



Minister for the Central Coast, Mr John Della Bosca addresses the audience at the drug strategy launch. To his left are Police and education representatives.

Drug action team to be set up

A "community drug action team" will be set up on the Peninsula under a regional drugs strategy announced this month.

Minister for the Central Coast, John Della Bosca, launched the Central Coast Drugs and Community Regional Action Plan at the Central Coast Leagues Club on September 11.

An outcome of the 1999 NSW Drug Summit, the regional action plan contains 52 wide-ranging recommendations.

Preventative measures include encouraging early school leavers to complete their education and greater use of regional recreational facilities as family-oriented venues.

The plan will be implemented by 25 organisations, including government and non-government groups, business, church and welfare groups.

Under the plan, seven community drug action teams will be set up on the Central Coast.

The community drug action teams will involve local schools, police and the community in a partnership against drugs.

The teams will work on a range of strategies covering prevention, intervention, diversion and treatment activities.

"The regional action plan helps tackle drug abuse on the Central Coast," said Mr Della Bosca.

"The plan encourages a partnership between families, schools and police."

Chief executive officer of Central Coast Area Health Mr Jon Blackwell said, "The Central Coast Drugs and Community Action

Strategy is a living document to be amended over time.

"The impact of drug use is far broader than its effect on the Health and Police Departments.

"Many other government departments at the State and local level as well as non-government organisations, business and community groups also become involved.

"We have therefore taken a whole-of-community approach.

"On the health side, as a result of the drug summit which led to this drug strategy, funding has been made available for the building of the Central Coast's first detoxification unit.

"We have also had outstanding success with the increased use of general practitioners (GP's) to deal with drug addicts.

"This has led to over 150 addicts using local GP facilities to obtain their methadone rather than needing to go to a methadone clinic.

"The Central Coast Area Health Service has committed its resources fully to the implementation of this drug strategy."

Gosford mayor Cr Chris Holstein said: "This strategy has 52 recommendations and Council has to be across all of them.

"Of our population, 21 per cent is under 19 years of age.

"We are over the state average per capita in the numbers of people who are either unemployed, who suicide, or are over 60 years old.

"For this drug strategy to succeed, it needs to have the support of all of us in the community, not just left to one part

of it."

Brisbane Water Police commander, Superintendent Bob Waites, said: "Only 11 of the 52 recommendations are police and health matters.

"The drug strategy is the first opportunity for the entire community to work as one to tackle this enormous problem.

"No one group fully understands this complex problem or has all the answers to resolve it.

"The drug strategy is a breath of fresh air for the police service and a great opportunity to work with the community towards a common goal.

"The police can only treat the symptoms, not the problem.

"My command is fully committed to making this strategy work."

Department of Education and Training district superintendent, Mr Bill Low, said: "Schools must play a vital role in drug education.

"The school environment is a critical part of children's lives and drug education must commence in primary schools where children are more receptive to it.

"Funding has already been allocated for a kindergarten to year 6 Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDH&PE) program including drug education.

"Head teachers from each school in the region have met to discuss the problem and decide on the program's implementation.

"They will now return to their schools and pass on the relevant information to all the other teachers.

"I offer my personal commitment to making this drug strategy work."

Cec Bucello, September 19

Council appoints KPMG for audit

Gosford Council has resolved unanimously to employ KPMG to conduct its wide-ranging audit into the council's management and structure.

Six councillors took part in the interviewing process and chose KPMG because of its emphasis on involving the staff and the community as well as councillors and senior management.

KPMG will interview staff at all levels in the organisation and will issue newsletters and leaflets to make sure employees are fully informed."

Cr Lynne Bockholt said: "Council is determined to ensure wide community involvement in the audit and was impressed with KPMG's plans to hold "People's Panels", public meetings and focus groups to garner community attitudes to Council's service delivery.

"Everyone will have the opportunity to participate in these sessions and I encourage all ratepayers to come along and have your say in the future of your Council."

"There is concern amongst most councillors that management is not as focussed on customer service to ratepayers as it should be," she said.

"One of the aims of the management audit is to examine

service delivery to ratepayers to ascertain if services are being delivered as efficiently as possible.

"KPMG will look at the best way of delivering council services and then examine the way these services are delivered at present.

"If there is a quicker and more efficient service delivery method, they will recommend to Council that these new methods be adopted.

"Bureaucracy which has driven ratepayers mad for years will be identified and swept away.

"I believe council management and administrative staff have too many internal meetings and concentrate on process rather than outcomes, and I am confident that this management audit will point the way forward to more responsive council.

"This exercise is not about cutting staff numbers, but rather is designed to get a better result from the officers who do not always have to deal face to face with ratepayers, and therefore do not believe good customer service is part of their job description.

"I want to stress that the audit will not result in cuts in services to the local community, but I am confident it will enhance the way council does business with ratepayers.

"I expect the audit to get underway in late October or early November."

September 18

Report mentions tip leachate

Gosford Council has reported on leachate control at Woy Woy tip in its draft State of the Environment report, which was on public exhibition this month.

The report said that Council designed and installed a leachate management system during the year and was issued with a licence for the waste disposal facilities by the NSW Environment Protection Agency (EPA).

The report said: "Council has commissioned the comprehensive environmental monitoring program as part of its landfill licence."

Four monitoring events were performed throughout the year/

Surface water at Patonga Creek was found not to be adversely affected by the landfill.

The north western creek draining into Correa Bay was also found not to be adversely affected.

Surface water ponds on-site at the tip were also unaffected by leachate, according to the report.

Groundwater and gas production were also within acceptable limits.

Council established a sub-committee to examine the quality of the water discharging into Correa Bay.

A final report from that sub-committee is due soon.

Carl Spears, September 15

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Here we are with the Olympics well under way and the Paralympics just around the corner.

Many residents and businesses have taken the trouble to put up flags, green and gold ribbons and balloons to get into the spirit of the games.

Overseas visitors are expected to stay in Australia after the Olympics because of the high cost in getting here.

and visitors also tend to travel further afield later in their holiday.

It is now the Peninsula's turn to become involved with a torch relay with the Paralympic Torch due to pass through the centre of the area on October 16. More detail appears elsewhere in this edition and it would be great to see a huge turnout to encourage our Paralympians as well.

What's new?

Due to popular demand from the other Peninsula with the same postcode, our distribution has now been extended to include Killcare, Hardys Bay, Pretty Beach and Wagstaffe as the residents in that area use Peninsula banks, retail outlets and medical facilities as well.

We are also looking to become an outlet for locally written or published books and locally performed or recorded CDs.

While we have done much to assist artists on, the Peninsula, we would also like to provide publicity for our local artists and musicians as well as helping in them by selling their products.

If you know of anyone in this field, please let them know that we would like to hear from them.

Who's new?

We were pleased to welcome Point Clare resident, Dee Medway, to our offices for a few weeks work experience.

Dee's high speed, accurate typing has been a great asset and her contribution has been well received.

Dee enjoyed her stay with us so much that she will continue to volunteer her time in coming weeks.

Another addition to our staff has been Darren Ross from Woy Woy South.

Darren has also been of great help while at the same time improving his own skills.

About your paper

Peninsula News is published once every four weeks by Mail Order Mall on behalf of the owners, non profit association, Peninsula Community Access News Incorporated.

There are 14,000 copies published and distributed within the 2256 and 2257 postcode areas as well as to selected recipients and subscribers outside the area.

Nearly half of these are distributed through every school in the area with copies often being used by students as part of a lesson on community information before being taken home to their families.

The remainder are picked up by readers at any club on the Peninsula, library, retirement village, community building, church, service station, hotel, by commuters at the train station and a large number of other key locations around the region where residents congregate.

If you would like to be added to this extensive list or would like to know the closest collection point near you, please give us a call.

The Peninsula News concentrates on all matters of interest to Peninsula residents and businesses.

Reports are written in a balanced and non-partisan manner and concentrate on positive community building issues.

All members of the community are invited to become involved

Cec Bucello Manager

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

Syringe bin trial continues

Gosford Council has decided to extend the Pelican Park syringe disposal bin trial by a further six months.

The bin will be moved to the side of the toilet block after Cr Debra Wales asked if it was necessary to have the bin "shoved in our faces".

She said she would prefer to have the bin relocated to the side of the toilet block.

Cr Craig Doyle said Council had spent a great deal of money on Pelican Park on the Woy Woy waterfront "and the only piece of grass has this bin on it".

"However, if the new position doesn't work, we should move it back," he said.

Cr Lynne Bockholt agreed to move it back if the new position did not work.

"I'd prefer to go to the park and not see the bin, but we need it," she said.

Cr Doyle said it was up to the community at large to put needles in the bin because he did not think users used the bin.

"I don't think the drug users care," he said.

Council's director of works, Mr Stephen Glen, said over the course of the first six months 92 syringes were placed in the bin of which 35 were picked up by Council staff.

The bin was installed as part of the Pelican Park improvements because Council staff had regularly found syringes before the improvements.

Mr Glen said the Pelican Park improvements including children's play equipment, paving, picnic tables and shelters had been favourably received by the community and local business.

The toilet block had already contained a disposal bin and the external disposal bin was originally

at the side of the toilet block but was relocated to its present position because of lack of use.

The relocation was undertaken after consultation with the NSW Police Service, Central Coast Area Health Service, Peninsula Chamber of Commerce, Council, Peninsula Plaza Centre management and Deepwater Plaza Centre management.

The parties agreed to the "high profile location" of the present bin site after the success of similar bins in Wyong Shire.

Wyong has 20 similar bins.

The Woy Woy bin was originally placed between the toilet block and the playground equipment for a three month trial.

Mr Glen said Council had received telephone complaints regarding the location of the bin.

Carl Spears, September 12

Andrews warns of overseas letters

Member for Peats Ms Marie Andrews has warned about an overseas letter telling consumers they will receive a "valuable" package if they send \$43.95 to a New York shipping office.

Ms Andrews said consumers across the state recently had received letters from Digital Worldnet urging them to send the money within 11 days.

A "Shipping Control Claim Form" sent with the letter says the package contains designer jewellery, household and personal goods worth over \$125,000.

"This is the latest scam trying to make consumers believe they will get something for nothing," Ms Andrews said.

"However, there is no New York shipping office, no valuable goods given away free, and no possibility of ever seeing your \$43.95 again," she said.

The Digital Worldnet letter tried to pressure recipients by saying they must act urgently to receive the package.

It asked that credit card details be sent to an ironical address - Hicksville, New York.

NSW Fair Trading received

hundreds of inquiries about these scams each year.

The government department is currently convening a national working party looking at steps that can be taken to reduce the amount of scam mail coming to Australia from overseas.

"The proper place for this material is in the bin," Ms Andrews said.

"Under no circumstances should people respond to this greedy overseas ripoff," she said.

For further information, contact Marie Andrews on 4342 4122.

September 18

Skate boards banned near shops

Member for Peats, Ms Marie Andrews, has announced that cycling bans in Umina Beach, Ettalong Beach and Woy Woy commercial areas have been extended to skateboards.

"Further to the successful outcome to have bicycles banned from these areas, a number of constituents contacted my office seeking my assistance in also having skateboards banned.

"I am pleased that my representations to Gosford Council have again been successful," Ms Andrews said.

"Representations to the council were based on the need to protect pedestrians, particularly senior citizens, from the possibility of being knocked down by a skateboard rider.

"Signposts prohibiting skateboards on the footpaths of the CBD areas in Umina, Ettalong and Woy Woy shopping areas should be installed within the next month or so."

September 12

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The entrance to the new look Club Umina

New image for 'Club Umina'

The Umina Beach Bowling Club is soon to be renamed Club Umina as part of a multi-million dollar upgrade.

The club improvements include a new portico over the main entrance allowing members to be dropped off and picked up out of the weather.

A new car park has been built at the side and rear of the club.

There is also a new sports, entertainment and TAB bar.

The new brasserie and cafe has come with new kitchens and cool rooms and a new chef, Ringo.

A \$1000 prize from Umina Retravision awaits a lucky consumer of the cafe's muffins as one of the club's many promotions over the next few weeks.

Many of the new facilities are already in place for use by members before the official opening on November 18.

The club has also purchased its own 21-seater bus for use as a courtesy bus and for use by members and their guests for special functions.

It will also provide a shuttle service to the Ettalong ferry wharves and bus stops.

Originally opened in 1957, the club has its own auditorium, three bowling greens and an area that can be used for private functions seating up to 150 guests.

Cec Bucello, September 12

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Mother wins Jackpot lottery

A 45 year-old mother of two plans to celebrate after winning the second prize of \$10,000 in \$2 Jackpot Lottery draw 7278 this month.

"I'm absolutely delighted. It couldn't have happened at a better time," the stunned woman told a NSW Lotteries official.

"I will be able to pay some outstanding bills and help my son

with paying off his car," she said.

To celebrate her win she said she planned "to buy a new outfit".

The child care worker said she had been regularly buying lottery tickets for nearly 20 years.

The winning ticket was purchased at the Ettalong Beach Newsagency in Ocean View Road at Ettalong Beach.

September 18

Land bought for intersection

Gosford Council is set to buy a 2.5 metre wide strip of an Ocean Beach Rd property near Veron Rd to improve traffic safety at the intersection.

The road-widening safety measure was identified three years ago.

A Council report in June 1997 outlined the need for a combination of improved right-hand turn facilities in Ocean Beach Rd for traffic turning into MacKenzie Ave, Gallipoli Ave and

Veron Rd combined with improved pedestrian crossing and bus stop facilities.

The MacKenzie Ave works have already been completed.

The purchase of the land will allow the Council to install an indented bus bay and bus shelter on the western side of Ocean Beach Rd and a right-turn facility for Veron Rd.

Council has budgeted \$15,000 for the work.

Carl Spears, September 12

Action planned for youth

The State Government is acting to address youth needs on the Peninsula and the Central Coast generally, according to Member for Peats, Ms Marie Andrews.

She said a Youth Action project was being undertaken by the Department of Community Services to address local youth issues.

The government had also jointly funded the Woy Woy Youth Cottage through the Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP).

The program is jointly funded by the State and Commonwealth Governments under a series of five-year agreements.

Community and charitable groups are funded to deliver a range of accommodation and support services to homeless families, women and children escaping domestic violence, and homeless single adults and young people

"The Minister for Community Services, Mrs Faye Lo Po, has informed me that in 2000/2001, funding of \$3.224 million will be

provided to 16 SAAP-funded services on the Central Coast," Ms Andrews said.

"I am advised that there are a number of local initiatives in place that focus on collaboration and integration between Government and non-government agencies on the Central Coast, which aim to meet the increasing demand on services to young people.

"The Child and Youth Strategy is designed to ensure a number of agencies are working collaboratively to identify the key issues for young people on the Central Coast.

"It will result in a set of strategies which focus on collaboration and improved outcomes for young people over time."

She said the Central Coast office of the Department of Community Services had established a Youth Action project to identify youth needs on the Central Coast.

"The Youth Action project is identifying and analysing the needs of young people in the area, and developing a range of strategies to address youth issues," she said.

September 6

Tests find tip creeks clean

Gosford Council has received a report of water quality monitoring of the creeks draining Woy Woy tip for July.

Council's director of development and environment, Mr John Murray, said: "The results confirmed the effectiveness of the controls installed at the landfill" to prevent polluting leachate entering the creek system.

The tests were carried out in July by JH and ES Laxton Environmental Consultants of St Ives.

The water quality sample was taken at a point on Tip Creek.

The report said the creek at that point had a wide fringe of reeds growing out into deep water.

The sample was collected from within the outer one-third of the reed bed.

The consultants said: "Water draining down Patonga Creek

continued to be unaffected by any discharges from Woy Woy tip as shown by its relatively low conductivity and low pH.

"The pond at the southern end of the tip was almost empty on the day sampled.

"The results for Tip Creek were satisfactory, although dissolved oxygen levels were slightly less than 50 per cent of saturation at the time of sampling, and the water was only slightly turbid with clay washed from the surface and the tip.

"Total nitrogen concentrations in Tip Creek (0.814 mg-N/L) were higher than that of upper Patonga Creek (0.312 mg-N/L).

"Organic-N levels accounted for most of the difference.

"Total phosphorus levels in Tip Creek were low," the consultants said.

September 18



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Forum

10/10 for service

Recently I purchased a garden arch from the Mitre10 store at Umina.

As their last Fathers' Day special was the floor model, I had to come back and pick it up just before closing time, so it could be dismantled.

Because the box was damaged, I received a bundle of frames neatly taped together and all the smaller pieces in a plastic bag.

The next morning when I could not make head nor tail of all the pieces, I phoned to ask for the box (even if damaged) to see the directions for assembly.

When the box could not be

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 topennews@worldpacific.com.au or on disk save us having to retype them.

found, they said they'd send a man over to assemble the arch for me. The man who came was escorted by the manager.

In a very short time, we managed to sort out all the pieces

and they assembled the arch and put it in place in the garden.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to Blake and John at Mitre10 Umina and say 10/10 for customer service!

Brita Beeston, Ettalong

Trafalgar Ave fire station unwanted

I wish to lodge my complaint and that of my neighbours of the building of the new fire station in Trafalgar Ave.

Trafalgar Ave is a quiet avenue particularly at night but this will end with this new three-truck fire station.

Other alternative sites that should be considered:

- Woy Woy Community Centre on Ocean Beach Rd and McMasters Rd.

- Memorial Ave Industrial centre in Memorial Ave.

- Blackwall • Woy Woy local Council depot in Ocean Beach Rd.

- Woy Woy Fire Station in Blackwall Rd and Terry Ave.

- Rogers Park in Ocean Beach Rd.

- Vacant land on the corner of Ocean Beach Rd and Pioneer Rd.

These above sites are all on arterial roads and not on a local road in the middle of a residential area.

This would save vital time in reaching the fire compared to the

Trafalgar Ave site.

The avenue was classified as a local road by a local area traffic management scheme in a 1994 survey.

Slower traffic speeds in residential areas encourages through traffic onto arterial roads and away from local streets.

Six roundabouts are in place in the avenue to reduce speed.

Fire engines do not have to obey speed limits to a fire.

The avenue is 50 kilometres per hour and both side avenues, Balaclava and Waterloo, are 40 kilometre per hour during school time.

There has been no Environmental Impact Study.

no draft was prepared, advertised or exhibited for comment prior to or after submission to Council.

The fire station is alongside Camelot Kids Play and Party Centre, opposite a large children's park and very close to Woy Woy

South Public School.

There is a pedestrian and cycling pathway which traverses the length of the avenue and no limit to siren noise at any hour.

Due to the lack of footpaths, pedestrians use the roadway in the connecting side streets.

The new station will combine Woy Woy and Ettalong fire stations.

In the case of safety, problems can arise from factors such as excessive vehicle speed, increased traffic volumes, poor road geometry, conflicts between different types of vehicles and pedestrians.

Time to a fire is vital, one second saved could save a life.

From the avenue there are two intersections that must be travelled to get to either Ocean Beach Rd or Blackwall Rd.

This means two less intersections for accidents to be avoided.

One life lost is one too many.

T.Curtis, Woy Woy

Park memories remain

The Anderson Rotary Park at Woy Woy has been demolished.

A relic of the early 70's, it was built by a McMahon Federal Government employment grant and aided by Woy Woy Rotary Club and Gosford Council.

Although the park had its problems, one cannot forget the

Rotary fountain (when working), the wisteria over the concrete columns and the flower beds.

No doubt it held some moments of rest and reverie for many people.

Now as the dust settles, just photographs and memories remain.

Keith Whitfield, Woy Woy

Miracle city

Woy Woy must be revamped to become the Central Coast version of Darling Harbour.

Woy Woy needs to be brought into the 21st century.

Woy Woy is the miracle city.

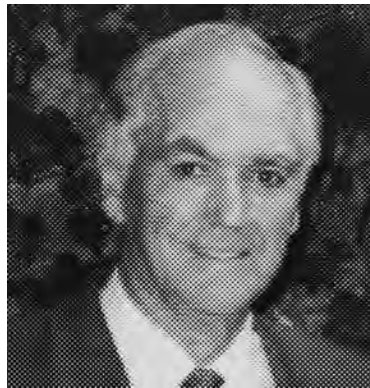
Woy Woy needs a casino, an aquarium, modern function centres, a monorail, an entertainment centre, a sports stadium and thousands of tourists.

Woy Woy is not a fishing village.

Woy Woy is not a retirement village.

Peter Eyland, Wyoming

Council grants Empire Bay flats



Council Matters
with John Oakley

Gosford Council has considered a proposal to build a complex of 12 residential flats at Empire Bay. The issue in this development application related to zoning and what was legally entitled to be built in a particular zone.

Despite numerous public objections based on Empire Bay being a village-type community, Council granted approval for the development on the grounds that the development met Council's guidelines and refusal could not be sustained in the Land and Environment Court.

Cr Bockholt accused Council of "voting on a zone rather than a principle".

Cr Preece asserted: "We should be standing on principle."

What is allowed in this zone doesn't make sense.

I am going to vote against it." Cr Brooks said: "If we could have found a way around the problem, we would have".

Cr Doyle, commenting on the zoning, said: "The developer has taken an opportunity to find another loophole in what can be done."

"The view was also expressed that there needed to be a critical assessment of present zoning throughout the Gosford City Council area and that persons buying land should make themselves aware of what may be possible on adjoining properties under their zoning."

The Vote: Councillors Bockholt and Preece voted against the development.

Ranger Services

The appointment of additional rangers to curb vandalism, damage to Council property and littering has caused considerable discussion within Council.

Council's Director of Development and Environment proposed that an additional ranger be employed.

It was admitted that the existing level of staffing permits "only a very limited level of service".

Cr Bockholt said: "There is a need to put more resources into the ranger service."

The littering laws are an opportunity to fund additional rangers".

One additional ranger is to be

appointed.

Umina CBO Before Council was a proposal relating to priorities and staging of work in the Umina CBD.

Debate centred around whether Council should approve a proposal to spend \$714,000 of the \$1.22M allocated for upgrade works on the installation of electrical conduits from Ocean Beach Road to Morris Street and to provide underground power and decorative street lighting from Ocean Beach Road to Trafalgar Avenue.

Cr Penton proposed that a further \$219,000 be added to extend the underground power to Morris Street..

Cr Wales argued that placement of power cables under-

ground would allow tree planting, landscaping, decorative poles.

lighting.

Bullion Street is to be a focal point linking the beach to the town.

In responding to comments from Cr Bockholt she said "It's disappointing that Cr Bockholt did not attend any public meetings (on the CBD upgrade)." Cr Bockholt responded that she "didn't attend the public meeting because of the division that goes on".

She went on to say: "I shop in Umina."

I've spoken to the ratepayers.

I couldn't look the ratepayers in the eye if I voted almost \$1 million when curb and guttering is needed.

I can't support underground power at those costs.

It may look pretty but it's scandalous".

Cr Penton remarked that "Originally underground power was so far out of our reach. We only have one chance. If we don't take it at \$750,000 it will later cost us \$1.5 million. I will go for underground power through the entire West Street." Cr Doyle: "I'd like it all but let's get down to priorities."

Other Councils haven't had to pay \$1.

Why are we contributing? ...

At almost \$1 million with the extra \$219,000 I cannot, and will not support this proposal when there are so many other things that are needed".

Cr Preece: "If I could put this money somewhere else, I would."

But it's the CBD Committee's money".

Cr Sansom: "When we do a project we do it right."

We finish it off.

I hope there are enough councillors who will say 'We must finish all projects'."

Cr Holstein: "The CBD Committee has made a decision."

Further funds will be made available from savings in the financial strategy.

The upgrade of Umina has been an on-going source of irritation".

Cr Bockholt proposed an amended motion which was defeated.

The Original motion was ultimately carried with only Cr Bockholt voting against it.

John Oakley, September 20

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This edition of Peninsula News is sponsored by: Ettalong Beach War Memorial Club Ltd., Gosford City Council, IGA Supermarket Umina, Umina Beach Bowling Club, Everglades Country Club, Peninsula Web Site, Mitre 10 G & B Hardware Umina, Umina Mall Pharmacy, Bremen Patisserie, Bowens Photographics, Brian Baylis Jeweller, Southern Cross Painting, Healthscreen Plus, LETS, Simplicity Funerals, The Old Pub Woy Woy Hotel, Mediterranean Seafood & Chicken, C Jays cafe restaurant, Thommo's Pizza & Pasta, Woy Woy Fisherman's Wharf, K.B. Thai Takeaway, Michel's Patisserie, Peninsula Uniforms, Coastal Funerals, Affordable Lock and Key Locksmiths, Peter Tulk Swimming School, Ace Learning Centres, Janben Farm Nursery, Indah Jewels of Bali, Saltwater Quality Seafoods, M&M'S Coffee Shop, and Shazzshell.

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Council response given

Gosford Council's general manager, Mr Peter Wilson, has released a report on the progress of works under Council's strategic plans and has responded to public comments.

Mr Wilson commented on progress to date for the Peninsula as follows: Completed works: A walkway along the cliff between Pearl Beach and Umina has had warning signs installed due to potential dangers of walking along the walkway.

Mr Wilson said no formalised walkway will be provided.

In response to community comment on the need to increase restraints on inappropriate development and overdevelopment, Mr Wilson

said: "Council is continually reviewing plans and policies that guide development at the local level.

"Council has recently adopted the medium-density residential control plan which provides guidelines concerning design quality, sunlight access, privacy and streetscape.

"Deficiencies in infrastructure and other development issues should be addressed in the implementation plan to be developed as a result of the regional planning strategy Shaping the Central Coast." Another comment concerned lack of adequate public transport.

Mr Wilson said the most appropriate method to request additional bus services was for

residents to contact the bus companies directly.

On the need to reduce traffic speed, Mr Wilson said the RTA had established a number of 50 kph speed limit areas and Council was awaiting the establishment of new areas.

In response to a request for additional parking at Woy Woy parking station, Mr Wilson said there were no plans to extend the station.

In relation to undertaking a social plan, Mr Wilson said a pilot project would be placed on public exhibition next month.

Among other plans, a cycleway and footpath linking Ettalong and Umina was also programmed for the next three years, he said.

September 12



Fred and Hazel Luland of Phegans Bay

Fred and Hazel married 60 years

Fred and Hazel Luland of Phegans Bay have celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary.

Fred and Hazel Luland married on September 28, 1940, at Wesley Chapel, Castlereagh St, Sydney.

They moved to Phegans Bay in November 1981.

They have five children, eight grandchildren and two greatgrandchildren.

September 12

Garden show breaks record

Umina Garden Spring Show attracted more than 300 entries, a new record.

The Umina Progress Hall was overloaded with floral art, various types of flowers, pots, vegetables, Bonsai, African Violets, Australian natives and other varieties.

Organisers said the show was a success thanks to publicity in

Peninsula News and visitors from the Flora Festival at Kariang.

Winners were: Section One Cut Flowers: Purple Cinerarias, Sash, R & H Watkins.

Section Two Open Variety: Flowers from my garden, Joan Flakelar Trophy, K Horsfield.

Section Three Bulbs: Yellow Ranuncula, Sash, J Pink.

Section Four Vegetables: Pumpkin, Stan Swales Cup, R & H Watkins.

Section Five Pot Plants: Orchids, Lil Flint Trophy, J Pink.

Section Six Australian: Birds Nest, Hilda Kidd Trophy, R & H Watkins.

Winner of raffle was Mrs F Cass.

September 12

Council wins planning appeal

Gosford Council has won an appeal against its decision to refuse a two-lot subdivision in North Burge Rd, Woy Woy, in the Land and Environment Court.

Council decided to defend the appeal at an approximate cost of \$10,000.

Cr Craig Doyle, speaking about the need to defend decisions in the Land and Environment Court generally, said in one recent case Council was forced to pay around \$24,000 in legal fees to defend its decision "even though Council won the case".

"We get taken to court by a developer and then face some very hard choices," he said.

"Council can allow unsuitable developments which do not meet policy and in many cases will be a blight on the local area for decades to come or we can refuse the development (at sometimes substantial cost).

"We are forced to defend the matter spending scarce ratepayers' dollars fighting bad development.

"I can think of a thousand other things we could do with the money we are forced to pay in Land and Environment Court costs even when we win." Council originally refused the development with director

of corporate and community services director, Mr Chris Gallagher, citing several reasons for refusal.

Mr Gallagher said the site area did not comply with the minimum size under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act.

Further, the available and developable width of the proposed lot one was considered unsatisfactory.

He said the total area of the current block is 903.8m².

Council's policy under the Gosford planning scheme ordinance reads: The Council shall not grant consent to the subdivision of land within zone 2(a) unless; (a) the minimum area of any allotment is not less than 450m²; and, (b) not more than 10 per cent of the allotments in the plan of proposed subdivision have an area of less than 550m².

Mr Gallagher said the two proposed lots each of 452m² were 17.8 per cent too small.

The applicant said that it could "be argued that the two existing dwellings which existed before the prohibition to subdivision of dual occupancies might have the benefit of existing use right".

The applicant, represented by John Hancock Consulting, also argued that the subdivision was a rational, orderly and economic use of the land and their plans

demonstrated development "consistent with the existing and likely future built environment, among other things".

"Strict adherence to the statutory development standards and adoption of those standards is unreasonable and unnecessary and would tend to hinder the rational, orderly and economic use of the land," the applicant said.

However, the Land and Environment Court in its decision sided with Council.

Carl Spears, September 11

Ettalong crime is 'getting ridiculous'

Theft and vandalism in Ettalong is "getting to ridiculous levels" and there is talk of the formation of a vigilante group, according to local businessman, Mr Craig Spears.

Mr Spears said he had heard customers talking in his shop about the need for a vigilante group.

He said he would play no part in forming a vigilante group, but the rise of crime, especially over the past fortnight, made the feelings of frustration understandable.

Mr Spears had his shop, Ettalong Handyman's Centre in the Rocks Arcade, broken into and robbed one night and a fence burnt in the past fortnight.

Another fence was also burnt, he said.

Other incidents, according to Mr Spears, to occur in the past fortnight at Ettalong included

- a break and enter in Cafe Select

- the tobacconist being "totally cleaned out" the robbery of

SeaSide Flowers and balloons with a person wielding a hypodermic needle

- the window of Sarongs Ladies Fashions being smashed and

- the robbery of at least two residential houses in Picnic Parade.

Mr Spears said he understood that someone had been arrested in regard to the needle robbery.

"There is a definite hoodlum element in Ettalong," he said.

About the same time last year, after damage had been caused to shops, Ettalong Markets and Cinema Paradiso owner, Mr Jerry Altavilla, called on Gosford Council to use one per cent of rates collected from the area to provide security.

Mr Altavilla said at the time the area which had been relatively trouble-free up until then needed security.

He said, that without a police presence to deter trouble-makers, the increased tourist development in the area was bound to bring some undesirable element with it.

Carl Spears, September 19

Read Peninsula News on your phone

Peninsula News headlines can now be read by mobile phone.

Newspaper association president Mr Mark Snell said the newspaper's web site had been upgraded to allow access from "WAP-enabled" mobile telephones.

Mr Snell said mobile phones which supported WAP (wireless application protocol) were able to display specially-formatted internet pages on their screens.

The news service was part of a new WAP service provided on the

Peninsula's community web site, thePeninsulaR.Net.

This service also gave access to a directory of Peninsula community groups and a diary of Peninsula events would be operational in the near future.

"Peninsula News continues to show a technological lead," said Mr Snell.

"We were the first newspaper on the Coast with a full email facility.

"We were first to have a comprehensive web site, with around 80 articles on-line for any one issue as well as an extensive

archive.

"Now we are the first to provide the WAP service," he said.

"It is particularly satisfying that all this has been done in an environment where we have a high reliance on voluntary contribution.

"Anyone wanting to explore the WAP facility should use their phone's bookmark function to point to the URL: www.thePeninsulaR.netwap.asp.

September 2



The playground and skate park in the background at Umina Beach Park

Work starts on Umina park

Gosford Council has started work on new facilities at Umina Beach Park, in the area behind the beach at Umina near the oval.

The work is expected to continue over the next two to three months.

Following meetings with young people, a new design for a skateboard ramp has been submitted to Council for approval before being constructed alongside the existing facility.

The formalised parking for the stakeboard ramp including kerb and guttering has commenced along with improved lighting on the internal road and around the park.

"I expect this to commence within the next few weeks," said Cr Lynne Bockholt..

"Dangerous and non-native trees have been removed along with low-level shrubbery which can be a safety hazard for those using the park.

"The result is that the park has been opened up and every aspect is visible from the road which makes it much safer for local residents using the park.

"New tables and chairs have been set up and it was wonderful at the weekend to see so many local people enjoying the park," said Cr Bockholt.

"We have demolished the cottage which used to stand at the entrance, and will be making the entranceway a feature."

Cr Bockholt said more playground equipment would be built between the present

playground and the park entrance to expand the capacity of the popular playground.

One of the existing toilet blocks would be demolished and the other one refurbished.

Surf viewing platforms would be erected along the front and side of this area.

"The existing toilet blocks are subject to constant vandalism and in the future I hope that we will be able to incorporate toilet facilities within the remodelled Umina Surf Club," she said.

"The Umina Surf Club Building Committee is preparing plans for both refurbishment and renewal and the choice will depend on availability of funding."

September 13

Workmanship entries wanted

Umina Rotary is looking for nominees for its annual **Pride of Workmanship Awards**.

The awards acknowledge an employee who, irrespective of age or vocation, in the eyes of his or her employer, displays an outstanding approach, attitude, dedication and commitment to his or her job.

According to organisers, the awards are intended to cover all aspects of work performance and ethics. This includes quality and quantity of output, safety, initiative and sense of responsibility.

"Pride of Workmanship is not a competition and there are no winners.

"It is a recognition of individual achievement and commitment."

Objectives of the program were to: promote vocational service; encourage pride of workmanship in all vocations; provide employers with an opportunity to recognise employees who display those qualities which are worthy of an

award; encourage favourable employer/employee relationships and a sense of community pride in individual achievement, and; provide an opportunity for Rotary to be involved in the community, particularly the business community.

"Pride of Workmanship" was launched as a Rotary project in June 1975.

The aim was to encourage a much-needed pride in personal performance in the workplace, and to help create a national attitude for the benefit of our country.

Over 600 Rotary Clubs in Australia, New Zealand, the South Pacific, Malaysia, Canada and the United States have adopted the program.

The theme for the awards is "Do it once, Do it well, Build a better Australia."

For further information, contact Umina Beach Rotary Club.

September 12



Trial cleaning program starts

A six-month trial cleaning and maintenance program in Peninsula shopping areas has started.

The Peninsula Chamber of Commerce helped secure a commitment from Gosford Council for the program which is designed to make the streets cleaner and safer.

Chamber president Mr Matthew Wales, said: "The cleanliness of our town centres is vitally important.

"In years past, Council has not provided adequate cleaning services in either Woy Woy, Umina Beach or Ettalong Beach.

"With ongoing expenditure of \$4 million in our CBDs under Council's Financial Strategy, Council conceded that a consistent and effective maintenance program needed to be put in place."

The trial will last six months and Erina contractors, ACS Group, have been employed.

ACS will clean footpaths, maintain street furniture and gardens and provide general assistance and information to the public.

A security service will be provided with uniformed officers acting as a deterrent to crime.

"A similar operation has worked effectively in the Gosford CBD over a number of years," Mr Wales said.

If the trial is successful, Council will explore options for recurrent funding.

The program will operate Monday to Friday, visiting each CBD area daily.

ACS can be contacted on 0414 849 411.

Carl Spears, September 14

BULK WASTE PICK-UP

Residents receiving a domestic garbage service are reminded that they are entitled to four (4) Bulk Waste Pick-ups per financial year.

BEFORE placing any bulk waste on the footpath, residents **MUST** contact Council's contractor, Pacific Waste management, on 4324 6133. The contractor will advise of the first available date for collection and of the restrictions that apply.

Residents placing bulk waste on the footpath more than 48 hours prior to the arranged day of service will be liable for a fine for obstructing the footpath.

Gosford City Council
Leading to the future
whilst serving for today



City management consultation held

Gosford Council's community consultation about its City Management Plan held on the Peninsula last month attracted only 10 residents.

Meetings were also held on weekends and at night at other locations in a bid to boost community participation, council general manager Mr Peter Wilson said.

Mr Wilson told the meeting that a telephone survey of 500 residents had been undertaken by the Central Coast Research Foundation in May and June this year.

Issues of greatest concern were the need for more footpaths, local employment opportunities, safety of local roads, youth facilities and services, cycleways, public transport, future direction and the planning and management of development.

Mr Wilson said it was difficult for Council to address all these needs because of a finite budget.

"If we spend more on footpaths, then the money must come from somewhere else," he said.

Resident, Mr Rob Molin, queried the need for Council to continue to charge a drainage levy.

Mr Wilson said the drainage levy was originally brought in to attract matching State and Federal Government funding.

He said the Peninsula had a backlog of drainage works (about 15 per cent had been completed) due to past development policy.

New developments were now forced to pay a contribution.

"New developers can't and should not pay for the backlog caused by past development," Mr Wilson said.

"We haven't addressed the \$50 million worth of backlog (city-wide).

"We haven't raised near enough from the levy or government funding."

Council's director of development and the environment, Mr John Murray, said: "A lot has

been spent towards the Peninsula.

"Unfortunately, Council can't spend the funds before the development happens," Mr Murray said.

"You build the community and then put the school in," he said by way of example.

The city management plan divided the municipality into a number of "local area profiles", with one applying to the Peninsula.

Each local area profile covered local business activity, community life and spirit and the natural environment.

These three areas were further broken down into strengths, weaknesses and opportunities for Council and the community.

In local business activity, the Peninsula's strengths were described as:

Clean industries and businesses, good shopping, library, road network and telecommunications.

The advent of an increase in professional services, large local unskilled workforce, and powerful community groups.

Tourism activities such as holiday rentals, guest-houses, bed and breakfasts, cruises, boat hire and restaurants.

Weaknesses included: A lack of variety in retail outlets, increasing traffic pressure and speeding vehicle threats, bank closures and vacant shops, poor public transport and narrow roads, tasteless overdevelopment and the threat to the environment from increased tourism.

Council saw opportunities in resisting inappropriate overdevelopment, providing financial incentives for green businesses and promoting communication between the Council and community groups.

Council said the community could realise potential by organising more street tree planting and by participating in formalised community groups.

In the area of community life

and spirit, strengths were seen as a diverse population across age and income, regular local events, festivals, the Mainstreet program, Peninsula News, improving youth facilities such as the Web and PCYC, safe recreational activities and good schools and ovals.

Weaknesses included a lack of local employment opportunities, the need for facilities for low-income families, proposed overpopulation, lack of police, lack of a civic centre and insufficient open space and playgrounds, jetski problems, lack of infrastructure, the need for vehicle-speeding deterrents, lack of evening community activities especially outdoors and a lack of access for pedestrians and cyclists.

Council saw opportunity in improving public transport, assisting in planning for crime prevention, the provision of a civic centre and sporting and recreational facilities for all age groups.

The natural environment's strengths included safe and clean beaches, swimming areas, bushwalks, tree cover and bird habitat, the input of the community in maintaining dunes, tree cover and creeks, a waterfront pool and the lack of kerbing and guttering.

Weaknesses included flooding and bushfire risks, increase in visitors putting pressure on the environment, the expansion of Woy Woy tip, lack of pollution monitoring, lack of litter traps for waterways, the management of foreshores, tasteless overdevelopment, inadequate tree planting, sedimentation, untidy appearance of the entrance from Woy Woy Rd, lack of clean roads and lack of drainage.

Council saw opportunity in maintaining parks, beaches, planting trees, developing a kerb and guttering strategy for the Peninsula, and encouraging the community to report environmental infringements.

Carl Spears, September 14



Early development stage at Anderson Park

Progress on Anderson Park

The upgrade of Anderson Park on the waterfront at Woy Woy is expected to be completed in early November.

"The Woy Woy CBD Committee has been concerned for some time that Anderson Park is little more than a haven for drug addicts with syringes found there every day," said committee chair Cr Lynne Bockholt.

"We have received funding from Council for an upgrade of the park which is currently underway.

"Gone are the old structures which made the area a haven for drug deals to be replaced by trees, landscaping, tables and chairs and best of all a new fountain.

"The committee has tried to ensure the fountain is as vandal-proof as possible and has chosen a terrazzo base featuring dolphins with several water fountains built into the base."

Cr Bockholt said the terrazzo would be treated so that young children would be able to play in the fountain in the summer months.

"We hope the area will become popular with families who can bring their children to play safely on the waterfront.

"The committee is keen to ensure that Anderson Park becomes integrated into the Woy Woy waterfront which is so popular because of the upgrade of Pelican

Park."

"The owners of the Bayview Hotel have expressed an interest in leasing a small part of the park for outdoor dining.

"I believe this might be very popular, but as it is public land the matter would have to go to Council and be placed on public exhibition for comment etc before an approval could be given.

"I understand discussions are continuing between the Bayview Hotel and Council officers.

"Council is currently preparing the area for turfing before several jacaranda trees are planted along with other trees and shrubs.

"The gum tree in the middle of the park will remain to give shade to picnickers on hot summer days.

"I should also mention that in November the tidal pool at Woy Woy will be cleaned out so that youngsters will be able to go swimming on a hot day.

"Council also intends to replace the mesh around the pool as the present mesh is contributing to the pollution in the pool.

"Upgrade of footpaths in the Boulevard South from Pelican Park around to the newsagents to link up with existing paving in Blackwall Road will get underway at the end of the school holidays, and should take two to three weeks to complete."

September 13

Obituary: Bob Goodwin

The sporting community on the Peninsula is still in shock after the recent untimely passing of one of its most dedicated team members, Bob Goodwin.

Bob's contribution to both Umina Cricket and Soccer clubs was enormous and encompassed a myriad of roles including player, coach, committee member and most recently president of the Umina District Junior Cricket Club.

Bob was renowned for his phlegmatic humour, generosity and selflessness.

His consummate loyalty and dedication to friends, teammates and clubs alike were unsurpassed.

Bob was a tireless fundraiser and driving force behind many

club initiatives such as gala and presentation days and instigation of team playing shirts.

Bob's generosity of spirit touched all who met him and was matched only by his generosity of time.

The continual and significant demands his involvement in the sporting encompassed were never a problem or chore for Bob, rather a pleasure.

He always managed to bring a positive perspective to any situation and basically thrived on being involved.

Bob was a dynamic, respected and enigmatic contributor to the Peninsula community. His contribution will be sorely missed.

Kerrie Friend, September 18

Experience our **NEWLY** renovated Club at our upcoming...
Brisbane Water Oyster Farmers'

SEAFOOD NIGHT

Saturday October 7 at
CLUB UMINA
WITH TOP BAND
7.30pm START
Only \$25 per head. (BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL)

MENU: MORETON BAY BUGS, ONE DOZEN OYSTERS, QUARTER KILO PRAWNS, SEAFOOD SALAD, ¼ CHICKEN & BREAD ROLLS, PLUS.

Melbourne Ave, Umina
PHONE: 43412618
FOR THE INFORMATION OF MEMBERS & THEIR GUESTS



HAPPENINGS AT HOURIGANS WEST STREET, UMINA BEACH



Local suppliers to the rescue !!

Judy Dureau our new fruit & vege manager, who came to us from Franklins Big Fresh, is happy to advise she has arranged to source her produce daily from a local supplier. She will also be using her contacts with the Newcastle markets on a regular basis, to ensure keener pricing and quality, at all times.

Judy has undertaken the task of having the best produce section on the Peninsula, and if present indications are any guide, she is well on the way to achieving that.

We would like to thank the members of our customer consultative committee, who meet monthly and dish it up to us when we get it wrong. They were the prime movers in the push to get the produce section moving in the right direction.

With the Olympics in full swing, the staff have been busy decorating the store in green & gold.

Paul has a good supply of drinks & snacks etc for those Olympic celebration parties.

Our thanks to all those many customers who voted for us in the recent Peninsula Business Awards. Our sights will be set much higher for next year.

When visiting the store, take advantage of our new A T M and get the cash you need. The machine is situated on the southern wall near checkout number 8.

Seniors can take advantage of our 5% discount every Tuesday, by simply producing their seniors card. Application forms are available from the checkouts.

Any customer wishing to join our consultative committee can ring the manager or supervisor for details. The more the merrier.

Don't overlook your five portions of fruit & vege every day.

"Five a day, from IGA"

Underpass sign decision deferred

Gosford Council has decided to defer a decision on the installation of a giveaway sign at the Woy Woy Rd and Railway St underpass at South Woy Woy.

Council said the implications for installing a give way sign on one approach to the underpass include the possibility of queues extending into nearby intersections, and traffic travelling in the opposite direction developing a false sense of security with right-of-way in their favour.

Council has also prioritised pavement rehabilitation at the intersection of Mt Ettalong Rd and Hobart Ave.

Council recommended a double unbroken centreline as well as

edgelines.

The Boulevard and Brisbane Water Drive intersection will not be closed after Council received 12 objections to the proposal.

Council also received three submissions in support of closure.

Council's traffic committee said the Boulevard will be kept open to traffic, particularly for heavy vehicles accessing the wharf.

Among the objectors' reasons were that closure would increase traffic congestion and money could be better spent on projects such as the Anderson Park upgrade, need for emergency access, retaining the wharf's "unique charm", and the need to load and unload commercial fishing vessels.

Among the objectors were local business people, residents,

Jetty Builders, United Commercial Fishermen's Association of NSW and Fishermen's Wharf.

Council will not replace a pedestrian refuge adjacent to Ettalong Markets with a linemarked crossing.

The council overturned a traffic committee recommendation that no action should be taken to change the intersection at Hobart Ave and Perth St, Umina.

Cr Lynne Bockholt said she did not think "do nothing" was an option.

"This little intersection used to see three cars a day," she said.

A council survey in 1998 showed that 8156 vehicles a day passed or used the intersection.

Other options canvassed included providing a seagull

intersection, limiting movements to left in/left out, closing the intersection or building a roundabout.

Council will draw up plans and costings for a pedestrian crossing on West St, Umina, at the intersection of Richard Rd near the Sacred Heart Church.

Council had received a request to install the crossing from the parish family minister of the St John the Baptist parish.

Council's traffic committee had said while pedestrian activity at the section of road was high, a marked crossing was not necessary.

However, the high percentage of elderly pedestrians caused a rethink.

Carl Spears, September 12



Sydney University students Johanna Nolan (l) and Connie Molina (r)

Sydney University does local project

A group of second year architecture students accompanied by lecturers from the University of Sydney visited Woy Woy recently as part of their studies.

The students chose Woy Woy as their preferred option from a number of destinations to use as a hypothetical base for their project.

The students spent the whole day in Woy Woy making several drawings and taking the Woy Woy development control plan with them to include in their work.

The students were looking into the design of a complex for disadvantaged youth according to student Johanna Nolan.

"We're looking at disabled access, the neighbours of any proposal and taking into account Pelican Park," she said.

She said community consultation would be needed and any plan would have to fit in with the existing streetscape.

"We're looking at the block with

the CWA Hall and CJs restaurant in it." Fellow student, Connie Molina, said they were evaluating space and dimensions of the block to see how they could create "community space".

"We'll take into account the findings of such things as the Safer Towns and Cities report," she said.

The report had as one of its findings the need to create creative public space for youth thereby giving them an alternative to congregating at shopping centres and service stations.

Ms Nolan and Ms Molina said the principles of ecologically sustainable development also had to be taken into account in their proposals.

"Today we are looking into what we can and can't do with the site and what type of character of building would suit," Ms Molina said.

"Maybe we can knock down Huck Finns and the CWA Hall," Ms Nolan said.

Carl Spears, September 19

Japanese students visit Woy Woy High

Students from Hakata High School in Japan visited Woy Woy High recently.

The Hakata students and vice principal arrived to a "beautiful day and the Peninsula in its glory", according to Woy Woy High School principal, Ms Carolyn Carter.

"Our generous families were very enthusiastic and excited about meeting their student for Homestay," she said.

"On Monday, they went on a cruise around the Brisbane Water,

shopping in Woy Woy and had lunch at the Pizza Hut.

"They arrived back to school just before a storm broke.

"Then we held a welcoming ceremony for them and exchanged gifts.

"Hakata Girls' High School gave us two books about the city of Fukuoka, where the students live, as well as a wall hanging and a plaque to commemorate the 10th year that Hakata Girls' High have visited local schools."

September 12

Experience the thrill
with
7 TVs

including BIG Screens

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OLYMPICS
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PARALYMPICS
in
Air-Conditioned Comfort !!

EVERGLADES
COUNTRY
CLUB

Information for Members and Their Guests
Dunban Road, Woy Woy, Phone 4341 1866



Renovation work at Woy Woy Bowling Club

Renovations 'essential'

The new secretary-manager of Woy Woy Bowling Club, Mr Mark Landon, has said the decision to renovate the club was essential to its ongoing viability.

"The club faces many challenges in the future, adjusting to new tax regimes, increased costs on operating poker machines, rising costs of liquor and a vastly more competitive market-place vying for the consumer's dollar," he said.

"This places a great degree of importance on the success of the new development.

"The renovation project will help guarantee a bright and prosperous future."

Mr Landon thanked members for their warm welcome and said he would make himself known to members.

Mr Landon replaced Mr Trevor Haynes who has taken a position at another club.

Carl Spears, September 20

Call for Ability Award entries

Woy Woy High School principal, Ms Carolyn Carter, has called for entries to the Celebration of Ability Student Awards.

The Celebration of Ability Student Awards have been established by the Ageing and Disability Department, in partnership with disability sector organisations, to encourage the creation of student work on disability and to celebrate International Day of People with

a Disability on December 3 each year.

Senior secondary and tertiary students are invited to enter the Celebration of Ability Student Awards by submitting a positive piece of work about issues that impact on the lives of people with disabilities on the theme of Living in the Community.

The work may be an essay, short story, short script, press article, short film, video or radio production by either an individual student or a group of students.

The senior secondary student award offers a cash prize of \$250 while the tertiary student award offers a cash prize of \$500.

Entries for both awards are open until Friday, October 27, and the winners will be announced at the Awards ceremony on December 3 on International Day of People with a Disability.

For nomination forms, contact Nancy Brunetti on 9367 6822 or for further information contact Franz Weber on 9364 6966.

September 12



Ladies Auxiliary members at their stall

Street stall to be held for Aged Care

Woy Woy Community Aged Care Auxiliary will hold a street stall outside Flemings

in Umina on September 28.

On sale will be cakes, jams, pickles, knitting and craft.

The stall will run from 7.30am to 2pm.

September 12

Endeavour View Club holds meeting

The Endeavour View Club holds a luncheon meeting on the second Wednesday of each month at the Woy Woy Leagues Club.

The meetings are usually followed by a speaker, entertainment or the occasional fashion show.

Various other functions are held by the club at different venues.

Though the club emphasises the entertainment of its members, it also raises funds for the Smith Family.

There are currently about 23,000 members of View Clubs state-wide.

New members are welcome and information can be obtained by phoning 4343 1829.

Carl Spears, September 15

Peninsula News Inc, the non-profit association overseeing the operation of Peninsula News is seeking expressions of interest from Peninsula residents to fulfil the unpaid position of association secretary.

For further information or to register an interest contact association president, Mr Mark Snell on telephone 4342 5333 during business hours.

EXPANDED SERVICES

DR PAUL THOROGOOD

is pleased to now be able to offer

FULL GENERAL PRACTICE SERVICES

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35 Victoria Street, East Gosford

4324 8885

Olympic Fever

Olympic fever is in the air and Australians all over have embraced the games with excitement and enthusiasm. Now it's our turn to support our Para Olympians and the Paralympic Games. Join the staff at Umina Mall Pharmacy on the 16th of October at 11.30am to cheer as the Paralympic flame passes by our store. Bring your flags, streamers and good cheer and support our proud Paralympic torchbearers on their route to Olympic Park for the opening ceremony.

Get up and Go

Our great range of invalid aid and home health care products for sale or hire is expanding daily. Our quality and very affordable range

includes wheelchairs, walking aids, toilet and bath aids, shower chairs and stools, commodes, medical identification tags, medication planners, surgical sock and stockings, nebulisers, vaporisers, blood glucose monitors, diabetic supplies, sports braces and much much more. Come in and take a look at our extensive range designed to make day to day tasks a little easier.

'A' Frame Walker

With seat and shopping basket, height adjustable handles, push down brakes and solid castors. This light weight walker allows for greater mobility and freedom



Umina Mall Pharmacy

Ocean Beach Rd Umina Phone: 4341 6906

What's on in and around the Peninsula

Compiled by Dee Medway

The following is a comprehensive listing of events planned for the peninsula over the next four weeks.

To have information about your group's events and activities included, just take the details to the 'Woy Woy Visitor Information Centre at 18-22 The Boulevard Woy Woy, or fax, email, send or deliver to the Peninsula News offices.

Details and deadline date are shown on page two" All inserts for community groups and not for profit organisations are free of charge.

Commercial organisations are also invited to include their information but a small charge will apply.

Commercial inserts are single column only and will be boxed. The minimum size is 3cms and are charged at \$7.80 per cm.

DAILY EVENTS

Woy Woy Pelican Feeding at 3pm Pelican Park in front of Fishermans Wharf. Brisbane Water Bridge Club meets Monday and Friday at 12.30pm and on Wednesday from 9.30am till 7.30pm at Ocean beach Surf Club, Umina. Also on Saturday at 12.30pm, Woy Woy Leagues Club. Players welcome, partners arranged. Phone: 4341 0721

WEEKLY EVENTS

EVERY SATURDAY

Free bike tours every Saturday Leave 2pm from Ettalong Bike Shop, your bike or hire a bike All fitness levels catered for. Phone 4341 3906

Cash Housie St Mary's Hall, Ocean View Rd Ettalong 7.30pm. Free Tea and Coffee. Cash Prizes.

Proceeds Woy Woy Catholic Parish Community Fund. Enquiries: Rob 4369 0626.

Social Bingo at Progress Hall, Woy Woy Rd at 12pm.

Cabaret at Everglades Country Club, Dunban Road, Woy Woy

EVERY SUNDAY

Children's entertainment at the Ettalong Beach War Memorial Club 11.30am - 3.30pm - Clowns, jumping castle, disco, cost \$2.

Children must be accompanied by an adult.

EVERY MONDAY

Ettalong/Umina Lions Bingo 10.30-12.30pm Ettalong War Memorial Club Entertainment Centre. Cash Prizes. All Welcome. Phone: 4342 1352.

Outreach Crisis Recovery Group meets from 7.30pm Rear Hall, Anglican Church 151 Blackwall Rd Woy Woy.

Addiction, dependency & crisis help. Enquiries: Bill 4368 357.

Fairhaven Services Cash Housie 7.30pm Umina Bowling Club. All proceeds Intellectually Disabled Adult Services. Phone: 4325 3608.

Free Race Game, Ettalong Beach War Memorial Club, 1 pm Free bingo Woy Woy Leagues Club. 11am.

EVERY TUESDAY

Free bingo, Woy Woy Leagues Club. 11am.

EVERY WEDNESDAY

Social Bingo at Progress Hall, Woy Woy Rd at 12pm.

Peninsula Choir meet & rehearse 7.30pm at St Andrews Hall Umina.

EVERY THURSDAY

Scrabble at Progress Hall, Woy Woy Rd 12.30pm. Old Time & New Vogue Dance Umina Community Hall, 1.30pm \$2 Gala Day Everglades Country club, Dunban Rd Woy Woy

EVENT CALENDAR

Wednesday September 27

Umina Progress Association, Umina Community Hall, 1.30pm (last Wednesday of each month).

Everglades Womens' Bowling Club, Waterlily Pairs, one over and one under 5 years. Entry fee \$6 Morning tea 9.30am, play starts 10am, 2 games x 15 ends. Picnic lunch. Prizes incl. first prize of \$120 each. Phone Robyn Davis 4341 1322 or Noeleen 4341 0497

Friday September 29

Woy Woy Civilian Widows meet at 1 pm Ettalong Senior Citizens Building. New members welcome (last Friday of month).

Saturday September 30

Saturday Cabaret with Shelley White at Everglades Country Club, Dunban Road, Woy Woy.

Sunday October 1

Blackwall Mountain Bushcare Group. 9am at the banner at the base of the mountain. Working to protect the remaining 'Superb Lyrebirds' in the area and regenerate the vegetation. All

welcome. Gloves provided (1 st Sunday of month).

Enquiries: Tony 43427849.

Thursday October 5 South Woy Woy Progress Assoc.

Meet (1st Thursday) 7pm All Welcome.

South Woy Woy Progress Hall, Woy Woy Road.

Friday October 6

Woy Woy Older Womens' Network meet 10 .15am (1 st Friday of month), Woy Woy Leagues Club. Topic is "Speaking Up for Yourself ' with Carol Baker. Morning tea will be provided. Enquiries: Coral 4343 1079.

The Troubadour presents live entertainment at 304 on West, Italian Restaurant, 304 West St, Umina, 7.30pm. Performance bookings: 4341 4060. Restaurant bookings: 4344 5533.

Saturday October 7

National Malaysia Borneo Veterans Association meet at 2.30pm, Ettalong Beach War Memorial Club (1st Saturday of month). Phone 4342 1216.

Ettalong Beach Arts & Crafts Market, Ettalong 9am (1st Saturday of month).

Sunday October 8

Masonic Lodge, Woy Woy 381 meet at Umina Community Hall, 11 am (2nd & 4th Sunday of month). C.I.A.O. visits Club Marconi. Bus Departure 8.59am Woy Woy Railway Station.

• Smorgasbord lunch especially catered for CIAO;

• Tour of the Club. Use of facilities such as bocce dome & gaming lounge;

• Departs Club at 2.45pm for delicatessen to purchase some Italian delights from the local deli;

• Departs Deli approx 4pm. Return Bus trip and Lunch \$35 Enquiries: Sal 4363 1792 or mobile 0418613741

Monday October 9

Deepwater View Club discount make-up & toiletries party. 11 am \$6 Enquiries: June 4342 2046

Tuesday October 10

Ettalong Beach Toastmasters meet 7.30pm (every 2nd & 4th Tuesday). Ettalong Beach War Memorial Club. Enquiries: Jan 4341 6842.

Friday October 13

The Troubadour Acoustic Music and Folk Club presents John Dengate.



Ettalong Beach Arts and Crafts centre

CWA Hall, Woy Woy (opposite Fishermans Wharf) at 7.30pm. \$6 incl. supper. All-welcome. (2nd Friday of month). Enquiries: Frank 4341 4060 or 0417 456 929.

Saturday October 14

Melaleuca Wetland Regeneration Group - help with regeneration of one of the last wetlands on the Peninsula, meet 8am at end of Boronia Ave, Woy Woy (2nd & 4th Saturday of month). Enquiries: Norah 4341 13960.

Umina Beach Branch of CWA invites you to an Art Exhibition. Craft and floral display from 1.30pm-5pm, Umina Beach CWA Hall, cnr West St and Sydney Ave, Umina. \$5 incl glass champagne and chicken sandwich. Enquiries: 4341 5626 or 4369 0927.

St Lukes & St Andrews annual fete at St Andrews Church, Ocean Beach Road, Umina, 8.30am. All welcome.

Steptoe's Emporium, jams, trash and treasure, plants, BBQ, cakes, toys, books, teas, handicrafts, Christmas craft etc.

Sunday October 15

Brisbane Water Caged Bird Society, 10am (3rd Sunday of month), Umina CWA Hall.

Enquiries: Jan 4341 6842.

Monday October 16

Paralympic Torch Relay passes through Peninsula. Empire Bay 9.41 am Ettalong Beach 10.30am Blackwall 10.40am Woy Woy 11.00am Umina 11.40am Patonga 12.11 pm War Widows Guild, Ettalong Branch meet 1 pm at Ettalong Beach Club (3rd Monday not Dec).

Enquiries: Secretary 4341 6435.

Ettalong Beach Arts and Crafts Centre new term of classes begins.

Adults and children's classes as well as half day workshops.

Enquiries: 4360 1673 or 4341 8344.

Tuesday October 17

Arthritis Foundation, Woy Woy Branch meets 10am (every 3rd Tuesday), Meals On Wheels Hall, all welcome.

Enquiries: Gladys 4342 1790.

Wednesday October 18

Endeavour View Club meet (Woy Woy Leagues Club 10.30am (3rd Wednesday of month). Enquiries: Patricia 4344 5043.

Ettalong Umina Lions Club meets 6.30pm Woy Woy Leagues Club (3rd Wednesday of month).

Ettalong Beach Arts & Crafts market, Ettalong 9am (3rd Wednesday of month).

Sunday October 22

Masonic Lodge, Woy Woy 381 meet Umina Community Hall, 11 am (2nd & 4th Sunday of month).

Monday October 23

Woy Woy Deepwater View Club luncheon meeting (4th Monday of month).

11am Woy Woy Leagues Club.

All welcome.

Enquiries: Jan 4341 0272.

Tuesday October 24

Ettalong Beach Toastmasters meet 7.30pm (every 2nd & 4th Tuesday).

Ettalong Beach War Memorial club. Enquiries: Jan 4341 6842.

Monday October 30

Woy Woy Branch of Business & Professional Women - dinner meeting (last Monday of month).

New members welcome.

Enquiries: Jill 4341 1844.

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Development moratorium still needed

I still believe that there should be a moratorium on medium-density development on the Peninsula until the enormous drainage backlog has been addressed.

Council has spent a great deal of the drainage levy on the Peninsula in recent years, but it has been estimated that we need at least \$50m to drain the Peninsula properly and this is never going to be available from the levy.

Some seven months ago, I put a Notice of Motion to Council requesting an over-development committee be set up immediately to investigate matters such as the extent of medium-density building on the Peninsula.

The lack of infrastructure could be researched and a report presented to the State Government and The Department of Urban Planning (DUAP) seeking changes or a moratorium.

Unfortunately, Council did not support my motion and instead elected to discuss the current planning policies at a Councillors' meeting.

Several months later, we are still waiting for this meeting to take place.

I have enquired of the Council officers as to when this might happen but so far have not been given a date.

In the last 12 months, I have had two meetings with senior officers of the DUAP, including a tour of the

Peninsula to point out the problems we continue to experience.

These meetings followed the release of DUAP's latest document "Shaping the Central Coast" which contains plenty of motherhood statements about the need for infrastructure provision but does not present strategies to bring this about.

There needs to be effective strategies put in place and most of all there needs to be appropriate funding forthcoming from Government to ensure it happens.

I believe that DUAP have instructions from the State Government that many thousands more people should be accommodated on the Central Coast.

In Gosford Local Government Area, this is mainly in the medium-density areas.

I also believe DUAP might be persuaded that the current emphasis on medium-density in the suburbs is not the right way to go about it.

At my meeting with them, there was some discussion about a reorganisation of the zoning system which would see land along major transport routes be subject to more intensive development, while other areas would revert to a single house on each block.

I must stress that these were very preliminary discussions and would need a great deal more work before any decisions could be made.

When Council resolved to support a review of the Gosford CBD to enable more residential development, I was successful in getting Council to approve an amendment that DUAP and the State Government be approached to amend the planning laws, such that if Council agreed to an extra 2000-3000 people living in Gosford CBD the medium-density areas be reduced accordingly.

If this doesn't happen, we'll have so many people living on the Peninsula it will be changed forever.

I do not subscribe to the current notion doing the rounds that medium-density is not the problem, it's just the design that's bad.

Whilst I agree that some residential flat buildings look as though they have been drawn on the back of an envelope, the real problem is the extra people being brought into the area without the facilities to cope.

The freeways are at logjam, the trains are overcrowded, Woy Woy Rd is a disgrace as are most roads, we have no kerb and guttering to speak about and the drainage is almost non-existent in some areas.

I think bringing extra people into this area in these circumstances is not merely bad planning. It is an absolute disgrace on the part of DUAP and the State Government mandarins who really run this state.

Lynne Bockholt, September 18

Bay Hall meets opposition

A letter in Peninsula News (August 2000) condemned Gosford Council's possible blockage of a new hall in the Bays area.

Many of the residents of Phegans Bay and Woy Woy Bay oppose the construction of a new hall on the proposed site or on any other area of natural open space.

The council's environmental stance is supported by these local residents.

The destruction of any area of natural bushland, including wetlands areas, to simply provide a site for a rarely-used community hall defies logic.

The present hall, which has been used once this year for a community function, is adequate.

The reserve between Woy Woy Bay and Phegans Bay is one of the last areas of natural bushland in a residential area on the Peninsula.

To sacrifice any piece of this pristine environment for the selfglorification of a few members of the local progress association would be a true act of vandalism.

The construction of a new hall in a bushland reserve will act as a magnet for young people at all hours of the night.

A defined isolated meeting

place will quickly become a perfect location for many unwanted activities.

This is exactly what the Progress Association is saying it wants to stop, however the effect will be the opposite.

To think that this proposed hall is an answer to any of the major issues facing our younger generation, including drugs, is sheer shortsightedness.

If the Bays Progress Association are interested in improving the area there are many problems they could focus their attention on.

Drainage (or lack of), the condition of the roads and embankment stabilisation are some of the problems that require attention.

But most of all the preservation of the nature beauty and serenity of the Bay's area is paramount.

The residents purchased in the area to take advantage of these nature qualities - we do not want a new hall, a public boat ramp and car park or any other similar development.

Unnecessary and unwanted development in any of the Bays (Horsfield, Phegans or Woy Woy) must be stopped forever.

Lawrie Mainwaring, Phegans Bay

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Memorial Avenue Ettalong 2257 For the information of members & their guests ABN 99001011392



Arts and Entertainment

Library budget

Gosford Council has budgeted to spend almost \$200,000 over the next three years on library services in the Peninsula area.

This financial year Council will spend \$100,000 on various library services throughout the city including \$8000 on barcode readers, \$60,000 on book security systems and \$42,000 on new software.

In next year's financial year Council has budgeted \$115,000 across the city including \$72,000 for book automated returns and \$43,000 towards the refurbishment of Woy Woy Library

In the 2002/03 financial year, Council has budgeted for a "self checkout" at Umina (up to \$21,000) and a web-based catalogue for all libraries (\$15,000).

Carl Spears, September 15.

Art and craft

The Ettalong Beach Arts and Craft Centre covers many artistic categories and has space at the beginning of each term for beginners and advanced artists.

Activities include pottery and sculpture, drawing and painting, needle work and embroidery.

Members exhibit their works in several shops around the Peninsula.

The students benefit from the support of the organisation and also learn through seeing what others are doing.

For further information, telephone 4360 1873.

September 21

Poem: Platforms

The concrete platform symbolic of stations,
where one awaits for ones train,
Is either a moving mass of humans, or
lonesome as an open plain.

A consistent patron of railways I've been
since arriving on Australian soil,
And I've waited on platforms as silent
as night, or aU a human turmoil.

Porters hasten on the concrete stretch
to perform some tasks no doubt.
But they just convey the impression
that the "Boss" must be about.

Platforms have an effect on me, and as
I await on my train,
I wonder if the journey will bring me content,
or will I travel in vain?

On wooden seats people sit and converse,
They have definite plans I suppose.
But I always seem the uncertain type,
just going where the train goes.

At night, a deserted platform is a lonely
place to wait.
The scattered lights beat down on your thoughts,
you hope the train won't be late.

Then your thoughts are rendered by a familiar sound,
as your awaited train approaches.
You gaze along the track and see the arrival
of Engine and Coaches.

The train pulls in, you climb aboard,
and conduct yourself to a seat.
Amid groans of agony from the occupants,
as you step all over their feet.

A whistle from the engine, then the train departs,
and soon leaves the platform behind.
You settle down for the journey and try
to occupy your mind.

Some day I intend to settle down
and regard travel with scorn.
But I'll always retain the memory of
the necessary Railway Platform

Jim Boylan, Woy Woy

Poetry book launch

A book of poetry by Horsfield Bay resident Helen Baker and two friends, Debbie Samuels and Linda Honey, will be launched at 11am on Wednesday, October 4, at The Oasis Youth Centre at Wyong.

This poetry book, according to Helen, is gentle and inspirational and gives us hope for the future and for mankind.

Entitled "Inspirations from The Heart", it is a culmination of the life experiences of the three women.

As they were compiling the book, Helen, Linda and Debbie realised they had a lot in common and that their general views on life were very similar.

This led to the publication of "The Power of Three " newsletter.

This is a free newsletter, published quarterly, and is available at local libraries, New Age shops and some health food shops, or by contacting Helen or Debbie directly.

The goal of "The Power of Three" is to promote healing from life's traumas and to encourage self-growth, non-violence and unconditional love.

The women would like to help others focus on a positive

approach to life and on the fact that everyone is unique and has a valuable contribution to give to the world.

Helen is also part way through writing a poetry book with the theme of our abused natural environment, a subject about which she is passionate.

Another work she has underway is a book of her own inspirational sayings.

She hopes to publish this one next year.

Following this, Helen has plans for more books.

She said: "Once I've got the easy stuff out of the way, that is the poetry, I'd like to write a couple of novels based loosely on fact, although I'm not quite sure of the subject matter as yet."

Another poetry book, written by three male survivors of child abuse, which The Power of Three has published, will also be launched at the youth centre.

Helen says she is really looking forward to the function.

"I've waited a lot of years for this," she says, "and I think it will be a day of fun and celebration."

For details of the newsletter or book launch, phone Helen on 4342 4974 or Debbie on 4393 3563.

September 18

Concert draws 200

The Peninsula Choir and Gosford City Brass Band joined again for their sixth annual concert on August 20.

The "Music from Around the World" Concert was held in the Ettalong Baptist Church and attended by more than 200 listeners.

Guest soloists Joanne McMahon and Anita Fallow and young flautist Jackie Wright helped to make the program doubly interesting with their renditions of songs and music from France, Spain, Germany and England.

The concert raised \$2330 for the Religious Education Ministries to support the full-time scripture

teachers at Umina and Woy Woy High Schools.

The Peninsular Choir organised the event and all concert expenses were paid by the choir.

The concert was followed by an afternoon tea provided by choir members and donations of cakes and slices from Simpsons Cakes, Bremen Patisserie, Umina Mall Cake Shop and Umina Bakehouse.

The choir will be performing some of the concert items for the residents of Orana Baptist Home for the Aged at Point Clare on Sunday, September 17.

The choir welcomes new choristers. Enquiries should be made to 4342 3751.

September 12



Members enjoying one of the many dances held at the Senior Citizen's centre at Etta/ong

Senior Citizen's centre has plenty to offer

The Ettalong Senior Citizen's Centre is inviting residents over the age of 50 to drop in "for a chat and a cuppa".

The centre is located on the corner of Broken Bay Rd and Karingi St, opposite the Ettalong Beach Club, and is open from Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 4.30pm.

It is available to all citizens over the age of 50 and the centre's aim is to help improve the

quality of life of senior citizens by providing opportunities for social, educational, cultural and physical development.

The range of activities vary but include cards, bowls, fitness classes, social meetings, table tennis, discussion groups, dancing, crafts and painting.

The centre also has many books and leaflets available with information on issues affecting senior citizens.

The centre's publicity officer, Mr Fred Cooper, said: "The variety of things to do is a real eye-opener.

"We have never been bored (since joining the centre as members).

"Don't waste time sitting at home; come along and check out the numerous activities.

"You're sure to find something to suit you."

For more information, telephone 4341 3222.

Carl Spears, September 19

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Feature

While in the northern territory, during WW11, with the 24th Australian Pioneer Battalion and in a defensive position, during and after the first air raid on Darwin 1942, American troops were keen to buy souvenirs of anything to do with the Northern Territory.

They would buy trinkets made in the shape of rings, pendants or Japanese swords (made from Jeep sprockets) and articles made from the material of the first zero and Japanese bomber shot down during the first raid on Darwin.

There fondness for these items kept us busy with plenty of great ideas but we had few tools to work with.

We got the bright idea that crocodile teeth would be a good line to promote and after a few enquiries found that the Yanks

Croc with no tears

a true story by Snow Dicker

would pay good money for them in whatever form they could be produced.

Crocs were rather plentiful in the creeks and rivers near where we camped but not easy to trap or capture for the removal of their teeth.

We needed to organise a crew of volunteers to capture a croc.

After much debate, it was decided to toss a couple of hand grenades into the local swimming hole and see what happened.

On the big day, with plenty of help at hand it happened.

Two grenades and swimmers

with ropes at the ready we decided that four grenades would be twice as good so at the signal in went the grenades and after four spouts of water from around the pool, up floated our croc about 10 foot long.

It looked twice that length when laid out on the bank.

Ropes were attached and we decided not to kill the croc but to endeavour to extract a few teeth then let him go as the experts said he would grow a few more teeth without any trouble.

Now we had our croc all tied up and had left the head free to get at his teeth.

We rammed a heavy stick in his mouth to keep his jaws open and things were going well and according to plan.

We had some tongs and a large pair of pliers for the extraction but these tools turned out to be useless.

Then we came up with the old string around the tooth and door knob trick but had to make a few modifications - first the string became a strong piece of rope and the door became a Jeep with four-wheel-drive.

So rope was attached to the tooth and rear of the Jeep with as

many troops as possible on top of the croc to keep him down.

The signal was given and off went the Jeep until, with wheels spinning and dust flying everywhere, the croc started to move.

The troops were shaken off one after another until the Jeep towing the croc by the rope attached to his tooth took off through the scrub with the croc at the end of the rope.

It slid headfirst into a large tree trunk and out came the tooth.

As this happened, the ropes slid off from around his body and he disappeared into the undergrowth.

The tooth was a beauty and well worth the effort.

With one tooth and 10 men to share, it was decided to raffle it.

The raffle was won by Geoff Turner.

I wonder where that croc tooth is today.

Snow Dicker, September 20

Tears of joy

A mother of six from Woy Woy was left weeping with joy after receiving news of a first prize win in \$2 Jackpot Lottery draw 7282.

The 39 year-old won \$100,000 and an additional \$1000 for having another ticket one-off the first prize.

"I've been playing for quite a long time and hoping to win for quite a long time.

"I can't believe it. I've got tears running down my face," she told a NSW Lotteries official.

"We have been saving for a house for ages and looking for a four-wheel drive, because our car needs to keep going in for repairs.

"This will help pay for it."

The winner purchased the winning ticket at the Umina Beach Newsagency.

September 20

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Art and Entertainment



"A mid-winter nightmare" - Year 10 drama which would have amused Shakespeare himself

Variety night a great success

Woy Woy High School's annual Variety Night extravaganza was held on September 5 and 6.

The program was a mix of music, drama and dance.

This year, the show included performers from local primary schools, including a choir of over 60 students.

"It is now 10 years since Ms Herdman, Ms Henman, Ms Victoria Nielsen, and Mr Tony Sullivan came to me and requested that they be allowed to hold a Variety Night," said principal Ms Carolyn Carter.

"I said 'Just do it' and that's what they did.

"It was a great start for a great performing arts project"

Many hundreds of students

have participated in the Variety Nights over the last 10 years.

"We started with those students who were a part of our elective classes in the performing arts, and some teachers were used to pad out the show," said Ms Carter.

"As the years progressed, more and more talented students came forward and auditions had to be held."

In its third year, the Variety Night almost folded when the hall burnt down a few weeks from the performance dates.

"But thanks to the campaigning talents of Ms Jodie Knight, we were able to use the Ettalong Beach War Memorial Club, and the show went on."

Ms Carter said the variety nights showcased the talent in the

community.

"It showcases the talent of our staff," she said.

"It provides opportunities for our students to show their talents in all aspects associated with theatre and live entertainment, dancing, acting, singing, playing musical instruments, sound and lighting, stage management, theatre management and teamwork.

"It is a living, breathing example of our performing arts program at Woy Woy High School.

"Variety Night is never static.

"We are always looking for ways to bring others in to enjoy our facilities and the exhilarating experience of live performing," said Ms Carter.

September 12

Empire Bay wins zone athletics

Empire Bay Public School performed well at the recent Woy Woy Zone Athletics Carnival.

School principal, Mr Gordon Fraser, said: "Despite the overcast, cold weather, our school team performed wonderfully.

"The school not only won the Overall Points Shield, but also the Percentage Shield.

Many of our children will now go on to compete at the Regional Athletics Carnival."

Individual results from the day were:

8 Years boy 100m - Jack Jones 1st, Aaron Vassilopoulos 3rd.

8 Years Girls 100m - Tahra Brady 1st.

9 Years Boys 100 - Patrick Crocker 1st.

10 Year Boys 100m - Kevin Moore 1st.

11 Years Girls 100m - Elle Peters 2nd.

12 Year Girls 100m - Emily Mullen 1st, Samantha Tomlin 2nd.

Junior Boys 200m - Kevin Moore 1st.

Junior Girls 200m - Shellie Wilkes 1st.

Senior Girls 200m - Emily Mullen 1st, Laurin James 2nd.

Junior girls 800 - Rebecca James 1st.

11 Year girls 800m - Elle Peters 1st.

Senior Girls 800m - Emily Mullen 2nd.

Junior girls Long Jump - Shellie Wilkes 1st, Rebecca James 2nd.

Senior Girls Long Jump - Samantha Tomlin 1st, Emily Mullen 2nd.

Junior girls Long Jump - Shellie

Wilkes 1st.

Senior girls High Jump - Samantha Tomlin 1st, Laurin James 2nd.

Senior Girls Shot Put - Rebecca Geddes 1st.

11 Year Boys Discus - Matthew Livens 1st.

11 Year Girls Discus - Ashleigh Brady 1st.

Senior Girls Discus - Emily Mullen 1st.

Senior Boys Relay Team - 3rd, Ben Burroughs, Zac Dawes, Jake Simpson, Jason Overton.

Junior Boys Relay Team - 1st, Kevin Moore, Daniel Willis, Luke Tansley, Matthew Jones.

Junior Girls Relay Team - 1st, Shellie Wilkes, Rebecca James, Chloe Maxwell, Candice Taylor.

Senior Girls Relay Team - 1st, Emily Mullen, Samantha Tomlin, Lauren James, Rebecca Geddes.

New records were set at inter-school games by Empire Bay Public School students Emily Mullen in discus, and Samantha Tomlin in high jump.

Emily Mullen and Shellie Wilkes were age champions.

Other competitors were Elyza Banks, Skaie Hull, Lani Smith, Chelsea Tomlin, Kristy Haber, Lauren Muller, Shelley Norris, Amanda Wyatt, Bianca Haber, Starra Strickland, Liam Woulfe, Chris Bainbridge, Trent Burton, Adam Pinchbeck, Liam Thorne, Jess Russell, Cheyne Hall, Chad Martin, Blake Austin, Bede Wheatland, Miles McQuillan, Matthew Kemsley, Lachlan O'Donnell, Mitch Witten, Mitch Attard, Matt Miller.

September 12

Transition to school programs underway

The Baystart Transition To School Programme for 2001 Kindergarten is about to start for this year at Empire Bay Public School.

School principal, Mr Gordon Fraser, has asked the community to inform any neighbours, friends

or relatives who have children ready to commence school at the beginning of 2001 about the Baystart Program.

The program is designed to make the transition to school easier for new kindergarten children.

Information is available from the school office.

Applications will close soon so the school can finalise groups and session times ready to commence on Monday October 9.

Sessions are held each Monday in Term 4 at 9am, 10am and 11.15am.

September 12

Multicultural activity

Ettalong Public School has had a week of multicultural activity.

Performers came to entertain and educate the 600 students about the diversity of the Australian multicultural society.

Teaching tolerance and understanding of all members of our Australian multicultural society is a priority at Ettalong Public School.

And what better time to hold a multicultural festival than in the weeks leading up to the Olympic Games.

The week began with a performance entitled "Ready, Set, Go - a History of the Modern Olympics".

Presented by Company Theatre Physical, the troupe kept the children enthralled as they cartwheeled and climbed their way through the performance.

Each class became a different country for the week and children were taught about the culture, language and customs of their country.

Children were invited to wear the national costume of their country.

Parents were invited to join

the children in using passports to travel to each country, where they had their visas stamped, showing the countries they had visited.

Parents were also invited to have a picnic lunch with their children following these visits. After all that travelling everyone was bound to be hungry.

Children were also given class presentations on Aboriginal Dance and Culture performed by the Miree Aboriginal Dancers and Kevin Duncan.

They were taught about designs and symbolism of Aboriginal bodywork painting, symbols costumes and tribal boundary maps.

They were also told stories which explained hunting and gathering stories and animal dances.

The children were encouraged to learn and participate in the dances and teachers reported that the children thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

The week ended with a mini Olympic Games which saw some great competition, and maybe some future Olympians, striving to do their best as they tried their hand at both new sports and old.

September 12



Woy Woy South Public School held their favourite book character day last month with most students and teachers getting into the act

Mathematicians excel at Empire Bay

Empire Bay Public School students have achieved some good results in the UNSW Primary School Maths Competition.

A certificate of High Distinction was awarded to Shellie Wilkes of Year 5.

Certificates of Distinction went to Luke Tracey (Year 3), Emma Whalley (Year 3) and Liam Mounser (Year 4).

Certificates of Credit were awarded as follows:

Year 3 - Brooke Egan, Matthew Fallon, Skaie Hull, Sarah Moule, Thomas Pope, Brent Wallace.

Year 4 - Rhys Cooper, Christopher Elton, George Ireland, Michael Koote, James McNamara, Emma Mumford, Lachlan O'Donnell.

Year 5 - Nicole Humphries, Shawn Lenard, Rikki Lewis, Justin Mile, Elle Peters, Craig Pinchbeck, Kate Pope, Kate Smith.

Year 6 - Andrew Edwards, Melissa Rattos, Scott Smith.

Certificates of Achievement went to Year 6 students Mitch Attard, Liam Thorne, Bede Wheatland and Ryan Maxwell.

September 12



One of the main pieces at the Olympic Torch celebrations at Northpower Stadium, "Sport" choreographed by Mrs Herdman from Woy Woy High School

Performance delights principal

Woy Woy High School principal, Ms Carolyn Carter, has voiced her delight at local school's performance at the Torch Relay celebrations held late last month.

"This was a very moving experience for the thousands of people who attended the celebrations," she said.

"After a tremendous downpour at about 2.50pm, it didn't look very promising, certainly not inviting.

"The two most outstanding features were the happy, friendly atmosphere and the school spectacular.

"To see all of those students performing with precision

and enthusiasm was simply magnificent.

"The costumes were brilliant, the timing spot on, and the cooperation and teamwork were excellent.

"No one could doubt our young people after witnessing this spectacular.

"Congratulations to our students who performed in the spectacular and to Ms Herdman who choreographed 'Sport', one of the major sections of the spectacular.

"Thank you also to Ms Ogle and Mr Borrow-Jones who helped get the students to rehearsals and helped out on the evening."

Students involved were Emily Honstone, Lauren Samsely,

Heidi Robertson, Laura Haddadi, Tiffany Lennard, Naomi Wilson, Melissa Oliver, Casey Reece, Sarah Clifford, Susan Sobezak, Jamey Irwin, Stacey Curtis, Holly Robertson, Lorrie Russell, Brooke Howlett, Shannon Howlett, Danielle Kerz and Jacinta Pound.

Others included Alex Thorne, Dean Spiro, Dillan Clarke, Morgan Huckle, Troy Turner, Kurt Bartwright, Belinda Rose, Amy Monk, Nicole Smith, Angela Ainsworth, Lauren Brown, Rochelle Dewar, Kim Cattley, Stephany Short, Jessica Wheeler, Michelle Melville, Gemma Banks, Natalie Rixom, Matthew Williams and Amanda Egan.

September 12



Teenagers enjoying the facilities provided at "The Web"

The Web is a great place to hangout

The Web Youth Centre is open four days of the week.

Teenagers between the age of 12 and 18 can call in on any of the open days.

The centre is open Wednesday to Saturday.

Some of the activities and services include assistance in writing resumes, job applications and interview skills, educational workshops, a pool competition, computers, table tennis and guitar

playing.

A nurse is on duty once a week to discuss health issues.

A drug and alcohol educator is also available once a week.

General problems can be discussed and one-on-one support is available.

The centre opens at 'gam on Wednesdays and Thursdays, 3pm on Fridays and 4.30pm on Saturdays.

Cart Spears, September 19

Taronga Park Zoo comes to Ettalong

The Taronga Park Zoomobile visited kindergarten children at Ettalong Public School recently.

According to their teachers, the children were very excited and thrilled to see animals that many of the children had never seen before.

It was a hands-on experience, allowing the children to hold and touch an echidna, a shingleback

lizard, a possum, Henry the Gan Gan Parrot, a baby crocodile, a green tree frog and Little Spot, the diamond python.

The children learned about the natural environment of each animal and about their varying appearances and different needs.

The children and their teachers thanked Paul, from Taronga Zoo, who was both educational and entertaining.

September 12

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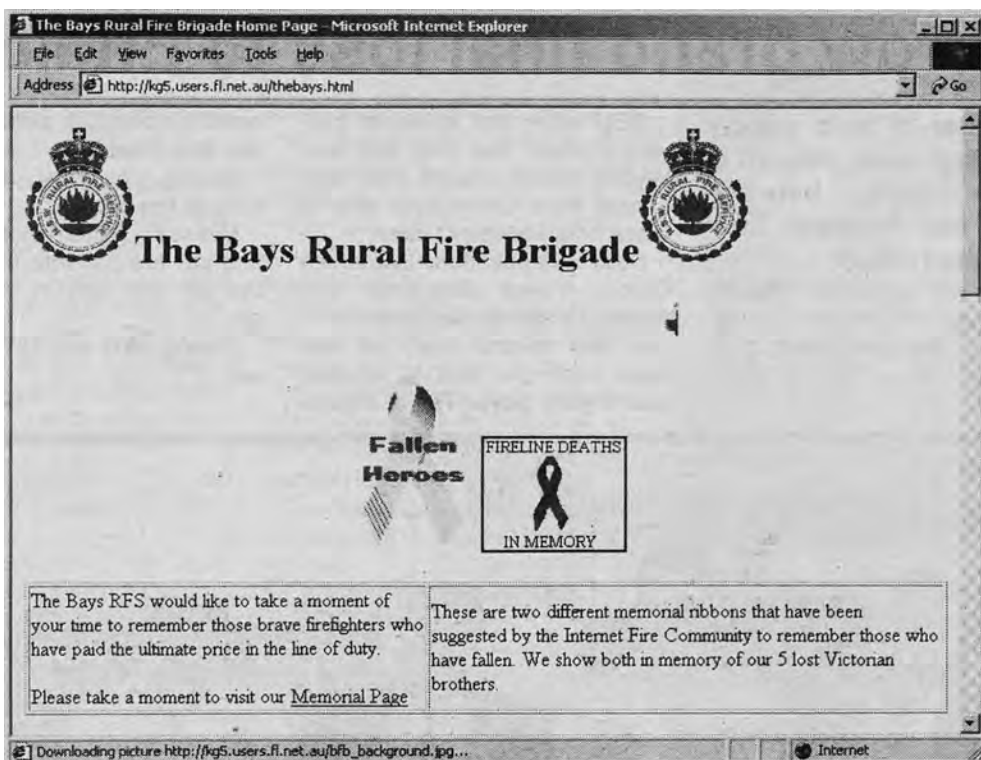
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The Bays Rural Fire Brigade home page

Brigade page timely for summer

A topical site for the coming summer months could be The Bays Rural Fire Brigade home page.

The page provides a variety of images and links throughout the site regarding the activities of this volunteer group of Peninsula residents who protect our homes against bushfires.

The page provides internal links to information about the group including some limited history about the formation of the group, some photos of the volunteers and the machinery and a memorial page to the many firefighters who

have lost their lives trying to protect peoples property.

The images are optimised for quick downloads but unfortunately some of the information has not been updated for some time.

External links enable the viewer to jump to Gosford City Council, a random generation page to drop in on and a links pages that provides access to a diverse range of firefighting sites.

Other external sites range from other local bushfire brigade sites, a link to the NSW Rural Fire Service, links to international fire sites and a sister brigade site in Finland.

The Sister link site was not

working when I visited it.

The page appears to have been last updated in 1998 and is a worth a look to see some of our local volunteers in action. The site rates six out of 10 and can be accessed at <http://kg5.users.fl.net.au/thebays.html>. 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 4342 2071.

Stephen McNamara, September 21

Work for Dole placements

A number of new "Work-for-the-Dole" placements have been approved for projects on the Peninsula, according to Robertson MP Mr Jim Lloyd.

The projects approved included 10 places at Cafe Umina Beach, where participants would assist with the operation of the Cafe and Information Centre while gaining accredited training in hospitality.

The Police Citizens Youth Centre development at Umina Beach would have 10 participants conduct renovation and restoration of grounds, gardens and facilities; The Gosford Community Support Project would have 40 workers to provide gardening, landscaping and building maintenance to small community organisations on the Peninsula as well as the Gosford area.

Member for Robertson, Mr Jim Lloyd, said the new projects had been approved by the Federal Government and would commence over the coming months.

The local projects would provide up to 78 places for unemployed people to gain valuable work experience as well as making a contribution to the community.

Mr Lloyd welcomed the new opportunities these projects would provide for job-seekers and congratulated sponsors such as Community Success Pty Ltd, Wyong Workwise and Employment Transactions Australia Inc for their commitment to young unemployed people.

"The Work for the Dole program has proven to be highly successful for these job seekers with 34 per cent of participants in either employment further education or training, three months after completing their placement," he said.

"New research conducted by the Department of Employment has found that those job-seekers that participate in Work for the Dole have a 76 per cent greater chance of being in work and off benefits within three months, compared to job-seekers not involved in the program," he said.

"The Howard Government is providing almost \$139 million for 65,000 Work for the Dole projects over the 18 months to July 2001.

"Many of the projects are positioned in regional areas of high unemployment and span every State and Territory in Australia." Unemployed people wanting

to participate should contact Centrelink on 13 2850 or visit their local Centrelink office.

Project sponsors would call for participants through local advertising campaigns, community networks and agencies and Centrelink in the coming weeks, said Mr Lloyd.

General information on the Work for the Dole program could be found at <http://www.dewrsb.gov.au/wfd>.

September 21



The site to be developed

Development boom touted

Century 21 Umina agent, Mr Frank Serra, has welcomed the development of the old Kentucky Fried Chicken site in Trafalgar Ave, as "a catalyst for the whole future development of Umina".

"There has been arguing over the site for two-and-a-half years, but finally there is approval for a three-storey building," he said.

Mr Serra said the proposed building was "significant and nice".

"There will be shops downstairs

and high-security office space upstairs.

"I envisage the future development of the area could be like Port Stephens or Coffs Harbour, but not like the Gold Coast." He said the focus on future development would be on Trafalgar Ave.

"There are large commercial sites still undeveloped in Trafalgar Ave," he said.

"If anything big or exciting is to happen it will be here."

Carl Spears, September 20



Tony Arico (left) draws the winning ticket with the help of Council's general manager, Mr Peter Wilson

Ettalong ratepayer rewarded

An Ettalong ratepayer has won the "early ratepayers reward" competition drawn by Gosford mayor Cr Chris Holstein on September 18 at Council's building in

Gosford.

Mrs Quinn of Ettalong Beach won a seven-night holiday for two to the Gold Coast, courtesy of Tony Arico's Traveland.

Vicki Brown



Want a good read?

Gary Blinco's book, *Down a Country Lane to War*, is about growing up in rough and impoverished conditions in the bush in the nineteen fifties.

The author was a member of a large family, deprived of modern amenities and education, and almost "feral" in outlook and disposition.

Suddenly plucked from this simple life and called into the Army for two years of National Service, he paints a graphic picture of bush and military life. Family history, including love, death and illness merge into the horrors of war as this book unfolds.

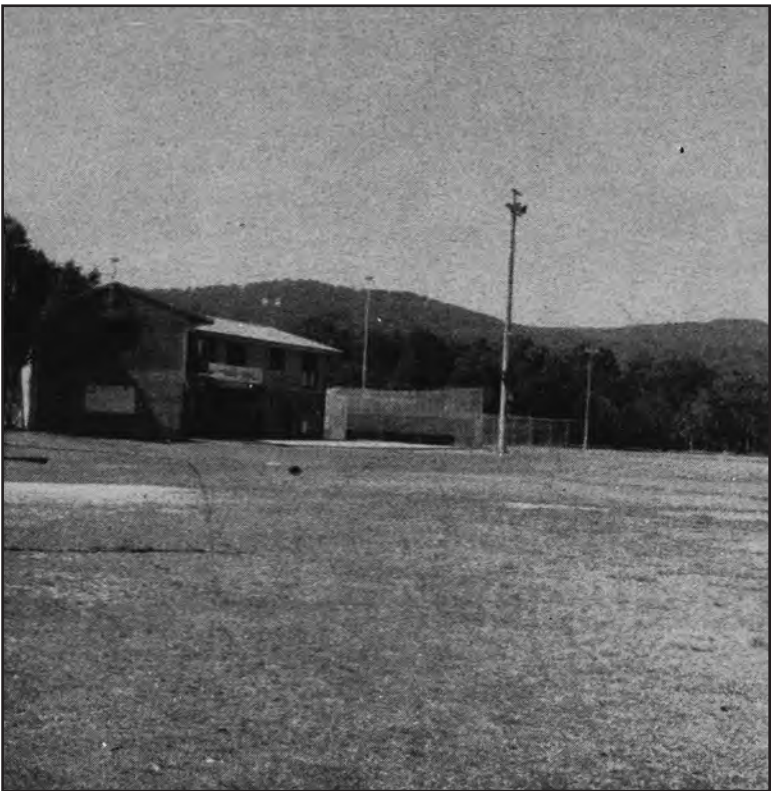
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Copies can be purchased for only \$15 each from the offices of Peninsula News at 4/115 Blackwall Road, Woy Woy, during business hours. Phone 4342 2070

Sport



Umina Cricket Club

Sporting clubs receive \$40,000

Gosford Council has given \$40,000 to sporting clubs under its annual capital improvement grant program after receiving requests totalling \$128,251.

Council considered 24 applications for funding with 13 being successful.

There was only one successful Peninsula sporting group.

Umina Cricket Club received \$616, the full amount they requested, for practice wickets.

Unsuccessful Peninsula clubs were: Peninsula Swans Junior Australian Football League Club, which asked for \$2070 to purchase a linemarker, jumpers and goalpost padding.

Umina Rugby League Football Club, which requested \$3500 to purchase general equipment and a PA system.

Umina Surf Life Saving Club, which requested \$2552 for a surf top upgrade.

All funding is given on a dollar for dollar basis.

The committee making the recommendations to Council, the

Gosford City Sports Council, is made from representatives from the different sports.

Cr Lynne Bockholt said she was unhappy about the process of prioritising requests.

"The Sport's Council don't get to see the actual applications," she said.

"They only get to see Council officer's recommendations.

"I just feel like an observer in all this."

President of the Umina Surf Club, Mr Brian Paul, expressed concerns in addressing Council.

"We were given only a couple of hours notice of the meeting with a message left on our answering machine which wasn't picked up until the next day," he said.

"I don't think this is long enough.

"We were told that there was no appeal system and were not told why our application was not granted.

"Ettalong Beach Club has withdrawn its funding, but our club is still growing.

"It is overwhelming the number of new members we are getting."

Carl Spears, September 12

Narrow grand final loss to Ettalong

The under-16 girls soccer grand final was played at Fagans Park, Point Clare, between Wyong and Southern Ettalong United (SEU).

Wyong led by captain Melissa O'Brien and vice captain Samantha Quinn defeated minor premiers SEU in a thrilling grand final game.

SEU were first to score midway through the first half and Wyong replied straight away with a goal from Olivia Daly after a cross from Melissa O'Brien.

Solid defence from Samantha Quinn, Yvette Bortolussi and Ashleigh Lambert held out SEU.

In the second half, the ball went from one end to another

with Wyong player Tenille Hankin running down the sideline to get fouled.

Wyong was given a free kick outside the box.

Melissa O'Brien took the kick and put it into the back of the net and with 15 minutes to go Wyong held out SEU to a 2-1 win.

September 5



Coaching Class Final- l to r Paul Smith (umpire), Peter Chippindale (winner), Glen Smith (president) and John Medcalfe (runner-up)

Woy Woy bowls news

The Royal New South Wales Bowling Association has put "The Woy Woy Night Maestro Triples" on the bowls calender once more.

The club claims the event as the Peninsula's most prestigious bowling event and will be staged at the bowling club in February 2001.

The coaching class singles, held each year for new and novice bowlers was concluded recently.

The final was won by popular

new member Peter Chippindale, the youthful manager of "Watersedge Accommodation Woy Woy".

Peter had a strong win in the final from another up and coming bowler, John Medcalfe.

The conclusion of third term of Woy Woy High School student involvement saw a triples tournament, which resulted in M Finlay, S Blackman and J Genner defeating M Brown, J Fordham and T Mullins in the final.

School teacher Rob Harwood was congratulated by club officials for encouraging his pupils to accept lawn bowls as their chosen sport.

Honorable mention must be accorded the others in the squad: J Fagan, L Holland,T D Erden, C Stokes, S Bowker, J Doyle, Cdenny, L Hardwick, L Cassidy, P Gregan, A Fauvette, C Morison, C Page, B Peterson, C Skehan, L Wheeler, A Wardrop, H Worrak and M Yuile.

September 21



Woy Woy-High Triples championship competitors -l to r-M. Finlay, Roy Bolewski (coach), S. Blackman, J. Genner, R. Conway, T. Madin, R. Reilly (coach), T. Mullins, J. Fordham and M. Brown.

Lease changes approved

Gosford Council has agreed to changes on a proposed lease of Woy Woy Oval to Woy Woy Leagues Club and Woy Woy Junior Rugby League Football Club.

The clubs asked for the addition of a mini-league field on the eastern side of the ground and the deletion of proposed plantings along the eastern fenceline off the plan.

They also asked for the deletion of a proposed planting along the southern side of the ground on the spectators' mound.

The draft plan was prepared in consultation with the clubs and had been placed on public exhibition.

Council's director of works, Mr Stephen Glen, said the requested changes were minor in nature. He recommended the changes be allowed.

Carl Spears, September 12

Angela wants to be Matilda

Year 11 Umina High School student, Angela Murphy, 16, is on track to one-day make the Australian Women's soccer team.

In December, Angela will play in the Australian all-schools side against New Zealand in Tahiti.

Also this year she has played for the first-placed NSW High Schools team in a competition in Darwin.

She currently plays for the Central Coast Lakers first division side.

Over the last five years she has also represented the Central Coast, combined Catholic schools

and NSW state teams.

In 1996, 1997 and 1998 she was selected in the Jets training squad.

The jets are a reserve NSDW institute team for players that show potential.

Angela started playing soccer when she was five-years-old for the Woy Woy Soccer Club.

She played with Woy Woy for four years before moving to Umina, where she played two years in the juniors.

She said that she has wanted to represent Australia since she was six.

Carl Spears, September 20



Joanna with her awards

Joanna best rebel

Joanna Mann, 11, a student at Woy Woy South Public School, has won the coach's and most improved player award at the Central Coast Rebels Basketball presentation night.

Joanna was a member of the under-12 Rebels Basketball team which took out the NSW Country Championships, the NSW Central Junior League Championships and the NSW State Championships.

Joanna was also selected for the Sydney North team for the State

Primary School's Competition, held earlier this year.

At the presentation this month, Joanna received awards for Most Improved Player in the U12/W and Coach's award for U13W.

The U12 Women's Division 1 was State Champion for 2000.

The team members were Teagan Burce, Christie Mills, Molly Lewis, Yanna McKellar, Joanna Mann, Rebecca Gradidge, Caitlin Eirth, Christie Coombes, Kobie Sandbach.

September 18



John Della Bosca, Minister assisting the Premier for the Central Coast, Councillor Robert Bell, Paralympic torchbearers and the torch itself

Paralympic torch coming to Peninsula

Fifteen local Paralympic Torchbearers, ranging from grandparents to teenagers, received their Paralympic Torch Relay uniforms from the Minister assisting the Premier for the Central Coast, Mr John Della Bosca, on Saturday, September 2.

Overall, 300 torchbearers were picked from 59,000 entries statewide.

"I am delighted to join other residents in celebrating our

participation in the Paralympic Torch Relay.

"The Torch Relay will be visiting the Peninsula on Monday, October 16," Minister Della Bosca said.

The Torch Relay will pass through Bensville, Empire Bay, Daleys Point, Booker Bay, Ettalong Beach, Blackwall, Woy Woy, Umina Beach and Patonga.

Peninsula torch bearers are Tracey Hellyer, Camilla Chissell, Kathy Gerrie, Robert McAlister, Kylie Glew, Rebecca Thomsen,

Beryl Cain, Don Nesbitt, Antoinette O'Connor, Colleen Smith, Dustin Baldry, Kahlum Barnes, Amy Clarke, Glenn Diggelman, Laura Freeman, and Kerry Duff.

Deputy mayor Cr Robert Bell said: "Gosford Council was pleased to be able to make a contribution of \$15,000 to the Paralympics.

"This is one of the largest contributions made by any Council and was unanimously supported by all councillors."

September 12

Junior bowlers set trend

Woy Woy Bowling Club has acquired two new junior members, the first in many years.

"Luke Holland and Cameron Leacock both have excellent potential and are very keen," said member Mr Ted Martin.

"I am sure all members will accept and encourage these young bowlers along the way," he said.

"When we started this scheme nine weeks ago, we had 21 Woy Woy High School students attend on the first day.

"We are planning to organise

a competition at the end of this school term between Woy Woy and Umina High Schools to encourage these young people to participate in organised bowls."

Mr Martin thanked members for their interest and help in the scheme including Roy Bolewske, Gordon Armstrong, Graham Kenney, Glen Smith, Ian O'Reilly, Keith Miller, Roy Conway Jnr, Steve Cook and Ron Riley.

"Members have donated clothing and so forth towards the junior scheme clothing pool," Mr Martin said.

September 18

Joel makes state level

Joel Weeks from Woy Woy South Public School has represented his school in State Rugby League Championships for both 1999 and 2000 season.

Joel was playing in the position of dummy half and also five eight.

He said he enjoyed playing and was proud to represent Woy Woy South Public School.

His school coach was Scott Campbell.

Seven Umina boys make reps

Representative honours are again abundant this season for the Umina District Junior Cricket Club.

In what is one of its strongest showings ever, the club has had seven of its players selected by the Gosford Wyong District Junior Cricket Association to play in both the District Cricket Association and Hunter Valley competitions.

The games take place on Sundays throughout December

and January, with the District Cricket Association games including teams such as Bankstown and Penrith, while the Hunter competition includes venues as far afield as Morpeth and Maitland.

The boys selected are Ross Watson (U/15), Ben Crowson (U/15), Nathan Crowson (U/12), Chris Clement, Daniel Friend and Matthew Jones (U/11), and Matt Goodwin (U/10).

Kerrie Friend, September 15

Warmer weather brings more surface fish to area

The warmer weather is bringing with it an increase in the number of surface fish in the area.

For the inside boaties, there are fish to be taken at the leases and on Saratoga Flats.

There are still quite a few blackfish at the pipes off the Esplanade at Ettalong, the old road bridge at Woy Way and the old ballast heap at Southern Ettalong.

Things are also starting to warm

up outside with bonito and stripeys turning up.

Some good catches of flathead have been taken off Copacabana and near the two reefs, fisher.

man are getting bream and pan sized snapper.

Further out, the tuna are still there but only in patches.

However it is worth it when you find the patch, so hang in there.

Ken Bartlett, Jamies Bait & Tackle, September 21



Olympic diggers

Woy Woy resident, Mr Bill Hall, will accompany four World War I diggers to the Olympics.

Mr Hall received an invitation from the Department of Veteran Affairs to take the four ex-servicemen to gymnastics in Sydney.

The four diggers are Mr Guy Bard, 104, Mr Ted Smout, 102, Mr Eric Abrahams, 102, all from Queensland and Mr Charlie Mance, 99, from Merrylands, NSW, who is "just a baby", according to Mr Hall.

Mr Hall, who has received an Order of Australia and a British Empire medal, said: "It was a bloody pleasant surprise to be invited to take the diggers and I am very happy about it."

The diggers were flown down and all

expenses paid by the Commemoration section of the Department of Veterans' Affairs.

Mr Hall has had a long association with World War I veterans, having looked after their needs from 1960.

He initiated the return of Anzacs to Gallipoli in 1990 by approaching the then Minister of Defence, Mr Kim Beasley.

"The emotion at Gallipoli on that visit was overwhelming," he said.

He also initiated the Gallipoli scholarship which is open to descendants of Anzacs attending university in NSW or the ACT.

Each year under the scholarship, two grants of \$3000 for a year are given to descendants under the age of 25 based on "60 per cent necessity and 40 per cent

merit".

Mr Hall himself served in World War II and was enlisted from October 1939 to December 1946.

He served in the UK, the Middle East including the siege of Tobruk and twice in New Guinea against the Japanese.

An ex-state president of the RSL, he formed the First World War Association in 1979.

"We used to go out regularly, but there is very few World War I diggers left," he said.

Mr Hall said there was only two Gallipoli veterans left and about 23 World War veterans all up.

The four he will accompany to the Olympics fought on the Western Front.

Carl Spears, September 20

Macca's staff share the spirit

The McDonald's crew from Woy Woy was selected to work at one of the seven McDonald's restaurants at the Olympic Games

"It's exciting that crew from our area have been selected to work at our most important restaurants ever built in Australia," said Mr John Ursino, owner-operator of McDonald's Woy Woy.

More than 1300 staff Australia-wide have been selected to work at the Olympic Games.

"There are two restaurants in the Olympic Village for athletes and our crew will also be serving media from around the world in the two press centres," said John.

"Our crew have undergone some intensive training for their Olympic work and will be well prepared for their tasks at Games time.

"Without the assistance from the Central Coast area, it would have been difficult to guarantee the level of service that our customers have come to expect from Mc Donald's," said John.

"Following the Olympic Games are the Paralympic Games, where we will be operating four restaurants at Sydney Olympic Park including the Olympic



Central Coast McDonald's staff at the Olympics including Woy Woy workers

Village, and we have a number of our crew who will work through both events."

"This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and I am delighted that the local area will be represented."

"I am sure that they will have many

exciting Olympic experiences to share with other crew and customers when they return to our store after the Games," said John.

September 12



MacKillop Cottage fate in balance

Mary Mackillop Cottage in Blackwall Rd, Woy Woy, will remain closed indefinitely while the Catholic Church decides its fate.

The cottage in recent years has been a haven for the Peninsula homeless.

Parish priest, Father Colin Munday said the cottage was originally a meeting place for parish members, but had become a 'soup kitchen' for the homeless in recent times.

Gosford Council received a petition

from eight local residents, who said they wanted clarification on the cottage's use.

They said they were concerned about "squatters" camping for extended periods around the cottage.

The petitioners also requested the cottage be policed.

Father Munday was hopeful a use could be found again for the cottage.

"I see there is a legitimate need for the church to care for the homeless," he said.

"The cottage did a wonderful, wonderful job.

"It worries me that it is no longer in use." To the petitioners he said: "It is an issue that people feel unsafe in their own homes.

"I don't know what the options are at this point (for the cottage).

"However, I would like to strongly commend the efforts of the volunteers over the years.

"There have been many wonderful success stories from the cottage's past clients."

Carl Spears, September 23



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