recreational facilities in the area, to address the issues of vandalism and crime, to create an overall image for the area and to develop strategies to give ownership of the area to all the people of Umina.

The draft looks at specific issues and presents suggested solutions The area is an important recreation zone for all Peninsula residents as well as for residents from elsewhere that use the area, particularly the beach, on a regular basis.

Cec Bucello September 12

Why Peninsula real estate agents need to be present in *The Peninsula News*.

High visibility - The ratio 25% advertising to 75% editorial ensures that your ad will be seen, instead of being lost in a sea of ads.

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History and Heritage

James Webb: Has his grave marker been found?

When most people talk of ‘old Woy Woy’, they generally are referring to a period of time that is remembered by people still alive today.

When people hear that I am researching the history of Woy Woy, they quite often say to me - ‘you must talk to so-and-so; they have always lived here, and they would know a lot about the place’.

While it is true that there is a rich source of people with good memories of Old Woy Woy, the period of time they are referring to is what I would call ‘modern’ Woy Woy.

However, Woy Woy has a very important role to play in the story of white settlement of what we know today as the Central Coast.

The arrival of the first fleet in 1788 was the first event that was to shortly affect Woy Way, for only five weeks after Phillip landed, he brought a party of men in two boats to explore Broken Bay, looking for farming land.

He made another trip in 1789. On both occasions he either passed by or landed at modern day Pearl Beach, Booker Bay, Ettalong, perhaps Wagstaffe, St Hubert's Island, Blackwall and Woy Woy.

The arrival of the so-called second fleet in 1790 was also an important event for Woy Woy, for on board the ‘Scarborough’ was a soldier - Corporal James Webb of the 102ncj Regiment, later to be known as the NSW Corps.

In 1794, he was discharged from his regiment and he was granted 30 acres of land on the Hawkesbury River in the Green Hills (later Windsor) area.

Webb was a busy man after that.

He was a farmer and a boat builder.

He left the Colony for a while on a sealing adventure.

He was a cedar cutter and merchant - a business which he conducted from his residence at

by Joan Fenton

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

The name is also remembered by Peat’s Ridge, and the State seat of Peats (which of course should be Peat).

The marriage came to an end in 1815, and James’ wife left the Colony.

Although Governor Phillip had visited the area back in the early days of settlement, he had not reported seeing any probable farming land, so the Central Coast was left alone from settlement for many years.

This seeming lack of interest in the area was also compounded by the fact that Governor Darling promised the local Aborigines that settlement would not be allowed from the Hawkesbury to Newcastle.

A promise that was broken in time, of course.

One can imagine that our district would have been a haven for the Aboriginal people in that 30 years or so after the arrival of the First Fleet.

As more and more ships arrived, and as more and more farms were established along the various rivers, the original inhabitants would have been able to fairly safely take refuge just across the Hawkesbury.

However, paradise gained is also paradise lost.

The need for grazing land prompted Webb, who no doubt had first explored the area himself, to apply for land to graze his cattle.

Webb was granted 100 acres as a temporary grazing run.

He called his grant ‘Mulbong’.

The grant was later referred to as ‘Current Point Farm’, an allusion to the fast through The Webb’s

In 1834, Webb purchased 150 acres on the northern part of the Woy Woy peninsula for the sum of £37/10/-.

This 150 acres contains the modern town of Woy Woy and extends down to the southern side of Woy Woy Public School.

In 1838, he purchased another 50 acres (for (50) to the south of his 150 acre grant.

This whole area was known as ‘Webb’s Flat’.

However, the hub of activity on the peninsula was at ‘Mulbong’, where the shipyard was.

Other settlers followed Webb - the names of Booker, Bogan, Murray and Davis are all remembered in street names.

By the 1841 Census, there are only two houses shown as being occupied on the Peninsula.

The first people to live in what we know now as the town of Woy Woy were the Coulter family.

Webb gave Coulter a few acres along the shore of Woy Woy, approximately where Kmart now stands.

In 1855, the Rev. Glennie noted that he paid a visit to the family in ‘Wye Wye Bay’, the name given to the area by the original inhabitants.

In 1859, Glennie again visited the area - a huge trip that entailed a long and exhausting row - and noted that there was a family of Germans living there, gathering shells, and a new family called Gaskin.

The name ‘Wye Wye’ had become ‘Woy Woy’ by 1884, the first instance I know of it being written so.

This was on a burial certificate for William Hawkins, of Woy Woy Creek.

Life at Woy Woy would have been one of simple joys and harsh realities.

The families that came to live in the area were mainly either builders of boats or shell gatherers.

Farming would have been

was to have a township.

By 1906, ‘buildings galore’ were being built in the area.

In 1905, 900 people had arrived by train on one particular day to enjoy the area’s fishing and shooting.

Eventually, the northern land parcels that originally belonged to James Webb came into the ownership of the Cox family, who were responsible for its subdivision.

Until 1923, the Woy Woy mainland had no road communication with the outside world.

You either came there by boat or by train.

The drive and ambition of the Staples men - Charles the father and Jeff the son - promoted the area at every turn.

Jeff Staples was responsible for forming a Ratepayers’ Association in the 1920s, which pushed, from the very outset, the separation of Woy Woy from the Erina Shire Council.

This separation was achieved in 1928, and the Woy Woy Shire Council was born.

Subdivisions flourished after

been built in the vicinity.

Recently, several of the old homes in Orange Grove Road that face north across Booker Bay, have been demolished, to be replaced by modern pole-type houses.

The building of these houses has once again disturbed the earth.

One consequence of this has been the erosion of some of the hillside, and about a year ago, some small rocks tumbled down the side of the Mountain into the yard of a resident on the Booker Bay side.

The owner of the house noticed some carving or markings on the side of one of the rocks.

Through a mutual friend, I was asked to have a look at the markings.

As soon as I saw the rock, I realised that it was upside down, and the ‘markings’ were in fact two initials.

The initials were - J.W.

And so, a mystery has been born.

Is this James Webb's grave marker? Without a thorough historical archaeological assessment of the site, it is



The second rock, with the initials ‘P. W. S.’ (Photo: J. Fenton)



A close-up of the carving on the rock, showing the initials ‘J. W.’, upside down. Note the curve of the ‘J’ is facing the wrong way. (Photo - J. Fenton)

Cockle Bay, now Darling Harbour.

In 1810 he married Ann Peat, the daughter of Charles Peat, one of his business associates.

Ann’s brother, George became known later as the person who established Peat’s Ferry, which crossed the Hawkesbury.

Reef, ‘Orange Grove’.

current running Rip, and also and still later as By 1828, Webb was established on ‘Mulbong’, and he had two hired servants who were ex convicts.

He continued his ship building enterprise at this site.

minimal, due to the sandy soil, but there was always plenty of seafood to eat.

The great event that turned the future of Woy Woy around was of course the coming of the railway.

In 1899, the Gosford Times r reported a ‘rumour’ that Woy Way

that, made either by the Staples’, or by other developers.

Promotion of the area was aided by extensive advertising in Sydney newspapers, and by the production of wonderful post cards, and even movie film.

Holiday homes were built, which later became permanent homes.

This story began with James Webb, and it will end with James Webb.

Webb died in 1848, and his burial certificate states he was buried ‘at Brisbane Water’.

It seems reasonable to assume that he was buried on his land at Orange Grove, on what is now known as Blackwall Mountain.

His grave has never been found.

Over the years, Blackwall Mountain has undergone tremendous change.

The major change was when the Rip Bridge was built in 1974.

Enormous earthworks demolished old homes and tore up the landscape.

In the 25 years since then, the land has recovered.

However, new homes have

impossible to say for certain, and even then, an opinion would only be that - an opinion.

However, to be on the safe side, and because the house where the rock landed is probably going to be sold soon, Gosford Council’s Environmental Heritage Committee recently decided to move the rock to a safe site to ensure it was not ‘lost’ with the transfer of ownership of the land where it fell.

To mark a grave in this fashion was a common thing to do at the time.

Recently, a further rock fell with the initials P.W.S.

engraved upon it’s surface.

Time may tell us for certain if it is indeed Webb’s grave marker, or if Johnny White passed by in 1920 or 1980 and felt the need to deface the sandstone.

Needless to say, I would be more than pleased to know if any reader has any knowledge of this rock and its enigmatic carving.

Dining and entertainment

Craft cottage a pleasant surprise

Hidden off a Umina street is a quaint .

cottage where members of the community can meet to develop their artistic creativity.

Gwendolen Craft Cottage is in a tranquil setting.

and is a folk artist's dream.

Last Thursday's class had excellent rapport and were enjoying each other's company.

The class partook in more than only learning about art techniques.

The social atmosphere was

buoyant and cheerful.

Christine Burge, the teacher of the students, says the cottage is about more than just art.

"It's also social, sometimes people just come in for a cuppa," she said.

"We get people coming who are new to the district and don't know anyone and we get new mums who have been out of the general community for a while." Christine has a long history of community involvement and is involved with projects such as the mosaic

decoration of the Pelican Park toilet block in Woy Woy.

Christine has taken walks with Gosford Council representatives and local community leaders to discuss ways of incorporating art into Peninsula streetscapes.

The cottage runs courses four days a week including an evening session for commuters and a Saturday session for children.

All types of artistic tastes are catered for.

Thai pleases

Thein Thai Restaurant at Ettalong serves a large variety of Thai cuisine.

The restaurant opposite the Ettalong Beach Club has been there many years under various owners.

Thein Thai is authentic Thai cuisine mild enough that you can taste it! The service was impeccable and on time.

Carl Spears, June 21

Free clothing

Peninsula CARE will be holding a clothing giveaway at the church on the corner of West Street and Ocean Beach Road, Umina at 9.30 a.m., Thursday, September 16.

This year's giveaway will be coordinated by church members Sandra Cowie (Missions Coordinator) and Marie Cobban (from the Creative Ministries Team), with other church members assisting on the day.

Clothing donated to the church, through this, will be distributed at no cost to the needy in the Peninsula community

Spring fair

Umina Uniting Church's annual spring fair will be held on Saturday, September 18.

The fair will be held in the church grounds and halls on the corner of Ocean Beach Rd and Neptune St, Umina Beach.

There will be both traditional stalls and several new novelty stalls, with selling due to start at

8.30am.

Entertainment will be provided by the Church's dance group and their drama group as well as by buskers.

The local fire brigade will also attend.

Several local arts and craft groups will display and sell their wares.

Cec Bucello September 9

Nursing Home Nightingales

The Woy Woy Community Nursing Home are presenting a fun day on September 19, entitled Nursing Home Nightingales.

The day will include all sorts of fun and mayhem with good food,

beer and company, raffles, a skills test with a spider (?), a jackpot prize and lucky rink prizes.

It's all for a good cause and is proudly sponsored by the Woy Woy Bowling Club.

Cec Bucello September 11

Hardware gala day

Campbell Home Hardware store in Woy Woy will raise money for local schools as part of their gala day on September 18.

Campbell's manager, Mr Noel Annand, said the annual event was the birthday celebration for the business.

As part of the festivities, Campbell prints raffle tickets which are distributed to local schools for students to sell.

Raffle prizes are donated by

Campbell and given away on the gala day.

Mr Annand said the day took a lot of organising but was worth it.

"Last year one of the schools raised about \$2500 for themselves," he said.

The day will have hourly giveaways, sausage sizzles and a \$1000 mystery shopper award.

There will also be entertainment for children with activities such as a jumping castle.

Carl Spears, September 7

Local talent 'Artist of the Month'

St Hubert Island artist Ms Margaret Finney is the Gosford City Arts Centre artist of the month.

Arts centre coordinator, Mr Peter Zanetti said Ms Finney's exhibition, Riding a Rainbow", runs through September at the centre in East Gosford.

"Margaret's work shows her love of form and light, particularly in rock and forest areas and really has to be seen to be appreciated," he said.

"You can view the artists work,

at the Gosford Arts Centre." Ms Finney spent her childhood in Temora and Bathurst.

Travelling the world extensively and visiting numerous art galleries heightened her talents and tastes.

Ms Finney moved to the area three years ago.

Since moving she has again found time for artistic pursuits.

The exhibition runs through September and is open seven days a week from 9am - 5pm.

Carl Spears, September 2

There goes the bride on in October

Woy Woy Little Theatre will present the play, There Goes the Bride in October.

Following is a snippet of what we can expect.

It has been planned as the most expensive wedding in London.

Everything has been thought of, the church, the clothes, the flowers, the marquee in the garden and catering by the Savoy, but the bride would prefer something simpler.

Her organising mother is confident that nothing can go wrong, but her farther, under the strain of business and the wedding, starts hallucinating.

The situation is not helped by her father's business partner who is more interested in just having a

good time and a potty grandfather and domineering grandmother.

The bridegroom's parents have travelled all the way from Sydney only to find that there has been some mix-up in the hotel bookings and is not very pleased.

All the chaos results in a very funny comedy.

All good clean fun and no messages, it can be enjoyed by the whole family.

Anyone who has had anything to do with weddings will recognise the situation and certainly appreciate the humour.

Bookings can be made at the Olympic store in Blackwall Rd or telephone 4341 4067 for more information.

Alan Bird, September 8



New craft market for Ettalong

The first Ettalong craft market was held on September 1 at the Rocks Arcade in Ettalong.

Restricted to craft products, there were 12 stalls in all, with retailers in the Arcade also getting involved, adding to the atmosphere.

A bigger market is planned

for the same venue on the first Wednesday of October and on the first and third Wednesdays of November and December.

In another promotion for the arcade, Keeping Up Appearances will hold a fashion parade in the arcade on Saturday, October 2, at 11 am.

Cec Bucelio September 3

Looking for something different to do?
Sick of noisy, smokey environments
on a Saturday night?

TRY AN ENERGETIC, FUN FILLED EVENING BUSH
DANCING TO A LIVE BAND IN A SAFE AND
FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT!

Fourth Saturday Bush Dance presented by the Central Coast
Bush Dance and Music Association East Gosford Progress Hall
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September 26, 8pm \$12

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Arts and Craft

The art place

with Bernard

This page is dedicated to the sharing of information on all forms of art in relation to the Peninsula.

Peninsula artists and organisations are invited to give us dates, photographs profiles, and tips, they are welcome to write about their own experience and to use this space as a forum.

Here Bernard Craft shares some of his experience collected over 30 years of drawing and painting.

Last month he wrote about creativity.

In this issue he looks at "The Magic of Drawing as a Language".

Meanwhile The Peninsula News is starting a drawing competition with a prize of a \$50 gift voucher offered by ETT ALONG GIFTS, ARTS & CRAFTS SUPPLIES, The Rocks Arcade, Ettalong..

The competition is open to all residents of the Peninsula.

Entries should be sent to the paper no later than the first of each month and include the name, address, contact number age of the artist as well as return postage.

June from Ettalong Gifts and Bernard Craft will be judges.



Age will be taken into consideration but a universal appeal with a skilful use of the medium will be a prime factor.

Only monochrome drawings A4 to A3 will be accepted.

The winning entry will be published in the Peninsula News.

Good luck, but remember that the fun is in the doing much more than in the winning.

The magic of drawing as -a language

Perception, what we see, is the interpretation of what is there according to who we are and how we feel at the time of observation.

We do not see all we look at we see mostly what we look for.

The mechanism behind the eyes, in a fraction of a second discards unconsciously thousands of stimuli which are not for a specific viewer, relevant o~ interesting information.

I am convinced that the next century will be the age of pictures and stories.

Computers, robots and other machines will produce what we need better than people can, to enjoy a comfortable life-style (widgets, bitzas, fidgymigics. and so forth) and all other essentials.

Machines will not create new stories, fantasies and images because these things belong to the mind, although machines will play an important part in putting them out, and transferring them from creator to audience.

Drawing is often an important part of the development of new ideas.

It is the concrete part of the visualisation process and drawing is easy.

We could all do it when we were children, until we were told that there was a proper way to draw, a hard way, mostly reserved for some kind of special people called artists.

But we are all artists. Drawing is a means of communication.

A drawing is the representation of what one person sees whether it's tangible or abstract.

Until scientists started to understand human perception, it was believed that our eyes saw what was there, reported it to our mind, and the mind took stock of the situation before acting.

Wrong. The conscious mind does not see what is there.

The eyes do the job of reporting vibrating light rays which activate some nerve endings.

Then the unconscious filters the works displayed by the nerve endings and analyses it.

The unconscious mind "sees" what it makes of it, not as it comes, not as it is, but as it can make meaning of it, using previous information.

The mind sees through what it knows.

What is seen is processed and interpreted according to what is known before entering the realm of the conscious.

These filters are the result and consequence of personal bias and they strongly influence the likes and dislikes and aesthetic values of the individual.

It is very important to understand that the unconscious filters,. selects, manipulates, and pre-



Interprets the flow of information as a standard strategy to deal with every day living in the world.

The rules of the process vary according to moods and needs and each specific mode of attending stimuli is crucial to the entire way of being, it defines the character.

Because the filters act as a bias, it is quite possible to make accurate observations, interpretations of what is "truly" seen and finish with faulty or inaccurate responses and conclusions.

Drawing is about seeing differently.

The easiest and fastest way to learn to draw is to look for what the light is doing.

The student artist learns to consciously reject what the mind says about the subject.

For example, it is a teapot which means a series of cylinders, it is modern, pretty, odd and analyses only what the light does with the subject at this time and place from the student's viewpoint.

The subject, what is seen of it not what it is known to be, is divided into very dark areas, very bright areas, and in between, regardless of its identity.

Then no "drawing" is done.

Instead, marks are made in a way which accurately represent what the light is Doing with the subject, then the drawing is finished. It works. Magic.

I believe that the increase in unemployment will trigger a growth in artistic activity, and that drawing is at the base of most of this activity since it allows us to put on paper dreams and projects, thus creating steps for further work for the mind.

Drawing is immensely satisfying but the years which have to be devoted to learning the conventional and hard way has scared a lot of people away.

My desire is to make art more accessible, not at the cost of diminution in the search for excellence, but through helping many more people to Participate and produce satisfying work of art.

We learn to draw through practice, but also through watching the work of others.

Progress and learning do not follow an even and regular course.

It is a series of uneven steps forward and backward, this applies to everybody, for any skills and subject.

Drawing is a vehicle of expression.

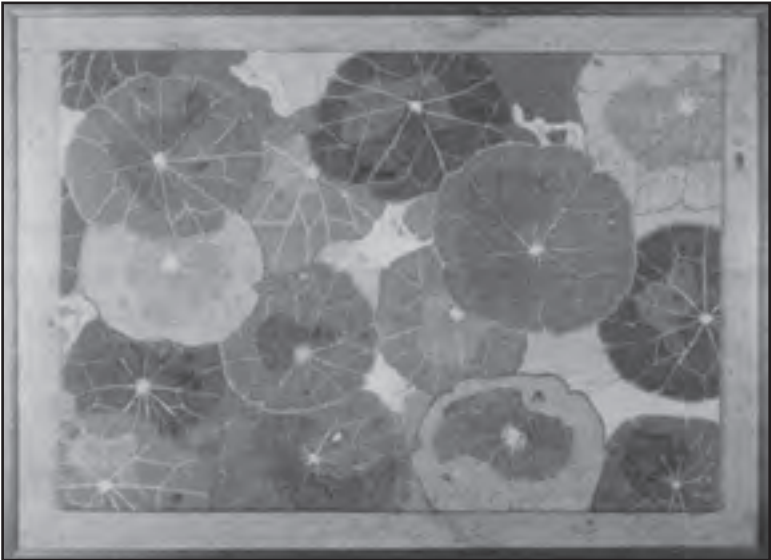
The line whether thick or thin light or dark, is only one way: crosshatching which is a number of lines assembled in a specific way is another, then there are groups of parallel lines, dots, uniform areas of plain grey, and white spots.

A drawing is the combination of some or all of these techniques or marks.

Not all drawings are art objects, but it common with artistic creations they have four realities: 1) the perception by the artist, before starting the work and while working, 2) the response or artwork, 3) what viewers perceive and 4) their responses.

Remember: "A mark in a drawing is the representation of the angle at which light rays, either direct or reflected hit a surface and bounce back to you."

Bernard Craft



"Nasturtiums" 1999 (1.00 x 0.70) by Sabine Parge

Sabine - This month's featured artist

Sabine Parge was born in Germany where she started her career as a graphic designer.

She soon discovered her favourite medium, fabric.

Her world-wide travels have allowed her to study various forms of fabric making and textile art.

Sabine refers to her fabric collage as "Painting in Textile" to distinguish her creations from quilt works or patchworks.

Her aim is to introduce this different art form, which she considers as having equal value to paintings in the conservative sense.

Sabine has exhibited successfully in galleries in New South Wales, Japan and Germany.

One of her works was purchased by the NSW.

Council of Arts.

She also teaches fabric collage and the old craft of rug hooking at her studio and in summer schools.

Her work has been shown on television and she has included a video series for students majoring in art.

Sabine works and lives in Horsefield Bay and her studio is open on weekend for the general public.

The picture shows "Nasturtiums", 1 x 0.7m, which was sold recently.

Nasturtium is a fabric collage, that IS, material pieced together.

See used a variation of green Fabrics, the veins of the leaves are machine stitched, shadows are produced with netting.

The background is in the colour of the nasturtiums flowers a variety of yellows and oranges.' Fabric collage is a terrific medium that anyone can play with and achieve satisfying results.

Sabine will be glad to show a few tricks she has learnt over the years.

Bernard Craft September 2

The Ettalong Beach Arts and Crafts Centre has classes, in oils, watercolours, pastels and drawing, as well as folk

art and silk painting.

In textiles there are classes in sewing, patchwork quilting and needlecraft.

Courses in pottery, sculpture

and framing are also offered.

It is time to book for tenn four which begins on October 18 by calling 4360 1673.

Bernard Craft

Art classes at Ettalong

SPRING has Sprung

...and LOVE is in the Air!



Gowns by Annette FalJon of Woy Woyat Tuggerah bridal expo

Marriage and modern weddings

The institution of marriage has been with us for hundreds of years but of late, many couples have decided to continue to live together without the formal act of getting married.

In the eyes of the law, these couples are still seen as being married when it comes down to property settlements, custody disputes and so forth.

For those that do decide to marry, the wedding day takes on a life of its own.

Details upon details become the order of the day as everyone tries to make that special day perfect in every respect, for this is a very important day, not only for the bride and groom, but also for all the families involved as well as the guests.

As many marriages take place in spring, Peninsula News has included this page on weddings in this edition and has brought to you some of the businesses that will do their very best to ensure that, not only does everything run smoothly, but that all involved enjoy themselves and the worry is taken away.

Movies such as Father of the Bride have shown all of the trauma that can take place on the day, but it really doesn't have to be that way.

Careful planning and selection of the right businesses to undertake their respective parts will make all the difference.

In the end it is important that mountains are not made out of mole hills.

It is the bride and groom's day and their happiness that counts, even if they are not paying for it.

All other issues, and there can be many, need to be pushed aside and preferably forgotten.

Finally, send a copy of your wedding photo to the Peninsula News so that the rest of the community can see what a wonderful time was had.

Cec Bucello September 12



l to r John & Larene Caruana and son Jamie of San Remo and John and Helen Campbell with their daughter (bride) Marea of Woy Woy married in August at the St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Woy Woy and held their reception at the Waterfront Restaurant on Umina Beach

Photograph courtesy Bowens Photographics

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School News



Tony Abbott, Jim Uoyd, Ettalong Beach Club board members and course coordinator and graduates

Federal Minister Abbott meets local employment graduates

Federal Minister for Employment Services, the Hon. Tony Abbott, visited the Peninsula on September 9 and held a series of meetings at the Ettalong Beach Memorial Club.

One of the meetings was with 6 graduates from the pre-employment programme being funded by the club.

The programme is a three week intensive training session designed to help young people who are at risk of becoming long term unemployed or are at risk in the community.

The programme is heavily supported by the directors of the club and will see a total of \$180,000 being Invested without any support from government sources.

Tony Abbott spoke to the graduates for some time discussing their feelings about the programme and offering advise based on his own experiences in Parliament and as a Minister.

He also learned a great deal about the programme and undertook to pass on details to the relevant areas so that it can be expanded.

The graduates represented a wide cross section of Central Coast youth and were Erin Orgo, 18 of Gosford, Kelly Shorrock, 20 of Ourimbah, Brett Aley, 23 of Terrigal, David Wheway, 16 of Blue Haven, Catherine Jordan, 17 of Gosford and, David Ronney, 19 of Tuggerawong.

Unfortunately, there were no representatives from the Peninsula.

Cec Bucello September 11

Woy Woy High provides moving drama at festival

Woy Woy High's Year 11 drama group provided a very moving and insightful performance of their interpretation of several characters from the controversial play "Blackrock", at the Central Coast Drama Festival recently.

Principal Ms Carolyn Carter

said the students created and held their roles and did not miss a line.

"It was riveting stuff," she said.

"Congratulations to Megan McGreal, Amy Haddadi.

Michelle Gordon, Donny Bell, Amanda Pearse, and Mr Howes who prepared them for the performance," she said.

"Chris Elliott unfortunately could not attend on the day, however.

he played an integral role in the development of the piece."

Education Week open day

Umina Public School will have an open day as part of Education Week on Friday, September 17.

A program of activities is planned from 10.15am to 1.45pm and parents, other family members and the general public are invited.

Visitors are invited to visit classrooms, view displays, see the students' work and see a play from the whole school.

Visitors are also invited to have lunch with the children at the school.

Carl Spears, September 9



Peninsula Dance and Theatre School students rehearsing

Popular school fete returns

The highly popular St John the Baptist Primary School fete is set to make a return to the Peninsula.

After a years layoff, the Woy Woy Primary School will hold its major fundraiser, combined with the school art show, on the last weekend of October.

President of the Parents and Friends Association, Bronwyn Scully, advises that this is the twelfth year the Art show has been the curtain raiser for the weekends activities.

"We will have works on display from numerous Sydney and central coast artists including the popular Susan Sumner.

"And for the first time, we have invited Peninsula high school art

students to contribute."

The art show will begin at 7.30 pm on Friday October 29 in the school library.

All works will be for sale, and queries should be directed to Suzie O'Donald, the Art Show Coordinator on 43 412475.

The Dulkara Road grounds will then be transformed on the Saturday with all the traditional fun and frenetic activity of a school fete.

The day will commence with the St. John's school band and include performances from the choir and a roving clown.

Perennial favourites such as the chocolate wheel and white elephant stall will feature as well as food from the BBQ and the Healthy

Tucker Tent.

The days' proceedings will conclude with a fireworks display scheduled for 6 pm.

According to Ms. Scully ,funds raised will be used to network the school's computer system and provide much needed playground equipment.

"We would really like to thank the many Peninsula based businesses that have given us such great support.

"We hope that the public respond in a similar way and that this year's fete is the most successful ever!" Any further queries should be directed to Bronwyn Scully on 43 684532.

Dance troupe tours north

A troupe of 56 dancers, teachers and parents will travel to Queensland on October 2 to perform at Sea Wond.

Dream World and Wet'n'Wild as part of their week of touring the area.

Students of the Peninsula Dance and Theatre School, the girls are aged between 7 and 19 and have been fund raising for some time to cover the cost of the

tour.

Based at the Peninsula Community Centre, this will be the first such tour arranged by the school.

As part of its fund raising process, the school will hold a 5 to 12 year olds disco at Ettalong Public School on September 18 from 6.30pm.

Entry is \$5 and will include competitions and prizes on the night.

Cec Bucello September 7

Nominations called for teaching award

Umina Public School is encouraging parents and students to nominate teachers for the "National Excellence in Teaching" awards.

These awards give parents and

students the opportunity to honour talented and dedicated teachers for their efforts.

Efforts which often go unrecognised.

The School Council asked all parents and children to consider

nominating teachers whom they believe have excelled in their position.

Nominations close on September 24 and forms are available from the front office at Umina Public School.

Student body raises needed funds for abuse survivors

Woy Woy High's student representative council (SRC) raised \$100 for the Advocates for Survivors of Child Abuse last month.

The SRC blew up white

balloons and attached them to the front fence of the school to gain attention and raise awareness of child abuse.

The SRC then took up a collection, raising the \$100.

Hooray for volunteers

A Umina Public School spokesperson has thanked volunteers for their support.

"Mrs Usher, who has devotedly helped us for many years in the Library.

"The BEAR (Be Excited And Read) reading scheme parents, without whose valuable help we wouldn't be able to practise our reading quite so often.

"Mrs Lendfield who helps us with some of our Craft activities.

"Mrs Buckley for her help weeding gardens and the donation of some plants and to Mrs Hill who keeps our pencils sharpened weekly."

Carl Spears, September 12

Fishing school

In an unusual move, Jamie's Bait and Tackle of Woy Woy are holding a fishing clinic during the forth coming school holidays .

They will be full day clinics (8.30 am - 4 pm) from Monday October 4 to Friday October 8 inclusive and include lunch.

Students will learn how to tie proper fishing knots, read tides for fish species, use of bait for different fish, what gear for what fish, and basic first aid knowledge.

Aimed at children 8 to 15 years, each participant will take home a rod and reel to practice what they have learned.

Clinics will also be held during the Xmas holidays.

Cec Bucello, September 11

Tasting bush tucker delights

Woy Woy High Year 9 students recently tasted the culinary delights of bush tucker.

Demonstrator Adrian Notman informed the food technology students about native foods grown on the Central Coast.

The students had the opportunity to try native spinach, raspberries, wattle seed coffee and a variety of jams and pickles.

Call for hosts

Umina High School is encouraging parents to consider hosting overseas students as part of the AFS exchange program.

Although most AFS students are 16 to 17 years old, many are hosted by families with younger children.

To find out more about having an exchange student for between three to 12 months, contact hosting coordinator Roger Worland on 4333 3125.

Umina rugby team reaches state final

The Umina High School rugby team reached the State final on September 3 when they defeated Shoalhaven High from the South Coast in the semi-final by 10 points to 6 at Granville - Rugby Park.

This is the first Umina High sporting team in many years to reach a Combined High Schools State Final and the coach, players and all associated with the team are to be congratulated.

Over 260 schools started off in the Buchan Shield competition and this is the first time that any Central Coast team has reached a CHS State rugby final.

All points in the semi final were scored in the first half, with Umina's points coming from Justin Maskill.

The second half was a defensive encounter from Umina's view point.

Mentioned in despatches were Shane Wilson, Joel Mitchell, Glen McLellan, Joe Parmeter, David Hyde, Ian Willis, Shane Campbell, Madison Rodier and John Payne.

The final was played as this edition went to press against Endeavour Sports High at Warringah Rugby Park on September 12.

The team is coached by rugby stalwart Larry Thomson.

Cec Bucello September 11

School concerned over bicycle safety

Umina Public School deputy principal, Mrs Trish Peters, has voiced concerns over bicycle safety for her students.

She said it was important for parents to make sure their child's bike was safe.

"Following a check last Wednesday of about 30 students and their bikes, many were not fitted with a bell or horn and about ten had no rear brakes," she said.

"Although the regulation states that the bicycle must be equipped

with at least one working brake only having a front brake could mean serious injury if a child needed to stop suddenly and was thrown over the front handlebars.

"I expect that parents will support us in our efforts to keep their children safe b'y periodically checking the condition of brakes, correct fitting of helmets and so forth ." Mrs Peters said the school would impound unsafe bikes overnight.

Carl Spears, September 12

Grandparents' day bridges generations

Empire Bay Public School's recent grandparents' day belied any 'generation gap'.

School principal, Mr Gordon Fraser, said the students had a fantastic day meeting members of the generation two ahead of them.

"The feedback from those grandparents and students I was able to speak to indicated that they had enjoyed the day," said Mr Fraser.

"The role that older people can play in encouraging and supporting the learning process is immense.

"It made us even more aware of the enormous wealth of experience that is available and untapped in our community.

Mr Fraser said one of the grandparents had been to Antarctica.

"One of our classroom topics is Antarctica and (the grandparent could) add a real life perspective to our teaching next year," said Mr Fraser.

Our visitors also generously donated 120 new books to add to our School Library.

Carl Spears, September 3



Mr Donaldson receives his award from P&C president, Bev Baker

Ettalong principal wins Inaugural NSW award

Ettalong Public School principal, Mr Bruce Donaldson, has won the inaugural award for Best Primary School Principal for NSW.

The Federation of NSW Parents and Citizens Association instigated the award.

Ettalong Parents and Citizens president Mrs Breda McCarren said the competition for the award was fierce.

"The response to the invitation for submissions from each school's P&C was phenomenal, but it came as no surprise to us that Mr Donaldson won," she said.

"During the 10 years of his leadership, enrolments have grown from 350 students to 640.

"We have a great respect for Mr Donaldson's commitment and dedication, a deep gratitude for the very high quality of education our children enjoy at the school and

a firm belief that Mr Donaldson is a true leader in public education." Mrs McCarren said Mr Donaldson was very innovative having started the Headstart and Little Schoolhouse programs.

The Headstart program is designed to enable pre schoolers the opportunity of a gradual introduction to primary school.

The Little Schoolhouse program allows very young children to be minded allowing for increased volunteer participation in the school from parents.

Mrs McCarren said Mr Donaldson is constantly thinking of areas to improve with the help of a very supportive staff.

"Mr Donaldson is currently installing a computer network throughout the school to enable students to become computer literate and have access to the Internet," she said.

Carl Spears, September 11

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Business Directory

LETS foster community spirit

In our July issue you read about LETS Coast, a non-profit community organisation which fosters community spirit and encourages members to trade using coasters instead of dollars as units of value.

Each member of LETS receives an 10 card (to be produced at time of trading) and a LETS directory which lists offers and requests from every member.

There is no need to find a direct exchange when trading.

For instance, you can help out one member by providing tuition and buying organic fruits and

vegetables from another.

dollars can be blended to cover expenses like petrol and products.

Membership is only \$20 to cover mailings + 20 coasters.

LETS will hold its LETS Community Fair in the Peninsula on Saturday, September 25 from 10- 3pm at the Police and Community Youth Club at Osborne Avenue, Umina.

There will be stalls with recycled goodies, food, refreshments and information on LETS and on what the local members are offering and requesting.

For the fair LETS needs assistance with KIDS CORNERS.

LETS has been offered the use

of a miniature racing car for kids to have their picture taken in.

LETS need a Polaroid camera and LETS will gladly pay for its use in coasters and will, of course, provide the film.

Although LETS covers the whole of the Central Coast, the following are selected listings from Peninsula residents: Offers: Ray, printing services and paper shredding (good for garden mulch).

Requests: Bernard & Kathryn, artists need adult models for practice, particularly portraits.

LETS can be contacted on 4340 5330 or 4369 8335 Bernard Craft, September 11

Lloyd assists unemployed

The Federal Government has contracted Central Coast Business Education Network to help school leavers smooth their path to employment.

The Jobs Pathway Programme (JPP) contract lasts 12 months and is designed to help eligible young people in high schools.

Peninsula schools Umina and Woy Way High are involved in the scheme.

Federal Member for Robertson Mr Jim Lloyd, said JPP was designed to help young people avoid long periods of unemployment when leaving school.

"The Federal Government aims to give young people a strong

message that the best way to secure their future is to invest their time and energy in building up skills and experience, as well as knowledge and awareness, in the pathways that lead to employment," he said.

"Opportunities to get from school to work include new apprenticeships, vocational education and training in schools, Work for the Dole, the Green Corps and of course, Job Pathway." Mr Lloyd said the JPP complements other support mechanisms such as school career guidance, Commonwealth and State career information services and other advice services.

Carl Spears, September 7

PENINSULA BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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School News

Roosters win back to back premierships - just

The Woy Woy Roosters first grade Rugby League team won the Central Coast championship in a hard fought battle on September 5.

After having gone through all year undefeated, the team was brimming with confidence but found their Wyong opposition much tougher than expected.

In front of a capacity crowd at Woy Woy Oval, the teams were tied until the last few minutes of the

match when the referee awarded a penalty which changed the course of events and decided the match.

Unfortunately, the referee admitted later that the penalty was given much closer to the goal line than it should have been and the anger of the crowd on the day was justified.

Nevertheless, as the team had only lost one match over the past two years, in balance and on form, the best team won.

Cec Bucello September 11



Two nice Schnapper caught off Broken Bay Wide late August

FISHING NEWS: Poor weather deters fish

Due to the poor weather conditions recently, there hasn't been a great deal of fish caught in the estuary.

However, for the keen fishermen, there are some spots still worth fishing.

These are the Ettalong sand flats which are producing Whiting on blood worms and nippers; Paddy's Channel where some nice Flathead and Bream are being caught around the oyster leases; and, the baths at Woy Woy, the rail bridge and Nara Creek all producing good sized Blackfish.

A 9 Kg Jewfish was also caught in the area recently.

Sloppy waters and poor weather conditions also affected outside anglers as both boats on the horizon and fish have been scarce recently.

Some anglers still managed to do well with nice catches of Flathead, Salmon and pan sized Schnapper in and around close reefs.

Rock fisherman have been catching Drummer at Putty Beach, Kilcare and Umina.

All are looking forward to fishing warmer waters next month.

Ken Bartley, Jamies' Bait and Tackle Woy Woy, September 9

Masters swimming invitation

The Ettalong Pelican Masters Swimming Club is encouraging people to "give your heart a swim".

The Pelican's Mr Bill Heber said swimming helped improve fitness and maintain a healthy heart.

The club is inviting people to join their adult social swim nights held at Woy Woy indoor heated pool on Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 8pm.

The club has operated for 20 years, has 70 members and its motto is "fun and fitness".

Umina sports star receives grant

Umina based student Shelley Smith received a grant of \$500 to help cover the costs of representing.

New South Wales at the Australian Secondary Schools swimming championships in Brisbane from September 13 to 16.

The grant was provide by the Central Coast Regional

Organisation of Councils (CCROC) which provides such grants to assist Central Coast residents to participate in cultural and sporting events of a national, state and regional significance.

Shelley has also been elected NSW girls team captain due to her outstanding leadership and experience.

Cec Bucello September 11



Daphn Baldwin and Robert Owen in action

Peninsula couple win New Vogue

Peninsula dancing duo, Daphne Baldwin and Robert Owen recently won the New Vogue category in the prestigious National Ballroom Dancing Championships held at the Sydney Town Hall.

Mr Owen, who is a plumber by trade, has been dancing socially for 10 years and Miss Baldwin, a patient services assistant, for six years.

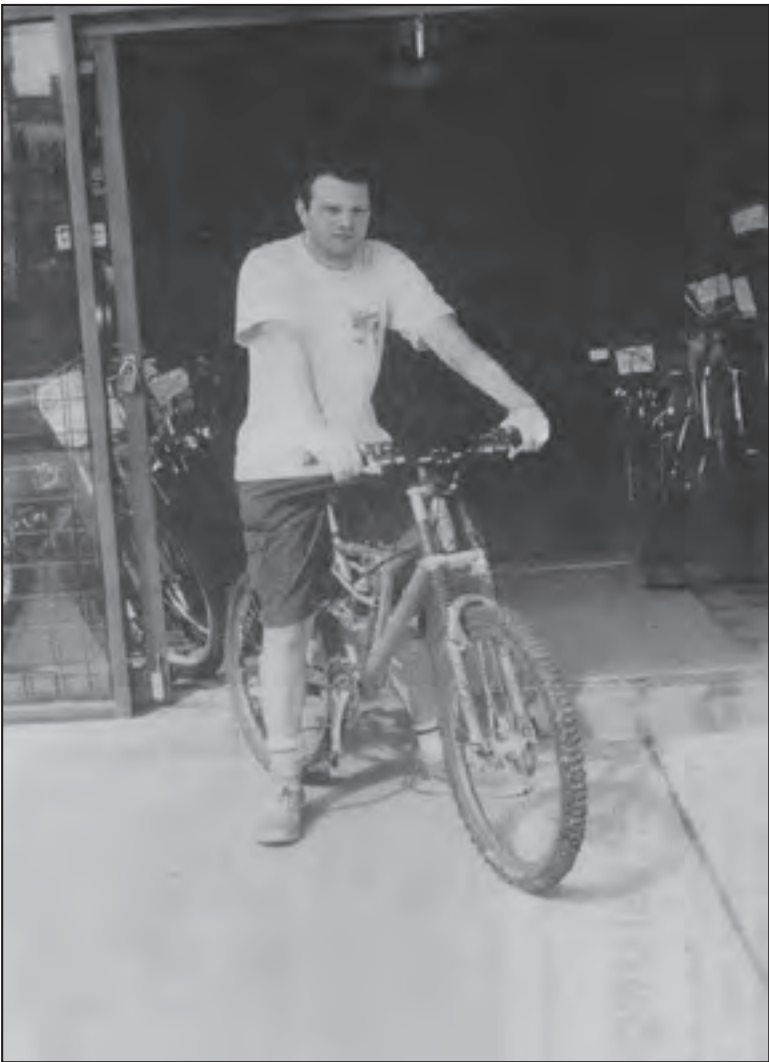
The duo teamed up four years ago, deciding to take private lessons firstly with local dance teacher Sue Wedderburn.

They now attend the CK Dance Studio in Sydney.

Their instructor, Carol Kimmins is well known in dance circles.

Daphne wore a flowing red ball gown with red feathers and Robert looked handsome in traditional black tuxedo with a white bow tie.

Karen Booth , September 11



Wayne Frogatt with his mean machine

Cyclists top of the heap

Umina cyclists Dan Cleary and Wayne Frogatt are running first and second respectively in the Central Coast Mountain Bike Club's Sports Class with only four races to go.

The latest event was held at the Ourimbah State Forest, christening a new track which took six months to build, on September 5.

Eight classes attracted a total of 60 competitors, 15 of which were in the open age sports class.

This class saw competitors

from around the State race down a steep track at one minute intervals for three to four minutes each.

Dan Cleary, proprietor of the Cycle Centre at Umina, won the event and his offsider Wayne Frogatt finished fifth on the day, but was able to hold his second place on the overall table.

The news is not all good for Dan as during a training session on September 8, he fell and injured his shoulder.

Cec Bucello, September 9

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Dump truck hauling some of the 15,000 cubic metres of sand used as part of Ettalong Beach's renourishment facelift

Ettalong Beach undergoing major facelift

The Ettalong Beach foreshore is to undergo a major facelift as part of the beach renourishment program instigated by the Ettalong Beach Heritage Committee, Gosford City Council and the Ettalong Beach Club.

Peninsula Mainstreet program coordinator, Mrs Debra Wales, says the renourishment is needed.

"All of us will remember the Ettalong Beach of the 1960's and early 1970's when our beach was wider and filled

with holiday makers and families" "Thanks to the generosity of the Ettalong Beach Club, 15,000 cubic metres of high

grade beach sand worth \$300,000.00 will be moved from the Club's excavation to the beach foreshore.

"This is in conjunction with Gosford City Council's beach renourishment program" "The Ettalong Beach Heritage Committee has been working towards this goal since the first public meeting in 1995 when the upgrading of the foreshore was identified as a major priority for the revitalisation of the town centre." "The Ettalong Beach Club after consultation with the community has been a major advocate for the upgrading.

"Gosford City Council has been excellent in facilitating the approvals

required for the transport of the sand material onto the beachfront." Mrs.

Wales said that the sand transport operation will continue for a period of six weeks during which time the beachfront will be reconstructed and is to include environmental protection measures to ensure that sea grasses along the foreshore are protected and the dune face stabilised.

"The restoration of Ettalong Beach is a perfect example of community co-operation and the fulfilment of the dreams of many in our community who have worked hard to bring back those halcyon days of our childhood," she said.

Carl Spears, September 13

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