



The place it all began - trees cut down along the Esplanade

Leisure centre plans reviewed

Gosford Council has decided to undertake a site inspection and review of the plans for the Peninsula Region Leisure Centre.

It is expected to include a 50m swimming pool and diving facilities.

Cr Lynne Bockholt said the committee overseeing the leisure centre had looked to economise by not including the pool.

"If councillors think they can improve the plan, great, but inclusion of the pool means a rearrangement of the plan," she said.

"I believe we'll now see the gym and dry area at the front to give the place a welcoming look and allow people going past to see activities, then we'll have the pools with the basketball courts behind.

"The basketball courts are full size with all the trimmings and will be very much welcomed by the basketball community who at present are using the soon to be demolished court at Woy Woy Community Centre and the Woy Woy High School court."

She said council officers would meet soon with some of the pool's user groups.

"It was gratifying to get councillors' full support for the Peninsula Regional Leisure Centre.

"Cr's Holstein, Penton and myself, with council staff, have been working on the plans for some time and were delighted

with the other councillors' positive reaction to the centre."

Meanwhile, the tender for construction of the community centre and Little Theatre in McMasters Rd, Woy Woy, had been advertised.

She said the tender should be awarded before the end of April with construction underway within "a month or two" of that.

Cr Bockholt said the heritage architect for the extensions to Woy Woy Library had been selected by the library building committee.

"We are awaiting approval by Gosford Library Committee and then Council," she said.

"Council realises the importance of this suite of heritage buildings to the Peninsula and an extensive public consultation process is planned including meetings with Council's Heritage Advisory Committee.

"Work could be under way by the end of the year."

The redesign of Anderson Park in Woy Woy is close to completion, according to Cr Bockholt.

"The fountain is waiting for a pebbled concrete surround and water shoots before it is complete and then it should be a spectacular feature at the entry to the Peninsula.

"Some more trees are to be planted for shade and I understand there are to be more flower plantings," she said.

Carl Spears, February 7

Shipping container for foreshore

Gosford mayor Cr Chris Holstein has ordered a shipping container to stand on the spot where trees were cut down along The Esplanade at Ettalong.

However, the Mayor's initiative does not have the support of two Peninsula councillors.

Both Crs Penton and Wales have opposed the move.

The used container would be used to block the views, previously blocked by trees, of nearby

residents.

The container, approximately 6m long, 2.4m high and 2.4m wide, would be painted with palm trees and a vandalism message would be painted on the side.

Charges had not been laid for the vandalism.

Cr Holstein has said that council found it hard to fine offenders because of the lack of willingness of witnesses to come forward.

"We have had five or six incidents along that stretch over the last six months," he said.

"It's not (just) vandalism, but people seeking better views.

"You don't chainsaw trees and poison shrubs to vandalise."

Cr Holstein said the container idea came about after repeated unsuccessful attempts using more subtle methods.

"We have done letterbox drops and we've put up signs, but when the sign was removed and gratified and we had to replace it, it was the straw that broke the camel's back," he said.

Continued page 2

Gallacher launches police petition

Another petition requesting the presence of police on general assistance duties at Woy Woy station has been launched.

Central Coast-based Liberal Upper House MP, Mr Mike Gallacher, who is a former policeman, launched the petition, saying there were a high level of attacks and robberies on the Peninsula.

"Crime has become a major concern to the Central Coast, particularly for older residents and young families in the Woy Woy Peninsula area.

"There continues to be a high level of attacks and robberies in the

area, particularly illustrated by the case late last year of a 96-year-old Ettalong woman who had \$2000 worth of cash and jewellery stolen from her home.

"Many of these crimes are committed by drug users supporting their habit and in this case used needles were found in a nearby laneway.

"We all know that one of the most effective crime deterrents is a highly visible police presence.

"In this light, it is appalling that the Woy Woy Police Station no longer has any general duties officers.

"The result is slower response times to calls for assistance, no

beat police patrols and basically no effective community policing presence.

"For example, it could take police 25 minutes longer to respond to a call from the Peninsula if they are having to travel from Gosford Police Station.

"Member for Peats, Ms Marie Andrews, has failed the Peninsula community by remaining silent on the issue.

"I am launching this petition calling for general duties police to be restored to Woy Woy Police Station.

"It is a step that is urgently needed for the wellbeing of the Peninsula community."

Carl Spears, February 1

Patonga drinking

A recent meeting of the Patonga Progress Association has reawakened debate over the alcohol-free zone in Patonga.

Six councillors and the Member for Robertson, Mr Jim Lloyd, attended the meeting.

Gosford Council recently received petitions with more than 450 signatures about the issue.

However, it seems unlikely that council will reverse its decision to impose the zone.

See page 9 to read the views of some councillors.

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Who's new?

We have been lucky enough over the past few weeks to attract a number of volunteers who wish to become involved on a regular basis with the paper.

Two of these have been coming in regularly and have helped enormously.

Our thanks therefore go to Richard Van Wirdum and Fiona Forbes for the generous donation of their time and effort.

I hope they continue to enjoy themselves and that we see a lot more of them.

If you wish to become involved, please let us know..

Cec Bucello, Manager

About Peninsula News

Peninsula News is owned by Peninsula Community Access Newspaper Inc, an incorporated non-profit association.

Its aims include providing a viable, non-partisan news medium and forum exclusively for the Peninsula and developing a sense of community on the Peninsula.

The newspaper is operated by Mail Order Mall under licence from the association.

The paper actively encourages all groups and individuals on the Peninsula to contribute their news, opinions and items of interest for publication.

Contributions to the paper are edited to consistent standards of readability. Guidelines are available for intending contributors.

Community members are also invited to contribute by taking photos, typing, joining the association, or participating in committees (the association needs a secretary).

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

Over one third of these are distributed through schools, with the rest at licensed clubs, libraries, retirement villages and other key sites to be picked up by readers. Call for a list of distribution points

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Container for reserve

From page 1

"The Esplanade has times of high winds and volatile seas.

"The vegetation is there to help the dunes stay there.

"In times of high seas, we can lose dunes, roads and homes.

"Every man and his dog will sue council if that happens.

"People mightn't believe me, but go and look at some photos of Wamberal from the 1970s.

"In 30 to 50 years time, I don't want someone to try and sue me for a lack of due care.

"I'm on leave soon and I believe some of the other councillors will try to over-ride my decision."

Cr Holstein said council would replant the trees in a rational and sensible manner with a more planned focus.

"But there is no excuse for cutting down the vegetation," he said.

"Some have said the container is ludicrous, lunacy, craziness, but something has to be done.

"This is a message for the community to keep their ears and eyes open."

Cr Holstein said he chose the spot for the container because that spot was the most extensively damaged and was the first spot attacked.

"The container will stay for three to four weeks," he said.

"If the vegetation continues to be cleared, it will stay for 12 months."

Cr Judith Penton said she totally disagreed with the idea.

"It's playing kindergarten games with adults."

She said allowing children to paint palm trees on the side of the container was legalising graffiti.

Cr Debra Wales said: "The other day, two trees were cut down where no view was gained.

"I think it is just vandalism.

"The mayor's idea is not the answer,

"The answer is to meet with the residents along the Esplanade and make a plan of management, where the residents get a sense of ownership."

Cr Wales said the residents had told her they thought a plan of management would be good idea.

"This means they would become a type of unofficial Bush Care group."

She said tea trees and banksias were unnecessary to hold the dunes together and that low shrub and grasses were adequate.

"The container wouldn't happen on Gosford waterfront or at Point Frederick, so why on the Peninsula?

"I've been inundated with phone calls saying the idea is ludicrous.

"For years, we have been trying to lift the profile of Umina and Ettalong Beach, but with this our profile goes down the drain.

"If we want magnificent trees, then plant mature trees so the view is under the canopy.

"Viewing platforms, low shrubs and grasses and tall trees are options that can be examined in a plan of management."

Cr Craig Doyle said he had received no correspondence in opposition to the mayor's plans but over 100 letters and email in support.

Carl Spears, February 2

Funding for carpentry course

The Everglades Country Club has announced that it will provide \$5000 to community-based training organisation Work Wise to assist young unemployed people to learn carpentry skills.

Coordinator of the Work Wise Ettalong training centre, Jane Thomas, said the funding was most welcome and would allow the centre to purchase timber for the Introduction to Trades course which begins next month.

Apart from hand and power tool training, young people attending the course will participate in team-building, numeracy and literacy training and career development workshops, Ms Thomas said.

Enquiries for the Introduction to Trades and other courses at Ettalong can be directed to Work Wise on 4344 3040.

Carl Spears, January 31

Markets off to good start

Woy Woy Leagues Club's community markets were off to a good start on February 4 with over 35 stalls and a constant stream of shoppers, according to the club's event manager, Di Hawkins.

"We had a jumping castle, buskers, arts and crafts, bric-a-brac and lots more on a perfect day," she said.

"We were also pleased with the comments and the surprising number of new stall holders who booked for the next market day."

The next market day will be held on March 4 and the club has plans to expand to the undercover car park within a few months, if the markets continue to grow.

Cec Bucello, February 7

Wyoming business moves here

After trading for three years at Wyoming, "The Coathanger" has moved its retail premises to the corner of Blackwall Rd and Victoria St, WoyWoy.

Proprietor Judy Holmes said: "I felt that the Peninsula was in need of a store for new and recycled clothing.

"I cater for .all ages, .from babies to seniors, both male and female and look to provide real value for money," she said.

Mrs Holmes has lived in the Woy Woy area for 11 years and enjoys being closer to home and her children's school.

Mrs Holmes was also pleased with the lower rent and said that she felt that there was more potential for her business at her new location.

Cec Bucello, January 11

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Ted and Mavis Turner

Ted and Mavis celebrate 60 years

Ted and Mavis Turner celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on February 1, having been married at St John's Church, Maroubra on 1 February 1941.

Their anniversary celebration was held at the Quakers Inn with their proud and expanded family.

During this celebration, Ted's words of advice to all gathered were "togetherness and diamonds forever".

Ted was originally raised in Guildford and Mavis in Ingleburn.

In 1948, they purchased a home in Guildford where they raised three children, Bruce (deceased), Beverley and Terry.

Ted served his apprenticeship with the Railways Department and emerged as a qualified fitter and turner.

Mavis became a milliner making fashionable and unique hats for the rich and famous.

In 1936, Ted joined The Royal Australian Naval Rescue and was discharged in 1945.

During this period Ted, having placed his trade on hold, was mobilised in 1939 at the outbreak of World War II and served as a stoker.

He was later demobilised to complete his apprenticeship, then re-entered the navy as an ordinance artificer.

He was then promoted to the rank of Chief Petty Officer and served on ships in many theatres of war.

One of Ted's most memorable and rewarding duties was during escort duty in the Philippines during General Macarthur's return and being aboard the only Australian ship liberating and returning the

prisoners of war from Changi and Malaysia.

In 1945, Ted rejoined the NSW Government Railways working as a tradesman until 1960, when he and Mavis purchased a successful retail business in Merrylands, specialising in bicycles and toys.

In 1975, Ted joined Millard Caravans as a sales consultant and was later promoted to branch manager.

Both Ted and Mavis retired in 1980 and moved to Gunderman, near Wisemans Ferry, and then to Woy Woy, an area Ted's father had been associated with since the turn of the century.

They have both been active in numerous service and welfare associations and there are very few war widows and senior welfare recipients who have not been helped by Ted and Mavis on the Peninsula.

In addition to Ted's various service and welfare awards, he is a life member of the Naval Association, a legatee with Brisbane Waters Legacy, a justice of the peace and certainly a person who can be relied upon, having assisted countless citizens.

Ted is also involved with several sport and recreational activities and, with son Terry, he was the last person to start in the City to Surf fun run this century.

Not to be outdone, Mavis has spent many years with Meals on Wheels, has been a Rotarian and was an untiring charity fundraiser.

Last year, Ted and Mavis retired from all welfare organisations to concentrate on their immediate family. They will be sorely missed by the community.

Terry Turner, February 1

Most drive near speed limit

Council's traffic committee has released the results of its courtesy speed check trailer and found most people drive near the speed limit.

The speed check was part of the "How Fast are you Really Going" campaign, which provided a radar display trailer to detect and display the speed of passing drivers.

The trailer was designed to encourage speeding drivers to travel at a safer speed.

The data was collected between October and December last year.

The speed check was used outside a number of schools and on various local roads.

Some of the results are below:

Empire Bay Drive near the public school during three continuous days within school hours.

The site had a posted speed limit of 40kmh and 85 per cent motorists averaging 39.5kmh.

The top speed recorded was 52kmh.

Karingi St in the Ettalong Public School zone was recorded on one day in November.

The street had a 40kmh speed limit and the average speed was 45.6kmh with a 74kmh top speed.

Barrenjoey Rd, also in the Ettalong Public School zone was recorded on two days in December.

This zone had a speed limit of 40kmh and the average speed was 53kmh with a top speed of 82kmh.

Bourke Rd in Ettalong was recorded over a one-and-a-half-hour period in November.

The speed limit was 50kmh and the average speed was 49kmh with a top speed of 58kmh.

Barrenjoey Rd in Ettalong was recorded for a total of two hours



Warning sign for a speed camera on Woy Woy Rd

over a two-day period in December.

The posted speed limit was 60kmh, average 55kmh and top speed 75kmh.

Helmsman Boulevard on St Huberts Island was recorded for 7.5 hours over three days in December and had a posted speed limit of 50kmh.

The average speed was 62.3kmh with a top speed of 91kmh.

In other traffic news, the committee is considering a

roundabout for the intersection of The Boulevard and Brisbane Water Dve in Woy Woy.

A request for extra disabled parking spaces near Woy Woy train station from Member for Peats, Ms Marie Andrews, has been denied.

The traffic committee said the current six spaces were adequate.

Another request from Ms Andrews to prohibit the use of skateboards and bicycles on the footpath near Ettalong Markets and the cinema was accepted.

Carl Spears, February 6

Andrews expands her resident interview schedule

Peats MP Ms Marie Andrews has announced plans to conduct constituent interviews at Ettalong and Umina.

They will be in addition to interviews carried out in her office in Blackwall Rd, Woy Woy.

Ms Andrews has advised that she will now conduct constituent interviews at the Ettalong Senior Citizen's centre from 1 pm on the first Monday of each month, public

holidays excluded.

From Monday, March 5, she will also conduct interviews at Umina in the Umina Library Tea Rooms, Bullion Street, from 2pm.

Anyone wishing to make an appointment for an interview should telephone her office 43424122.

Carl Spears, February 7



Marie Andrews

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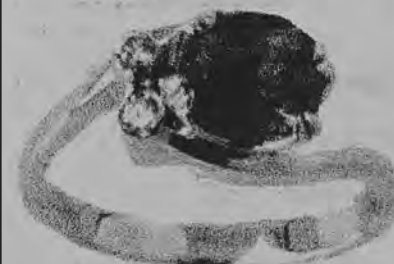
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Forum

We can make a difference

I was very pleased that I rushed home from work last Wednesday in order to attend the meeting "Save Our Suburbs" at East Gosford Community Hall.

It gave me hope for the future to see that there are many other people who are also concerned about what is happening to our living environment, and who are concerned about the concreting of our land and the ensuing problems which include flooding, being so evident in the last few days.

It was also exciting to hear a councillor, Laura Bennett,

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.

Mayor of Ku-Ring-Gai Council, speak with such conviction about community participation in their plans for sustainable urban development.

I realised that if we do not like what developers are doing, even with our council's consent, it is possible for us to

make a difference.

I urge everyone who is at all interested in what is happening to the Central Coast, and more particularly the Peninsula, to attend the next meeting at the same place on 4 March.

Margaret Lund, Woy Woy

Water rates fair and equitable

Residents are now receiving water rates notices from Gosford Council under the new "user-pays" system.

According to Gosford Council, "the average household, which currently uses about 220 kilolitres per year, will pay about \$5 a month more for water".

The system introduces two new features: an availability charge of \$70 per year for a standard residential connection and a charge of 65 cents per kilolitre of water used.

Previously the standard allowance was \$153 and a water allowance of 200 kilolitres with excess charged at 65 cents per kilolitre.

Rebates to pensioners may also be available.

The availability charges are included in the rate notice.

The new charges pass the cost on to those who use more water, while those who only have a block of land or use less than the average user will now pay less.

A user-pays principle to water consumption is commonly seen

as a fair and equitable system in many areas including the Hunter and Sydney areas.

Residents should be satisfied with water and sewerage charges of \$95.25 per quarter (excluding drainage charges) and water at 65 cents per kilolitre.

Most Sydney Water customers pay \$96.25 per quarter and water at 92.5 cents per kilolitre.

If residents are concerned about the cost of water, council can be contacted on 4325 8222 or visit the website at www.gosford.nsw.gov.au

Using water-saving techniques can reduce consumption, lower the bill and reduce long-term capital expenditure by council on unnecessary water projects.

Tips include shorter showers, dishwashing full loads or using the economy mode and washing clothes using the full-load method.

A tip for those without a dual-flush toilet is to insert a house brick where it will not block the system.

Stephen McNamara, Umina

From harmony to chaos

For 40,000 years before recorded time, the Central Coast, at any given time was home to around 380 Aboriginal people.

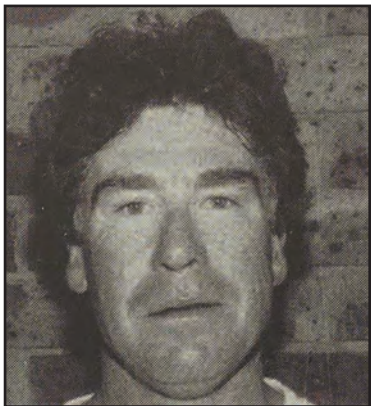
After discovery by Cook in 1770 and thereafter by Phillip in 1788, our local indigenous peoples dwindled sadly to perhaps less than 41 members by the late 1840's.

The arrival of the first white settlers heralded a major smallpox epidemic and, by 1789, many of the Eora or coastal tribes perished, as a result of this white man's disease.

When Bongaree, a Brisbane Water Aboriginal man was finally convinced to relocate his family to Sydney aided by Governor Macquarie around 1821, the Peninsula and Gosford regions were deemed Terra Nullias and proclaimed Crown land.

Macquarie was quick to issue land grants to entitled British settlers, with three grants disbursed after the removal of Bongaree's family.

The following data reflects a staggering history of uncontrolled growth and is taken from Commonwealth census records for the Brisbane Water region, since 1821.



1829 - 100 settlers had the coast to themselves

1833 - 315 settlers were registered in the region

1888 - 800+ railway workers built the Woy Woy Tunnel and railway line from Sydney

1911 - 660 residents enjoyed the bushland (that hadn't been logged and shipped to Sydney)

1917 - The township of Umina was established and started to flourish as a holiday destination

1947 - The population grew steadily to about 1,710 residents

1954 - 7,396 residents called the Coast their home (a five-fold population increase over seven years)

1966 - 16,287 residents (the population grew by about 220% over a 12-year period)

1993 - 100,000 residents (a five-fold population growth rate over 27 years)

1999 - 153,319 residents (the population growth had slowed to around 53% over six years)

Born in Gosford in 1961, I witnessed with other "locals", the population explosion that transpired to mould the Peninsula and Gosford regions over the past 40 years.

Within this short time, we have seen our coastal life, natural eco-systems and tourism attraction potential slip significantly, due to the pressures and continued advancement of regional development and urbanisation.

What is expected for the year 2001 and beyond?

Clearly, a more pro-active and ecologically-sustainable development plan for the Peninsula and Gosford region must be urgently addressed, if we are to cope with the forecast invasion of an estimated 100,000 residents, calling these areas their new home.

Only then, can we expect our current era of retrospective action and environmental damage to end and instead achieve a much brighter future for our children to enjoy.

Wayne Peters, Koolewon

My Good Samaritan

On Wednesday, January 24, I travelled from Warnervale to Tascott, where I was staying with my niece and family.

After alighting from the train, I suddenly realised I could not remember the name of the street where my niece lived.

It was approximately 4.45pm and very hot.

I walked along and up the first street hoping to see one that would jog my memory - without success.

So, feeling unable to proceed in the heat, decided to ask someone to look up the name in the telephone directory and discover the street.

The second doorbell I tried, a lady invited me in and asked her

son to find the name for me as even with my spectacles, I could not read the small print.

Name and street were quickly found and that kind lady said she would drive me there because of the heat.

Her equally considerate son said she could use his newly acquired car, parked at the front and soon I was back home.

Mrs Vivian Booth is the name of my Good Samaritan and I would like to say a heartfelt thank you to her.

How wonderful to encounter so much thoughtfulness

Nancy Kraster, Melbourne

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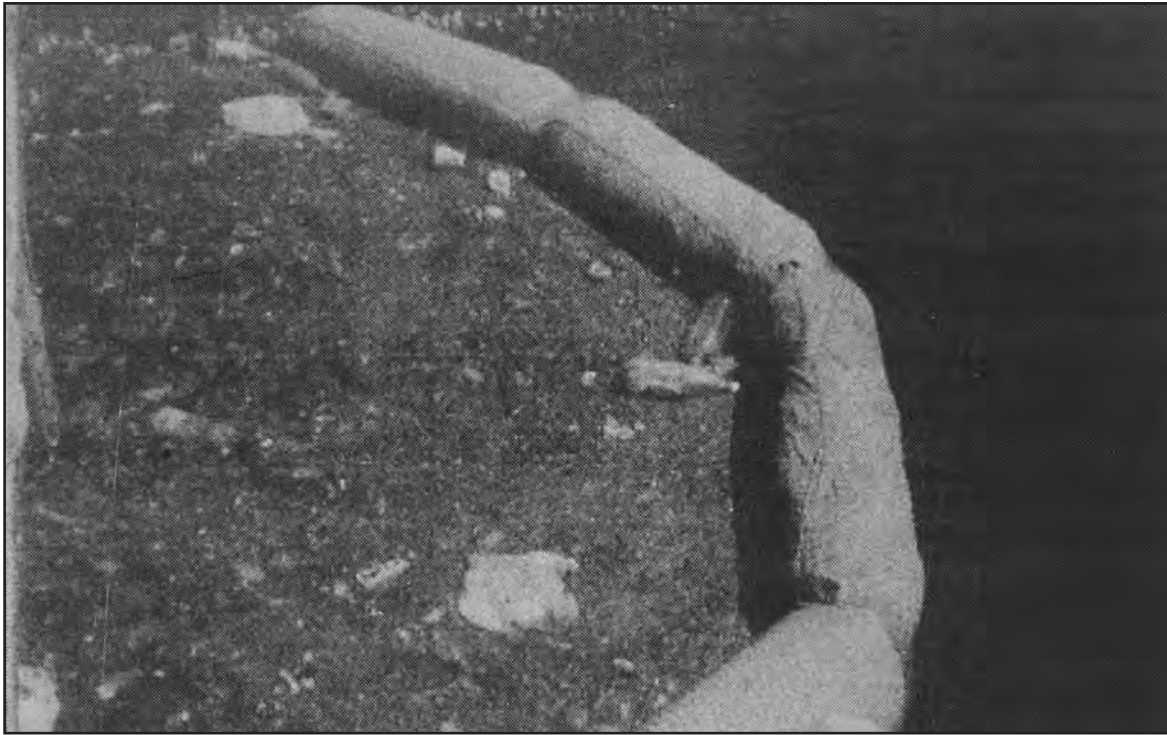
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Gross litter trap boom at Umina

Business educated on stormwater pollution

Gosford City Council will shortly begin an education program with Peninsula businesses to raise awareness of stormwater pollution.

The program will be funded by an EPA Stormwater Trust grant awarded to Council last November.

The program aims to develop and implement a partnership between Gosford City Council and small businesses.

"The partnership will address stormwater pollution issues as part of Council's ongoing 'Use your Brain not the Drain' campaign and the implementation of Council's Stormwater Management Plan," said the council's environmental project officer, Ms Patricia Donnelly.

Over the coming months businesses on the Peninsula will be encouraged to join an Environmental Alliance with Council to undertake assessments of business practices.

The program will also be run

in Terrigal, Gosford and East Gosford.

"Council realises that increasing knowledge and awareness lead to a better understanding of the environmental impacts of work practices," said Ms Donnelly.

Council has formed a steering committee to aid in the delivery of this program.

The committee is composed of Council officers and representatives of the Central Coast Waste Board, Chambers of Commerce and the Central Coast Community Environment Network.

Peninsula Chamber of Commerce secretary Mr Mark Snell has welcomed the program.

"We are keen to see this program as being a partnership indeed, not just a one-way exercise.

"Water quality of the beaches and bays around the Peninsula is as important in developing our tourist industry as it is in our enjoyment of the water as residents.

"In the past, the Council's own

practices have not been beyond reproach.

"There is a lot more the council could be doing to help address water quality issues around the Peninsula.

"I am hopeful this committee will provide the opportunity to have some of these broader issues addressed as well as providing information about what we can do ourselves," said Mr Snell.

Last December, surveys of local businesses were undertaken to gain information about their knowledge of stormwater pollution issues.

Over the next few weeks, newsletters further explaining the program will be distributed.

Also in the near future, workshops will be organised and all small business operators will be encouraged to attend.

If any small business would like further information on the program, or doesn't receive a newsletter, contact Patricia Donnelly on 4325 8175.

Carl Spears, February 7

Recognition for bush care

The Pearl Beach Bushcare Group, formed in April 2000, has been officially recognised after working for many years as the Street Trees Committee of the Pearl Beach Progress Association.

Gosford Council's Bushcare Officer, Ms Robyn Urquhart, said official BushCare status meant the group received tools, training and contact with the Natural Heritage Trust for advice on suitable species, legislation and insurance.

Official status also meant the group was in a position to apply for Natural Heritage Trust or Catchment Management funding, she said.

This grass-roots environmental group began in 1965 when concern arose about the erosion of the tiny beachfront picnic reserve.

The reserve was being wrecked rapidly by the effects of drought, the nor-easterly summer breezes and especially by increasing human traffic walking haphazardly from the road onto the beach.

An approach was made to Gosford Council and the reply was simply that "council funds were not available to erect fences on beachfronts".

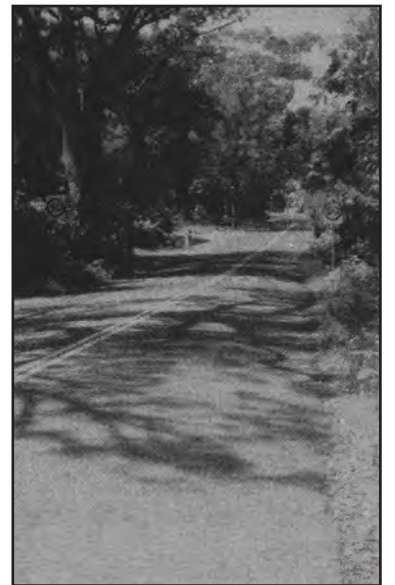
So, the Progress Association elected a sub-committee for the preservation of the reserve.

Cake stalls and raffles were held to raise money for wire and posts. With council permission and voluntary labour, the remnant dune in front of the post office store was fenced and pedestrian traffic was channelled diagonally onto the beach at each end.

Not everybody was happy.

Some locals felt that their civil rights were being challenged and under the cover of darkness they would cut the wires and re-establish old pathways through the banksias to the beach.

The next day, the sub-committee would repair the fence and gradually the fence won the day.



Bush setting at Pearl Beach

It is interesting to note that council in following years extended the fenced dune area at Pearl beach and now practically every beach on the east coast of Australia has fencing installed by local councils to protect dunes and beachfront reserves.

The sub-committee was unstoppable and became the Street Tree Committee as it went on to initiate a project of planting trees on street verges.

It worked towards establishing an original theme of flowering trees based on the fame and success of the jacarandas in Grafton.

After considerable debate and research, a pale pink callistemon was chosen and propagated by a local resident, Mr Percy Cousins.

Some of these callistemons are still evident today, while many have been replaced by more suitable indigenous species.

Over the years, as individuals have come and gone, the group has waxed and waned.

However, the current Bushcare group is a dedicated team of people all intent on continuing the important work of keeping Pearl Beach green and beautiful.

Lois Westlake, January 3

Watersedge



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Dog policy is crazy

The article "Dogs face beach ban" written by Carl Spears in the Peninsula News (December 19) leads me to think that once again the Gosford Council has on its board people with blinkers on.

Or is it that they dislike the people at Ettalong Beach?

Does the Council really think that we lack the proper breeding or that we all came from foreign shores and don't speak English too well and left school in the first grade? Or perhaps it's the other way round?

The area proposed for dogs off the leash at Ettalong beach is between Kourung St and Barrenjoey Rd.

This is absolutely crazy - half the families in Ettalong congregate in this area.

Fishermen use it every day.

At the moment, it is bad enough under restriction where many dogs off-and-on-the-leash are caught up in the lines.

I have seen two people attacked by dogs off-the-leash in this area.

Perhaps you would like to see more of us attacked if this idiotic proposal is enforced in this particular area.

Do you want the fishing enthusiast to move elsewhere? Remember they also have to pay for the privilege.

Whether the council allows this area to be used for free-range dogs or not, it will not make any difference because it will 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.

ignored until a few examples are made against the offenders.

The article states that dog owners are stakeholders in the city and enjoy and expect the opportunities to exercise their dogs on the city's many beaches.

This may be true to a large extent but some owners are not always happy to collect what these dogs leave behind them whether the dog is under control or not.

Instead they leave dog shit for our infants to inspect and play with before a horrified parent discovers too late what it is that the child finds so interesting.

The unsuspecting parents often wonder what that offensive odour is in the car or in their home until they realise what they have stepped on a few moments before.

If dogs are going to be allowed to run free on the beach then let them run free on all beaches not just confine them to a specific part of Ettalong Beach where people are not supposed to understand what the hell the Council is on about.

Define the area and mark it

clearly so we all know where it is and most of all police it.

The defined proposed section that council has allocated is not the area for free-ranging dogs.

The council must go back to the drawing board.

We on this Peninsula are reasonably well-informed and as ratepayers have rights also.

I was attacked by a small dog recently which was running free in the proposed beach area. Fortunately, there was very little damage to me.

The owner said I should not be walking on the beach but on the footpath above the beach.

In other words, his dog had greater rights than me.

If I may make a suggestion, it will be under protest but if any area is allocated and I hope it isn't then it should be west of Barrenjoey to Augusta St.

All dogs should be under control at all times on- or off-the-leash; that requirement is the owner's responsibility.

J Howlett, Ettalong Beach

Dogs healthier than drug users

I am writing this letter in response to your article on "Dogs face beach ban" on December 11.

I agree there should be areas on the local beaches where dogs can be off-the-leash to exercise.

And I strongly feel that the rest of the beach should be accessible to responsible dog owners.

I have walked my dog with a leash at the local beaches for nine years.

And I don't see why I, and others like me, should be penalised for the small number of irresponsible owners, who do not have their dogs on leashes or pick up after them.

You probably only hear about the bad behaviour of dogs and their owners.

I bet you never hear about the families and owners of well-behaved dogs that have a good time down at the beach.

Dogs are a part of the family.

Why should they be locked up at home when we want a walk or a day at the beach?

Why don't you ban all the people from the beaches, because of the drunks and drug-users and all the people who leave plastic and rubbish on the beaches?

I think these irresponsible people are more of a danger to the public and the environment than a handful of dogs.

What is healthier, a family outing at the beach with the family dog or drunks and drug-users?

I know which ones I would ban.

H. Walker, Umina

Dogs need the beach

I write in disgust at the attitude of Gosford Council regarding banning dogs on beaches.

Dogs need to be socialised and exercised off lead and the beach is the safest place for them to run free and play with other dogs.

If the Council's only objection to them being on the beach is because some inconsiderate animal owner's do not pick up after their dogs, then we need to ban not only dogs from beaches but people who bring their food with them and leave their rubbish behind, the fishermen who leave behind fishing lines, hooks, empty plastic bags that contained their bait and cigarette butts, all things that are environmentally unfriendly.

Why penalise responsible dog owners for others less considerate?

People from all walks of life own dogs for companions. Some people have dogs instead of children. Often older people only have the dog for companionship when they have lost their spouse.

They take their animals with them when they go out for a walk and it is becoming increasingly difficult to socialise any animal as there are fewer places to take them.

If they aren't exercised sufficiently, ie allowed to run free, then you will find a lot of barking dogs in people's back yards.

Women are being warned not

to walk on the beach on their own because of the rapist that is still at large.

If you cannot take your dog with you then you can't walk on the beach and that pleasure is then removed.

It seems that our freedom and those little "luxuries" of life that do not cost anything, ie walking on a beach in the early morning and evening, are being eroded away.

Why can't we have access to beaches before say 9 am and after 4.30 pm?

Tasmania allows animals before and after a certain time in summer and doesn't have restrictions at any other time.

If the Council needs to police it to raise revenue, then fine people who don't pick up after their dogs.

I walk every day on my local beach and I pick up after my animals as well as others, along with at least three full bags of garbage a week left by humans, and I'm not complaining.

But I am distressed at the thought of not being able to enjoy the local beach with all the other residents, and there are many who socialise not only their dogs but also with each other.

Goodness Gosford Council, what you have you got against dogs?

Can't you change your attitude towards animals and their owners and work with us not against us?

Dianne Lewis, Killcare

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Outbound Rotary Youth Exchange student Andrew Knibb (left), with Per Mortensen currently here on a 12 month exchange from Denmark. The boys will get together on Per's return to Denmark in July

Andrew is farewelled

The Rotary Club of Umina Beach farewelled Andrew Knibb of Empire Bay who received his Youth Exchange blazer and left for Denmark late last month.

Andrew will enjoy a 12-month visit staying with different families.

Although Andrew has completed his HSC at Central

Coast Grammar, he will attend school while on exchange.

With Andrew at his farewell Rotary party was Per Mortensen, who is currently on exchange from Denmark for 12 months.

Andrew will be living just 20 minutes away from where Per lives and will in fact arrive in time to attend Per's mother's 50th birthday party.

Andrew Knibb has a distinguished career in both cricket and rugby union, representing his school at State level in both. He was pleased to find out that close to where he will be living there are clubs of both sports.

Rotary is looking forward to welcoming Andrew back to learn of his year's experience.

Geoff Melville, January 24

Peninsula petitions roll in

Empire Bay residents sent a 152-signature petition to Gosford Council, saying they agreed with the planned rezoning of land in Empire Bay from business 3a (general) to 3d (neighbourhood business).

South Woy Woy residents sent a 141-signature petition asking council to supply a footpath along Woy Woy Rd as soon as possible.

The petitioners said there was no footpath and older citizens, children and young parents with prams are forced to walk on a busy road.

They said the situation was dangerous and unacceptable.

The petitioners said the Woy Woy South Progress Association had asked for a footpath since the 1950s without success.

The Melaleuca Wetlands Regeneration Group sent a 35-Signature petition on "behalf of residents of Woy Woy" with concerns about recurrent vandalism to the Everglades



Part of Woy Woy Rd that requires a footpath according to petitioners

Lagoon.

The petitioners said local youth made bicycle jumps which destroyed the flora and fauna.

The petitioners asked council to provide a bicycle jump in an area

away from protected bush.

Council also received two other small petitions complaining about barking dogs at Umina and Woy Woy.

Carl Spears, January 31

Nominate volunteers

Peninsula residents have been asked for nominations for the Central Coast Volunteer of the Month as part of International Year of Volunteers.

Nominations may be made in

three categories: environment, youth and diversity of volunteering.

Telephone Central Coast Volunteer Referral Agency on 4329 7122 for an application form and selection criteria.

Shirley Hotchkiss, February 7

Drug proofing courses start

How to Drug Proof Your Kids courses have started again at the Peninsula Christian Life Centre in Umina.

They will be held each Tuesday night from February 13 to March 20 and Wednesday mornings from

February 14 to March 21

The evening sessions start at 7.30pm and finish at 9.30pm and the morning sessions from 9.30am to 11.30am.

For more information, telephone 4344 2509.

Carl Spears, February 2

New babies' room at Umina

Umina Child Care Centre now has a new babies' room with long-day-care facilities for 15 under-two-year-olds per day.

The facility opened on January 15 after many months of construction.

Previously, the centre was only able to offer care for five under-two-year-olds per day.

This increase in baby placements means the centre is now able to cater for more children generally.

Vicki Brown, January 25

Dwyer

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What's on in and around the Peninsula

Compiled by R Van Wlrdum

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, let us know by fax, email, or post., or drop in to our office.

Contact details and deadline date are shown on page two.

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 FRIDAY

Woy Woy Leagues Club, free entertainment, Players Lounge 7pm

Men's 18 hole Golf event, Everglades Country Club.

Bridge, 12.30pm, Ocean Beach Surf Club, \$2.50. Enquiries: 4341 9228

Active over 50s classes, Aquafitness, Woy Woy Pool, 10.00am. Enq: 4349 4800

Ettalong Senior Citizens Club activities: Linedancing- 9-11am; Bridge- 12noon-4pm; Painting- 9am-12noon; Enq: 4341 3222.

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 dance & floor show, 8pm free, Everglades Country Club, Dunban Road, Woy Woy Evolution Nightclub, Ettalong Beach Memorial Club from 10pm.

Classic Night Spot -for over 30's, free entertainment from 9pm, Live band plus Dj, Woy Woy Leagues Club

Men's 18 hole golf event; Men's triples bowls 1pm; Everglades Country Club. Bridge, 12.30pm, \$2.50, Woy Woy Leagues Club. Enquiries: 4341 9228

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. Free Jazz or duos from 4pm, Players Lounge, Woy Woy Leagues Club.

Mixed and men's 18 hole golf; men's bowls pairs-9,30am; mixed triples bowls-1 pm; Everglades Country Club,

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. Mah Jong at Pearl Beach Progress Hall, 3pm Enq: 4341 1243

Bridge, 12.30pm, Ocean Beach Surf Club, \$2.50. Enquiries: 4341 9228

Active over 50s classes, Aquafitness, Woy Woy Pool, 1.30pm. Enq: 4349 4800

Gentle Exercise, Ettalong Fitness City, 10.30am & 11.30am, Enq: 4341 3370; Ettalong Senior

Citizens Centre, 1 pm, Enq: 4341 3222.

Ettalong Senior Citizens Centre activities ; Dancing-9-11. 30am; Indoor Bowls-9am-3pm; Mahjong- 1-4pm; Enq: 4341 3222.

EVERY TUESDAY

Free bingo, Woy Woy Leagues Club. 11am. Ettalong Pelicans Masters Swimming Club meet at Woy Woy Indoor Heated Pool, 7.45pm Enquiries: 4360 1220

Ladies golf, 18 hole stableford, 8am; Ladies outdoor bowls, 9.30am; Everglades Country Club.

Active over 50s classes, Gentle Exercise, Ettalong Fitness City, 8.00am, Enq: 4341 3370.

Ettalong Senior Citizens Centre activities; Ladies Indoor Bowls- 9am-12noon; Handicraft-9am-12noon; Cards-12.30-4pm; Tai Chi-9-10am. Enq: 4341 3222.

EVERY WEDNESDAY

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

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

Pearl Beach Play Group (except school hols.) 10am-12pm Pearl Beach Progress Hall Enquiries: 4342 7182

Brisbane Waters Scrabble Club, CWA Hall, Woy Woy. Enquiries: 4341 8734

Men's 18 hole golf event; Men's triples bowls, 1pm. Everglades Country Club.

Bridge, 9.30am and 7.30pm, \$2.50, Ocean Beach Surf Club. Enquiries: 4341 9228

Active over 50s classes, Gentle Exercise, Ettalong Fitness

City, 8.00am, Enq: 4341 3370, Ettalong Progress Hall, 9am, Enq: 4385 2080; Ettalong Senior Citizens Centre, 1pm. Enq: 4341 3222; Woy Woy Bowling Club, 1 Dam, Enq: 4341 7598,

Ettalong Senior Citizens Centre activities; Indoor Bowls-9am- 12 noon.; Leatherwork 9-11.30am; Table Tennis-9am- 12noon; Bridge- 12noon-4pm, Enq: 4341 3222.

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

Tai Chi, Pearl Beach Progress hall, 9.30-10.30am Enquiries: 4341 1243

Ettalong Pelicans Masters Swimming Club meet at Woy Woy Indoor Heated Pool, 7.45pm Enquiries: 4360 1220

Free morning brunch, 11am, Woy Woy Leagues Club.

Ladies 18 hole golf event; Everglades Country Club.

Active over 50s classes, Ballroom Dancing, 10.00am. Ettalong Beach Bowling Club Enq: 4340 1057

Active over 50s classes, Gentle Exercise, Ettalong Fitness City, 10.30am & 12 noon, Enq: 4341 3370.

Ettalong Senior Citizens Centre Activities; Dancing-9-11.30am; Indoor Bowls-9am-12 noon; Table Tennis-12.30 -3pm; Fabric Painting-9am-12 noon. Cards- 12noon-4pm. Enq: 4341 3222

EVENT CALENDAR

Tuesday February 13

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

Madness & Melodies, Ettalong Beach War Memorial Club, 10.30am. (2nd Tues)

Pearl Beach Craft Group, 1.30-4.30pm, Progress Hall (2nd Tues). Enquiries: 4342 1459

Thursday February 15

Library Bookmobile, Daleys Point, Peridon Village, 10.15-10.40; Empire Bay Post Office, 11-11.20; Bensville local shop, 11.30-11.40.

Friday February 16

Free movie, 8pm (3rd Fri), The Perfect Storm, Everglades Country Club.

Ballroom supper dances, 7.30 pm, Ettalong, all ages. -Professional teachers available. (3rd Fri) Enquiries: 4344 5432

Saturday February 17

Ettalong Beach Arts & Crafts Centre Robert - Pengilley workshop in 'Exploration in Drawing using Mixed Media' Enq: 4360 1673

Sunday February 18th

Brisbane Water Caged Bird Society, 10am (3rd Sunday), Umina CWA Hall. Enquiries: Jan 4341 6842.

Monday February 19

NSW Transport Auth. Retired & Former Employees Assoc, Brisbane Water Branch, Meet Ettalong Bowling Club, 2.30 pm (3rd Mon)

Tuesday February 20

Arthritis Foundation, Woy Woy Branch meets 1 Dam (3rd Tuesday).

Meals On Wheels Hall, all welcome. Enq: 4342 1790.

Wednesday February 21

Library Bookmobile, Patonga community Hall, 9.45-10.30; Pearl Beach Community Hall, 10.55-1120; Umina Nursing Home, Arras Ave., 11.40-12.40.

Ettalong Umina Lions Club

Tieets 6.30pm Woy Woy Leagues Club (3rd Wednesday). Ettalong Beach Arts & Crafts market, Ettalong 9am (3rd Wednesday).

Bays Progress Assoc., Bays Hall, Woy Woy -Bay Rd. 7.30pm (3rd Wed) Enquiries: 43411070,

Friday February 23

Woy Woy Civilian Widows meet at 1.00pm Ettalong Senior Citizens Club Building. New Members welcome (last Friday)

Saturday February 24

JivE' and Jitterbug Club, free, 8pm, Ettalong Beach Memorial Club.

Ballroom supper dances, 7. 30 pm, Ettalong, all ages. Professional teachers avail. (4th Sat) Enquiries: 4344 5432

Sunday February 25

The Ettymalong Creek Lancare group in Umina meet on the Sunday (4th Sunday) for bush regeneration. 8am Masonic Lodge, Woy Woy 381 meet at Umina Community Hall, 11 am (4th Sunday) Sunday Jazz, Free 4pm. Woy Woy Leagues Club.

Dancing- Old Time/New Vogue, 1-4pm, (4th Sun) Ettalong Senior Citizens Centre, Enq: 4341 3222.

Monday February 26

Woy Woy Deepwater, View Club luncheon meeting (4th Monday). 11 am Woy Woy Leagues Club. All welcome.

Woy Woy Branch of Business & Professional Woman - dinner meeting (Last Monday) Members welcome. Enquiries 4341 1844

Tuesday February 27

Library Bookmobile, Killcare, Cnr Scenic Rd & Beach Dr, 10.35-10.50; Wagstaffe Hall, 11- 11.35.

Central Coast Arts Society are holding a paint-out from 9am at Lions Park, Woy Woy, end of Brickwharf road

Madness & Melodies, Ettalong Beach memorial Club, 10.30am.

(4th Tues)

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

Pearl Beach Craft Group, 1.30pm, Progress Hall (4th Tues). Enquiries: 4342 1459

Wednesday February 28

Woy Woy Football Club Ladies Auxiliary Bus trip to Wollombi. Includes guided tour and lunch. 8am. \$30 Tickets from club. Umina 'Progress Association Meeting,

Umina Community Hall. 1.30pm (last Wednesday)

Thursday March 1

Library Bookmobile, Daleys Point, Peridon Village, 10.15-10.40; Empire Bay Post Office, 11-11.20; Bensville local shop, 11.30-11.40.

South Woy Woy Progress Association meet (1st Thursday) 7pm, All welcome. South Woy Woy Progress Hall, Woy Woy Road

Friday March 2

Free first release movie, 8pm (1st Fri) Everglades Country Club Woy Woy Older Women's Network meet 10.15 am (1st Friday) Woy Woy Leagues Club. Morning tea provided. Coral 4343 1079

Ballroom supper dances, 7.30 pm, Ettalong, all ages. Professional teachers available, (1st Fri) Enquiries: 4344 5432

Saturday March 3

National Malaysia Borneo Veterans Association meet at 2.3



Australia Day entertainment at Woy Woy

pm Ettalong Beach Memorial Club (1st Saturday) Enquires 4342 1216 Ettalong Beach Arts & Crafts Markets, Ettalong 9am (1 st Sat)

Sunday March 4

Gosford Clean Up Australia Day Committee Clean Up 2001 day. Contact 4325 8233

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). Enquiries: Tony 4342 7849.

Sunday Markets, 8am-1 pm. Free entry. Woy Woy Leagues Club.

Monday March 5

Pre-school Swimsafe classes held Woy Woy from Monday March 5, 4pm. School age classes held at Woy Woy 5pm. To book phone 13 13 02

Wednesday March 7

Library Bookmobile, Patonga Community Hall, 9.45-10.30; Peart Beach Community Hall, 10.55-1120; Umina Nursing Home, Arras Ave., 11.40-12.40.

Seniors' shopping day, Deepwater Plaza (1st Wed).

Friday March 9

The Troubadour Folk and Acoustic Music Club, CWA Hall Woy Woy presents "Mattawa", 8pm \$7 includes supper. All welcome.

Floor spots available-bring your own instruments.

Saturday March 10

Umina Garden Society meet 1.30pm (2nd Saturday), Community

Hall, Sydney St, Umina. \$2 includes afternoon tea. Display of floral art, fruit & vegetables. All welcome Phone 4341 8842

Ballroom supper dances, 7.30 pm, Ettalong, all ages. Professional teachers avail. (2nd Sat) Enquiries: 4344 5432

Sunday March 11

Adam Brand concert; Ettalong Beach Memorial Club, \$15 , 7.30pm.

Masonic Lodge, Woy Woy 381 meet Umina Community Hall, 11 am (2nd Sunday).

Monday March 12

Pearl Beach Women's Club 12pm, Progress Hall, (2nd Monday) Enquiries: Ruth 4341 8817

Tuesday March 13

Library Bookmobile, Killcare, Cnr Scenic Rd & Beach Dr, 10.35-10.50; Wagstaffe Hall, 11- 11.35.

Wednesday March 14

Endeavour View Club meet at Woy Woy Leagues Club, 10.30am (2nd Wednesday).

Councillors differ on Patonga drinking

One Gosford councillor has described the debate over drinking outside the Patonga General Store as having turned nasty, while another has described the long-standing practice as part of the lifestyle and cultural heritage of the town.

Community debate over Gosford Council's decision to impose an alcohol free zone at Patonga Beach has turned nasty, according to Cr Judith Penton.

Some of those agreeing with council's decision said they had received threats, however they did not wish to be named.

The owner of the Patonga Beach General Store, Mr Robert Osborne, told Peninsula News that he had no comment to make, because if he did make a comment "it would be too strong to print in the paper".

Cr Penton said a "civil war" had broken out at Patonga and at a recent Progress Association meeting she was booed and hissed.

"I'm not backing down," she said.

"The council voted 9-1 for the alcohol free zone.

"I can't understand why he thinks the alcohol free zone would put him out of business.

"He owns the vacant block of land next to the store, his patrons can drink there."

Cr Debra Wales, who voted



Patonga General Store

against the alcohol free zone, said: "Nobody's threatened anybody.

"The fabric of this little village has disintegrated.

"Residents are absolutely outraged that this has happened.

"If you're intimidated by a small group of people drinking at the store, then go elsewhere.

"This is the their way of life.

"A qualified historian said in a heritage report that it is a part of their heritage.

"The community is absolutely outraged that council has ignored them.

"Under freedom of information, it was found that hardly anyone from Patonga signed the petition supporting the alcohol free zone."

Cr Wales said the majority of the petitioners were from Sydney and signed up by a member of the Progress Association, who lived the majority of time in Sydney.

She said Mr Osborne was in favour of the alcohol free zone coming into effect when his proposed tavern was completed,

in line with council's original determination, but felt the zone was a hindrance with the current situation of the general store.

"The tradition of having a drink has been going for 40 years," Cr Wales said.

Cr Penton said the Progress Association was being overtaken by members being signed up by the Osborne family.

Of 75 members who joined the Progress Association between November 4 and February 1, 62 were nominated or seconded by members of the Osborne family, she said.

Cr Wales said the Osbornes had not sought out new members, but were approached by residents who wanted to help.

"All are residents of Patonga," she said.

The Peninsula Chamber of Commerce supported the Patonga Beach General Store's position.

Carl Spears, February 7

Councillor criticises groups

The behaviour of the groups in favour of and opposed to the alcohol-free zone in Patonga has been criticised by Cr Craig Doyle, after attending a recent progress association meeting.

"Six councillors and Member for Robertson, Mr Jim Lloyd, turned up," he said.

"I must say the leadership of both camps was embarrassing.

"I was hoping to get an appreciation of their points of view."

Cr Doyle said the council was likely to abide by its decision to impose the zone.

"I can't support a decision to rescind the motion given what happened on the day."

He said: "It seems that you are either for them or against them, there is no middle ground.

"I find it particularly sad that a community is losing the thing that made them a village," said Cr Doyle.

"I also found it interesting to read that the primary business function of the store seems to be a bottle shop with 65 per cent of sales coming from alcohol sales.

"I'd be interested to find out if the licence is for a general store or bottle shop."

Cr Doyle said he hoped to have an individual meeting with proprietor Mr Robert Osborne to hear his side of the story.

Carl Spears, February 7

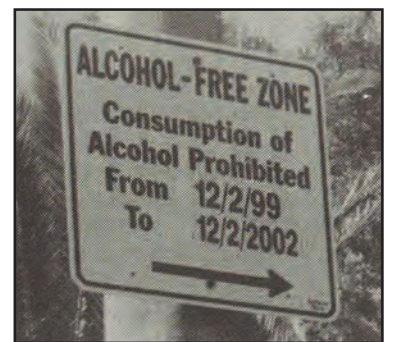
More than 450 people have a say

More than 450 people have signed petitions about the alcohol-free zone for the town of Pat-nga, which has a population of 200.

Residents and visitors to Patonga sent a 275-signature petition and asked council to defer the introduction of an alcohol-free zone until the tavern at the site has started trading.

A further 167 residents and visitors sent in petitions in support of council's decision to implement the alcohol-free zone.

They also supported the local Progress Association's wish to extend the zone to both sides of Patonga Dve from its intersection with Bay St to its intersection of the



An alcohol free zone sign

unnamed roadway leading to Dark Corner.

The petitions were among seven received by Gosford Council on matters pertaining to the Peninsula area.

SUPER SUNDAY Markets

1st Sunday of every month

Jumping Castle --
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Homemade Goodies
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Recycled Wooden Furniture
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BARGAINS!!
BARGAINS!!



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WOY WOY LEAGUES - CAR PARK

CRAZY CASH MEMBERS DRAW

\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

Win \$2000 cash
Sunday March 4

One lucky Woy Woy
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member will win the \$2000
prize

Member must be present
to claim the cash prize or
draw will continue
until claimed.

Draw commences prior to
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For the information of members and their guests



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Websites

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LOCAL
EATERIES**

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4341 7755

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Seafood platter only \$22 50 inc GST

Roast of the day from \$8.50
Counter lunches are available 7 days a week
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Pelicans Restaurant

Address <http://www.thepeninsular.net/peninsula.htm>

thePeninsular Net
An initiative of
**The Peninsula
Chamber of Commerce Inc**
**PENINSULA NEWS
a Bay Water Quality Magazine**
Deadline for next issue: Jan 10

Peninsula Web Sites
Peninsula Diary
Weather Forecast
Business Directory
Groups & Services
Peninsula Profile
Rentals
Job Vacancies
Wildflowers in bloom

Community Web site for the Woy Woy Peninsula 4342 5333
This site is WAP-enabled. Try www.thepeninsular.net/wap.asp on your phone

Welcome to the
Woy Woy Peninsula
Ettalong, Umina, Woy Woy, the Bays, Pearl Beach and Patonga

Surrounded by inland waterways, ocean beach and national park, The Peninsula has much to offer resident and visitor alike. This community web site aims to be a comprehensive reference point for everything concerning the Peninsula. If you want to know something about the Peninsula, we hope you will find it here. If it is not here, let us know ... and we will include it if we can.

We are currently putting together an email, fax and web site directory for the Peninsula. Submissions should be made by email.

Search this site

COMING SOON...
Buy locally: **SHOP HERE**
Free email
Message Service
Visitor Attractions
Reference Materials
Restaurants

FREE...

Plenty on offer at PeninsulaR.net

A web site that proudly proclaims to be a "Community Web site for the Woy Woy Peninsula" is the subject for review.

The site opens with a water view picture of a jetty that immediately attracts the attention of the viewer.

Other viewing attractions on the home page include the latest temperature measurement from the Narara weather station and a small image map of the area.

Links from this portal site enable the viewer to visit just about every known web site on the Peninsula ranging from some personal sites, community sites, business sites and even some obscure sporting associations.

The internal pages of the

site provide loads of information about the Peninsula such as demographics, wildflowers in our area, job vacancies and even a diary that allows the visitor to plan visits to events occurring on the Peninsula.

A logo of the Peninsula Chamber of Commerce Inc states that the site is an initiative of the group and links to their pages as well.

A scrolling news flash provides a link to the online version of this newspaper that allows the visitor to view current and past issues.

The site appears to provide the portal to the Peninsula and judging from the current features and the proposed enhancements, the site will definitely be added to my favorites or bookmarks in my

browsers.

For those with WAP-enabled mobile telephones, the site even provides access to those features.

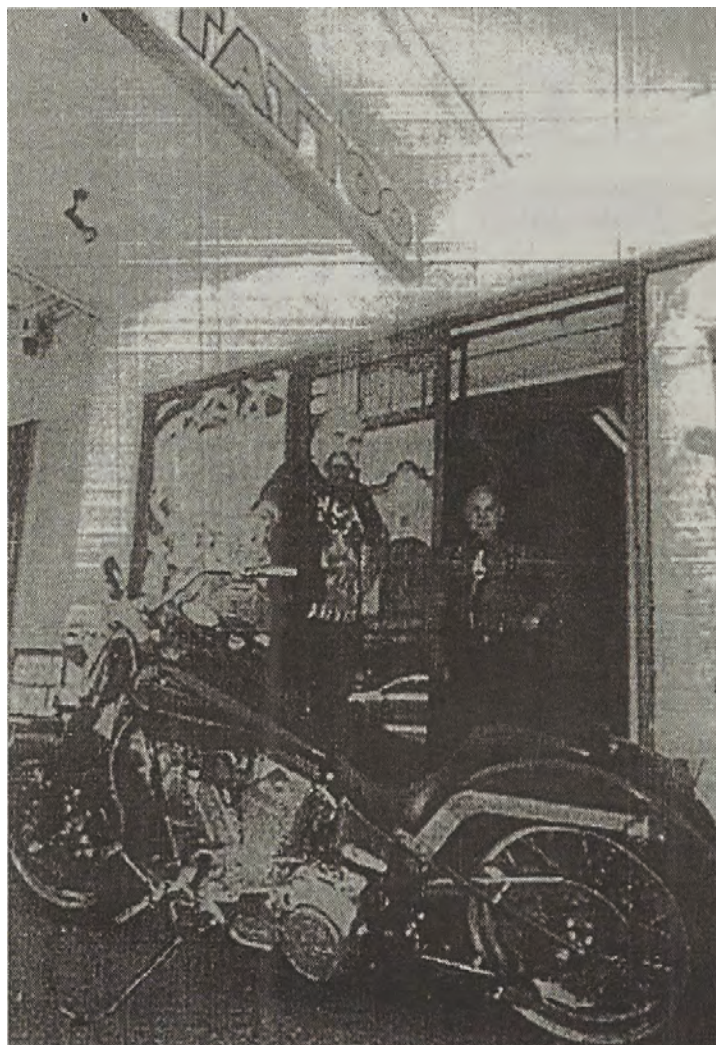
Unfortunately the reviewer was unable to test these links, as a WAP-enabled phone is not in the toolkit.

The site was updated recently as any portal site requires constant maintenance to keep the viewer coming back for repeat visits.

The site scores 8.5 out of 10 and can be accessed at <http://www.thepeninsular.net> or for those with WAP phones try <http://www.thepeninsular.net/wap.asp>

Stephen is a web consultant for All In One Business Service and has no affiliation with the reviewed organisation.

Stephen McNamara January 11



*Peter Wells-
Angry
Anderson*

*& The Damn
fine Band
(Ex Rose Tattoo)*

FRI 23 Feb AT 8.30PM

Tickets \$10

Conditions of entry & Dress Rules Apply

**EVERGLADES
COUNTRY CLUB**

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

History

The Centenary of Federation marks an occasion that allows Australians to think of the first 100 years of our nation and our achievements and mistakes.

Journalist Carl Spears took the opportunity to select some of our local history recorded by local newspapers over the century for the month of February.

February 3 from the Gosford Times, 1921 A journalist reporting for the Evening Standard in Sydney called the Peninsula area a summer paradise.

"Away from the roar and rattle, the smoke and the grime, the congestion and suffocation of Sydney, straining and sweating in its daily life struggle, lies a summer paradise, languid and reposeful, in the serpentine embrace of the blue Brisbane Water - Woy Woy," the reporter said.

"One arrives and takes a great gulp of pure air spiced with the flavour of the surrounding orchards.

"The day begins with the dawn, and ends with the dusk.

"So long as the fish bite, what else matters?" The reporter then quoted some statistics for the Peninsula.

He said an estimated 10,000 people visited each weekend and the local population was about 3000.

In the previous year, 200 new houses were built and 140 houses in the year before.

"The majority of houses are distinguished by architecture of the utilitarian order, but the design of many of the later homes,

Centenary of Federation

The Peninsula area a summer paradise

particularly of Blackwall, are attractive," he said.

"Blackwall is regarded as the coming classy residential centre, but an observant tourist cannot fail to be impressed by the possibilities of Ettalong.» Apparently, council was alert to the tourist potential of the time.

"Even now it would not be too late to resume foreshores held by private persons, n the reporter said.

"Twenty years ago land within one mile of 'the station could be bought for 5/ to 10/ an acre.

"Now in the business centre, it is valued up to £40 a foot.' The increase in land prices from 1920 to 1921 was 121 per cent.

"Woy Woy residents claim that not nearly a fair proportion of (ratepayer) revenue is expended in their centre.

"If so, it is not surprising in the light of th.9se figures that Woy Woy should want home rule, and that there should even be evidences of municipal Sinn Fein."

The reporter said that residents call FREE ENTRY said one representative in council trying to impress five "foreigners" was futile.

The reporter also said that residents were suggesting trams be installed for travel to Ettalong

and Ocean Beach.

Also, "the dredge should be kept continuously in operation keeping channels clear and opening new ones."

February 10, 1921

A fisherman fell 60' into water and sank while fishing at Woy Woy.

He was 24 and a returned WWI soldier who suffered from shell shock.

February 24, 1921

Overcrowding at Woy Woy Public School was becoming acute, especially in the junior classes.

"Woy Woy Public School has the distinction of securing the largest number of "passes" of any school between Hornsby and Newcastle.» The Times said.

Feb 5, 1931

Woy Woy shire Council decided against a clock on the new shire chambers that were currently under construction.

Two Woy Woy lads, Alex Rae and Norman Schroder caught an eight-foot grey nurse shark near Koolewong.

A J.Florentine asked council to construct a concrete footpath in front of his shops at Ettalong.

The owner offered the labour if council would contribute the

materials.

Council declined the offer saying they had no funds.

There were also no funds for a proposed wharf at the end of Rawson Rd.

However, the council's motorbike was repaired for £9.

February 19, 1931

Woy Woy Presbyterian Church and council negotiated the funding of £15 so the church could have the electricity put on.

Council's electricity committee said they would pay half if the church paid half.

Woy Woy Returned Soldiers' League received a complaint from a member's wife that meetings were too long and that there was "a wee wife waiting".

February 26, 1931

A council worker died after uncharged explosives used for road works exploded unexpectedly.

February 7, 1961

A £50 million industrial and housing estate project is "endorsed" for South Woy Woy.

A land development company had announced that work might begin soon on a £50 million industrial and housing satellite town on a 500-acre site at South Woy Woy.

The company said it expected the proposal to be finished in five years.

The new town was to be known as Timbertown with its own train station and possibly a sea service to Sydney as well.

Mr JP Tate of the Land and Development Company Ltd said the company planned to have 1200 residential Sites, 200 acres for industry, a modern shopping centre with provision for a 4000 space car park and large bus terminal.

He said Gosford Shire Council had approved a detailed plan and authorised the company to start construction.

However, it was reported that Council had only rezoned the area industrial and had not endorsed any detailed plan.

Thirty riders from the Woy Woy Horse Club had a gymkhana and raised £18 for the proposed Woy Woy Hospital.

Carl Spears, February 7

The Gosford City Library has a policy of collecting and making accessible any information concerned with the geography, history and development of the Gosford Local Area.

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**Saturday 24 February 8pm
FREE ENTRY**

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**Australia's hottest country
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7.30pm.**

**Tickets are now on sale at \$15
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FOR THE INFORMATION OF MEMBERS & THEIR GUESTS

Ettalong
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News

Thanks for F3 petitioners

Member for Robertson, Mr Jim Lloyd, said he would "particularly like to thank the people of the Peninsula for their very strong support" of the petition for widening the F3 freeway.

"We now have about 10,000 signatures and, although I don't have a percentage from the Peninsula, I would like to thank the people of the Peninsula for their support.

"I will present it to Parliament in late February or early March and hopefully we will be successful.

"People can still sign the position up until then."

Mr Lloyd concluded by thanking the hundreds of individuals and

businesses who had circulated the petition throughout the Central Coast and urged everyone to return completed petitions to his office as soon as possible.

The State Member for Peats, Ms Marie Andrews, has called on Mr Lloyd to match his rhetoric with action.

"The F3 Freeway is a National Highway and the Federal Government is responsible for funding its upgrade," Ms Andrews said.

"The Member for Robertson is a member of the Federal Coalition Government and a member of John Howard's Liberal Party.

"The Prime Minister promised late last year that he would be allocating a significant amount

of additional funds to National Highways.

"He is yet to announce any details of that promised funding."

Ms Andrews said that rather than filling out petitions, the Federal Member should march into John Howard's office and demand that the F3 widening program be the number one priority on that list.

NSW motorists paid more than \$3 billion per year in fuel excise to the Federal Government, she said.

"It's about time the Federal Government reinvested that money back into NSW roads, rather than hitting motorists with another excise slug as they plan to do in February."

Carl Spears, February 5



Shopping transport is available for aged

Coastwide Community Transport is offering the frail, aged and disabled and their carers transport to Woy Woy shopping centre on Thursdays and Fridays.

On Thursdays, trips are made from St Huberts Island, Empire Bay, Killcare, Hardys Bay, Wagstaffe and Bensville.

On Fridays, trips are available for those living on the Peninsula as well as Pt Clare and Tascott.

Coastwide Community Transport Inc is a non-profit community organisation, whose aim is to help transport the disadvantaged.

The service is provided to

anyone who is finding it difficult to use public transport because they are frail, aged or disabled, particularly those who have no other means of transport.

The organisation is an accredited operator with the Department of Transport and is funded under the Home and Community Care program, a program which includes Meals on Wheels, home care, home maintenance and respite and community nursing.

The service uses air-conditioned buses and cars, four with special lifts for wheelchairs, driven by trained drivers who offer that extra care needed for the frail and disabled.

All services are return to home and include individual transport to medical facilities such as the doctor and dentist, the weekly shopping service, social outings once a month on Wednesdays, and transport for eligible war veterans to all medical services.

The organisation covers the entire Gosford local Government area and a small fee is asked to assist in covering the cost of running and replacing their vehicles.

For further information and bookings, contact the Home and Community Care office on 4323 4028 from Monday to Friday 8am to 3.30pm.

Fiona Forbes, February 7

Bridge not too far away

Brisbane Water Bridge Club has over 200 members, but is still welcoming new members.

It plays five sessions a week: Monday 12.30, Wednesday 9.30am and 7.30pm and Friday at 12.30 and Saturday at 12.30 at Woy Woy Rugby League Club.

Bridge is a card game in the

same family as Euchre, Solo, Whist, Five Hundred, all trick-taking games.

The club is holding beginners' lessons on March 12 to 16 for card players wishing to learn Bridge.

The cost of the lessons is \$20.

To play any session is \$2.50 for members.

New players are most welcome.

Carl Spears, February 7

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NOW OPEN (previously Mackey's)

91 PENINSULA PINE & PLYWOOD



For great savings on:

Utility pine

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Large range of:

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Cutting service available, gates and lattice to size

91 Rawson Rd, Woy Woy 4341 1956

Open Monday – Friday 8am –4pm Saturday 8am-12noon FAX: 4343 1644



McDonald's employee on a litter patrol

Ursino supports Clean Up Day

Owner-operator of McDonald's Woy Woy, Mr John Ursino, is calling on Peninsula residents to become involved in Clean Up Australia Day on Sunday, March 4.

"Key areas for concern this year include roadside rubbish, plastic bags and cigarettes butts and the effect they have on waterways and soils," he said.

"This year's Clean Up Australia Day presents a great opportunity to think about the next 100 years and how important it will be to preserve the environment for

future generations," he said.

"Although there is only a minority of people who litter, it does take away from our community."

McDonald's Woy Woy has been a sponsor of Clean Up Australia Day since it began in 1989 and is committed to cleaning up every day, said Mr Ursino.

Registration forms are available from McDonald's.

For further information on Clean Up Australia Day, telephone toll free 1800 024 890 or visit their website at www.cleanup.com.au

Fiona Forbes, 8 February


Impressive \$199,000

This house has three bedrooms, polished floors, a neat and tidy yard that requires little maintenance and a great deal of charm. Close to shops, transport and with water just across the road, at this price you will be impressed. Call Craig Shields for details.


PSST!
Want A Cheapie In A Quiet Street?

Well this one is for you! 2 large bedrooms, neat kitchen and bathroom, pergola at the rear all set on a large level block of land. Priced to sell at \$202,000. So be quick on the phone to get the details on this one.


Woy Woy \$199,000
Don't Miss This Opportunity

If you bought this 2 bedroom Permalum clad home you couldn't lose. It's set close to the train and close to the shops so it would always be in demand. It is also zoned 2b so it could be destined for further development later. If you're a first home buyer use this house as your stepping stone to future wealth. Call Kevin for an inspection.


Umina \$282,000
More Of A Lifestyle Than A Home

This lovely 3 bedroom brick home has a sparkling in-ground pool with a paved courtyard and large covered pergola area. There is also a reserve at the rear so it's like owning your own private resort. The home is roomy and very modern throughout. This home would suit a new home buyer who does not want to pay a new home price. Call Kevin for details.


Umina \$419,000
Resort Style Living

Four bedroom executive home is an entertainers dream. Large, ultra modern kitchen. Entertain guests in the formal lounge area or throw a party in the huge family/dining room. Relax in the double corner bath or retire in the main bedroom, complete with en-suite and walk-in robe. Low maintenance yard is fully paved and features an in-ground saltwater pool. Quality Italian tiles and timber veneers throughout. This is quality living at it's best!


Umina Beach
\$239,500
GREAT HOME - GREAT STREET

This has got to be one of the best buys around. A beautifully kept 3 bedroom brick and tile home with separate lounge room, large family room and single garage in one of the best streets in Umina Beach. There's plenty of room in the backyard for the kids to play or for a pool and the primary and high schools are just around the corner. Call Larry Nelson for an inspection.


UMINA BEACH \$298,000
FANTASTIC VIEWS

A modern and immaculately presented 3 bedroom hard-plank pole home with panoramic views over Brisbane Water and the surrounding area. Featuring a large timber deck for entertaining, double bedrooms, ensuite and walk-in-robe to the main, plenty of living space and a large block. Details from Larry Nelson.


UMINA BEACH \$195,000
A GREAT WEEKENDER

If you want a place to get away from it all yet still be just a short stroll from the shops and beach, this is ideal. A roomy 1 bedroom house with a large sleepout, plus an extra-long garage on a level block with dual street frontage zoned 2B. This is a well-maintained property and requires nothing to be spent and would make a great investment in this position. Details from Larry Nelson.


Patonga \$320,000
HOLIDAY MAGIC

Attractive 2 bedroom fibro cottage with airconditioning, good living space and large garage plus sleepout opposite the beach. Very little work needed and a great position make this the perfect investment property/holiday home. A rare opportunity in this increasingly popular spot. Details from Larry Nelson.


WOY WOY/CORREA BAY \$395,000
PRIVATE WATERFRONT

Get away from the hustle and bustle with this magnificent waterfront home with inground pool, jetty and loads of living room for the price of a similar property on an ordinary block. Conveniently located close to everything, but feel like you're miles away. Call Larry Nelson for an inspection.


Blackwall \$209,000
Busy Bee

It wouldn't take a great deal of effort to make this a great home. Wooden floorboards, 3 good sized bedrooms, an open fireplace, front and rear verandahs all set on a 650sqm 2B zoned block. If you know your properties, this is a stand out. Call Craig Shields for further details.


UMINA BEACH \$275,000
ONE FOR THE FAMILY

Set in a quiet street, this spacious 4 bedroom home has it all - solar heated inground pool, games room, outdoor entertaining area, family-size living areas and gardens that are low maintenance but a pleasure to view. Further details from Larry Nelson.

Population warning

In the next 20 years, the urban consolidation policy of the State Government will see a four-fold increase in population on the NSW coast.

The Peninsula has been targeted for population increase because of access to rail transport.

But with drainage and road access problems, concreting the Peninsula is inappropriate.

We need to make it loud and clear to the Premier, Mr Carr, that we need:

- a moratorium on the further development on the Peninsula.

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.

- an assessment of the population the Peninsula can accommodate with regard to infrastructure and drainage.
- an overhaul of the design of villas and houses.
- trees to provide summer shade and line our streets We want streetscapes we can be proud of.
- We don't want concreting creating more excessive radiant heat erosion and flooding.

S Drake, Woy Woy



Heritage buildings at Dark Corner

Heritage Office offers help

The NSW Heritage Office has offered Gosford Council guidance on the preservation of cottages at Dark Corner in Patonga.

Council's environmental heritage committee has reported that the Heritage Office appreciated the efforts of council to retain the

cottages.

The office suggested council obtain a detailed heritage assessment and management plan from an independent heritage consultant., to assist the establishment of the best future management of the cottages and surrounding area.

The committee recommended

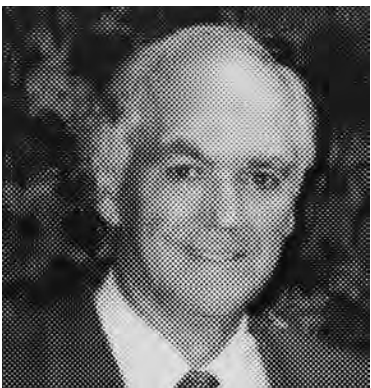
public use of the cottages as they became available since they occupied a reserve for public recreation.

It suggested the cottages be used as an adjunct to council's caravan park at Patonga.

Some of the cottages were privately occupied under a lease.

Carl Spears, February 1

Surplus funds allocated



Council Matters with John Oakley

Meeting of Council The first open meeting of Gosford Council for 2001 was held on January 23.

The agenda papers were 3.5 cm thick which gave councillors plenty to read and discuss.

Rescission Motion - Use of Surplus Funds

Crs Sansom, Wales and Brooks moved that the previous decision to allocate surplus funds in the following way, be rescinded.

CBD Upgrades - \$1.7 million
Sporting facilities - \$3.8 million
Environmental matters - \$2.0 million
Regional Library - \$1 .0 million
Essentially, the rescission motion proposed a significant increase in CBD funding and a decrease to \$500,000 for Environmental matters.

Cr Bell reminded Cr Wales that she had asked for, and received late last year, the equivalent of \$2 million over and above a previous significant allocation to the Umina CBD, for the underground placement of power lines.

Cr Bockholt indicated that even though she was the Chair of the Woy Woy CBD Committee, she would not support an increased allocation to CBDs.

She emphasised the pressing need for additional sporting facilities but argued that the allocations should remain as is.

The Mayor pointed out that the \$8.5 million windfall was "the cream on the top".

For' the rescission motion: Brooks, Penton, Sansom, Wales, Against the rescission motion: Bell, Bockholt, Cook, Doyle, Holstein, Preece

Peninsula Regional Development Centre

At its meeting on February 6, Council unanimously approved the lodgment of a development application for a leisure centre for the Peninsula comprising indoor pools, spa, sauna and ancillary facilities.

Rescission Motion - Bensville Subdivision .

At its meeting on December 12, Council declined to support a draft development plan that would have allowed the subdivision of a parcel of land at Bensville into 26 residential lots.

During the discussion at that time Cr Bell stated, among other things, that there was a large number blocks of land in the Gosford Council area that were zoned for residential development and not yet built on.

He further stated that there

should be a balance between residential and other types of land zonings.

Subsequent to the decision of December 12, Crs Sansom Wales and Brooks moved that Council rescind that decision and support the subdivision.

In speaking against the rescission motion, Cr Bell declared that the proposal to subdivide the land was "totally inconsistent with our vision statement".

"It will result in an 80% increase in population in Bensville in 2.5 years," he said.

"We will have lost all 7c(2) land in the Bensville area".

He went on to condemn councillors for not doing their homework and for being persuaded by the offer of \$40,000 by the developer to be used for community facilities.

He berated councillors for "selling the Council short" and "selling the community short".

"The lack of options presented by Council Officers is pathetic.

"Why don't we have bigger lots to avoid battle-axe blocks?

"What's 26 lots worth to the developer? \$2.7 million? You can do better for the community.

"You could say the offer by the developer is not good enough.

"It' s a very sad day that we go down this path and lose the last rural residential land in this area.

"I don't rate your skills very highly".

Cr Brooks expressed surprise that since the rezoning application had been put on public exhibition, Council had refused the development on December 12.

Cr Preece criticised councillors for assuming that because a development proposal was put on public exhibition it should automatically be approved.

"Public exhibition is not a rubber stamp.

"I don't believe Bensville is a good place for residential development.

"There is no public transport." No councillor commented on the cumulative impact of such developments on traffic flow on Empire Bay Drive, Avoca Drive, or Woy Woy Road, all of which carry traffic from the Bensville area.

Proposal for a 10% Rates Increase

Mr Gallagher, the Director (Corporate and Community Services) has proposed a 10% increase in rates.

After some discussion, at the insistence of Cr Bockholt, it was agreed to seek the advice of the community rather than "advise the community".

She went on to comment that "Council appears to listen to the community but in fact does not.

"The people don't feel they are being consulted."

Correction

In the December Issue Cr Brooks' name was inadvertently omitted from the list of councillors opposing the Terrigal development.

The sentence should have read: "On the Terrigal rezoning only Councillors Bell, Bockholt, Brooks and Preece voted against the proposal: .

John Oakley, February 1

School's back!

Peninsula students have returned to school and for some it was their first time at "big school".

Shaylee Louise Tierney (left) was pictured here about to start her first day of primary school.

Shaylee's older brother Daniel had told her about school, so she was well prepared.

According to proud grandmother Heather, Shaylee went to school like a duck to water.

Both Daniel and Shaylee attend St John the Baptist Primary School at Umina.





Heritage grant recipient: Booker Bay general store

Heritage grant for two buildings

Gosford Council's environmental heritage committee has recommended two small grants to Peninsula heritage building owners.

Ettalong House at 42 The Esplanade has had barge boards, fascia and rotted weatherboards replaced.

The heritage committee recommended payment for half the repairs with a \$710 grant.

The Booker Bay Store should also receive \$2000 towards the replacement of the shopfront windows, the committee recommended.

The owner said there was a need for the urgent repair of the unsafe shopfront.

The owner proposed to replace the timber framing and plate glass on both sides of the entrance door, which would keep the original appearance.

In other Peninsula heritage



Ettalong House, 42 The Esplanade, Ettalong Beach

matters, King's Store at Booker Bay was the subject of a request by the owner Mr Richard Thomas for redevelopment of the site.

Mr Thomas said he was committed to retaining the facade of the early building and wanted to keep the heritage feel of the place with a two-storey development which stepped back from the facade.

He said it would have an iron roof, timber-framed windows and other sympathetic features.

The committee said the concept was "pleasing", but it would be strongly opposed to a total rebuild of the facade.

They acknowledged that a partial rebuild might be necessary to replace the iron lintel.

Carl Spears, February 6

Staff changes at Woy Woy High

Woy Woy High School has seen a number of staff changes with the start of the new year.

Principal Ms Carolyn Carter said new teacher-librarian is Ms Melville, from Asquith Girls' High School, replacing Ms Willingham; in Industrial Arts; with Mr Brooks, from Granville TAFE, replacing Mr Ellis, in English-drama; Ms Curry, a new appointment, replacing Mr Howes, in Science; and Mr Eggleton, from Narara Valley High School, replacing Mr Russell.

Ms Cladakis transferred to Randwick Boy's High School.

"Because the History Head Teacher position was lost in the Executive Re-structure of NSW High Schools, her position has reverted to a classroom teacher position," said Ms Carter.

"Ms Gray, from careers, has

transferred into this position as History-Social Science teacher.

"Mr Goulding, from private enterprise, is now our new Careers Adviser.

"Ms Gamlin, from the Support Unit, has moved to Victoria and resigned from the Department, and Ms Webb has been permanently appointed into her position.

"Ms Nuku will fill the other position in the Support unit whilst Ms Livingston is on leave.

Mr Trowbridge, PE-Health-PD staff, is moving to Queensland and taking up a position with the Heart Foundation.

"At this stage, we do not have a permanent appointment. Mr Marker will relieve in this position until further notice," said Ms Carter.

Carl Spears, February 7

Richard volunteers to help Red Cross

Woy Woy's Richard van Wirdum is a volunteer for the Australian Red Cross.

Like hundreds of others across New South Wales, he will be volunteering his services on Sunday, March 18, to raise money for Red Cross on the Central Coast.

Richard said no government could provide for all the needs of local communities and as such the community relied on the volunteers to fill those needs.

"The reasons for volunteering are twofold" he said.

"They are, firstly, to help the local community to achieve a goal and, secondly, to help someone who for whatever reasons are unable to help themselves.

"I have been working in the welfare field for some 33 years now and have been doing voluntary work for just on 30 years.

"This year I have decided to help The Australian Red Cross in their endeavour to raise \$2.1 million dollars across New South Wales."

Last year the money raised

went to:

- Telecross, a Red Cross initiative giving the frail and aged living alone, the security they need for independent living through a daily phone call.

- Equipment for Red Cross First Aid teams who attend community and sporting events.

- The Community Visitors program possible for the elderly in our community.

- A Community Action program linking local high school students with nursing home residents.

- The Cosmetic Care program for the long-term ill and elderly, who are assisted to maintain their personal appearance, with massage, hair and nail care.

- Last year Red Cross on the Central Coast provided over 2000 Cosmetic Care services.

over 80,000 phone calls to isolated elderly residents, trained 86 young people in babysitting courses, trained 770 people in first aid and trained and placed 58 Community Visitors who made over 900 visits.

AnyOne interested in helping the Red Cross with their collection should telephone 4324 3411 for further information.

Carl Spears, February 7

Sprechen Sie Deutsch?

Phegans Bay resident, Mr Fritz Baumung, is looking for new members for the Central Coast Australian-German Friendship and Welfare Society.

Fritz is a founding member of the group which started in 1996 and is managed by a committee of volunteers who are interested in assisting the German-speaking community.

There are about 5000 German-speaking people on the Central Coast while many more have chosen to learn the language.

The group provides a service

that supports the aged, sick, fragile or poverty-stricken, visit the ill and lonely in their homes and provide food and clothing where funds permit.

The group also gives a referral service, provides emotional support and assists overseas visitors, among other services.

Another purpose of the group, said Fritz, was to encourage friendly contacts between members and the population at large.

"We have many functions to which we invite all those who are interested in the German language, music, literature and culture," he said.

"Our activities and social gatherings are open to all who like to speak German and have a good time.

Fritz's community work over the last 30 years has involved working on prison ministries, as a Lifeline counsellor and Meals on Wheels.

"I see the Central Coast as a loving community and I am proud to be part of it," he said.

Fritz was raised in Stuttgart, moved to Sydney with a job transfer and since then Australia has been his home.

He was selected as an Olympic Torchbearer last year.

Carl Spears, February 1

CAPS looks for new home

The Child Abuse Prevention Service (CAPS) in Neera Rd, Umina, is looking for a new home.

Organisers say they are finding that a lot of their client families do not have transport.

"CAPS now needs to look at a

venue which is closer to transport so that families will then be able to drop in for a cuppa or talk to a counsellor."

The service does not have the funds to afford commercial rates and is looking for assistance.

CAPS aims to prevent child

abuse by helping families and carers to cope with the pressures of raising children.

The group also runs groups on parenting skills, relationships and dealing with teenagers.

CAPS' 24-hour counselling line is 4343 1411.

Carl Spears, February 7

Chemical collection

A collection of household hazardous waste for Peninsula residents will be held on Sunday, March 4.

Up to 20kg or 20 litres from each household will be accepted at the Gosford Council depot in Gallipoli Ave, off Ocean Beach Rd, Woy Woy, from 10am to 4pm.

Permitted wastes will include fuels and oils, garden chemicals, cleaners and solvents, paint, household batteries and aerosols.

For further information, phone the Waste Board on 4323 4343.

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Classes at craft centre

The Ettalong Beach Arts & Crafts Centre has classes available in patchwork-quilting, pottery, folk art, watercolour, oil and pastel painting, creative writing and sculpture.

The arts centre also holds a multi-craft class covering many craft techniques including mosaics, decoupage, paper tole and glass etching.

Term fees are \$72 for nine weeks.

Niki Rafferty will teach sculpture

on Saturday afternoons from 1.30 pm to 3.30 pm.

Creative writing with Des Theodore will be held on Tuesdays from 1.30 pm to 3.30 pm.

Multi-crafts with Chris Burge will be held on Fridays from 9.30 am to 11.30 am.

In children's classes, Roz Fischer will teach pottery.

The Jocelyn Maughan workshop is coming soon.

For bookings and further enquiries, ring Penny on 4360 1673.

Fiona Forbes, February 1

National winners at Pretty Beach

Principal of Pretty Beach Public School, Ms Jill Godwin, has congratulated a group of children from last year's Year 4 who were national winners in a book review competition.

They won \$350 worth of books

for the school which will become part of the reading resources for Year 3.

This group included Sammy Lizotte, Rowan Jones, Charlotte Valentine, Lizzie McFadyen.

Anna Bracken and Claire Tinker.

Fiona Forbes, 7 February

Mattawa for your pleasure

Acoustic folk band Mattawa will be playing at the Troubadour Folk Club at the CWA Hall on March 9.

The band says it began its musical life exploring the instrumental dance music of Canada and North America.

Gradually, the lure of Celtic music from other parts of the world became irresistible.

With four singers in the group,

the band's repertoire now takes in music from the Celtic regions of France and Spain as well as Ireland and Scotland, together with tunes from the Jewish Klezmer tradition and from Greece.

The CWA Hall is located opposite the Fisherman's Wharf and there is a \$7 cover charge on the night.

Carl Spears, January 31



Weekender

In my street they are bringing down a house.

To the sound of tribal music, they breach its shell, reveal the flimsy skeleton, nakedness of kitchen cupboards, and at last the raw pink entrails of the bathroom.

It had always seemed such an inviting house.

Perhaps it needed a coat of paint, a casual nail to bolster up its sagging fence, but in summer time it pulsed with life, and at night from open windows light flared, triumphant, across the street.

I used to wonder was it lonely in the winters with only possum company, and the two-note call of the owl's "all's well" to divide the night. But I liked to think that shawled in midnight's quiet it dreamed of future summers, was content.

As the last plank falls and it's reduced to rubble I wonder what's been planned to take its place.

Mary Hawthorne
Pearl Beach

Dancers let rip

The Peninsula Rippers are looking for square dancers on Tuesday evenings from 7 to 10 pm at the Ettalong Senior Citizens Club.

Organiser Les Heaton said square dancing was open to all age groups with dancers from five to 88 years.

"You can't help smiling when you dance - it's a great activity for everybody," he said.

"Everybody is put at ease and made welcome.

"Lady beginners only need a skirt and blouse, flat shoes. Men need long trousers, long-sleeved shirt and leather-soled shoes."

Les said square dancing started in America when immigrants from Europe started arriving in America looking for a new life in a new world.

They brought with them a rich array of dancing from different cultures and it was a custom after church service on Sundays for each culture to take turns to do their various dances, everyone joining in.

This went well for a time but soon all parties started bickering about whose turn it was to dance, said Les.

"Then someone suggested why not take different steps and movements from each dancing culture, combine them, add a neutral person to call the steps and behold, square dancing was born," he said.

Les said square dancing required stamina and, in Australia, was done quite fast to old and new songs, sung by a caller.

"One night of square dancing equals eight kilometres walking."

Square dancing took concentration from the dancers as movements could be altered at any time.

"All steps or movements are taught in basic mainstream dance and there are more advanced movements you can learn at a later date."

There were many clubs in Australia, one of which was the Peninsula Rippers.

Phone Les on 4328 1993 for more information.

Fiona Forbes, February 1



Janine Dugate of Killcare was married to Trent Fantini of Bensville on January 20 at Holy Cross Church Kincumber and had their reception at Ocean Beach Watfront restaurant with 60 guests present.

Photo courtesy Bowens Photographics

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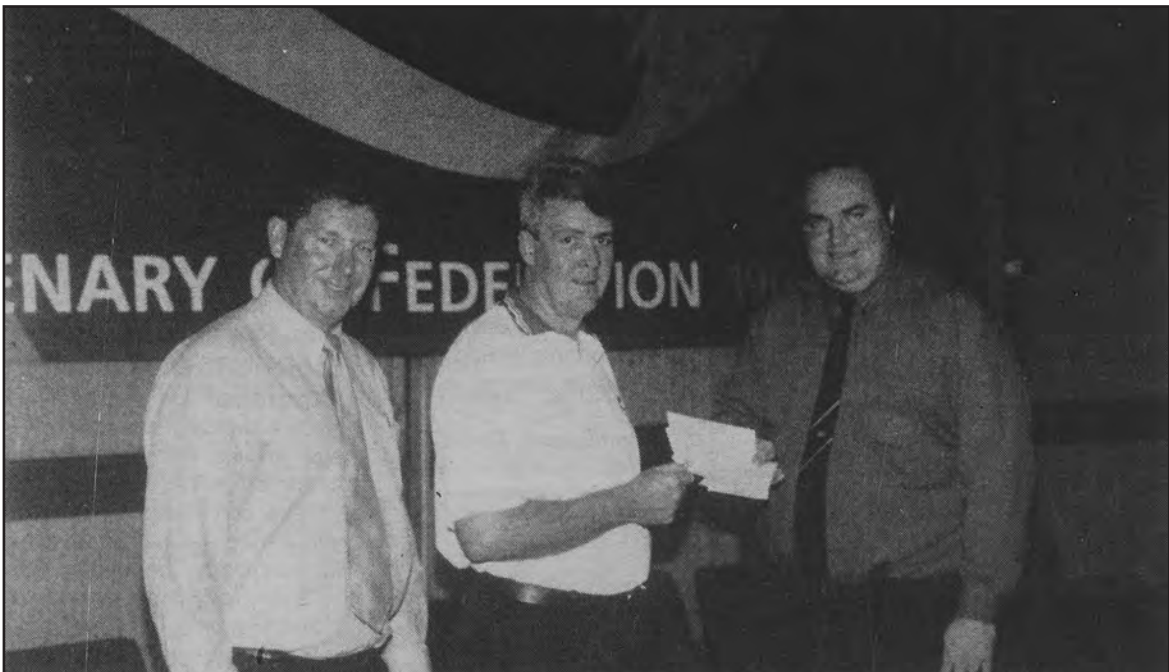
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Greg Doyle, CEO and Brett Harrol, President, Surf Life Saving, Central Coast, receive cheques from Mayor, Cr Chris Holstein.

Sports medal for Ray and John

Two members of Everglades Men's Bowls Club, Ray Mason and John Yaklis, have been awarded the Australian Sports Medal.

Ray was nominated for his years of service to the club, no doubt supported by his years as a player with South Sydney Rugby League and his continuing loyalty to that club.

He remembers his playing days with a passion and still supports the club in the fight to re tain a

place in the NRL. John received his nomination from the Central Coast District Bowls Association who recog nised his years of service to bowls . His bowls administration ca reer started in 1962 with the old NSW Leagues Bowling Club and progressed in many other posts to this day . John retired as Secretary of the zone last year but retains his Royal NSW Bowls Association connection as returning officer.

Bruce McDonald, February 7



Alan Waterson shows off his well eqmed sports medal

\$15,000 for Peninsula surf clubs

Umina, Killcare and Ocean Beach Surf Clubs have received their annual donattons from Gosford Council.

Mayor Chris Holstein presented \$5000 to each club in a ceremony in the Gosford Council offices.

Since 1994 . Gosford Council has provided the annual donation

to the clubs. The council also donates \$10000 to the Surf Life Saving Association of the Central Coast. "These donations are intended to off set the substantial costs of providing surf education programs and the continuation of the club's general life saving services to the Gosford City community." said Cr Holstein.

"Council is most appreciative of the valuable service provided by surf life saving volunteers and the association. "it's hoped the donations continue to encourage clubs and the association to strive to even greater levels of service in the future."

Carl Spears, January 25



Nippers in training at Umina Beach. Umina Surf Club has over three hundred nippers this year

Woy Woy starts season

The Woy Woy Rugby League Club has started its training for this year's season and is seeking people interested in playing for the club.

One of the strongest teams on the Central Coast after remaining almost undefeated over the last two seasons, the first grade side will be under a new coach, Mr Tony

Clarke. Coaches for the lower grades are Dean McDonald for second grade, Steve Napier for the under-19s and Simon Chappell for the under-17s. Anyone interested in playing or helping the club can contact the secretary on 4342 3366.

January 10

Football rego days for Umina and Woy Woy

The Umina Soccer Club and the Woy Woy Junior Rugby League Club will hold their registration days this month.

The Umina Soccer Club will hold its registration day at the Umina Sports Council Building at Umina Oval from 1 pm to 3pm on February 17.

For more information, telephone 4341 4041 .

The Woy Woy Junior Rugby League Club will hold its registration day on February 17 also at the Woy Woy Leagues Club

from 11am to 2pm. Fees are \$60 per player which includes T-shirt and socks. The juniors field teams from under-Ss to under-16s. For more information telephone 4341 0764. Woy Woy Soccer Club, Southern Ettalong United Soccer Club Woy Woy Rugby Union Club and Peninsula Swans Australian Rules club are also holding registration days in the near future. Dates and times are available directly from those clubs.

Carl Spears, February 6

Peninsula Tide Information								
Date	High	Ettalong & Pearl Beach	Low	High	Woy Woy	Low	Woy Woy	
Feb	13	0124-1.50m	1336-1.51m	0728-0.41m	1953-0.37m	0304-1.5m	1516-1.51m	0908-0.41m
	14	0217-1.47m	1429-1.33m	0829-0.50m	2039-0.48m	0357-1.47m	1609-1.33m	1009-0.50m
	15	0311-1.45m	1528-1.19m	0936-0.57m	2129-0.57m	0451-1.45m	1708-1.19m	1116-0.57m
	16	0411-1.43m	1639-1.11m	1051-0.60m	2228-0.63m	0551-1.43m	1819-1.11m	1231-0.60m
	17	0514-1.44m	1755-1.09m	1205-0.59m	2330-0.64m	0654-1.44m	1935-1.09m	1345-0.59m
	18	0614-1.47m	1900-1.13m	1307-0.54m		0754-1.47m	2040-1.13m	1447-0.54m
	19	0706-1.51m	1949-1.19m	1355-0.48m	0028-0.62m	0846-1.51m	2129-1.19m	1535-0.48m
	20	0752-1.56m	2029-1.24m	1435-0.43m	0119-0.58m	0932-1.56m	2209-1.24m	1615-0.43m
	21	0832-1.61m	2105-1.30m	1509-0.38m	0202-0.53m	1012-1.61m	2245-1.30m	1649-0.38m
	22	0908-1.65m	2137-1.34m	1541-0.34m	0240-0.48m	1048-1.65m	2317-1.34m	1721-0.34m
	23	0942-1.67m	2210-1.37m	1612-0.32m	0317-0.44m	1122-1.67m	2350-1.37m	1752-0.32m
	24	1016-1.67m	2242-1.40m	1643-0.31m	0352-0.42m	1156-1.67m		1823-0.31m
March	25	1050-1.64m	2316-1.42m	1713-0.31m	0429-0.41m	1230-1.64m	0022-1.40m	1853-0.31m
	26	1124-1.60m	2351-1.44m	1745-0.33m	0507-0.41m	1304-1.60m	0056-1.42m	1925-0.33m
	27	1200-1.53m		1817-0.37m	0549-0.43m	1340-1.53m	0131-1.44m	1957-0.37m
	28	1239-1.44m	0030-1.45m	1852-0.42m	0632-0.47m	1419-1.44m	0210-1.45m	2032-0.42m
	1	1323-1.35m	0112-1.45m	1932-0.48m	0721-0.51m	1503-1.35m	0225-1.45m	2112-0.48m
	2	1418-1.25m	0200-1.45m	2020-0.54m	0819-8.55m	1558-1.25m	0340-1.45m	2220-0.54m
	3	1527-1.18m	0257-1.46m	2121-0.58m	9028-0.56m	1707-1.18m	0437-1.46m	2301-0.58m
	4	1650-1.16m	0404-1.50m	2236-0.59m	1050-0.53m	1830-1.16m	0544-1.50m	
	5	1809-1.21m	0515-1.57m	2350-0.54m	1206-0.44m	1949-1.21m	0655-1.57m	0016-0.59m
	6	1915-1.30m	0622-1.67m		1311-0.33m	2055-1.30m	0802-1.67m	0130-0.54m
	7	2010-1.40m	0723-1.79m	0054-0.45m	1407-0.22m	2150-1.40m	0903-1.79m	0234-0.45m
	8	2100-1.50m	0819-1.88m	0152-0.36m	1457-0.13m	2240-1.50m	0959-1.88m	0332-0.36m
	9	2147-1.58m	0910-1.93m	0247-0.27m	1543-0.09m	2327-1.58m	1050-1.93m	0427-0.27m
	10	2234-1.63m	1001-1.91m	0339-0.22m	1657-0.10m		1141-1.91m	0519-0.22m
	11	2319-1.65m	1049-1.84m	0432-0.21m	1709-0.15m	0014-1.63m	1229-1.84m	0612-0.21m
	12		1126-1.71m	0523-0.24m	1750-0.24m	0059-1.65m	1316-1.71m	0703-0.24m

Club rumours scotched

Woy Woy Bowling Club's secretary-manager, Mr Warwick Smith, said he would like to nip in the bud any false rumours that may circulate about the future of the club after renovations are completed.

"Rumours are club-killers," he said in the club's newsletter, News without Bias.

"This year will see our club completing an ambitious renovation program that will see our members and guests enjoying a fresh, modern facility.

"To try and put a hold on all the

rumours, please note that we will incur a large debt of \$1.25 million from St George Bank that will be used to lease large assets such as the new Glycol Beer system, upgrade of security and so forth.

"The success of the club's program will now, always has and always will depend on the support of our members.

"There have been no discussions on the raising of fees and we are not being taken over by Panthers, Parramatta or anyone else.

"The bank is happy with our ability to repay the debt," he said.

Carl Spears, January 31



Austin Butler oval named after soccer club stalwart

Woy Woy soccer celebrates 35 years

The Woy Woy Soccer Club has honoured two of its stalwarts as it celebrates 35 years in the Central Coast Soccer Association.

Woy Woy is unusual in that it has not merged, changed colours or changed grounds in its 35-year history.

The only change has been the inclusion of the Rooster logo in 1970, adapted from Tottenham Hotspurs' emblem and not, as widely thought, from their Rugby League counterpart, according to club president Keith Spencer.

"Woy Woy attracts a very loyal following at a time where players change clubs far too often," he •

said.

The club currently has 46 players with 10 years' service and eight with 20 years.

"We place great belief in the traditions of the club and consider it very important to encourage and recognise long service and loyalty.

"In this regard two current club stalwarts stand out," he said.

Current CCSA director Geoff Johnson is a Foundation Member, having played in the club's first competition game in April 1966, and has played for 30 of the last 35 seasons with the club, missing only those when he was living overseas.

The club's Registrar, Phil Butler,

was recently honoured by both the club and Soccer NSW for his 30 years' continuous service.

"Phil is part of what can only be described as a soccer dynasty with Woy Woy." His late father, Austin "Skeeter" Butler, after whom Woy Woy's home ground is named was a life member of the club, the CCSA, the CCWSA and Northern NSW Associations, as is Phil's mother, former Association registrar Colleen Butler.

Phil's son, Trent, who stars with the Under-5s this year, will be the 32nd 'family member to play for the club, "a feat unequalled in any sport on the Central Coast", according to Keith Spencer.

Carl Spears, February 7



Woy Woy bowling club renovations proceeding well

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Umina surf club in national finals



Off to the nationals: l to r Geoff Webster; stroke; Ben Shannon, bow; Mark Van Aa/deren, sweep; Dean Hillard, 2nd stroke; Chris Martlew, 2nd bow.

A surf boat crew from Umina Surf Club is the last crew from the Central Coast left to compete in the Australian finals.

Early this month, the Umina under- 21 and under-19 surfboat crews competed in the NSW final of the VB cup series at Forster on the Mid North Coast.

Both crews had earned the right to compete by finishing as finalists after

three rounds of the VB cup in central division where they would meet the finalist from northern and southern divisions of NSW.

The under-21 crew made up of Mark Van Aalderan (sweep), Geoff Webster, Dean Hillard, Chris Martlew and Ben Shannon finished second in the NSW final, earning the right to compete against the finalists from all the other states at

Wanda on February 24.

Club officials said that achieving second place in the NSW final was a remarkable feat considering three of the four rowers had not seen a surfboat before this season.

"They are a credit to themselves, their families, Umina surf club and the Peninsula

Carl Spears, February 5

Umina third in Surf Masters

Umina Surf life Saving Club competed in their Branch Masters which was held at Copacabana on Saturday, February 3.

Umina SLSC came third overall behind Wamberal, followed by Avoca.

Umina came first in the 160 years boat race, with a crew of Mick Coffey, Brian Paul, John Giddy, Allan Gibbons and Phil Welch.

For the 150 years surf team, Umina won again with Sid Syddall, Bill Heber and Bill Cook.

A gallant second place was achieved by Rod Hulls, Gary Mathews and Kelly Glew in the 110 years board relay.

Bill Heber and Bill Cook teamed up with Bruce Doyle to show their skill in coming first in the 150 years.

For the 110 years, there was a close second by Kelly Glew, Peter Tattersall and Gary Mathews The Taplin Relay saw

Rod Hulls, Kelly Glew and Gary Mathews come second for the 110 years team.

Also in second place was the 130 years team of Bill Cook, Peter Tattersall and Gary Mensforth.

In the Double Ski, the 30-34 years team of Peter Tattersall and Gary Mathews came third, with Kelly Glew and Alan Gibbons doing one better in coming second for the 40-44 years group Kelly Glew was placed second in the 40-44 years Single Ski with Alan Gibbons with third.

In the 30-34 years Board Race, Joanne Nugym showed how good she was, while Rod Hulls came third in the 35-39 years and Bill Heber came first in the 60-64 years group.

The Swim race for women in the 35-39 years saw Karen Paull come third.

Bill Cook filled second place in the Men's 50-54 years, with Sid Syddell third.

For the men in the 60-64 years

bracket, Bill Heber showed why he was good enough to come first.

In the Rescue Tube for women in the 40-44 years age group, Brigitt Parmeter reached a second place.

For the 50-54 years for men, Sid Syddall came first, just ahead of Bill Cook.

In Board Rescue 35-39 Years, Rod Hulls and Gary Mensforth came third.

In the 50-54 years, Bill Cook and Sid Syddell working well together grabbed first place.

Karen Paull came third in the Iron Women 35-39 Years and Brigitt Parmeter also came third for the 40-44 years group In the Beach Sprint for men aged 50- 54, Bill Cook came third and Bill Heber came first in the 60-64 years for men.

In the Flags competition, men 50-54 years, Bill Cook was second while Bill Heber finished first in the 60-64 years race.

Carl Spears, February 7

PCYC officially opened

Police Minister Mr Paul Whelan and Gosford mayor Cr Chris Holstein have officially opened the new Police and Community Youth Club (PCYC) at Osborne Ave, Umina Beach.

The PCYC Umina Beach opening ceremony was also attended by representatives of the police, the PCYC organisation and sponsors as well as Gosford councillors and PCYC staff.

PCYC Umina will be the first of the "New Generation" PCYCs in NSW and will feature the inaugural "Pump Youth Space".

Pump aims to provide a safe space for young people that is free of drugs, alcohol and smoke.

It incorporates an under-18's entertainment venue, internet cafe, games room and training rooms.

It also has more traditional recreational activities including a fully equipped gymnasium and boxing room.

"Charities like PCYC depend on the help and generosity of the public and corporate sector and the Gosford community has certainly rallied round to support the design and construction of this terrific facility," said PCYC NSW chief Ms Deborah Mills.

Gosford Council contributed \$1.2 million to acquire and re-develop the site.

The PCYC movement raised \$300,000 to equip the club and acknowledged the support of the NSW Police Service, UPS, Tattersalls, F.C.

Nicholls Pty Ltd, Casino Community Benefit Fund, Ettalong Memorial Bowling Club, Woy Woy Leagues Club, Umina Beach Bowling Club, Zonta and Umina



Many turned up for PCYC's official opening

Beach Rotary Club.

"The PCYC movement is a partnership between young people, the community and the NSW Police Service, dedicated to excellence in youth leadership and crime prevention," said Ms Mills.

"Police and Community Youth Clubs provide young people with a friendly and positive environment where they can try new experiences, develop skills, meet people, get advice or just hang out.

"PCYC officers also work with local

police patrols, schools and community agencies to provide programs based on local youth needs and problems.

"Apart from the police salaries, the clubs are totally self-funding and rely on fundraising, donations and sponsorship.

"One of Australia's largest youth organisations, the PCYC has 57 clubs spread across the state with over 50,000 members."

Carl Spears, February 7

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