



A current development site on the Peninsula

Council is aware of urban consolidation concerns: Bockholt

Gosford Council is very much aware of the feeling of dismay in the community over the increasing development being foisted upon our local area by the State Government's urban consolidation policy, says Councillor Lynne Bockholt.

The Peninsula is changing because of the amount of development, much of which takes place in unkerbed and unguttered streets which are totally unsuitable for an increased population, she said.

"We simply do not have the infrastructure to cope with all the extra people.

"Our roads cannot cope with the extra traffic and it is becoming increasingly difficult to find anywhere to park, particularly for commuters, where the trains are packed and the F3 is at bursting point.

Cr Bockholt said Gosford Council had petitioned the State Government on several occasions to allow changes to the draft Local Environment Plan (LEP).

She said the current LEP encouraged rampant development throughout the Central Coast but particularly on the Peninsula.

"Council has formulated a draft LEP which would allow two large residential flat buildings to be constructed on land zoned 2B with an area of 550 to 750sqm and three or more units could only be 'constructed on land over 750sqm,' she said.

"Currently a developer can get three units on a 550sqm block where the building takes up most of the block leading to the cramped and badly designed development which is blighting the Peninsula.

"This plan is currently with the Minister and Council is hoping that he will approve it quickly so that

we can at least stop some of the current rush to cover everything in 2B zones with concrete and bricks to the detriment of our local environment.

"This does not mean we are going back to the old dual occupancy policy where anyone could build a second dwelling anywhere.

"These will be proper flat buildings and will have to be designed and constructed as flat buildings, not just the tacky-add ons such as we saw in the dual occupancy debacle.

"I believe we should get better development with two larger flats on a block instead of cramped development of three or more.

"I also believe that if this policy is approved more developers may be encouraged to consolidate smaller blocks to ensure better development.

Wales concerned about charity bin 'proliferation'

Concerns have been raised by Councillor Debra Wales at the proliferation of charity clothing bins in the Peninsula area which are being used as dumping grounds for house hold rubbish.

Calls have been made on the General Manager of Gosford City Council to review the Council's policy on charity clothing bins so as to halt the dumping of rubbish on footpaths.

"This is becoming a serious problem which is degrading our footpaths and public reserves", said Cr Wales.

"At present, charities apply to have the clothing bins placed on Council property.

"As a result, we have groupings of up to six bins placed in our public parks, road shoulders and car parks without any consideration being made to the visual amenity of these public spaces.

"Unfortunately, the clothing bins have become an open invitation for certain elements in our community to dump household waste, refuse and broken furniture in an effort to avoid taking rubbish to the local tip.

Cr Wales said it was an unacceptable situation to have prominent public spaces such as the Patonga Beach foreshore, the waterfront at Woy Woy Bay and main entry points to the central business districts such as Picnic Parade at Ettalong Beach used for charity clothing bins and dumping grounds for rubbish.

"Over the Christmas break, visitors to Ettalong Beach were greeted by piles of broken house hold furniture, mattresses and rotting garbage which were



dumped Rubbish awaiting collection at the clothing bins at Picnic Parade," she said.

"These people obviously have no civic pride and care little for our community.

Cr Wales has called for the policy to be amended so that all clothing bins are to be relocated to church yards, school car parks and service stations so they can be properly monitored and controlled.

"The clothing bins are not owned by the charities but by a private company and leased to the charity organisations," she said.

"I fully support the charity bin concept but not when the system allows our parks and public spaces to be used as dumping grounds.

"The policy should be tightened to ensure that the use of bins is strictly monitored and controlled." Councillor Wales will also be requesting that Council review the policy on the annual rubbish pic~ ups on footpath areas as, in recent months, large quantities of house hold rubbish have been left on Peninsula streets for weeks at a time waiting for removal by Council contractors.

Cr Lynne Bockholt has advocated similar changes.

Beware the well dressed man

A well dressed man recently went into two different Woy Woy retail outlets and asked to borrow their telephone to make a quick call because his car had broken down.

The shopkeepers in both cases obliged, only to learn later, when they received their telephone bills, that the call was to an East Coast Tipping Service on a 1902 number and that the call cost \$30 for less than one minute.

In one shop, the man pressed re-dial and made two calls, one was for 47 seconds and the other

was for 48 seconds with the total bill coming to \$60.

T elstra were not prepared to waive the cost and suggested that shop telephones have 1900 bars placed on them so that no one can make calls to numbers in that range as they are usually charged at premium rates.

The shopkeepers' said threats to refuse to pay the \$60 would only have resulted in the phone being cut off and a reconnection fee being added to the bill after the outstanding amount was paid.

Cec Bucello January 7

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News

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In spite of all the doom and gloom forecast prior to the New Year, here we all are again unscathed except for the occasional self inflicted damage due to over exuberant celebrations.

As a result of a great deal of work by many people for many years, the Peninsula is about to benefit collectively and can expect to have its most progressive year ever with a large number of major projects expected to reach completion by the end of the year.

We can look forward to the commencement of the Ettalong to Sydney fast ferry, a new community centre in Woy Woy, the opening of the Police and Community Youth Club in Umina, the finalisation of upgrades in Ettalong, Woy Woy and Umina central business districts, the completion of the Woy Woy foreshore tourist attractions, the building of a new Woy Woy little theatre, completion of some stages of the new club and resort at Ettalong, the Olympics and Paralympics and their effect on the area and Woy Woy pool renovations.

We doubt if this much activity in one relatively small area in a twelve month period can be found anywhere else in Australia.

The Peninsula News will continue to report on these events, publish the issues surrounding their future and generally keep readers informed of progress as we look forward to their outcomes.

New focus

This edition of Peninsula News has brought together groups of businesses in order to be able to bring to your attention the extent of their existence.

We have included a major feature on the Ettalong Markets, focusing on the more progressive retailers bringing you their wares every week and highlighting the size and continuing evolution of the area.

Another feature highlights the large number of restaurants and food outlets now on the Peninsula.

With such a huge range, it is no longer necessary to travel outside of the area to find something that will appeal to everyone's tastes and pockets and again these outlets deserve your support.

We have' also launched the What's On in the Peninsula segment and in this way hope to encourage readers to enjoy your area more and become part of the vast array of activities put on for your benefit by the community.

Association news

The Peninsula News is still owned by a non profit association that sets editorial guidelines and general direction for the newspaper.

The Association plans to hold a meeting of committee and general members on Wednesday, February 9 and all are welcome.

The meeting will take place at the offices of the Peninsula News commencing at 7.30pm.

The newspaper is always keen to receive more community input and we would therefore be pleased to hear from anyone wanting to become involved either as a writer, reporter, photographer, typist, graphic designer, distributor or any other area that you think may be helpful.

Contributors

Matthew and Debra Wales, Therese Pientka, John Oakley, Dina Memic, Stephen McNamara, Joan Fenton, Bernard Craft, Joan Chippendale, Karen Booth, Lynne Bockholt, Marie Andrews.

Committee

Christine Burge, Carolyn Carter, David Fitzgerald, Mark Snell, Carl Spears, Michael Walls

Next edition

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Legal responsibility for editing, printing and publishing, and election comment in Peninsula News is taken by Carl Spears of McMasters Road, Woy Woy, for Peninsula Community Access Newspaper Inc.

Woy Woy Road sign mystery

Do you have a section in your paper that relates to strange and unusual events, stories or happenings?

Perhaps you could explain why there are two new signs on

Woy Woy Rd: The signs say that the next five kilometres is a crash zone.

Why are the two signs seven kilometres apart? Strange, isn't it?
Stephen McNamara.
Umina

Patonga DCP plans not rejected

I was concerned to read in your article inappropriately titled "Patonga plans shelved" in relation to a draft Development Control Plan (DCP) for our village, a number of inaccurate statements attributed to one member of our community, Mr Vic Jefferies.

Setting the record straight, there was no public meeting held at any time that has rejected the plan, let alone "overwhelmingly".

Contrary to what Mr Jefferies suggests, Patonga held public meetings in 1994 and 1995, which accepted a draft DCP which was formulated by Andrews Neil consultants upon instruction by Gosford City Council with a tremendous degree of community input and consultation.

In the introduction of the consultant's report on Patonga, they noted: "A settlement of this size and integrity in such a unique location would not be possible under today's planning legislation

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.

and with contemporary community attitudes towards development of sensitive areas".

"It is precisely for this reason that the village will increasingly come under pressure with rising real estate values ...

" In 1998, at a third public meeting attended by over 100 residents, the residents voted that the greatest concern for the village was the threat of inappropriate developments.

The meeting agreed to establish a steering committee, which went about the process of reviewing the consultants' recommendations further with a view to implementing development controls for the

village.

At this point in time, the steering committee has resubmitted one section of the draft to the Patonga Progress Association for its members' reconsideration having previously reached agreement on all other sections of a very lengthy document.

I, and the other members of the steering committee, which included the president of the Progress Association, remain hopeful that some form of agreement will be reached to progress the draft DCP with council and preserve the character of our village.

Robert Osborne Patonga

Conservation group comments on study

There are claims that the study prepared by the American Environment Group, Bluewater Network (<http://earthisland.org/bw/ferryreport.shtml>) on Fast Ferries is unsubstantiated.

This is incorrect.
The ACF Central Coast do not work that way.

It has been reviewed by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District in San Francisco, and the results were generally regarded as accurate.

A second agency was the California Air Resources Board that agreed that it appeared to be in the range of what they had found in the past.

The bottom line is that ferries powered by diesel fuel, even meeting the IMO standards, are far dirtier than cars per person.

It should be possible for a consultant to do an analysis of emissions of cars versus ferries in a reasonable amount of time at

a reasonable cost yet Fast Ships in my correspondence with them claim that it would be too time consuming and expensive.

An interesting thing about this is that the Supershuttle fast ferry proponents for the Gosford run have supplied this sort of comparison in their EIS claiming that their engine is far less polluting than the gas engine cited by the American report.

The Bluewater Network study was never asserted to be totally comprehensive, however the general findings were alarming and deserved some serious consideration.

The debate in council on the issue was non-existent when I raised it: no questions, no statements in regard to this serious air pollution study.

I acknowledge that the stated benefits for the community were reasonable to argue in support of the project.

It was a matter of weighing up the benefits versus the costs.

In my opinion, the costs are too high.

I hope I'm wrong.
I hope that all the benefits claimed by Fast Ships for the community come to fruition.

I believe that the problems with fast ferries in the air pollution stakes are not shared by the slow ferries which are more favourably compared to the car.

However, I cannot substantiate this with an independent study.

In the end, if the ferry is eventually running, it is better to use it than not, because it is making its run anyway.

This applies to all mass transit systems.

Buses and trains happen to be far less polluting and should be the first choice, after the bicycle.

My message is that everyone should, whenever possible, leave the car at home, or not buy one in the first place.

Councillor Geoff Preece
President ACF Central Coast

Well wishes for Peninsula residents in 2000

Now that we have entered a new Millennium, may I take this opportunity to wish you every happiness and good health during the year 2000.
Carols

The Christmas Carols held at Woy Woy Oval on Saturday, 18 December, were a resounding success.

Congratulations must go to all those associated with the staging of this major event, which I am sure will become a permanent date to be set aside by residents at Christmas time.

The entertainers were introduced by Gosford Town Crier, Stephen Clarke, and the spectacular fireworks at the conclusion of the evening were a fitting climax to a top evening of entertainment enjoyed by both

By Marie Andrews
State Member for Peats

adults and children alike.

The Peninsula Carols 1999 were proudly sponsored by Woy Woy and District Rugby Leagues Club; McDonalds, Woy Woy; Gosford City Council; Deepwater Plaza and Northern Eagles (formerly the North Sydney Bears), as well as a number of other organisations and individuals.

Access

Residents will be pleased to learn that a pedestrian refuge in Railway St, leading into Deepwater Plaza, is scheduled for construction in February.

This will provide safer access for persons alighting buses at the

railway station, who wish to shop at Deepwater Plaza.

The lifts at Railway St level in the Medical (Clocktower) Centre building are now operating.

These lifts are inspected by Gosford City Council officers on a regular basis.

Persons wishing to cross Railway St to access the railway station or catch buses in the interchange are advised to use these lifts to ensure a safe crossing of this busy roadway.

Gold Passes

WidowsWidowers of former NSW Government public transport railway, bus and ferry employees who had 30 years service and over are now eligible for a Gold Pass.

Application forms can be obtained from my office at 20 Blackwall Rd, Woy Woy.
Telephone 43424122.

Concern over 'vandalism' of the Everglades wetland

The Melaleuca Wetlands Regeneration Group is concerned that the Everglades Lagoon is being vandalised by motorcyclists.

The group has spent close to 2000 hours repairing the previously neglected site.

Spokesperson Ms Nora Clarke said she did not know how many riders went into the park but their destruction had undone much of the group's work since 1996.

Council's manager for natural resources, Mr Craig Arms, said the problem was a perennial one.

"Council has the power to prevent people entering the area with a bike," he said.

However, he said policing that

power was much harder.

"Typically, council officers are in four wheel drives and restricted to the fire trails within the reserve," he said.

"Bikes, by their nature, are nimble and mobile and can go anywhere." Mr Arms said one of the best restrictions were to put bollards and barriers to restrict the bike riders' 'fun'.

However, it was difficult to put in the restrictions and barriers because pedestrian access had to be maintained he said.

"A bike can go anywhere a pedestrian can go.

"I'm concerned about the problem and my colleague is working on it at the moment."

Carl Spears, December 15



Pictured are members of the Woy Woy CBO building committee (L-R) Mark Snell, John Oakley, Joan Fenton, Councillor Debra Wales, Heather McKenzie, Harry Boyle and Councillor Lynne Bockholt.

Seniors awarded recognition for service to the community

Five peninsula residents were presented with Commonwealth Recognition Awards for Senior Australians at a ceremony at Gosford City Council chambers last month.

Member for Robertson, Mr Lloyd, said the awards were prestigious and recognised outstanding contributions made to our community.

Among the winners was Mrs Joyce Allan for her initiative and on-going dedication to provide a nursing home at Woy Woy.

Mr Bill Hall was awarded for his "outstanding contribution to -the welfare of every one he has met" while holding positions with various ex-servicemen's and women's organisations.

Mr Hall served in the army in the Middle East, Syria and New

Guinea during WW II.

Mrs Jean Wilson was honoured for her 30 years involvement with the Woy Woy Meals on Wheels.

Mrs Nancy Winifred Parker received her recognition for her many years spent with organisations such as the Scouts, Brownies, Girl Guides, Lifeline, Red Cross and St Vincents Hospital.

Mr Eric Smith was also awarded a certificate and he is currently the coordinator and publicity officer for the Central Coast branch of Technical Aid for the Disabled.

He has worked for many years supervising a group of up to 30 volunteers for the projects undertaken by the group.

Mr Lloyd said Mr Smith had dedicated his whole retirement to helping others.

Carl Spears, December 16

Call for council action on Umina CBD plan

Councillor Debra Wales has asked for the Umina CBD upgrade plans to be brought before council before any work commences with the view of council mediating on-going disagreement between interested parties.

Cr Wales said the Umina CBD committee has been divided on the best way to spend the \$1.5 million allocated for the upgrade.

"The result has been a business centre opposed to the plans and meetings which are both unpleasant and unproductive," she said.

"Ultimately, the losers are the Umina shopkeepers and the community." Council has decided to postpone the works and hold a public meeting on the matter.

President of the Peninsula Chamber of Commerce, Mr Matthew Wales welcomed

Council's decision.

"The Chamber applauds the decision to review the plan," he said.

"We will not stand by and watch financial strategy funds wasted on works that clearly do not have the backing of the business and wider community.

"At an on site meeting with Councillors in December, business operators made it clear that the proposed raised pedestrian crossings and kerb blisters were not acceptable and that significant traffic and parking problems would occur. The public meeting will be chaired by Mayor Chris Holstein and representatives of each Umina Beach business together with representatives of the major community organisations.

Mr Wales said that the Chamber was not opposed to the bulk of the proposed Umina Beach CBD works.

Library forecourt work to start soon

Work will begin in early next month to upgrade the Library forecourt as a "town centre".

The project is the result of public consultation held two years ago, according to Councillor Debra Wales.

"In early 1998, a number of community-based meetings were held including a Strategic Planning Workshop," said Cr Wales.

"These meetings were important for the current Woy Woy CBD Committee meetings and established the basis on which the upgrading of the town centre should take place.

"One of the most important issues to come out of the workshops was the formalisation of the Woy Woy town square or village green as the focal point for the business centre.

"As a result, the CBD Committee developed plans for the Woy Woy Library forecourt area consisting of landscape upgrading with indigenous species, open areas and a mosaic map of the Peninsula to be incorporated in the re-paving of the area. Council's art adviser is working with the CBD committee and local community artists to design the mosaic which will be placed in the library forecourt.

"The town square will also provide an area for entertainment such as outdoor art exhibitions, musical recitals and professional buskers," said Councillor Wales.

Woy Woy CBD Committee Chairperson, Cr Lynne Bockholt said: "There has been some concern in the community that the flower beds which presently add so much colour around the library are to be removed and to be replaced with palm trees.

"This is not the case, the beds

are to be enhanced and the lovely displays of flowers will continue.

The upgrading of the retail precinct in Blackwall Road would also begin in early February and would incorporate the continuation of paving, tree planting, installation of underground power and street furniture, she said.

Cr Wales said that further plans to upgrade The Boulevard in the tourist precinct are under way with traffic calming and widened footpaths as a priority.

• "Cafes and restaurants are becoming more and more popular and the need to encourage tourist visitation to Woy Woy is a priority for the Woy Woy CBD Committee," she said.

"The final outcome will be the creation of upgraded areas for leisure and outdoor eating with expanded business and employment opportunities.

Cr Bockholt said: "As the CBD works get underway, the committee is working with the Rotary Club of Woy Woy on the replacement of the Rotary fountain in Anderson Park.

"The committee has asked an artist in terrazzo to submit a design reflecting the flora and fauna of the Peninsula area.

"We also want a fountain where young children can play safely and we have been investigating fountain options.

"The Committee understands that the Rotary connection is important and we intend to consult fully before any formal decision is made."

Cr Bockholt said Anderson Park is not as well used as it should be and over the next few months the Committee would be considering options to ensure this wonderful

public space gets better use and is fully integrated into the waterfront area.

"The upgrade of Pelican Park has been an enormous success and it is wonderful_ to see families enjoying the area, but there is still work to be done," she said.

Recently a meeting was held with the Fisheries Department to arrange for the cleaning of the Woy Woy Tidal Pool.

Cr Bockholt said Council is currently seeking tenders to investigate how this might happen.

"Generations of Peninsula kids have been swimming in this pool and I believe very soon they will do so again" said committee member Heather McKenzie Cr Bockholt said: "We have commissioned Ms Christine Burge, a Committee member, to work with local school children to design and install a mural for the toilets at Pelican Park, and this should be getting underway very soon.

"This will add more colour to the area and should help stop graffiti on the outside of the toilet block.

"The interior of the toilets are also to be worked on as, unfortunately, it would cost too much to knock them down and start again."

As Chair of the Woy Woy CBD Committee, Cr Bockholt thanked all committee members for their effort and achievements over the last two years.

The Committee has members from the Chamber of Commerce, local progress associations, the arts and heritage communities and local shop keepers, and has worked hard together for the benefit of the local community, Cr Bockholt said.

Chamber News

Christmas holiday trading was successful



By all reports, the Christmas holiday trading period was a great success for businesses in all the Peninsula town centres.

Retailers are reporting increased trade figures which bode well for the balance of the financial year.

The year 2000 will be a big year for Peninsula business with the upgrades of the three town centres due for completion under Gosford City Council's Financial Strategy.

Woy Woy CBD

Council has advised that street upgrading works will commence at the beginning of February in the Woy Woy town centre once the peak retailing period tapers off.

It now appears that Council will be including the provision of underground power in the main street as part of the footpath upgrading.

The provision of underground power was one of the prime ob

jectives of the Strategic Planning Workshop held in Woy Woy in early 1998 through the Peninsula Mainstreet program.

Placing overhead cables underground will greatly enhance the visual amenity of the main street.

Also included in the upgrading works will be the development of the Woy Woy Library forecourt area.

The forecourt construction will provide Woy Woy with a focal point that will assist in developing the character of the town centre.

(For more detail see page 3 of this edition).

Ettalong Beach CBD

The New Year has seen the commencement of the Picnic Parade landscaping and entry works with the construction of the raised garden beds and flag post areas.

These works will create an important landscape statement for visitors coming to Ettalong



Upgraded work in the Woy Woy town centre. All Peninsula town centres are receiving upgrades

Beach to shop and eat at the new restaurants and cafes.

It is a credit to the Ettalong Beach CBO Building Committee and Gosford City Council that the upgrading works have been undertaken and completed well within schedule and on budget.

Fast Ferry

As reported in last month's issue, the fast ferry reports were presented to Gosford City Council on December 7.

The gallery at the Council's Chambers was packed with ferry supporters who witnessed the

approval being issued by Gosford City Council and cheered loudly at the result.

The approval was granted with eight Councillors supporting the recommendation and one against.

This is an extremely important event.

By approving the fast ferry proposal, Council has invested in the future of the city with major transport that will provide investment opportunities for the community.

However, the approval was not without numerous conditions.

The fast ferry company will now

need to ensure that the service meets those conditions and to undertake to complete the design process in accordance with the conditions laid down by Council.

Year 2000

The Chamber looks forward to this new year and wishes all a prosperous 12 months ahead.

There are many issues on which to focus with the Chamber's big gala event in July, the Year 2000 Peninsula Chamber Business Awards.

Matthew Wales, January 14

Business insights given at workshops

The second of the three part Business Enterprise Workshop program is to begin in February with a four week workshop on 'How to Write a Business Plan'.

Workshop

It will be held each Monday night beginning on February 7 at 6.30pm at the Ettalong Beach Memorial Club.

Christine Drakeford and Wa~ Reynolds from the Business Enterprise Centre will be conducting each workshop.

This is sponsored by the Peninsula Chamber of Commerce and, for a cost of \$30 each session, will provide valuable insight into running a successful business.

If you would like to book or obtain more information then contact the Mainstreet office.

Market Day

The Ettalong Beach Heritage Committee has been holding an Art & Craft Market Day on the first Saturday of each month at the Ettalong Beach Post Office forecourt.

It is open to any interested people who may wish to display or sell their craft.

The cost is \$10 per stall and all proceeds go to the continuing beautification of Ettalong Beach under the Mainstreet Program.

Peninsula Main Street Program



Business Watch

The last meeting held in December was again a very successful and interesting meeting with Senior Sgt. Irene Jeurgens providing the business people with valuable advice and information on shoplifting.

The next meeting will be in March and advanced notice will be given of the date and meeting place.

Thank you to all those who attended and shared their experiences and advice.

It is extremely important to have that business input.

Pelican Feeding

Pelican Feeding at the Woy Woy waterfront has begun this week.

Each day at 3pm, 'Pelican Pete' feeds approximately 40 pelicans

and gives a commentary on our local wildlife.

With the upgrading of Pelican Park, large numbers of visitors have been attracted to the waterfront to enjoy the activities.

Congratulations to Fishermans Wharf and the Watersedge Motel for sponsoring this terrific tourist attraction.

It is sure to i:-ecome as well received as the Pelican feeding at the Entrance.

Palm Beach Ferry

The new Palm Beach Ferry service is proving to be a great success.

In the first week of January, the ferry carried over 4000 passengers between Palm Beach and Ettalong Beach.

The potential of this small but efficient.



Pelican Pete feeds his feathered friends every day at 3pm to the joy of locals and tourists alike

service is enormous.

Visitors arrive willing to experience village atmosphere and spend dollars in our shops and businesses.

This is valuable income.

Therefore, Peninsula businesses should make sure they

accommodate the needs of these important customers.

With careful planning, there are additional opportunities for the shrewd entrepreneur to provide complementary business services to the ferry operation.

Councillor Debra Wales



The proposed lease vessel that may be used while the Fast Ferry is built

Fast Ferry berthing facility due by middle of this year

Fast Ships Limited hope to have the berthing facility for the fast ferry operations ready by the middle of this year after gaining final approval from Gosford Council to run the ferry service.

Fast Ships Chairman, Mr Peter Hale, said the facility will include a wharf with a fixed walkway to a floating pontoon structure.

"The walkway and wharf will be fully covered and lead to a covered ticketing and waiting area on The Esplanade opposite Bangalow Street.

"The company will also be constructing a transport interchange including the reconstruction of the existing car park near the pine trees, provision of disabled parking facilities, commuter "kiss and ride" and the construction of a bus layby area.

"A taxi rank and bus stop will be provided in Bangalow Street near the intersection with The Esplanade with appropriate pedestrian crossing facilities."

Gosford City Council has now formally approved the Ettalong Beach Fast Ferry after an exhaustive review of environmental and engineering issues.

The Council approved the issue of formal development consent at its meeting on December 7 by an eight votes to one margin.

"Fast Ships Limited are delighted with the decision", said Mr Hale.

"The company has been working extremely hard for the last two years preparing the environmental and engineering reports in response to Council's requirements.

"We believe that we have now fully met the concerns of both the Council and the local residents at considerable cost to the company." Mr Hale said although it had taken an extraordinary amount of time, the company is nonetheless appreciative of community's and Council's support for this project.

"The issues and ramifications of the fast ferry project are significant and needed to be fully tested in the public arena," he said.

There are a number of conditions attached to the approval, which Fast Ships will now have to address as part of the construction process for the transport interchange and berthing facility.

Mr Hale said the company's consultants would be working without delay to satisfy the

conditions of consent so that the new wharf and pontoon can be constructed as soon as possible.

"Fast Ships have also been highly conscious of the need for commuter and visitor parking in the vicinity of the

ferry terminal," he said.

"A Parking Management Plan has been prepared and adopted by Council which provides for the upgrading of side streets such as Lagoon Street, Palm Street, Ridge Street and Beach Street including kerb and guttering, road shoulder work and concrete footpaths.

"This will be coupled with timed parking restrictions.

"These works will be carried out by the fast ferry company at no cost to Council." Mr Hale said that plans were underway for the construction of the fast ferry, which will be able to seat 450 passengers and travel at speeds of over 40 knots.

"We are also considering introducing an interim lease vessel while the purpose built vessel is under construction.

"The lease vessel will be a high speed catamaran with similar seating capacity to the purpose built vessel.

Picnic Parade work started

Work is well underway on the establishment of Picnic Parade as the main thoroughfare to Ettalong, and the beach.

The work includes kerb and guttering on both sides of the street and the construction of large planter boxes on the centre median strip.

The planter boxes consist of two sets of brick "boxes", each set being 50 metres long with a lower level on the outside.

The boxes will contain small shrubs and each set will be separated by a 45 metre stretch of grass and mulch with the retention of the existing trees making them a feature.

Work is expected to be completed by the end of January according to Gosford Council's Peninsula based engineer, Steve Mitchell-Hill and is expected to create a sense of grand entry to one of the Peninsula's major attractions.

Cec Bucello, January 13

Woy Woy Rd speeders targeted

Speeding drivers on Woy Woy Road will be the target of a new State Government road safety campaign to be launched last month.

The State Government will contribute \$5000 to the Our Road, Our Responsibility campaign developed by Gosford City Council's road safety officer.

Member for Peats Ms Marie

Andrews said: "A large number of crashes occur on the two kilometre section between the Scout camp and Staples Lookout, with many motorists failing to drive to the conditions or observe speed limits." The campaign will involve special warning signs at strategic locations along Woy Woy Road advising of the area's accident history and encouraging drivers to slowdown.

Rural brigade seeks support

The Bays Rural Fire Brigade is seeking support from local businesses to provide a secure financial base for their everyday operations.

The type of financial support proposed is an annual donation and the donor will be publicly acknowledged as a supporter.

The Bays Rural Fire Brigade publicity officer, Mr Jim Williams, said the brigade proposes to erect a supporters' sign at Phegans Bay facing Woy Woy Rd.

The brigade is currently seeking expressions of interest.

Mr Williams said the brigade was a necessity for the Peninsula community.

The close proximity of native bushland to many houses in the Bays, Umina and Woy Woy South underlined the need for a strong brigade in the area, he said.

For more information, telephone 43423584.

Umina wants foot crossing

Thirty-seven petitioners have sent a request to council to provide a pedestrian crossing on a section of busy Ocean Beach Rd.

The Umina residents want a crossing installed on Ocean Beach Rd between Donald Ave and Winifred St.

The petitioners say they are concerned for their safety and senior people when trying to cross and that the nearest existing crossings are at Way Woy South Public School and Umina Mall.

The matter has been referred to the manager of transport services for determination.

Carl Spears, November 19

Umina roadway upgrade

Work is expected to commence soon on the roadway used as an entry to East's Holiday Park.

According to Peninsula based Gosford Council engineer, Steve Mitchell-Hill, the work will be concentrated on the area near

the skate ramp and will include an upgrade of the footpath, new car parking bays and a pedestrian threshold.

The area is being used increasingly by local residents, visitors and tourists and the planned work is designed to improve access for all concerned.

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News

Fast Ferry approved

The public debate and the vote of councillors

The item discussed by Council in December 1999 of most interest to the Peninsula community was the decision to approve a fast ferry service between Ettalong and Circular Quay.

The approval included construction of a wharf, car parking and covered area on the reserve on Ettalong Foreshore.

The proposal had previously been given "deferred approval" on 16 February 1999.

Moved: Sansom and Doyle that Council is satisfied with the information supplied to address the conditions of defend commencement.

Cr Doyle asked that an addendum be added to prohibit commencement of the ferry service until all infrastructure and roadworks are completed.

Cr Bell requested that refueling be prohibited at Ettalong, or within Brisbane Water or Broken Bay.

He also asked for the inclusion of a specific water quality monitoring program.

Cr Bockholt asked for confirmation that the motion would exclude any ferry passenger parking at the Lemongrove Netball Courts.

Resident Comments:

Mr Rob Molin alleged that council did not follow its own guidelines regarding the environment, in making comments as a resident of the area.

He asserted that part of the foreshore was being given to a private firm and expressed concern about the potential effects of such a large vessel navigating shallow waters.

Mr Bryan Ellis commented that the most recent Environmental Impact Study (EIS) was essentially the same as the original EIS.

He also asked why the final EIS was not publicly exhibited.

The potential damage that might be caused by a 700 metre sea bed "scouring mattress" was a cause for concern he said.

Mr Peter Hale stated that Fast Ships had met all Council and other requirements and that the company had made its best endeavours to limit the effects of the fast ferry on residents.

The ferry would provide an alternative mode of transport and will bring business, he said.

Arguments for:

Cr Bockholt commented that "if Cr Bell is satisfied with the environmental conditions then we all ought to be".

The netball courts problem had been addressed as had the refueling issue.

This was an opportunity for the Peninsula to move forward, she said.

Cr Cook said that he had concerns relating to the coastal processes but the additional conditions of approval would address the environmental issues.

There would be huge economic benefits, he said.

Arguments against:

Cr Preece stated that there was a conflict with other evidence



between the statements made relating to the relative benefits and disadvantages attributed to diesel and gas powered engines.

More information was needed.

The Vote:

On Leave: Cr Penton,

For: Crs Bell, Bockholt, Brooks, Cook, Doyle, Holstein, Sansom

Against: Cr Preece.

Cr Wales declared an interest and left the Chamber during the debate and did not vote.

Draft LEP

Draft Local Environmental Plan (LEP) to Amend Provision of the Gosford Planning Scheme Ordinance With Regard to Medium Density Residential Development.

This was essentially a new set of guidelines about such things as minimum land areas, building height.

Of considerable interest were the statements in the Agenda Papers:

"...the Woy Woy Peninsula will provide 70% of medium density development in Gosford ..."

and

"Woy Woy Peninsula has been free from dynamic changes over the last 30 years whilst other areas of Gosford have been experiencing considerable change associated with new housing development."

Umina Plan

Moved: Wales. Seconded Bell (only to allow the motion to be discussed) that the plans for the upgrade of Umina Beach by the Umina Beach CBD Committee be brought before Council as soon as possible before any of the planned works commence.

Cr Bell later withdrew his seconding of the motion which subsequently lapsed.

Argument for:

Cr Wales stated that she had been on the CBD Committee for two years.

It was "a dreadful committee" and being on it was a "dreadful experience", she said.

Her "ideas were ridiculed". The planned upgrade had no feasibility study.

She would like an independent consultant to take over the study.

Treatments to improve traffic flow were needed as was a landscape plan.

Arguments against: Cr Penton contradicted Cr Wales' assertion that there was no comprehensive

plan.

The plan was started in 1995 and involved an experienced and highly qualified consultant who carried out a study which was placed on public exhibition, she said.

The plan would make the main street of Umina into a one level street with three raised crossings.

She also pointed out that the CBD grant of \$1.

5 million had guidelines specifying what the grant could be spent on, namely: paving, gardening, street furniture, parking.

She said some members of the CBD Committee had not attended for two years but turned up to vote and that they had been replaced on the Committee.

Cr Sansom emphasised the need to ensure consensus and to bring together business people and the wider community.

Cr Holstein stated his belief that a decision by Council would not fix the angst in the community.

He said there was a need to find out what the business community wanted.

Cr Bell suggested that there be a meeting called by Council to identify the problems and investigate the plans and options and to talk these through.

Community Comments:

Mr Matthew Wales, president of the Peninsula Chamber of Commerce, stated that he represented the businesses of Umina Beach.

He said the committee had gone nowhere for the past two years and that the committee was split down the middle.

If the plan was so good why was there not consensus, he asked.

The plan would cause traffic congestion, pedestrian flow problems and an independent arbitrator was needed to sort this out, he said.

He said a holistic plan was needed and the vote at the CBD meeting was six for, five against while two votes were disallowed who were entitled to vote.

Mr Ken Hoste, Chairman of the CBD Committee, emphasised the restrictions placed on how the CBD grant could be spent and stated that the plan for the CBD was in accordance with those restrictions.

New Motion:

A motion was moved (Bell / Holstein) and passed, which called for a meeting in February with representatives from all businesses in the CBD, senior citizens, Progress Association, Surf Club, Chamber of Commerce, Gosford City Youth Council and the Umina Beach Action Committee.

If there was no resolution of the dispute the matter was to be brought back to Council.

There were to be no proxy votes.

Environment The Mayor has recently been quoted as saying "We will be under pressure to rezone lands from 1(a) conservation and 7(c2) scenic protection to 2(a) residential.

I think at this stage the zones are pretty well spot on.

January 15

THE FLAVOURS

THE



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The number of Thai food restaurants on the Peninsula has increased over the past few weeks.
The latest addition is KB Thai Take-away, (based on the corner of Blackwall and Victoria Roads, Woy Woy. KB Thai specialise in tasty but very low priced meals and have set up for both eat in and take away. The owners have five years experience in the industry and moved to the area from Sydney. They selected the Peninsula because they liked the area and found the people to be very friendly. The outlet itself is in a highly visible location on a busy corner adjacent to the Peninsula News offices. An outdoor area is currently being established and when complete, will more than double the restaurant's seating capacity.

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Advertisement

Following the trend of a growing number of restaurants on the Peninsula, a new Thai food restaurant opened its doors on December 17 on The Esplanade on Ettalong Beach.

Trading as Niroa Thai, the new owners have taken over the dining room in the motel and hope to be able to build their business on the current and future growth in the area. The restaurant seats 40 and has both indoor and outdoor eating areas with water views from most seats. The new owners have moved to Ettalong from Newtown and selected the area because of its great location and natural attractions.

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News



Children wait in anticipation for the Sights and Sounds Pageant

Community flocks to see Sights and Sounds

The Sights and Sounds Christmas Pageant held in Woy Woy during December with over 1500 visitors was a great success according to organisers.

Based at St Luke's Anglican Church in Blackwall Road, the event ran for two days and evenings and included a welcoming drink and biscuit for each visitor together with an introductory song and explanation of the show.

Visitors were then treated to a puppet show in the church followed by a "Christmas around the world" mini pageant.

A nativity scene was presented complete with angels, wise men, Joseph, Mary and a real baby playing the most important character of the story.

The event lasted for an hour with several groups going through different parts of the pageant at the

same time.

All performers and choirs wore appropriate period costumes.

Work started on the project in May last year with the help of over 100 volunteers.

The work was co-ordinated by Murray Johnson, Rector of the Anglican Parish and Rosemary Gillham, Parish Assistant.

Support was also provided by Catholic, Baptist, Uniting and Presbyterian Churches in the area as well as the Salvation Army and the Peninsula Christian Life Centre.

Over 1500 adults and children saw the Pageant and many schools arranged poster competitions and other activities surrounding the event.

The event will not take place in the year 2000, with the group working instead on an Easter Pageant for 2001.

Cec Bucello, January 6

Caught in the act

Terrigal tradesman, Dean Poile, was enjoying his lunch at Woy Woy's CJ's Cafe with his mates just before Christmas when they heard glass being smashed.

Dean and his friends glanced over the wall to see what was happening and were astounded to see their work truck being broken into by a man and a woman.

"I jumped over the fence and grabbed hold of the bloke and asked him what he was doing," said Dean.

"The girl then went feral and started attacking me," Dean said

the man then escaped his clutches and a chase ensued down the main street of Woy Woy.

"We caught him and walked him back to the cafe," said Dean.

"Someone had called the police and by the time we got back they were there.

"The police were magnificent." Only a few days earlier, police apprehended another person, who was caught breaking into a car in the Swancott Centre in Woy Woy.

In this incident, the car's owner also held the offender until police arrived.

Carl Spears, January 14

F3 widening study funding announced

A study costing \$500,000 will investigate widening the F3 freeway by extending to six lanes.

Member for Robertson, Mr Jim Lloyd, said Federal funding would allow a review and update of an earlier study into widening between the Hawkesbury River and Calga as well as a new study into the rest of the section between Wairoonga and Kariong.

Mr Lloyd said the study was essential before any funding for construction could be given.

He said no timetable had been established for the freeway widening but this would also be determined once the study was completed.

"On current projections, the cost of widening is likely to be \$165



Federal Member, Mr Jim Uoyd

million," he said.

"The Federal Government funds all new construction and maintenance work on the F3 as part of the National Highway Program.

"The government has spent more than \$1 billion upgrading the F3 since the program started 25 years ago," he said.

Carl Spears, November 10

Council looks to improve lifesaving

Gosford Council is looking at ways to improve the coverage of the Lifeguard Service.

Council's director of works said: "In comparison to other councils and given our area's increasing population growth and high tourist influx throughout the year, Gosford Council's lifeguard staffing levels are below an optimal standard".

Ocean Beach is currently staffed by one council lifeguard five days a week from 9am to 5.30pm and by two lifeguards in the Christmas school holiday period from 9am to 6pm.

Umina Beach has similar staffing levels.

These times are flexible and can be changed due to surf conditions and so forth.

Volunteer lifeguards patrol the beaches on the weekends.

Ettalong Beach, Pearl Beach and Patonga Beach are not patrolled.

The director said that although the staffing levels were below optimum, the training and equipment levels of the local service were well above the minimum standards required by state legislation.

He said council's options to increase the lifeguard coverage include the use of closed circuit monitoring of non patrolled areas and the freeing of funds from other areas of council's budget to increase staff levels.

Carl Spears, December 16

Multicultural festival to raise cancer funds

Peninsula residents are invited to attend the Greek Australian Festival next month to help raise funds for the Cancer Care Centre at Gosford Hospital.

The 12-hour festival will be held at Mt Penang on Sunday, February 27 and starts at 10am.

Much of the entertainment encompasses many different cultures.

The day will include The Olympians musicians from Sydney, dancers from an Aboriginal group, parading of traditional costumes from all over Greece, Scottish dancers, art exhibitions and belly dancers.

Souvlaki, salads, barbeques, sweets, ice cream and food stalls will be available as well as craft stalls, fireworks and much more.

Greek Australian Association of the Central Coast chairwoman, Ms Georgia Sidiropoulos, said all profits from the day will go towards the Cancer Care Centre.

Central Coast Health is hoping to raise \$750,000 this year to improve local cancer services.

"The Greek Australia Festival is being held to raise some of these funds," said Ms Sidiropoulos.

"All community groups are invited to help in any way possible with this special event.

"It's a first in many ways and its success could pave the way for future events." Individuals or groups can hold a stall, donate or sponsor goods and services or volunteer.

For further information contact Ms Sidiropoulos on 43741215.

Carl Spears, January 6

A toast

Ettalong Beach Toastmasters invite people to attend their meetings and develop speaking, listening and leadership skills.

Toastmasters is for more than just accomplished speakers and would like to help those that find it hard to stand up and speak.

And you're not alone, public speaking rates closely to death as the things that people fear most.

A spokesperson for the Ettalong group said: "Through participation, one can become an experienced speaker and grow with confidence.

For more information phone Jan on 4341 6842 or Coral on 43431079.

Local wins lottery prize

A maintenance worker has won second prize of \$10,000 in a \$2 Jackpot Lottery draw earlier this month after buying the ticket at Umina Beach Newsagency.

The 64-year-old was thrilled with the good news.

"I'll probably be putting some of the money into the mortgage and sharing the rest with the family," he said.

The man said he had been buying lottery tickets for years.

New legislation could affect park residents

People living in residential parks, such as the one at Ettalong near Blackwall Mountain, could be affected by new State legislation, the Residential Parks Act 1999.

The act outlines new rights and responsibilities for residents.

NSW Fair Trading Minister, Mr John Watkins, announced a \$61,000 grant to the Affiliated Park Residents Association to allow the group to travel NSW explaining the new rules.

For more information contact State Member for Peats, Ms Marie Andrews, on 4342 4122.

Gardening Club meets

The Umina Garden Club meets every month to exchange tips and friendship, and to hold competitions.

The meetings are held on the second Saturday of the month at the Umina Community Hall from 1.30pm.

Public Trustee seeks estates next of kin

The Gosford branch of the Public Trustee of New South Wales is seeking the public's help in tracking down former Peninsula residents' next of kin in order to give them their inheritance.

The office administers estates where beneficiaries, for various reasons, cannot be located.

If you have any information about the next-of-kin or beneficiaries of the following deceased, the Gosford branch would appreciate your assistance.

DAVID "ANDREW" FRANCKE,

who lived in Empire Bay, died in July 1996 and was born in December 1923.

The estate is worth \$14,496 and the missing beneficiary is Frederick Francke.

STANLEY MATTHEW FAIRFULL, who died in September 1995, lived in Woy Woy and was born in July 1912.

The estate is worth \$250,000.

MICHAEL NOLAN ROY TUCK who lived in Woy Woy, died in July 1999 and was born in October 1898.

The estate is worth \$273,700.

DEREK ARTHUR BRUCE who

lived in Woy Woy, died in October 1997 and was born in October 1916.

The Public Trustee of New South Wales was established by the NSW government and helps with the making of wills, the management of trust funds, assets, deceased estates, powers of attorney and other related products and services.

The Gosford branch can be contacted on 4323 1766 or you can visit the Public Trustee website: www.publictrustee.gov.au

Carl Spears, December 11



Winner of the Spring baby competition - Elle Austin

Baby club offers free membership

Judd's Pharmacy in Deepwater Plaza offers free membership to their Chemworld baby club.

The many benefits include participation in a baby competition, special discounts, newsletters, gift vouchers and birthday cards:

The spring baby competition was concluded at the end of November and the winner was Elle Austin of Daleys Point with Haley Evans of Umina being runner up.

The summer competition is currently underway and runs to the end of February.

Cec Bucello December 16

Peninsula disabled receive funding for educational help

The Peninsula has received State Government funding for an Intervention Support program to help children and young people with disabilities with their education.

State Member for Peats, Ms Marie Andrews, said the extra assistance for the students could significantly improve their skills and increase their confidence and independence.

Just over \$11,000 had been allocated to the Peats electorate.

The program will be run locally

by the Woy Woy Peninsula Child Care Centre with assistance from the Department of Education and Training.

Under the program, children under six years of age with disabilities receive education and social development support to prepare them for preschool and school.

Young people aged up to 18 in long term residential care receive extra help with after school study.

People up to 21 will receive help with mainstream education.

Ms Andrews said the program provided support for young people who needed more educational support than most.

"Everyone has an individually designed program, supervised by teachers and provided by visiting teachers or teachers' aides and early intervention specialists who work within centres," she said.

"The services vary according to individual needs, abilities and age and may include training in basic communication and motor skills or reading tuition."

Dementia brochure produced for carers

The Central Coast Health's Dementia Care team has produced a brochure to assist the carers of people who have been admitted to hospital suffering from memory loss.

The brochure contains many tips to help minimise the difficulties that arise when dealing with a person who suffers from memory loss is hospitalised.

Dementia Care manager Ms Beryl Mason said: "A hospital

admission can be daunting for anyone, and even more so for the person who has a memory problem."

"This brochure provides information on when to tell the patient about going to hospital, preparation, arrival, leaving the person at the hospital, visiting, discharge and after discharge."

For further information, or if you would like a copy of the brochure, contact the Dementia Care team on 4320 3738 or 43202281.

Painless vasectomy technique at Woy Woy

Dr Fabian Baez at the Clocktower medical centre in Woy Woy is one of the few general practitioners in Australia performing vasectomies using the painless, noscalpel technique.

Vasectomy is traditionally a minor procedure for male sterilisation usually performed in the doctor's surgery through two scalpel cuts either side of the

scrotum.

The simpler, no-scalpel technique is performed through one pin hole using local anaesthetic and takes about 10-15 minutes.

Through this small hole the vas deferens (the tube through which sperm travel to join the seminal fluid) are brought to the surface using a specially designed instrument that looks like a very small crotchet hook.

The tube is cut and the ends are sealed using heat.

One end is tied and the other end is buried in the scrotal sheath.

This prevents the vas from rejoining together.

The pin hole rarely requires stitches and once healed the scar is almost invisible.

Most men can return to work on the third day after the procedure.

Usually no pain relief is required with some men commenting the next day that they don't believe the procedure had been done.

Vasectomy does not change sexual ability or pleasure, however extra contraceptive precaution must be taken for approximately nine weeks while a sperm count is performed confirming sterility.

Dr Baez said the procedure is very safe and has only 0.3 per cent

complications as opposed to 4% for the traditional method.

The no-scalpel technique was developed in China where a cheap, painless and quick form of birth control was needed that could be performed safely almost anywhere.

Every year in Thailand on the King's birthday, a vasectomy festival is held where thousands of vasectomies are performed using this method in tents in the palace grounds as a form of population control.

No-scalpel vasectomy technique is gaining popularity in the United States and Australia is following quickly.

Dr Baez performs this procedure on Fridays and patients are usually back at work the following Monday.

The cost is \$290 with \$240 covered by Medicare.

The waiting list is approximately three weeks at present although this will be reduced soon with the procedure being performed twice a week due to enormous public response, said practice manager Sister Angela Mason.

For further information contact Sister Mason on 4344 4466.

Karen Booth, January 12

Peninsula Women's Centre continues providing service

The Peninsula Women's Centre has completed a successful year, offering women information about any issue or organisation concerning women.

It opened its doors in September 1998 with a grant from Gosford Council and continues running mainly from donations and the hire out of the premises to groups for 10 per cent of the takings.

A clinic is held once a month by the Women's Health unit from Gosford Hospital where such things as pap smears are performed.

There are regular health talks ranging in topics such as breast cancer awareness, nutrition, loss and grief, menopause, osteoporosis, stress management and podiatry.

A wide range of free courses are also available, covering topics such as better relationships, drumming, women's personal safety, ideas for parents, belly dancing, iridology, past lives, feldenkrais techniques and meditation.

The centre is run by a project worker and 20 volunteers.

Most of the volunteers work a set shift and attend to such activities as answering the phone, mail, maintenance and repairs, quotes, research opportunities and running of the various courses.

A "What's On" booklet is available from the centre in McMasters Road as well as information on many subjects concerning women.

This year, a Young Woman's Expansion Program is proposed where young women and girls from the age of 12 can learn ways to improve their self esteem, how to dress for an interview, write an application letter and curriculum vitae and other interview skills.

The centre is open on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

Information about the courses, talks and volunteer activities can be obtained from Helen, the project officer on 4342 5905.

Karen Booth, January 14



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only \$35
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We also do:
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A comprehensive regular guide to stalls at the Ettalong Markets

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NEW ERA FOR ETTALONG MARKETS

The new Ettalong-Palm Beach Ferry has created a new era and excitement for Ettalong Markets and surrounding businesses.

Discovered for the first time by many visitors experiencing this scenic ferry journey, atmosphere is back at the markets and stall owners are feeling a prosperous year is ahead.

Established for 20 years and known as the largest undercover market on the Central Coast, the markets open every Saturday and Sunday from 9.00am to 4.00pm.

The offer visitors a wide range of arts and crafts, gift ideas, homewares, clothing, jewellery, plants and the traditional fruit and vegies. Entertainment for the family and choices of quality restaurants with a variety of eateries is a complement to the markets.



Being a part of the Ettalong Beach Tourist Resort, the Markets are certainly turning out to be a popular choice for a family day out. Visitors are already enjoying the experience of the Peninsula's own "Cinema Paradiso" and the recently opened outdoor evening theatre "La Piazza".

For everyone's convenience, an Automatic Teller Machine (ATM) has recently been installed and located within the foyer of the Cinema. All are invited to come along and enjoy Ettalong Beach and experience the difference when including the markets as part of the outing.

Therese Pientka, January 11

Ettalong Markets DIRECTORY

BOOKS & MAGAZINES		KITCHENS & SHOPFITTINGS	
Seashore City Books	42	Rez Kitchens & Shopfitting	15
BEDSPREADS & LINEN		LUGGAGE & BAGS	
Linen Furnishings	55	Coast Luggage & bags	72
BRICA-BRAC		MARINE	
Antiques & Old Wares	9	ACCESSORIES	
Pam's Bric A Brac Shop	74	Umina Aquatic Craft	8
CAFES & RESTAURANTS		MOBILE PHONES & ACCESSORIES	
Cafe Unique	67	Freefone	28
Meat 'N' Eat Deli	14	Communication	
Creative Crepes	26	Central Coast	
Uni's Kebabs	31	Mobile Accessories	13
Ruthie's Takeaway	30	NEW AGE	
Gandhi Indian Restaurant	From	& FASHIONS	
Siblings Restaurant	From	All Things Unique	56
Hong Kong Restaurant	From	Tempress by Marjan	28
		Enchanted	
CARPETS & RUGS		Artworks	65
Ettalong Rugs & Carpets		Indonesian Imports	50
Dave's Carpets		1a PETS & ACCESSORIES	
CLOTHING		Bob's Bird Barn	22
T-Shirts & Track		PICTURES & FRAMES	
Clothes	18	Egyptian Gifts & Pictures	10
Jin's Clothing & Fashions	24	Joseph's Pictures & Frames	45
Sports T-Shirts & Clothes	52	Pictures & Gifts	69
FRUIT & VEG		PIES & CAKES	
Sam's Fruit & Vegetables	62	Markets Pies & Cakes	53
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Stone Garden	6	Creative Focus Crafts	48
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JEWELLERY		TIMBER FURNITURE & CRAFTS	
John's Jewstones	19	Pine Crafts	66
Gwen's Jewellery	25a	TOYS & GIFTS	
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Funhouse	11	Central Trading Distributors	1
MASSAGE & OILS		Cinema TV & Computers	57
Lyn's Foot & Body	33a	TOOLS & HARDWARE	
New Age Massage	64	Tool Importers	3
Samantha's Oils	33b	Ettalong Tools & Hardware	43
		WATCHES & REPAIRS	
		Ettalong Watches	35

News

Peninsula adopts 'Dob in a Dumper'

Peninsula residents could earn as much as \$500 for reporting incidents of illegal dumping.

Gosford City Council has announced plans to adopt a "Dob in a Dumper" campaign, similar to that run by Wyong Council.

Councillor Robert Bell, acting chairperson of the Central Coast

Waste Board, said: "Residents will be rewarded if their information leads to Council successfully fining the dumper".

"Our two councils have found common ground in our battle against illegal dumpers," he said.

"With close to 276,000 pairs of eyes in the community out there, dumpers will get caught".

The general manager of the Central Coast Waste Board, Mr Bruce Watters, said: "The Central Coast Waste Board, councils and State Government want to make things very difficult for illegal dumpers to get away with dumping.

"We will be assessing the use of video surveillance cameras currently being tria led in the Hunter Region, with a view to installing them at some of our dumping hot spots.

State Environment Minister Ms Pam Allan has announced that the Government is closing in on illegal waste dumpers with the introduction of new waste laws.

She said amendments to the Waste Minimisation and Management Act meant both transporters and owners of waste could be liable for prosecution if waste was illegally dumped.

For more information call Gosford Councilor the Central Coast Waste Board on 4323 4343.

Carl Spears, January 15



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What's on in the Peninsula

Welcome to our first tourist and residents' information feature brought to you by the Visitors Information Centre, Woy Woy.

Each month, we will give you as much information as possible regarding coming events, interesting things to see and do, group meeting, etc. on the Peninsula.

We need you to help by giving us your details regarding your group events and activities if you have any and would like them publicised.

You can drop your information off at the Visitors Information Centre, at 18-22 The Boulevarde, Woy Woy (around the comer from Fisherman's Wharf) or by phone on. 4341 2888 or by fax on 4341 8555.

Please come and see us anytime for free maps, ferry times, and lots of other information.

Tuesday, January 18

National Parks and Wildlife, "Creatures of the Night Spotlight Walk", from Pearl Beach to Tony Doyle Lookout.

Takes in koala habitat, bring a torch.

Starts 7.45pm - Approximately 2 hours.

Bookings 4320 4205

Wednesday, January 19

Ettalong/Umina Lions Club meet at 6.30pm at Woy Woy Leagues Club.

Phone 4342 1352

Rocks Arcade Markets Ettalong (undercover) - 10am to 2pm.

Local hand made craft only.

Phone 4344 9707.

Friday, January 21

Skate board clinic, Umina Skate Park.

10am - 12.00 noon.

One session - intermediate skill level.

Phone John Ferguson 4325 8430

Tuesday, January 25

Australia Day 2000 celebrations at Anderson Park Woy Way, opposite the waterfront from 4pm - 10pm.

Stalls, bush band, bush dance, vintage cars, kids amusements, maritime re-enactment, fireworks - 9,30 PM.

Enquiries 4342 7510

Children's entertainment at Ettalong Beach War Memorial Club from 10.30am to 12.30pm.

Kids disco, bingo, face painting etc. Free entry, children must be accompanied by an adult.

Ettalong Beach Toastmasters - 7. 30pm at Ettalong Beach War memorial Club.

Phone Jan Cummins 4341 6842.

Wednesday, January 26

Australia Day celebrations at Pretty Beach and Wagstaffe.

Saturday, January 29

Bush dance Wagstaffe Hall 8pm.

National Parks and Wildlife "Boxhead to Beaches "walk from Wagstaffe to Lobsters Beach.

Starts 6.30am - Approx. 5 Y2 hours.

Bookings 4320 4205

Monday, January 31

Deepwater Plaza Seniors Club bus tour to Fox studios.

Bookings: Tony Arico 4341 7200

Saturday, February 5

National Malaysia Borneo Veterans Association meet at 2.30pm at Ettalong Beach War memorial Club.

Phone 4342 1216.

Ettalong Beach Arts and Crafts Markets, Post Office Forecourt, Ocean View Road.

9am to 4pm - Phone 4342 7510

Monday, February 7

Ettalong Beach Arts and Crafts Classes recommence, including pottery, decoupage, drawing and painting - also children pottery and art classes.

Bookings and enquiries 43601673

Tuesday, February 8

The Troubadour Folk Club open sessions at Masonic Hall Woy Woy, opposite the station 7.30pm. Bring your instruments or just bring yourself - Public welcome.

\$3.00 cover charge. Phone Frank 4341 4060.

Ettalong Beach Toastmasters - 7.30pm at Ettalong Beach War Memorial Club.

Phone Jan Cummins 4341 6842.

Sunday, February 13

Central Coast Junior Branch Surf Championship -

Umina Beach.

3000 Nippers competing for championship medals - 8am - 3pm.

Phone Ray Benton 4325 8584

Tuesday, February 15

The Troubadour Performance Night at 304 on West Cafe at Umina - 7.30pm.

Enjoy your meal while being entertained - free entry.

Performance enquiries welcome - Phone Frank 4341 4060 or 0417 456 929.

Daily Events:

Shell Museum, Nature's Harlequins. Shells, shell jewellery, polished stones and baroque jewellery on display and sale.

2 Warrah St. Ettalong, closed Tuesdays. Phone 4341 5998

Outdoor Sports Hire - Ocean Beach at East's Ocean Beach Holiday Park, Sydney Avenue Umina - 9am -7pm.

Bikes, tandem trikes, scooters, kayaks, windsurfers, paddle boats etc.

Family and social outings also arranged.

Phone 4344 4073 or 0414 915 866

Pelican feeding Woy Way, Pelican Park, Fisherman's Wharf - 3pm Daily, rain or shine - bring your camera.

Phone. 4341 2888

Cinema Paradisio Ettalong (Ettalong Cinema), Ocean View Rd., Ettalong from 9.30 am.

Phone 1900 147 045 for screening details.

Al fresco cinema Ettalong (outdoors) 8.30pm nightly, Ettalong markets complex. Ocean View Rd Ettalong, during school holidays.

BYO chairs, blankets etc. Cost \$5.00

Phone 1900 147 045

Weekly Events:

Children's entertainment at the Ettalong Beach War Memorial Club.

Sundays from 11 .30am - 3.30pm - Clowns, jumping castle, disco, cost \$2.00.

Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Free bike tours every Saturday.

Leaves 2pm from Ettalong Bike Shop, your bike or hire a bike.

Also mountains bike tours daily on request - all equipment supplied at \$75 per person.

All fitness levels catered for.

Phone Jordan 4341 3906

Ettalong/Umina Lions meet for Bingo, every Monday

10.30am - 12.30pm at Ettalong War Memorial Club - Entertainment Centre - cash prizes, all welcome.

Phone 4342 1352

Markets:

Ettalong Beach Seaside Village Markets.

Every Saturday and Sunday 9am - 4pm under cover.

Adjoins Sea and Sand Motel and Cinema Paradiso - Ocean View Road.

Phone 4342 5451

Rocks Arcade Markets Ettalong - Opposite Ettalong Beach War Memorial Club - undercover 3rd Wednesday each month 10am - 2pm.

Local hand made craft only Phone 4344 9707

Ettalong Beach Arts and Crafts Markets

Post Office Forecourt, Ocean View Rd. First Saturday each month 9am - 4pm

Phone 4342 7510

Ferries:

Ettalong to Palm Beach - Daily from Ferry Rd. Ettalong.

Phone 9918 2747

Patonga to Palm Beach - Daily from Patonga Wharf. Phone 9918 2747

Lady Kendall " - Daily from Woy Way Wharf - Cruising Brisbane Waters.

Phone 43421655

Brisbane Water Ferry Services - Daily from Woy Woy Wharf to Empire Bay, Davistown and Saratoga.

Phone 43414878 or 018 646 870

Joan Chippindale, January 14

PATONGA at ETTALONG: Where is Wahgunyah Street?

James Warwick Browne settled at Woy Woy in about 1894

He occupied 150 acres of land extending from Blackwall Mountain to the junction of present-day Picnic Parade and The Esplanade, Ettalong Beach.

Browne built a commodious residence at the foot of Blackwall Mountain, and named it 'Patonga'.

Two statues stood on either side of the front steps to the house, which had verandahs to the front and sides, and a matching pair of bay windows overlooked the family property.

James Browne was a businessman, and one of his main enterprises was as an exporter of the giant maiden hair ferns that grew prolifically around the district.

'Patonga House' was destroyed by the terrible bush fire that devastated the area in 1928.

However, during World War I, Browne joined the rush to subdivide land on the peninsula.

His subdivision was called 'Patonga Park Estate', and consisted of over 700 blocks.

Examination of the estate plan reveals that Bourke.

Road was originally named Wahgunyah Street - an example of just one of the items of our heritage that has been lost.

Lurline Street was named after Browne's daughter.

The site of 'Patonga House' eventually became the site of the Ettalong Caravan Park.

To advertise the 'Patonga Park' subdivision, a glamorous brochure was produced, extolling the virtues of the area.

Here are some extracts: Woy Woy is undoubtedly the Playground of Sydney, and a very picturesque playground it is, and also the passport to prosperity and good health.

It appears to have been specially created by Nature in one of her most kindly moods as a

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).

haven for weary toilers or the jaded business man.

It is a spot where bodily fatigue is replaced by robust energy, where brain fag quickly succumbs to the many and varied forms of joyful, healthy, bracing outdoor pleasures this beautiful district affords and abound with.

It is an ideal holiday resort, offering opportunities for sport and enjoyment within a couple of hours of Sydney, and for which many people travel hundreds of miles to experience.

Patonga Park Estate is right in the centre of this scenic district.

Two lines of up-to-date Motor Ferries with several large Boats meet all trains and carry passengers to this Estate at very reasonable rates.

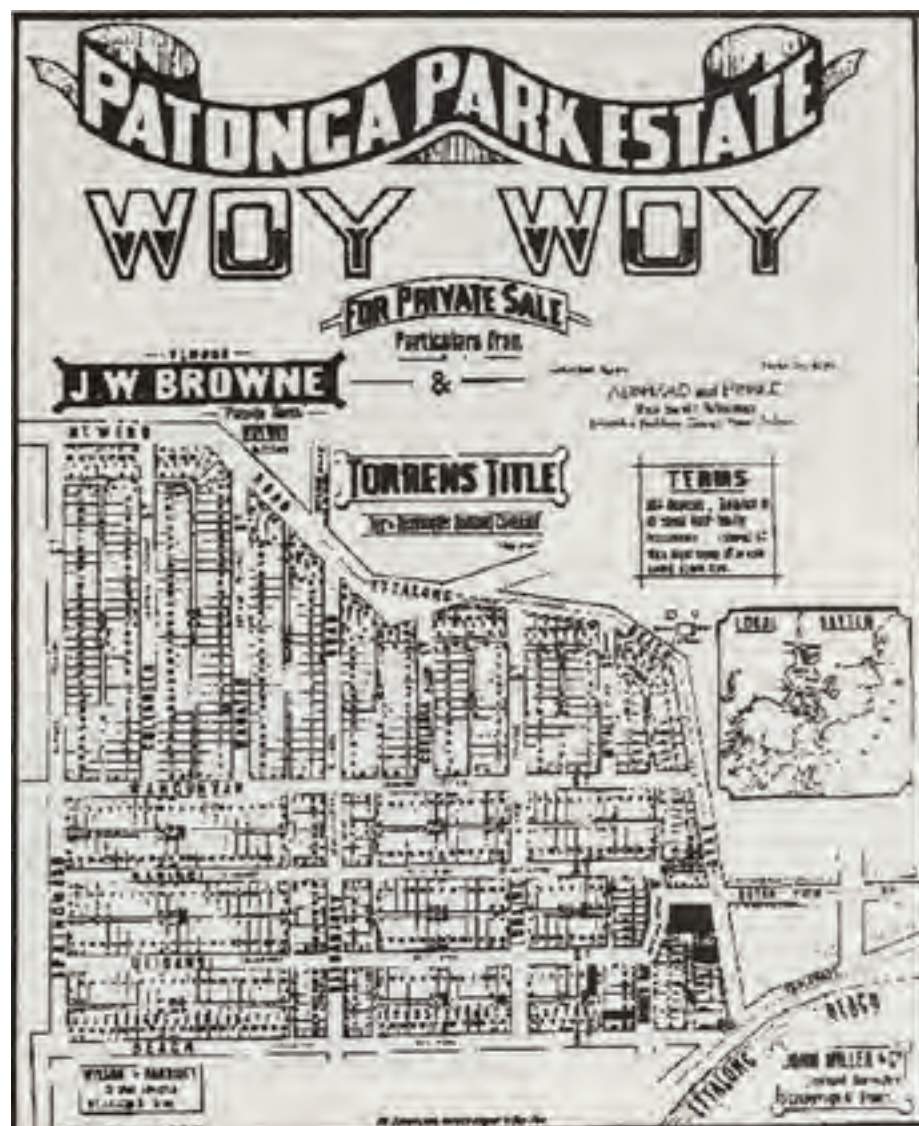
Also two lines of Motor Cars and Coaches meet all trains and convey passengers to this Estate in Seven Minutes.

There are also regular weekly services from Sydney by Steamer, the "S.S.

Gosford" and the "S.S.

Erina" carrying both passengers and all classes of goods, including building material, at very reasonable rates of freight, and return tickets are issued to passengers for the trip.

The trip from Sydney at the time took about three hours. ETTALONG: Where is Wahgunyah Street?



Estate plan courtesy of GosfordJ Library - Local Studies Collection

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School News



Kristie Jackson with one of her beloved champion steers



Students and teachers from the time out program at Ettalong

Kristie wins scholarship

Umina High School student, Kristie Jackson, 17, has won a \$2000 scholarship to attend the prestigious Tocal Agricultural College.

Kristie has been involved in Umina High's cattle' show successes.

The school has won awards around Australia, including at The Sydney Royal Easter Show.

Kristie will board at the college during her Year 12 year.

Kristie has shown a great

aptitude for the agricultural aspects of her high school work and spends most of her time at the school's agricultural farm caring for the animals.

Kristie lives at Narara and has been travelling to Umina every day. She was extremely keen to continue her studies in agriculture but her present difficult family circumstances would have meant that this would not have been possible without the scholarship which she has now achieved.

Carl Spears, January 6

Time Out graduates ready for new year

Time Out is a program designed for students in years 7 and 8 of local schools that require assistance to increase their literacy, numeracy, social interaction and personal development skills.

The program is managed by non profit organisation, Workwise and participating students come from schools located throughout

Gosford.

Students take time out from their respective schools and travel to Ettalong for one or two days per week for two school terms, depending on their needs.

At Ettalong, the students attend fully supervised practical workshops aimed at rectifying deficiencies and encouraging them to develop greater self esteem by realising their individual potential.

Programme co-ordinator, Ms

Renay Keane, was pleased to be able to say that at the end of each program, most of the participating students had acquired the confidence and self esteem to return to full-time schooling even though they said they were sad to leave the program.

Each student successfully completing the program receives a certificate of achievement.

Cec Bucello, January 6

Woy Woy High speakers into second round

Woy Woy High School Year 11 students have done well in public speaking as part of the Lions-Youth of the Year competition.

Sarah McWilliam representing Woy Woy Lions Club, Amy Haddadi representing Ettalong Umina Lions Club and Phillip Bernie

representing Woy Woy Peninsula Lioness Club were successful in the first round.

They will go on to represent their clubs in the second round zone judging, which will take place at Woy Woy Leagues Club in March.

Other students still to be judged in the first round are

Jessica Mitchell, Michelle Gordon and Jaala Haynes.

Principal, Ms Carolyn Carter, said: "Congratulations must go to all the students who competed." "It can be very nerve-wracking to stand up in public and be judged on your speaking ability."

Carl Spears, December 14

Rikki goes to pacific Games

Empire Bay Public School student, Rikki Lewis, qualified for the Pacific Games trials this year.

She came sixth in the 50m butterfly and eighth in the 100m butterfly to qualify.

Native plants for Empire Bay

Council has undertaken to carry out development of the gully area behind the main brick building at Empire Bay Public School to promote the area as a native vegetation area.

One of the first steps is to identify the plants that need to be kept and those that will need to be removed.

Principal, Mr Gordon Fraser, is asking for members of the community who have expertise in this area and who would be willing to help.

If you can help, contact the school on 4369 1796 and the student council gully restoration working committee will contact you.

Myra retires after 25 years service

Myra Gilroy has retired after 25 years of service to the community, students and staff of Woy Woy South Public School.

Myra started work at the school in 1974 as a clerical assistant and has seen four principals come and go.

An accomplished bagpiper, Myra arrived in Australia from her native Scotland as a "£ 1 0 migrant" in 1957.

She was sponsored by the Cogee- Randwick Pipe Band.

Myra met her husband Alex in the band.

One day after her Australian arrival she started work at the School of Physics Optometry Department at the University of New South Wales and held the position until the birth of her daughter Fiona, in 1968.

Later, Myra took up the position at Woy Woy South.

/ Myra had a passion for her bagpipes, evidenced by her lunchtime and after school bagpipe classes for the school's children.

She also formed the Ettalong Beach Memorial Club Pipe Band



Myra Gilroy

with her husband, which has won local acclaim since 1966.

Among her other musical achievements, Myra has played for the High Commissioner of Canada at an official reception in Gosford Council Chambers, for the arrival of the first doubledecker train into Gosford and WoyWoy.

Myra has also performed for the then Prime Minister Gough Whitlam and his wife Margaret at the opening of Old Sydney Town and for Mrs Sonia McMahon when she opened the Sara Le~ factory at Lisarow.

Myra's own special memory is playing for an Anzac service at the New Zealand Embassy in Copenhagen, Denmark.

Myra became a naturalised Australian citizen in 1974 and proudly calls herself an Australian.

Many students who attend Woy Woy South are sons and daughters of parents who attended the school in their time and know Myra to be a kind and sympathetic person.

Whether it was stopping a bleeding nose, or putting a bandaid on a scratched leg, nothing was too big a problem.

A large number of former and present staff, along with other well wishers attended a farewell dinner at Woy Woy Bowling Club last month.

In true Scottish style, Myra was piped into dinner by her husband Alex.

Christopher off to NIDA

A former Woy Woy High School student from 1998 has been accepted into the National Institute of Dramatic Arts, commonly known as NIDA.

Christopher Twyman helped on numerous school and community productions while at Woy Woy High School, which started his quest to make theatre production a career.

When he was with the school, Chris did work experience at the Sydney Dance Company and the Sydney Theatre Company, both world class outfits.

Last year he worked with the Gosford Theatre Company and at The Hangar in Ourimbah.

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History and heritage



Lana Went receives her award from Federal Member for Robertson, Mr Jim Uoyd

Lana Went went on to Sydney financial world

Winner of the academic section of the Peninsula Youth of the Year awards in 1999, Lana Went, 18, came first in all her HSC subjects at Umina High School in 1998 with a TER score of 99.35 and has moved on to gain employment in a Sydney finance house.

Lana entered Sydney University last year to further her education but left within the first year and took a position with financial company Investec in Sydney.

Lana was doing a five-year combined commerce and law degree but decided that university life was not for her at this stage.

She is contemplating finishing her degree by correspondence where she can take a more flexible approach.

She is training to be a fund manager at Investec and says she currently works about 50 to 60 hours a week.

During her Higher School Certificate, Lana had to ban herself from her passion of golf to ensure her academic success.

She has a handicap of 15, but with long work hours will have trouble practicing to shoot for lower rounds.

"The idea of becoming a golf professional went out the window a few years ago, anyway," she said.

Carl spears, January 12

School theft

Empire Bay Public School principal, Mr Gordon Fraser, has asked the community to help keep a watch on the school after two recent thefts.

Mr Fraser said the police were currently investigating the thefts, which involved possessions worth more than \$3000 being taken.

"I would like to ask all parents and citizens to keep an eye on the school and if you see people acting suspiciously please let us know or, if it is out of hours, phone the police," he said.

Umina Public teachers nominated for excellence

Four Umina Public School teachers have been nominated in this year's National Excellence in Teaching Awards.

The teachers, Ms Gibbs, Ms Clarke, Ms Barber and Ms Anson were presented with a certificate to mark the occasion at the school's presentation last month.

All the awards come from parent nominations.

Danielle's HSC artwork shines

Higher School Certificate (HSC) markers were so impressed with Danielle Starkey's major works she entered for the HSC that they have chosen them for inclusion in Art Express.

Art Express is an exhibition of the most outstanding major works presented for the HSC each year.

Having her works 'chosen means that Danielle from Way Woy High has had her work chosen as one of the 250 best in NSW making the recognition an outstanding achievement in such a competitive field.

Students on path to Olympic choir

Ten students from Empire Bay Public School have been given the chance to join a massed choir of seven thousand students, made up from district choirs, who will sing at major events next year.

Some of the events include the Cultural Olympiad, Pacific School Games, the Paralympics, the Olympics and the Centenary of Federation.

The Empire Bay students were chosen to sing in a district choir comprised of 150 Central Coast children.

School Principal, Mr Fraser said: "These students have been

members of our school choir and have gained much experience and a love of singing and performing".

The Empire Bay students are: Ben Lucas, Michael Glenn, Kirsty Rowan, Lauren Muller, Justin Miles, Ryan Reeves, Owen McRae, Matthew Hallows, Joanna Clarke and Michael Rule.

In other Olympic news, Member for Gosford, Mr Chris Hartcher, visited the school recently with a prototype of the Olympic torch.

Mr Hartcher showed the students the prototype, discussed its origins, its history and the route it will take to Homebush.

Carl Spears, January 14



Babies' ballet class after their performance in the Millennium Madness Pantomime held at the Laycock Street Theatre
L to R Back: Assistant Teacher, Erin Glynn, Catherine Hilder, Assistant Teacher, Erin Walton. Front: Charlotte Munnings, Briahne Simpson, Bianca Torissian, Whitney Baharglu.

Dance school looks forward to new year

After what has been described by organisers and parents alike as a wonderfully successful 1999 for the Peninsula Dance and Theatre School, the group is looking forward to an even better year in 2000.

The school achieved outstanding results in both dance and drama eisteddfods, a 100% pass rate in ballet and a first ever tour by a Peninsula performance group of all the major theme parks

on the Gold Coast.

The school's professional cabaret group have been busier than ever and a new branch of the school will be opening later in the year.

In January, the school will hold its annual workshops from January 19 to 25, will perform at the Australia Day celebrations on Gosford waterfront and will resume classes for the new year on January 31.

Cec Bucello, January 13

Schools get extra funding

The New South Wales Education and Training Minister Mr John Aquilina, MP has announced that two Peninsula schools will receive funding to assist with the construction of covered outdoor learning areas (COLA).

Umina High School will receive \$5250 and Woy Woy Public School \$3750.

Member for Peats Ms Marie Andrews said the funding is a unique partnership between State Government schools and local communities.

Under the program, schools receive assistance to construct new facilities and improve existing buildings.

"This allows capital works projects to be fast tracked and gives the community an opportunity to participate in ventures which enhance their local school," said Ms Andrews.

"This funding comes on top of the additional \$1 million the Government allocated to schools in June to commence work on projects early and is in addition to the Government's \$206 million Schools Capital Works Program."

Empire Bay School Captains chosen

Four Empire Bay Public School students have been chosen as school captains and vice-captains for this year.

The four students, Emily Mullen, Eryn Simpson, Scott Smith and Liam Thome were informed at the school presentation at the end of last term.

The students had to give speeches to the assembled school asking the students for their vote in the election.

The successful applicants were picked by all the school's students and staff.

School principal, Mr Gordon Fraser, said: "Congratulations are in order for those four successful students, but also warm congratulations should go to the other students who presented speeches, as they also spoke very well".

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Business Directory

Local company hits the big time with deal

Woy Woy based IT company, Vogue Communications, have concluded an exclusive arrangement with a major Australian and New Zealand video library chain which will see each outlet act as an

agent for thelli.

As a result, Vogue Communications will be represented by over 60 outlets retailing mobile phone connections, prepaid mobile phone cards and mobile phone accessories on their behalf.

Staff training will be coordinated by Vogue and once established, total turnover is expected to exceed \$3 million per annum.

In another bold move, the Vogue Communications group will open the Peninsula's first internet cafe in the next few weeks.

Based at Woy Woy, across the road from the station, the cafe will provide quality coffee for commuters from 7 am and will have a number of computers on line for e-mail and Internet access throughout the day.

Cec Bucello, January 13

New Beaches

A new Asian import store trading under the name Beaches, has opened in Berith Street, Umina.

The double shop is a family run business which opened in January and carries a wide range of unusual clothing, furniture, jewellery and gift ware.

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Arts Crafts and Entertainment



Peninsula's mosaic artist Norah Clark

Professor introduced mosaic art to Norah

Norah Clark has been involved in art all her life and now teaches the art of mosaic design, which she was introduced to by a professor.

As a teenager she attended St Mary's Concord school. Her parents asked the nuns to give Norah extra periods of art, which they did to the exclusion of other studies. Norah said she found the period quite blissful. She used to send sketches to the Sydney Sun's comics page and later her children did the same. In her early 20s, she studied at the A.D.R. Art School run by Datillo Rubbo and then by Professor Bissietta. The professor taught in the classic tradition and introduced Norah to mosaics. At the same time she worked for professional photographers before opening her own photographic studio. This was in the early 1950s when female photographers were rare. After getting married, Norah travelled to Europe and discovered ancient mosaics. Norah said the travel had led to an artistic obsession where she

lived and breathed mosaics for eight years. She has since experimented with other art forms and taught at several schools. Now she is teaching mosaics from her home. Norah also started the "Melaleuca Wetlands Regeneration Group" (Everglade Lagoon). Volunteers meet twice a month and form working bees to help regenerate and clean the wetlands which are under the jurisdiction of the Gosford Council as crown land. Norah said the council is not always helpful. Residents regularly dump rubbish and introduce more weeds to the area which makes the work more difficult for the volunteers. Norah said trail bikes also do a lot of damage. She said dedicated lovers of the environment will enjoy working on the sale remnant of Melaleuca Wetlands on the Woy Way Peninsula. More volunteers are needed. It is also a great place for artists and photographers. For more information contact Norah on 4341 3960

Bernard Craft, January 13

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Cash prizes offered in poetry competition

Poets rarely make any money from their craft but the Henry Kendall Poetry Award is offering cash prizes and prestige for its winners. President of the Central Coast Poetry Society, Ms Mary Hawthorne, said she is expecting a record number of entries this year for the bi-annual award. Entries come in from all parts of Australia. The competition offers \$500 first

prize and \$200 second prize in its open section. A \$70 first prize, \$50 second prize and \$25 third prize are offered in the categories for ages 13 to 18 and 12 years and under. For entry forms send a self addressed, stamped envelope to The Convenor, Henry Kendall Poetry Award 2000, PO Box 403, Ourimbah 2258. Entries close on March 3. Carl Spears, January 6

New artists' group aims to foster creativity and ideas

A new group of artists met for the first time on January 4 with the aim of fostering creativity through meetings and the exchange of skills and ideas. The group also offers -support and shares information. There will be a monthly social meeting the first Monday of each month from 6 pm and a drawing or painting monthly meeting the third Monday of each month from 6pm.

Six artists were present and the group would welcome a few more. The group is informal in manner and there are no membership fees or committee. Anyone wishing to attend should bring something to eat and \$2 to cover wine and coffee costs. The group hope' to build local exhibitions and art awareness in the community. For more information, contact Bernard Craft on 43428974.



Shantelle Poyner and Graham Daniels tied the knot at Pearl Beach in December. Photograph courtesy Bowens PhotographicsWoy Woy

Group aims to promote good work

An Independent Writers' group meets regularly to promote better writing. The group meets once a month to read members' new writing, give comment, help and critique work. The group's size is kept small to give everyone a chance to read

new work and receive feedback. However two new members would be welcome. The group is informal in manner and there are no fees or committee. For more information telephone 43428974.

Ettalong craft's new term starts

Ettalong Beach Arts and Crafts Centre's first term classes begin next month. Art classes cover many media including pastels, watercolour, drawing, acrylic, oil, decoupage and pottery. The centre is located at Kitchener Park on the corner of Picnic Parade and Maitland Bay Drive, Ettalong. For further inquiries or bookings phone 43601673.

Little Theatre's 2000 program

Woy Woy Little Theatre has released its program for this year. The first show this year will be Two Weeks with the Queen. According to the theatre's season brochure the play is about 14-year-old Colin's brother who has just been diagnosed with cancer. Colin is shipped off to his English relatives to avoid distress. But Colin has a mission '- to have the Queen help to cure his brother - after all she is sure to have the best doctors in the world. Colin's irrepressible spirit and adventures give this play poignancy and humour. The play is directed by Penny Dilworth and the performance dates are February 25,26 and March 3,4,10 and 11. All the shows start at 8pm and will be performed at the Woy Woy Primary School ausitorium. For more information telephone 43412931.

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Sports

Local comp expanded to include Hunter teams

The Peninsula Swans Australian Rules Club will field sides in the new Hunter Australian Rules competition starting in March.

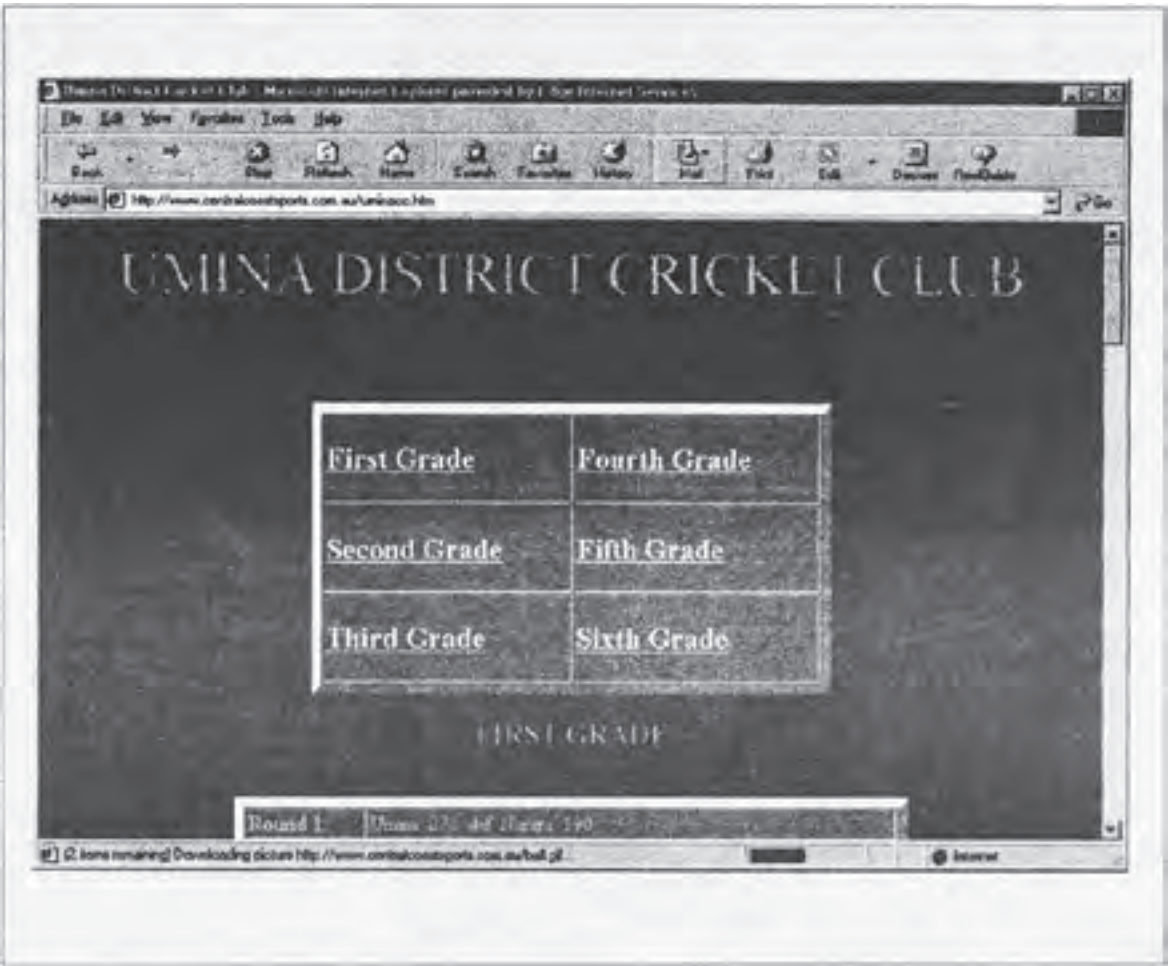
The new competition is an amalgamation of last year's local competition and one from the Newcastle region.

In the new competition, the Swans will play old foes Gosford, Killarney Vale, Terrigal/Avoca and Wyong Lakes as well as new challengers Cardiff, Nelson Bay, Newcastle City, Warners Bay and West Newcastle.

The Swans will field first, reserve and under-18 grades.



Karrissa De Luca shows the benefits of the fishing clinic she attended in the September school holidays. Karrissa caught this 530g Whiting off Ettalong beach late last year.



The home page of the Umina Cricket Club - The Woy Woy Cricket Club also has a site

Cricket on the Internet

Umina Cricket Club and Woy Woy Cricket Club both provide details of the clubs games on the Internet.

The sites provide details of the winning activities of each grade within the clubs local competition.

Internal links to other pages on the clubs activities are not provided and the only link within the page is a link to the Central Coast Sports.

Basic coding and a simple but excellent colour scheme allow

the page to be downloaded very quickly.

During the 1998-99 cricket season, the one page provided an alternative method of viewing the winning activities of the locally based cricket teams.

Unfortunately for followers of the local competition, the site has not been updated to show any results for the 1999-2000 season.

When the site is updated it is surely worth a visit if comparable to past season's sites.

Umina Cricket Club can be accessed at <http://www.centralcoastsports.com.au/uminacc.html> while Woy Woy Cricket Club can be accessed at <http://www.centralcoastsports.com.au/woycc.htm>

If your community organisation is on the Internet and would like your site reviewed, send the information including contact details to stephenmcnamara@start.com.au or mail to PO BOX 532 WOY WOY 2256 or fax 43422071 .

Stephen McNamara, January 8

State Champion to compete in Pacific Games

Umina based Blake VandenNoulde has capped off an exceptional year in athletics by being selected in the NSW team to compete in the Pacific School Games.

The Pacific School Games began in 1982 as an offshoot to the XIIIth Commonwealth Games held in Brisbane.

The Queensland Government at the time developed the concept of a m1n1 Commonwealth Games for school students.

The event was a great success and the games were held in Victoria in 1984, Sydney in 1988, Darwin in 1992 and Perth in 1996.

The next event will take place in

Sydney using the Olympic facilities with over 50 countries invited and over 5000 students expected to participate.

Slake Vanderwoulde is a year 11 student at Umina High School and has been selected to compete in the 800 metre running event.

To qualify, Slake was State Champion in the event and came 4th in the National Championships in Townsville in November, 1999.

The Pacific School Games have proven to be a great springboard for many of our sports champions.

Track and Field events will take place from May 1 , 2000 through to May 7, with the opening ceremony at Stadium Australia on May 3.

Cec Bucello, January 14



Lilian Parker (front row sitting second from right hand side) with the members of the Ettalong Beach Memorial Club's ladies indoor bowls group on their 40th anniversary celebration

Lilian, 93, wins championship

Lilian Parker, 93, recently won the Ettalong Beach War Memorial Club's Ladies indoor Bowls annual championship.

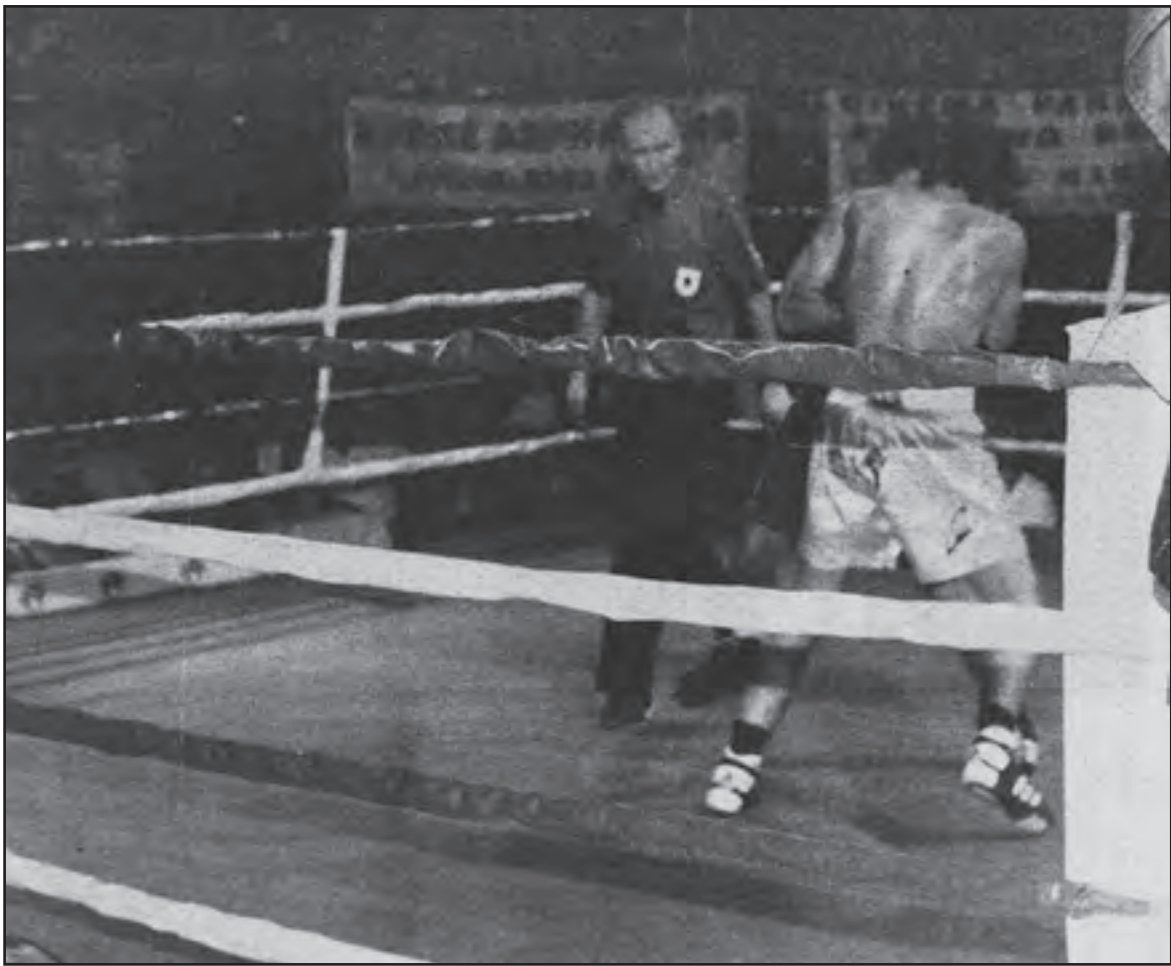
Life member Lilian beat many younger women to win the 'Queen of the Green' crown.

Lilian is also the group's treasurer.

Runner-up Joyce Kunze was

named 'Princess of the Green'.

The group recently celebrated their 40th birthday and have been assured a place at the new Mecure resort when it is built to replace the existing club.



Ian McLeod and Marc Barger slug it out to decide Australian championship

Locals witness close title fight in Ettalong

Australian Middleweight boxing champion, Mark Barger, retained his title against Ian McLeod at the Ettalong Beach Club last month.

Barger, from the Central Coast, won in a close fight that went the full 12 rounds.

Barger originally won his title against McLeod in 1997 and this last tussle showed emotion and determination from both fighters.

The first two rounds saw both testing each other and showing respect for each others ability to counter punch.

By the third round, the nearsell-out crowd were vocal in their support of the local boy.

The rounds that followed were too close to call but by round 10 Barger was a little lighter on his feet than the determined McLeod.

The three judges scored the boxers equally and the match was declared a draw, which meant the title was retained by current champion Barger.

After the match- 'Barger said: "Congratulations to Ian, he put up a magnificent show".

McLeod was disappointed with the decision.

"I thought I won that one pretty easily," he said.

There were eight other fights on the night with two featuring Central Coast fighters.

Paul Smallman beat the Jeff

Fenech trained Zane Ali and Guy Waters defeated Simon Whiu.

Fight organiser Jayde Woodward said: "the night was a night was a huge success and a good thing for the Peninsula." "The boxers and trainers stayed and ate on the Peninsula and were impressed by the hospitality," he said.

State manager for major sponsor Motorola, Mr Doug Williamson, said he enjoyed the night and was leaving with a good impression of the Peninsula.

"I was delighted with the night," he said.

"It was a great night."

Carl Spears, December 14

Woy Woy bowlers donate funds for a special hospital bed

Woy Woy Bowling Club presented the proceeds of the "Wrong Bias" to Gosford Hospital for the purchase of a lift care bed.

The amount collected was \$627 and the presentation was made by Bowls Club President, Glen Smith to Sister Jane-Maree Hunter, Nursing Unit Manager, Ward 19, Gosford District Hospital.

The lift care bed will cost \$4970 and is used to be able to raise and lower patients using electric motors.

Without this bed, many patients

suffering from illnesses such as stroke, dementia or need aged care and are at risk of falling out of a normal hospital bed are nursed on the floor making it difficult for all concerned.

The "Wrong Bias Tin" has to date seen a total of \$1087 raised in donations.

The other funds of \$460 were presented to the Children's Cancer Clinic to help their objectives.

The "Wrong Bias Tin" was introduced by Cyril Friedwald through his concern for others.

Cec Bucello, January 14

Fishing club enthusiastic despite bad conditions

The Woy Woy Bowling Club Fishing Club held their competition in December in spite of the poor weather.

Mo Foley and daughter fished outside and caught some good sized flathead and Barbara Azzopardi caught two Bream.

Peter Millson and Steve Malyon brought in some nice Blue Swimmer Crabs but were not allowed to weigh them in.

Other competitors were not even that fortunate.

The January competition was held on January 8 and 9 but results are not yet available.

Cec Bucello, January 15



Bowling News

The monthly meeting of the Zone 5 RSL bowls competition was held at Everglades Bowling Club on December 6.

This was the last event of the year and 120 bowlers participated including G Armstrong, K Cows, R Ward, L Schroder, G Evans, G Benson, H Rimmer, F Nairn, G Craig, C Greenwood, F Seady and R Fairleigh from Woy Woy Bowling Club.

The first Zone 5 event for the year 2000 is to be played at Woy Woy Bowling Club commencing on January 17 and the subsequent three Mondays.

The semi finals and finals will be held at the Tuggerah Lakes Memorial Club on February 16 and 18.

Woy Woy Bowling club has entered two teams: Jack Leslie, John Longbein and Ray Fairleigh in one team, and George Evans, F red Chalmers and Gordon Armstrong in the other.

The 24th annual Woy Woy Night Maestro Triples will be held at Woy Woy Bowling Club commencing on February 28 at 7pm.

Entry fee is \$21 per team and trophies to the value of \$4800 will be presented at the completion of the competition.

Entrants need not be members of the same club and a maximum of 84 teams will be accepted.

Entries close February 7.

Sunday afternoon mixed bowls took place at Woy Woy Bowling Club on December 5 and December 19 and resumed this year on January 9.

Woy Woy women's bowls resumed on January 13 with Club Fours due to resume on January 20.

Ettalong Bowling Club has entered the Premier League and will be competing at St Johns Park in Sydney on February 13.

This is expected to be one of the feature games of the season with many stars of Australian bowls on display.

These include Steve Glasson, Adam Jeffery, Rex Johnson, Kevin Tresize and Kevin Walsh.

The following day will see Ettalong compete against Grandviews.

A supporters package including travel to both events and accommodation for a total cost of \$60 has been arranged and is available from the Ettalong Memorial Bowls Club office.

On March 18, Ettalong will take on West Dubbo at Dubbo and a similar package at the same cost has also been arranged.

Umina Beach Bowling Club now have their lights in place and have commenced night competition.

Australian Champion Rob Parella is expected to visit the club in the near future.

Cec Bucello, January 15

Club prepares to renovate premises

Woy Woy Bowling Club is set to begin a complete internal renovation of its premises.

All facets of the building schedule have been completed and the board is now waiting for the builders to commence.

Bowls secretary, Mr Keith Miller, assured club bowlers that the bowls program, greens and amenities will be fully operational during the upgrade.

Secretary manager, Mr Trevor Haynes, said the club will also

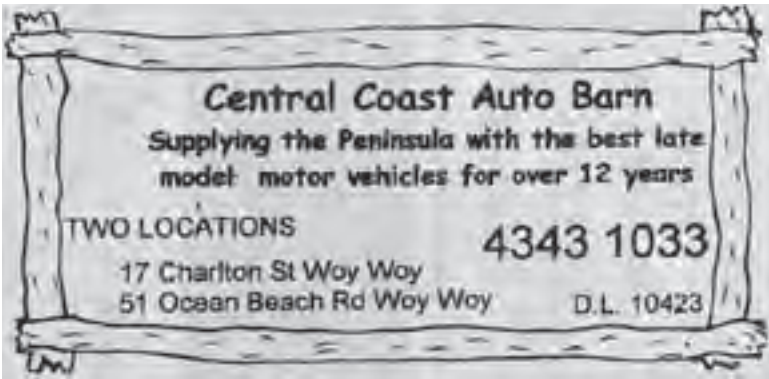
be business as usual during the building period.

He said the renovations should be started in February or March.

"We will have a new bar and auditorium, synthetic bowling green and new administration and improved dining facilities," he said.

"There will be floor to ceiling glass walls to give patrons great views of the water and mountains also." Mr Haynes said the renovations would take about 20 weeks to complete.

Carl Spears, January 6



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A big crowd turned up for Fireworks 2000

Fireworks 'success'

Peninsula fireworks 2000 was an outstanding success according to the evening's event coordinator Ms Emma Ledingham.

"Many residents, business houses and police all agreed that it was the biggest and best event this area has seen," she said.

"The night was windy and wet, yet about 10,000 turned out to celebrate." The event was initiated by the Rotary Club of Umina and the fireworks display was sponsored by East's Holiday Park at Umina.

Ms Ledingham said apart from a burst water pipe early in the day and the non-attendance by a few stallholders, the event went smoothly.

She said the 'battle of the bands' competition was popular.

Local punk band Fetal Mishaps took first prize and Cypher ran second.

Other entertainment included dance, singing, face painting and rides.

Ms Ledingham said Coee the Clown was a hit with the kids with his antics on stilts, teaching the kids how to juggle and walk on stilts.

Ms Ledingham said the event would not have been possible without the sponsors and workers.

Sponsors included the Woy Woy Leagues Club, Ettalong Beach Club, Umina Bowling Club, Gosford City Council, SeaFM, Mitre 10 Umina, We're Sportswear, Woy Woy Printing, McDonalds at Woy Woy and East's Holiday Park.

Ms Ledingham said there were no incidents and that she had received congratulations from Mayor Chris Holstein.

Carl Spears, January 11

Plenty planned for Australia Day



Colonial re-enactment that took place on the Woy Woy waterfront last year - this and much more at this year's celebration

The Peninsula's Australia Day celebrations will take place on the Woy Woy waterfront on January 25, the evening before Australia Day.

Australia Day coordinator, Cr Debra Wales, said January 25 was chosen by the Peninsula Chamber of Commerce to avoid conflicting with plans by Sydney organisers and other Gosford City celebrations.

Cr Wales said there would be a bush dance theme for the day.

"A colonial bush dance will be held in Anderson Park on the Woy Woy waterfront beginning at 4pm and throughout the evening culminating in a fireworks display at 9.30pm," she said.

There will be also amusement rides, stalls, folk dancing and a colonial reenactment as well as displays from the Central Coast Car Club and art and craft groups.

The band Bluegum will perform under a marquee starting at 6pm and local hotels, cafes and restaurants will be open for the evening.

This year's celebrations are sponsored by Gosford City Council, the Peninsula Chamber of Commerce and Watersedge Boutique Motel.

Anyone wishing to participate by providing stalls can call the Peninsula Mainstreet office on 4342 7510.

Carl Spears, January 12

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