

Kathy Smith resigns due to fight with cancer

Member for Gosford Ms Kathy Smith has announced her resignation from NSW Parliament, because of her ongoing fight with cancer.

The resignation was confirmed in a media statement from the NSW Opposition Leader Mr Luke Foley.

He said that, against the odds, she won Gosford for Labor in 2015.

Ms Smith was diagnosed with cancer in 2016 and doctors were confident at the time that she would overcome the disease that first struck her in 1996.

Unfortunately the cancer had more recently metastasised and required further treatment.

"There is no higher honour than to represent your community in Parliament and that is why it is with great sadness that I announce my decision to resign as your Member for Gosford," Ms Smith said.

"When I was diagnosed with cancer last year, my doctors were positive that with treatment I would win my second battle with this disease," she said.

"Unfortunately, the cancer has metastasised and will now require further treatment.

"This was not the result any of us was hoping for.

"It was my first battle with this disease that led me to become a cancer advocate, then Chair of Cancer Voices NSW and ultimately be given the privilege of representing my community in the NSW Parliament.



Ms Kathy Smith (front left) campaigning to keep the Woy Woy Motor Registry open in 2015

"I am proud of what we have achieved together on the Central Coast and I know that whoever comes next will continue the great work that I and the Foley Labor team have started.

"I now look forward to spending more time with my family and continuing my treatment and recovery," she said.

Ms Smith thanked her staff, Ms Jane Letteri and Ms Amy Walsh, and her husband Peter whose dedication and support had made so much possible at this difficult time.

NSW Opposition leader Mr Luke Foley said: "I said when Kathy was diagnosed with cancer that she had all our heartfelt wishes for a speedy recovery.

"Now with her resignation, we

are losing a remarkable, resilient and admirable woman, mother and colleague.

"Her spirit and outlook will be missed around Parliament and important though her work here was, she has a much bigger battle ahead.

"She has our entire sincere good wishes for that struggle.

"Please give her your best thoughts, and prayers.

"She and her family will get strength from that."

Mr Foley said Ms Smith's achievements during her time as Member for Gosford included her exposure of the dangerous condition of the Hawkesbury River Rail Bridge which led to an inquiry by the Office of Transport Safety Investigations and forced the

Government to make repairs.

She led the fight against the closure of the Roads and Maritime Services office in Woy Woy by collecting a petition with more than 15,000 signatures and forcing a debate in the NSW Parliament.

Ms Smith was credited with stopping the proposed increase in train fares which would have almost doubled fares for seniors by 2018 and would have cost daily commuters from Woy Woy to Tuggerah an extra \$386 per year.

"She fought to keep our public hospitals in public hands because patients should always come before profit; campaigned to fix the \$12 million maintenance backlog at Gosford schools; and championed Brisbane Water oyster growers in their continuing efforts to re-

establish a viable local industry."

NSW Labor Senator Ms Deborah O'Neill, former Federal Member for Robertson, released a statement following Ms Smith's announcement.

"I am very sad that my friend and colleague Kathy Smith has had to resign as the Member for Gosford," she said.

"Kathy has been a strong voice for our community for many years.

"I first met Kathy when she was the chairperson of Cancer Voices NSW and she was fighting to secure funding to build the Regional Cancer Centre at Gosford Hospital.

"Thanks to Kathy's persistent and passionate advocacy on behalf of locals, the Cancer Centre was built by Labor and thousands of locals now receive their cancer treatment right here on the Central Coast.

"Kathy has continued to be a strong champion for our community and has fought against the Liberal Government's attack on our local services, while battling her own illness in the last 12 months.

"My thoughts are with Kathy, Peter, her children, grandchildren and her close friends at this very difficult time."

Media statement, 14 Feb 2017
Maegen Sykes, Office of Luke Foley
Media statement, 14 Feb 2017
Rhys Zorro, Office of
Deborah O'Neill

BY-ELECTION NEWS
- Pages 8 to 12

Council withdraws Bullion St carpark from sale

Umina's Bullion Street community car park has been withdrawn from sale by Central Coast Council.

The Central Coast Council called for expressions of interest last September from parties wishing to acquire and develop the Bullion St land.

At the time, the Peninsula Chamber of Commerce argued that the sale and development of the car park would cause traffic chaos and damage the thriving Umina town centre's economy.

The community backlash has resulted in Central Coast Council pulling its call for expressions of interest off the agenda.

The Chamber of Commerce reports that it has been assured the sale will not proceed and that there will be no future review of that decision without the participation of the Peninsula Chamber of Commerce.

Interview, 15 Feb 2017
Matthew Wales, Peninsula
Chamber of Commerce



The Bullion Street carpark has been withdrawn from sale

THIS ISSUE contains 53 articles - Read more news items for this issue at www.peninsulanews.info

NEWSPAPERS

central coast

Office: 120c Erina Street, Gosford
Phone: 4325 7369
Mail: PO Box 1056, Gosford 2250
E-mail: editorial@centralcoastnews.net
Website: www.centralcoastnews.net



News

Peninsula News

Community Access

Peninsula News is a fortnightly community newspaper owned by Woy Woy Community Media Association 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.

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Commercial Operator:

Cec Bucello for Central Coast Newspapers

Journalists: Jackie Pearson, Dillon Luke

Assistant Journalists:

Satria Dyer-Darmawan, Jasmine Gearie, Jarrod Melmeth, Tynan King

Graphic Design: Justin Stanley **Sales:** Val Bridge

Photo Journalist: Noel Fisher

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Honorary editor: Mark Snell

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All accepted contributions also appear on our website.

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Second dry month for the Peninsula

The Peninsula is in the middle of a second dry month this year, with just 45.6mm recorded rainfall for February.

The total, as at 9am on February 17, represents about one third of the average February rainfall of 145mm.

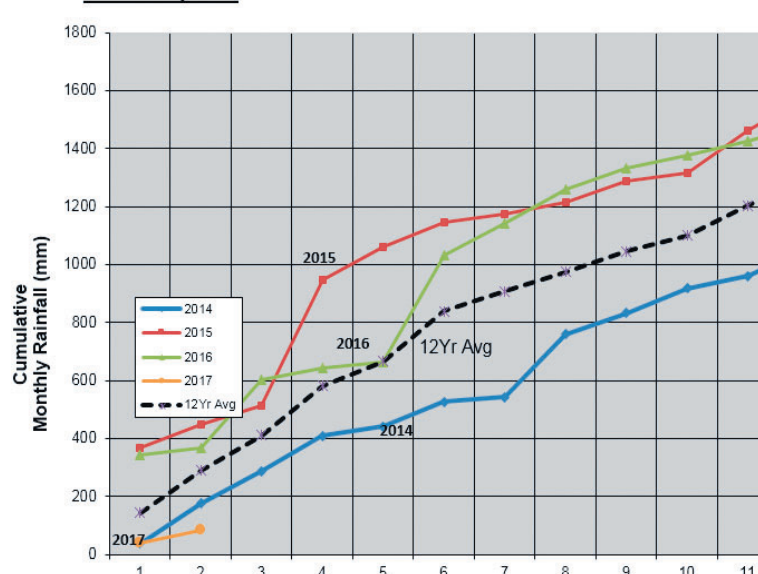
The highest daily rainfall this year, 26.7mm, was recorded on February 8.

January's rainfall of 36.7mm was about one quarter of the January average.

The cumulative total rainfall this year stands at 82.3mm, which is 71.4 per cent down on the average total at the end of February of 288mm.

Spreadsheet, 17 Feb 2017
Jim Morrison, Woy Woy

Cumulative Monthly Rainfall by Year



YOUR CHANCE TO WIN

Peninsula News and Weber's Circus have three family passes to give away to see the circus at Morisset showground.

Weber's Circus will be at Morisset Showground, Ourimbah St from March 3 to March 12.

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The performance lasts for one hour and 45 minutes and the family pass is worth \$92.

For your chance to win one of the three family passes write

your name, full address and daytime phone number on the back of an envelope and mail it to Peninsula News Weber's Circus Competition, PO Box 1056, Gosford, NSW, 2250.

Entries close 5:00pm on Thursday, March 2.

The winners of the Peninsula News Absolutely 80s competition were Scott Hamill of Narara, Tina Mayhew of Lisarow and Margaret Keegan of Point Clare.

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Council presses Cabinet on channel dredging

Central Coast Council has told the NSW Cabinet that dredging the Ettalong Channel is a key issue for the region.

"There is an urgent need to address the ongoing closing over and narrowing of the entrance bar at the Ettalong Channel so that it is safer and more navigable under all conditions," the Cabinet was told in briefing notes prepared by the Council.

The notes were presented to the NSW Cabinet when it met on the Coast on February 9.

"The coastal headland of Box Head marks the northern entrance to Broken Bay from the Tasman Sea," the notes stated.

"The Ettalong Channel is the only entry point to Brisbane water which is a tidal arm of Broken Bay surrounded by coastal villages and featuring commercial enterprises and recreational activities.

"The channel entry is used by commercial fishermen, public ferry transport, community recreation and tourism ventures.

"The natural beauty of the area, close proximity to Sydney



The Palm Beach Ferry navigating the narrow channel

and improved marina facilities are attracting more and more recreational and commercial vessels, resulting in increased traffic wishing to use the entrance.

"Combined with the forecast growth projected for the Central Coast region, the problem will continue to escalate.

"Commercial and private

vessel operators regularly report bottoming out of their vessels causing damage and safety concerns as they are forced to navigate too close to the rocky

public foreshore.

"The passage has now reached a point where many of the larger recreational vessels that did travel to the Central Coast on day and overnight trips have halted due to the danger of the entry.

"The direct impact is a loss of economic activity for the region.

"Improving the entry through regularly dredging the channel will bring enhanced navigational safety encouraging growth in commercial and recreational boating activity and realising flow-on economic benefits for the region."

President of the Peninsula Chamber of Commerce, Mr Matthew Wales, said the NSW Government had assured him that it was looking at funding models for dredging of the channel.

"We have been pushing the State Government for years and we have said we don't care who does it so long as the job gets done," Mr Wales said.

Briefing notes, 9 Feb 2017

Ian Reynolds, Central Coast Council Interview, 14 Feb 2017

Matthew Wales, Peninsula Chamber of Commerce Reporter: Jackie Pearson

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Gosford City Farmers' Market
Gosford Racecourse,
4 Racecourse Rd, Gosford West



Chief magistrate pushes on with court changes

NSW Chief Magistrate Judge Graeme Henson will push ahead with plans to remove Local Court sittings from Woy Woy Court House and turn it into a full-time Children's Court.

A written statement from the Chief Magistrate's office said: "After carefully reviewing feedback from local stakeholders, the Chief Magistrate will move Local Court sittings to Gosford, freeing up Woy Woy Court House to become a full time Children's Court for the Central Coast.

"The Children's Court will continue to have one list day a month at Wyong, however, all defended proceedings will be dealt with at Woy Woy," the statement from Judge Henson said.

"It has long been the philosophy of the Children's Court that, wherever possible, children should not have their matters dealt with at Local Court buildings to ensure their safety and reduce the stress and trauma of having to appear in court.

"The Local Court currently sits at Woy Woy one day a week to do list work.

"Defended proceedings have, for many years, been listed at and dealt with at Gosford Local Court.

"The caseload at Woy Woy has been in decline for many years.

"In 2009, there were 1600 new matters commenced at Woy Woy.

"In 2015 that figure had dropped to 1010.

"It should be noted that Woy Woy is just over 12 kilometres from Gosford.

"The average train trip or motor vehicle trip is 15 minutes.

"In other changes, the Chief Magistrate has increased Local Court sitting days at Wyong from 32 days per month to 40 days per month to deal with the increased workload.

"Local Court sittings have also increased at Gosford to allow for two magistrates to sit full time at this location," Judge Henson's statement said.

**Media statement, 3 Feb 2017
Georgie Loudon, NSW Justice**



Local Court business will move to Gosford

Fines issued over pelican attack

Fines have been issued following an attack on pelicans at Woy Woy on December 30.

Pelicans were injured and killed by two unrestrained dogs near Pelican Island, Woy Woy, at the

end of December.

Following the attack, Central Coast Council confirmed that it was working with police to investigate the issue.

"The police are leading the investigation and we are certainly working with them and taking

appropriate action," said Central Coast Council administrator Mr Ian Reynolds.

"Fines have been issued and notices sent to declare the dogs as dangerous," he said.

**Media statement, 15 Feb 2017
Ian Reynolds, Central Coast Council**

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Lawyer receives scathing letter from chief magistrate

Mild-mannered local lawyer Mr Darrell Pannowitz has received a scathing letter from Chief Magistrate Judge Graeme Henson after asking him to reconsider plans to remove Local Court sittings from Woy Woy courthouse.

Mr Pannowitz said he had, during attempts to keep the Local Court at Woy Woy, exchanged letters with Judge Henson.

He said he had received a "scathing letter of personal attack... which may be shared later".

In responding, Mr Pannowitz wrote to Judge Henson: "I have no ulterior or commercial motive to suggest a review of the proposal as you suggest.

"With the greatest respect Your Honour, the real issue is the proposal to cease a local service to two of my local communities without consultation with those communities and court users.

"I appreciate, however, that the Courts' administrators do not have to consult and can impose their whim.

"Imagine the outcry if it was proposed without consultation to cease Local Court sittings at the city of Orange and move them to Bathurst because it is only 20 minutes drive.

"And then say to the people of Bathurst that the Children's Court



Mr Darrell Pannowitz

sittings there have been totally withdrawn and from now on you can take your children to Orange since it is only a 20 minute drive.

"These cities have roughly equivalent populations to Wyong and the Woy Woy Peninsula.

"The basis of my reasonable suggestion for a review of the proposal is to improve the Local Court service at Woy Woy for its local citizens and to improve the Children's Court service at Wyong for its local citizens via improved listing arrangements and rostering of judicial officers including the

new Magistrate."

Mr Pannowitz said he was not surprised Woy Woy Court operated so efficiently.

"No doubt that efficiency is aided by its location at Woy Woy and the cooperation and efficiency of the local legal profession.

"Imagine how more effective and efficient the Local Court at Woy Woy would operate for the benefit of the whole Central Coast if it were allocated additional listings and rostering of Magistrates to deal with matters that arise in its near locality.

"I understand that it is a fair estimate that about 25 per cent of the matters finalised in the Local Court Gosford arise in the Woy Woy, Umina, Ettalong Peninsula area.

"My respectful submission is that it is in the interest of justice to have those matters dealt with in the location where they arise.

"I understand the government chooses to prioritise funding to services other than the Local and Children's Courts.

"However, decisions to cease court sittings should not be made just on the number of matters coming before the courts or times which are, at the end of the day determined by listing arrangements and rostering clerks.

"Decisions should be based first and foremost on providing a local service to local communities.

"Local or Children's Court sittings servicing the local issues in a local facility is the face of justice in its local community, providing comfort to local citizens.

"It should be about service to a local community whether it is in Woy Woy, Wyong or Woop Woop.

"I maintain my view which is shared by other locals that the courts' services to the Central Coast can be improved by altered listing arrangements and rostering of judicial officers, not shutting down sittings and forcing court

clients to go elsewhere.

"It is a pity that an alternate view to those in charge of a public service, born of genuine concern for local citizens and to maintain services to them with no ulterior motive, is treated with such rancorous disdain.

"I again implore you to revisit the listing arrangements and rostering and to at least maintain the status quo or preferably improve the service," Mr Pannowitz said.

"I hope not, but suspect this plea will most likely be disregarded".

Mr Pannowitz told Peninsula News the announcement had not been unexpected but meant "the Peninsula loses again".

"There was no preliminary proposal to discuss, no consultation with local Woy Woy practitioners or court users or clients," Mr Pannowitz said.

"It was a done deal but I am happy we attempted to stand up for our local community," he said.

Mr Pannowitz is a lawyer with Tonkin Drysdale Partners.

His voluntary community service includes serving on the board of the non-profit organisation which operates Peninsula Village and Coinda Village retirement villages.

**Letters, 3 Feb 2017
Darrell Pannowitz, Tonkin
Drysdale Partners
Reporter: Jackie Pearson**

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News



Debris from the recent level crossing fatality

Labor branch condemns rail crossing decision

The Woy Woy Branch of the Australian Labor Party has condemned the NSW Government's decision to scrap the Rawson Rd level crossing replacement project.

Woy Woy Branch secretary Ms Belinda Neal said the branch was also critical of the Government's failure to determine a new viable alternative plan almost four months after the decision to scrap an overpass or underpass was made.

"The failure is a direct result of the announcement made in 2011, without due diligence, by the former Liberal Member for Gosford, which caused a blowout of the project to \$110 million," Ms Neal said.

"The result is the wasted expenditure of \$16 million without a

solution to this long-term problem," she said.

"This has been spent on a rarely used pedestrian underpass and earth works for the scrapped project.

"We call on the NSW Liberal government to immediately prepare new designs for a replacement rail crossing at Woy Woy and to allocate the funding necessary to finalise the project.

"This failure is a risk to the lives of our residents as demonstrated a fortnight ago with the death of an elderly resident on the level crossing.

"It also is a block to traffic flow and a cause of congestion on the Peninsula.

**Media release, 15 Feb 2017
Belinda Neal, Woy Woy Branch
of the Australian Labor Party**

The NSW Government is now insisting a September 9 election will be held for Central Coast Council, after previously being non-committal about whether the administration period would be extended.

The the Parliamentary Secretary for the Central Coast and the Member for Terrigal contacted Peninsula News after the Premier had previously said she would not rule out an extension of the current administration period.

During the early weeks of Ms Gladys Berejiklian's term as Premier of NSW, it was speculated that changes might be made to local council mergers.

Some National Party MPs and members of the Labor Opposition had called for plebiscites in communities subject to compulsory council dismissals and mergers.

They said that communities should be given the chance to vote for or against amalgamations that had been forced upon them by the Baird government.

The new Premier has also been under pressure to abandon all, or at least some, mergers and to extend

the administration period of some newly-merged councils, including the Central Coast Council.

At a doorstep interview before NSW Ministers attended a Community Cabinet meeting on the Central Coast last week, Ms Berejiklian refused to commit to September 9 as the date for the first Central Coast Council election.

She also said she would not rule out an extension of the administration period.

"I'm not ruling anything in or out," she said.

However, on Tuesday, February 14, Ms Berejiklian confirmed local government elections for merged councils would take place on September 9.

The Parliamentary Secretary for the Central Coast, Mr Scot MacDonald, and the NSW Member for Terrigal, Mr Adam Crouch, both contacted Peninsula News to reinforce the message that September 9 would be the Central Coast Council election date.

The Government has also ruled out plebiscites for or against Council mergers.

The delay in finalising the audit of the former Gosford Council's accounts and the volume of work

needed to combine the major planning instruments of the two former council's does, however, make September a tight timeframe.

A former Gosford councillor said an extension of the administration period was possible.

They said there was speculation that the size of the Central Coast Council, one of the largest local governments in NSW, meant that there was too much work to get through to hand power to new councillors at any time before the next State Election in 2019.

The proclamation that created Central Coast Council set the date of the election for that newly created Council as September 9.

According to the NSW Electoral Commission, if the Government did decide to amend that date, it would need to do so by passing legislation through Parliament.

Interview, 9 Feb 2017

**Gladys Berejiklian, NSW Premier
Phone and facebook
messages, 16 Feb 2017**

**Adam Crouch, Member for Terrigal
Phone interview, 16 Feb 2017**

**Scot MacDonald, Parliamentary
Secretary for the Central Coast
Phone interview, 16 Feb 2017**

**Richard Carroll, NSW
Electoral Commission
Reporter: Jackie Pearson**

Premier confirms timing

NSW Premier Ms Gladys Berejiklian has confirmed that the next election for merged local councils, including the Central Coast Council, will be held on September 9.

The Premier had last week refused to rule out changing the timing of the election or extending

the current period of administration for the Central Coast Council.

Ms Berejiklian announced on Tuesday, February 14, that all merged councils across NSW would remain in place.

"I am looking forward to the local government elections in September to restore local decision-making to our regions,"

Ms Berejiklian said.

"New councils across NSW have been working hard to deliver better services for their communities," she said.

"Residents and ratepayers would be worse off if this was undone."

**Media release, 14 Feb 2017
Ehssan Veiszadeh, Office
of Gladys Berejiklian**

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Senator Deborah O'Neill
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Time for a new Member, says Chamber

In sending its condolences to Ms Kathy Smith, the Peninsula Chamber of Commerce said it was time for the Gosford to have a Member of Parliament that would “go into bat for the community”.

“This is a very sad time for Kathy Smith,” said Chamber president Mr Matthew Wales.

“I’ve met Kathy a couple of times and, from the business community’s point of view, it is very sad she has had to resign and obviously a very difficult time for her and her family,” Mr Wales said.

However, he said the decision was not unexpected and the Chamber believed the by-election would take place within the next six-to-eight weeks.

“This community needs to be adequately represented and sadly the Seat of Gosford has not had satisfactory representation, through no fault of Kathy’s, for some time,” Mr Wales said.

“Now the community needs to get an MP who is prepared to go into bat for them,” he said.

Mr Wales said he believed the forced amalgamation of Gosford with Wyong Council would have a bearing on the election although most people were supportive of the amalgamation.”

“We should all be very careful about how the Government decision has impacted on the community.



Peninsula Chamber of Commerce President Mr Matthew Wales

“A lot of people are still upset about the closure of the Woy Woy RMS,” he said.

“Any front line services taken away or modified is a negative and that has also been reflected in the Government’s recently-announced changes to the Local Court at Woy Woy.

“This is another example of the Government not listening to the community and chipping away at our services in a way the community believes it is not entitled to do,” he said.

Mr Wales said he did not belong to any political party and would not consider running as an independent in the by-election.

Interview, 15 Feb 2017
Matthew Wales, Peninsula Chamber of Commerce
Reporter: Jackie Pearson

One Nation not registered for Gosford by-election

Pauline Hanson’s One Nation Party will not be able to run candidates in the Gosford by-election, despite having “a better chance of winning” than the Liberals.

The party has not been registered as a political party in NSW in time for the by-election.

Ms Hanson has said she intended to have the party registered to contend the NSW State election in 2019.

However, One Nation supporters could run in the Gosford by-election as independent candidates.

Shortly after the announcement of Ms Kathy Smith’s resignation as the State Member for Gosford, Sportsbet tipped Labor to win the by-election but also predicted that One Nation had a better chance of winning the seat than the Liberals.

Mr Will Byrne from Sportsbet said: “The Liberals would usually be challenging for favouritism but it’s One Nation who follow Labor (\$1.60 to win) at odds of \$4.

“Further down the pecking order on \$5 is the Liberal Party with the Christian Democratic (Fred Nile) Party (\$51) and Greens (\$101), the outsiders.

“The Liberal Party lost Gosford at the election by only a couple of hundred votes but this time the odds are very much against them, reducing that margin and it looks a safe Labor hold,” Mr Byrnes said.

Independent candidates could spoil Sportsbet’s predictions.

Former Liberal Member for Gosford, Mr Chris Holstein, who lost the seat at the last NSW state election to Ms Smith by 203 votes has not ruled out having another tilt, this time as an independent.

“I am going to weigh up who is there and whether they have the interests of the Central Coast at heart,” Mr Holstein said.

“We will need to look very closely to see the quality of candidates from all parties,” he said.

Mr Holstein expressed his sympathies for Ms Smith and her family and said he would “pray Kathy Smith gets a positive outcome” from her next round of cancer treatment.

Mr Holstein is currently chairman of the Central Coast Taskforce, an advocacy group set up and backing by entrepreneur Mr John Singleton.

“The job of the Taskforce has

always been to point out to the government what it needs to do for the Central Coast community,” Mr Holstein said.

Mr Singleton has property development interests which may mean he is a prohibited donor in NSW.

The NSW Electoral Commission lists property developers as prohibited donors and defines them as: “a corporation engaged in a business that regularly involves the making of relevant planning applications by or on behalf of the corporation in connection with the residential or commercial development of land, with the ultimate purpose of the sale or lease of the land for profit”.

The Commission also defines a “close associate” of a banned donor and gives provision for entities to “apply to be determined as not a prohibited donor”.

Website, 16 Feb 2017
NSW Electoral Commission, State Register of Political Parties
Media release, 14 Feb 2017
Will Byrnes, Sportsbet
Interview, 15 Feb 2017
Chris Holstein, Central Coast Taskforce
Reporter: Jackie Pearson

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NEWSPAPERS central coast

Belinda Neal may seek election for Gosford

Former Federal Member for Robertson and former NSW Senator, Ms Belinda Neal, may seek election as the State Member for Gosford.

She said she would only stand for preselection as Labor candidate in the Gosford by-election if the preselection process was democratic.

She said anything less than a preselection based on a rank-and-file vote or a 50:50 determination by the party's State Electoral Council and State Administrative Committee "does not give the locals a say and I will not nominate".

Ms Neal said she had a track record at being "effective at delivering what the community needs" and believed she had a capacity to do so again.

"I am happiest when I am working for the community and delivering," she said.

Ms Neal said her achievements as the Federal Member for Robertson had included: delivering community infrastructure on the Peninsula including CCTV security cameras in main streets at Woy Woy, Umina and Ettalong and in the vicinity of surf clubs.

She secured \$3 million Federal funding for the recreational precinct at Umina adjacent to the surf club and \$4.5 million to update the water system to improve water quality on the Peninsula.

She also campaigned for funding for capital works in all local public schools.

The local project she is currently most passionate about,



whether she gets to be a candidate in the by-election or not, is the Rawson Rd Rail Level Crossing Replacement Project.

She said that, as a resident who uses the intersection of Woy Woy Rd and Station St regularly, it could accurately be described as a "nightmare" between 7am and 9am and 3pm and 6pm.

"It is simply unacceptable to have a level crossing in a metropolitan area," she said.

The by-election campaign would be an ideal time for the community to get an accurately-costed commitment from both major parties to replace the level crossing and reconfigure the intersection, Ms Neal said.

**Interview, 16 Feb 2017
Belinda Neal, Woy Woy Bay
Reporter: Jackie Pearson**

The Labor Party will have a strong candidate in the Gosford by-election, according to Senator Deborah O'Neill who is a member of the party's State Executive Committee.

Former Member for Robertson, Senator Deborah O'Neill is Junior Vice President of the NSW Labor executive team.

She said she did not believe the community cared about the internal workings of the Labor Party.

"What is going to matter is we have a candidate ready to defend the Coast against the State Government," Senator O'Neill said.

In paying respects to the outgoing sitting Member for Gosford, Ms Kathy Smith, Senator O'Neill said: "The Labor Party put up a great candidate who won the election and worked hard for the community."

The Senator said she acknowledged that "rank and file preselection means a lot to local members of the party".

The preselection of Ms Smith for the 2015 NSW election was broadly criticised by local ALP members as a process dictated by the party's NSW head office and not determined by the rank and file.

There are seven ALP branches in the Gosford electorate, three of which are located on the Peninsula (Umina-Ettalong, Woy Woy and the Peninsula Day Branch).

Some members remain concerned the NSW head office



Senator Deborah O'Neill and Ms Anne Charlton who stood for the Federal Seat of Robertson and is also considering preselection for Gosford

will still dictate who the party preselects as its candidate in the impending by-election.

A rank-and-file preselection would involve candidates being nominated.

Those candidates do not have to live in the Gosford electorate but they need to be a financial and qualified party member.

Only members within the electorate's branches can vote.

All members are entitled to a vote and the candidate with the most votes is endorsed by the

party.

A compromise may be to give the party's NSW electoral committee and the State Administrative Committee an equal say in the selection of the candidate.

"This will take its course," Senator O'Neill said.

She said she believed the community was more concerned about voting for an MP who would deliver on their promises.

"One thing is very clear, when the Liberals win government, the Central Coast loses and when the sitting member is also Liberal the Central Coast loses twice," she said.

She said the closure of Woy Woy RMS and the withdrawal of the NSW Government from the replacement of the Rawson Road rail crossing were two recent examples of those "losses".

"The underpass was promised by a Liberal member and a Liberal Government abandoned it," she said.

"With Labor, the commitments we make we deliver," she said.

Ms Anne Charlton, a Wamberal resident and former employee of Senator O'Neill, who stood for Labor in the Robertson electorate in the 2016 in the Federal election, has expressed her interest in preselection.

**Interview, 15 Feb 2017
Deborah O'Neill, Federal
Senator for NSW
Reporter: Jackie Pearson**

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Liberal candidate to be announced soon

The Liberal Party is expected to announce its candidate for the Gosford by-election "in the near future".

The NSW Director of the Party, Mr Chris Noble is expected to make the announcement.

"It will then become an organisational matter," said Parliamentary Secretary for the Central Coast, Mr Scot MacDonald.

The Liberal Party has already run a "faux ballot" to measure its members' views about whether they want to run a candidate in that seat and preferences for nominees, Mr MacDonald said.

He said Mr Noble would announce when nominations would open and close to give members a timeframe for the announcement of their candidate.

"The decision will overwhelmingly have a local component," he said.

Darkinjung Local Aboriginal

Land Council chief executive officer Mr Sean Gordon had already expressed interest in running for the Liberal Party.

"I think it is a wonderful thing," Mr MacDonald said.

"Putting politics aside, since Linda Burney left the NSW Parliament there has been no Aboriginal presence.

"When I have spoken to Sean about it, I told him to consider that he has a duty to put his hand up and be that Aboriginal presence in the State Parliament because we have been poorer for not having that presence," he said.

Mr Gordon was born in Brewarrina in north western NSW and moved his family to the Central Coast 15 years ago.

He does not live on the Peninsula.

Interview, 16 Feb 2017
Scot MacDonald, Parliamentary Secretary for the Central Coast
Reporter: Jackie Pearson

Roads Minister visit was 'important', says MacDonald

Parliamentary Secretary for Planning and the Central Coast Mr Scot MacDonald has described as "important" the visit of Roads Minister Ms Melinda Pavey to Woy Woy on Thursday, February 9.

"But it was important Ms Pavey and her staff saw for themselves the roads and talked to local leaders, so when the project and funding proposals come through, they have a good understanding of the challenges," he said.

"I was very grateful Minister Pavey made time to inspect some road issues on the Peninsula," Mr MacDonald said.

"We inspected the rail crossing at Rawsons Road, the rail underpass and congestion pinch points in the area," he said.

"We were joined by the President of the Peninsula Chamber of Commerce, Mr Matthew Wales.

"I am not interested in looking back and apportioning blame for lack of progress on some of these proposals.

"The Minister made it clear she is receptive to quality proposals that meet cost-benefit analysis.

"I will now be engaging Roads and Maritime Services and Central Coast Council to co-ordinate and prioritise road works in the Gosford electorate.

"The NSW Liberal National Government has a strong financial position, but all levels of government need to ensure sound projects are advanced and are within budget capability," he said.

Media release, 10 Feb 2017
Kit Hale, Office of Scot MacDonald



The new NSW Roads Minister, Ms Melinda Pavey during her visit to the Central Coast

Best wishes for Kathy Smith

NSW Parliamentary Secretary for the Central Coast, Mr Scot MacDonald, has wished Ms Kathy Smith the best as she prepared to undergo more medical treatment.

Ms Smith tendered her resignation letter to the Speaker of the NSW Parliament on Tuesday, February 14.

Mr MacDonald acknowledged the work Ms Smith had done in representing the electorate of

Gosford in the NSW Parliament.

"Public life can be very demanding," Mr MacDonald said.

"This is now a time for Kathy and her family to concentrate on her health and her future," he said.

The Liberal Party will be making an announcement about its intentions for the by-election in the near future, Mr MacDonald said.

Media release, 14 Feb 2017
Kit Hale, office of Scot MacDonald

Ms Kathy Smith's resignation as Gosford MP makes her the third NSW Member of Parliament in the last five representing the Peninsula to resign due to serious illness or to die in office.

NSW Labor Government Minister Mr Paul Landa died in office as the Member for Peats of a suspected heart attack in 1984 at the age of 43.

He was replaced in a by-election by Labor's Tony Doyle, who retained the seat in the 1988 and 1991 elections.

He resigned from Parliament in December 1994 after a long battle with AIDS.

He died at Umina three days later, aged 41.

Mr Doyle was succeeded by Ms Marie Andrews, who represented the Labor Party in the

seat between 1995 and 2007 and continued to serve as Member for Gosford when the Peats electorate was abolished.

She announced she would not contest the election in 2011, and the seat was then won by former Gosford mayor Mr Chris Holstein for the Liberal Party.

Mr Holstein held the seat until he was defeated in the 2015 election by Ms Smith.

Wikipedia, 16 Feb 2017

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Seven intersections, nine roads need funding, says Chamber

The Peninsula Chamber of Commerce has called for work on seven intersections, on nine roads and on drainage "hotspots" on the Peninsula to be funded by the NSW Government.

The intersections are at Rawson Rd-Ocean Beach Rd, McMasters Rd-Blackwall Rd, Dunban Rd-Ocean Beach Rd, Maitland Bay Dr-Picnic Pde, Lone Pine Ave-Ocean Beach Rd, Wellington St-Trafalgar Ave and at Blackwall Rd-Railway St.

The roads are Ryans Rd, Rabaul Ave, Britannia St, Hillview St, Picnic Pde, Haynes Ave, Pozieres Ave, Moana St and Mutu St.

Mr Wales listed the work needed in each case.

The Rawson Rd-Ocean Beach Rd intersection, with an existing single lane roundabout, was a key "choke point" in the morning and afternoon peaks between Woy Woy, Umina Beach and the connection to Woy Woy Rd.

"It needs to be upgraded to a signalised intersection to give priority at peak times to Ocean Beach Rd traffic.

"The McMasters Rd-Blackwall Rd T-intersection has no traffic facilities and needs to be signalised to integrate flows along Blackwall Rd and accommodate cross traffic from Ocean Beach Rd.

"Both legs are a bus route.

"The T-intersection at Dunban Rd-Ocean Beach Rd has no traffic facilities and needs to be signalised to integrate flows along Ocean Beach Rd between the traffic lights at McMasters Rd and the Rawson Rd roundabout.

"Both legs are a bus route.

"Maitland Bay Dr-Picnic Parade has a "sea-gull" facility but traffic flows along Maitland Bay Dr are increasing the accident risk at the

intersection for traffic entering from Ettalong Beach.

"The intersection should be considered for a roundabout.

"Both legs are a bus route.

"The Lone Pine Ave-Ocean Beach Rd T-intersection has no traffic facilities and needs to be signalised to regulate flows from Lone Pine Ave, a collector road and bus route, so as to reduce accident risk.

"Umina Mall shopping centre is located at the intersection with Lone Pine Ave forming the busy collector road through to Woy Woy Rd.

"The Wellington St-Trafalgar Ave intersection has no traffic facilities and lies within the busy Umina Beach retail precinct.

"Traffic activity has dramatically increased in the town centre with Wellington St forming the bypass to West St and connecting with Trafalgar Ave which forms one of the busy collector feeds into the town.

"Both roads are bus routes.

"The Blackwall Rd-Railway St intersection in the Woy Woy town centre adjacent to the Woy Woy Rail interchange currently prevents a right turn movement from Blackwall Rd onto Railway St forcing all traffic heading to Gosford to divert through Charlton St (to the west) or weave through the

old section of the Woy Woy town centre onto the busy intersection at Brickwharf Rd.

"A full review of the intersection is needed with the right turn movement being restored."

Mr Wales also listed the work needed on the roads the Chamber had identified.

"Ryans Rd needs completion of kerb and gutter, footpaths and drainage.

"The promise from the Federal Government for roads funding (around \$1.5 million) will not complete this busy collector road and bus route, so additional funds are a priority.

"Rabaul Ave, between Lone Pine Ave and Hobart St, is a key collector road which takes a significant amount of traffic off Ocean Beach Rd.

"While it has some single lane roundabouts at key intersections, it needs kerb and gutter, footpaths and drainage for its length.

"It is a key school bus route.

"Britannia St, between Ocean Beach Rd and Springwood St, needs kerb and gutter, footpaths and drainage.

"It is a key cross street connecting Ocean Beach Rd, Trafalgar Ave and Springwood St.

"It takes pressure off West St and Bourke Rd for cross-town traffic.

"Hillview St, between Veron Rd and Everglades Cres, needs kerb and gutter, drainage and footpath on the eastern side.

"It is a key collector road servicing significant traffic flows to the Woy Woy rail underpass at Shoalhaven Dr.

"The eastern side is unkerbed, no drainage and no pedestrian footpath.

"It is a bus route and major access road for school children;

"Picnic Pde, on the western side between Fassifern St and Maitland Bay Dr, needs kerb and gutter, parking, drainage and footpath.

"It is the main entry point to Ettalong Beach and lies adjacent to the Ettalong Oval.

"It is a major bus route and this section accommodates parking to the sporting field.

"Haynes Ave, between Lone Pine Ave and Ryans Rd, needs kerb and gutter, footpaths and drainage.

"It forms part of the "rat run" of streets for traffic heading to the rail underpass at Shoalhaven Dr.

"Pozieres Ave, between Ocean Beach Rd and Peninsula Village, needs kerb and gutter, footpaths and drainage.

"It carries significant traffic to Peninsula Village which is the largest retirement complex on the Woy Woy Peninsula.

"Moana St, between Dunban Rd and Rawson Rd, needs kerb and gutter, footpaths and drainage.

"This street forms part of the "rat run" of streets for traffic heading to the Rawson Rd rail crossing.

"Mutu St needs kerb and gutter, footpaths and drainage.

"It lies within the busy industrial area off Rawson Rd, supporting wide range of light industrial businesses."

The Chamber also identified Mackenzie Ave, Watkin Ave, Dunalban Ave, Dorothy Ave and Boronia St as a major drainage "hot-spot" where roads and drainage infrastructure were "almost non-existent".

"This area regularly floods isolating residents and causing property damage.

"This is a major drainage issue for the Council and requires significant funds to alleviate flooding and rebuilding streets.

Mr Wales said: "It is universally recognised that 85 per cent of Peninsula roads were unkerbed, had little or no drainage and no pedestrian pathways.

"In an area with a resident population of almost 38,000 people, this is both socially and politically unacceptable."

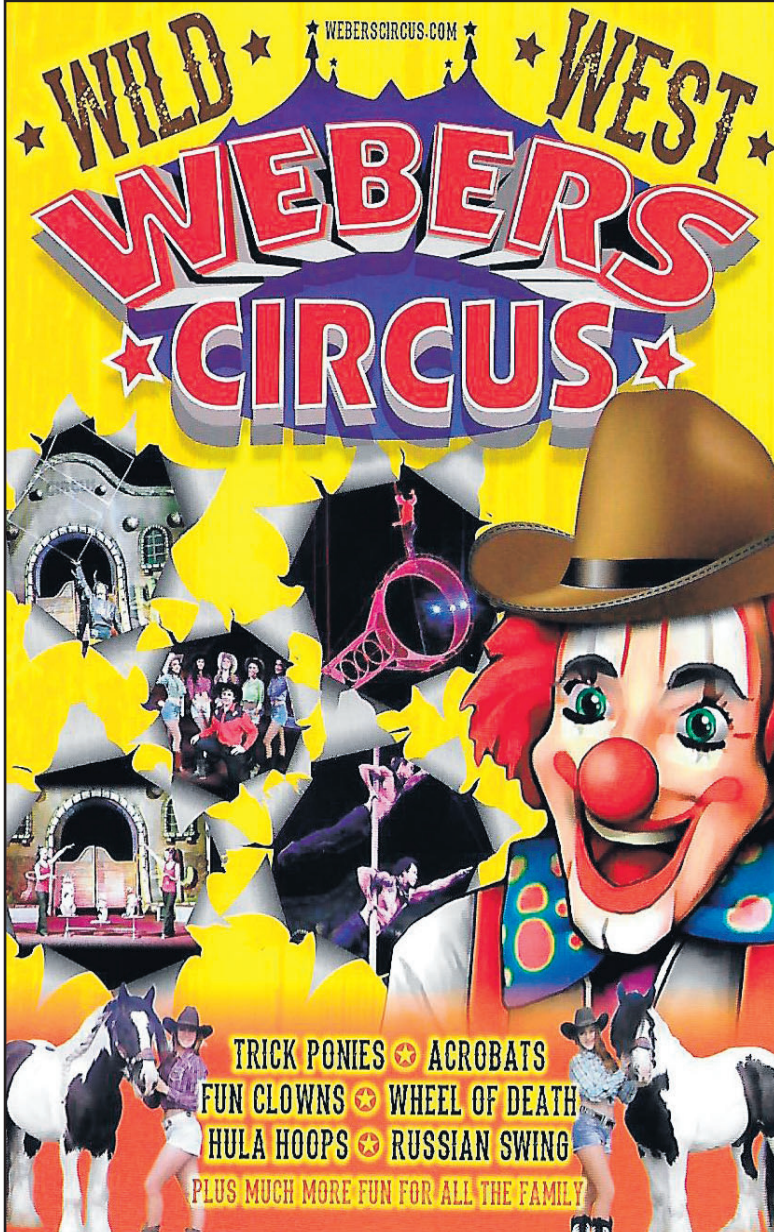
Media release, 16 Feb 2017
Matthew Wales, Peninsula Chamber of Commerce



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Chamber warns of voter backlash

The Peninsula Chamber of Commerce gave the new NSW Minister for Roads a blunt message during her recent visit to Woy Woy.

Chamber president Mr Matthew Wales said he warned Ms Melinda Pavey that the Berejiklian Government needed to be very careful of a community backlash over the state of the Peninsula's roads and the decision to abandon the Rawson Rd level crossing replacement project.

"Not a day goes by when I am not confronted with people concerned by the state of our roads, drains and infrastructure," Mr Wales said.

"The State Government has to step in and assist the Central Coast Council with additional funding for our roads," he said.

The Chamber has presented Ms Pavey with its priority list of roads on the Peninsula which were in greatest need of attention.

None of the roads on the Chamber's list is currently on the Central Coast Council's list of top 200 road projects.

"That means not one of the roads on our list will be fixed within our lifetime if we rely on Council funding alone," he said.

Council has put the total cost of its top 12 road projects, none of which is on the Peninsula, at \$470 million, Mr Wales said.

"That top 12, based on the

current Council budget, would take the next 20 years to complete.

"There is a deep-seated distrust within the community over the Woy Woy underpass," Mr Wales said.

The Chamber urged Ms Pavey to hold discussions with Central Coast Council as a matter of urgency over what alternative Peninsula road projects the \$52 million earmarked for the rail crossing should be used for.

"I argued that \$52 million should have been put back into other road priorities and she did not disagree," Mr Wales said.

Mr Wales said he believed the Peninsula's business and broader community deserved better than electioneering when it came to roads.

"We want to see the State commit to helping Council and not just as election time."

In briefing the NSW Cabinet, Central Coast Council's administrator Mr Ian Reynolds and chief Mr Rob Noble called for a partnership approach with NSW RMS to deliver a roads maintenance program for the region.

"The growing population of the Central Coast is having a significant impact on the road network," according to the briefing notes delivered to NSW Government Ministers by Mr Reynolds and Mr Noble.

"The Central Coast is home to a number of State Roads and there

has been a significant increase in requests from RMS for Council to carry out maintenance work on these roads on behalf of RMS as their resources as increasingly stretched.

"A unified Central Coast Council now presents the opportunity to look at the road network as a whole and develop a more efficient and effective delivery of a total roads maintenance program for the region.

"In some instances this could also be extended to roads construction.

"Through Council's consistent engagement with, and knowledge of the community, further efficiencies can be made in delivering a consolidated roads program and ensuring community expectations are met," the briefing notes said.

During its presentation to the NSW Cabinet, Council called for a partnership approach with the RMS where Council plans and prioritises a works program with RMS, received funding from RMS and then manages and delivers the works program.

"This approach has the potential to deliver cost benefits to RMS and ultimately the State Government."

Interview, 15 Feb 2017
Matthew Wales, Peninsula Chamber of Commerce
Briefing notes, 9 Feb 2017
Ian Reynolds, Central Coast Council
Reporter: Jackie Pearson



Kieran Connolly following the attack

Nursing student seriously assaulted

Police are appealing for information after a 23-year-old nursing student was seriously assaulted in Umina.

Mr Kieran Connolly was walking through a car park on Ocean Beach Rd, Umina, with friends when an altercation ensued with an unknown group at about 10:30pm on February 10.

Witnesses have told police Mr Connolly was hit on the back of the head with a baseball bat during the altercation before the group fled

the area.

Officers from Brisbane Water Local Area Command attended and commenced inquiries.

Mr Connolly was taken to Royal North Shore Hospital in a stable condition with serious head injuries.

Neurosurgeons have since had to reconstruct Mr Connolly's skull as a result of his injuries, removing several blood clots that formed as a result in the process.

Mr Connolly's brother, Tommy, has since launched a social media appeal asking for any other witnesses or anyone with information regarding his brother's assailants to come forward.

Anyone with information is urged to contact Brisbane Water police or Crime Stoppers.

Media release, 11 Feb 2017
NSW Police Media
Facebook, 11 Feb 2017
Tommy Connolly, Umina

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A Rawson Rd villa is in one of the property categories attracting buyers to the Peninsula over summer

Demand for new villas and large homes

New villas and large homes on large blocks have both been attracting buyer attention in the Peninsula property market during the first two months of 2017.

Raine and Horne Woy Woy sales consultant Mr Shane Johnson said: "The year has started with plenty of buyer activity and properties continue to achieve fantastic prices for their vendors."

"There are many qualified buyers coming to the area looking to purchase a new or modernised villa," Mr Johnson said.

"These buyers are happy to purchase existing or off the plan villas that have been designed focussed around the entertainer - that is, having large open plan living, dual car garage and three bedrooms to host the weekend visitors," he said.

Mr Johnson said the other type of buyer seeking out Peninsula

property was the family wishing to move to the area and happy to commute to Sydney for work.

"These buyers are looking for large parcels of land that have either substantial homes, which they are happy to pay \$1 million plus, or homes that they can purchase and do some renovations to over time."

"Despite the heat, we have seen great buyer turn-out to open homes over the past few weeks," he said.

According to Mr Johnson, sales during January included 14 in Woy Woy with an approximate median price of \$680,000.

The median price from 12 sales in Umina was around \$675,000 and the six sales achieved in Ettalong resulted in an approximate median sale price of \$600,000.

**Media release, 15 Feb 2017
Shane Johnson, Raine
and Horne Woy Woy**

NEWSPAPERS Central Coast

Other Regional News - In brief

Peninsula News focuses on news specifically relating to post code areas 2256 and 2257.

Given the advent of the new Central Coast Council, following is a summary of the first 9 news articles published in the most

recent edition of each of our sister Central Coast publications. The full articles and more, as well as all previously published editions, can be seen on line on our website www.peninsulanews.info and

on www.centralcoastnews.net. Copies of these other publications may be obtained from our offices in Gosford, by subscription, or from a myriad of locations in the areas covered by each publication.

COAST COMMUNITY NEWS

FEBRUARY 9, 2017

YOUR INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER - PH: 4325 7369

ISSUE 151

A report on the future of the Regional Library to be presented to February Council meeting

The long-promised regional library for Gosford has been delayed again, putting at risk a \$7 million Community Development Grant, and begging questions about the status of around ...

Performing Arts Centre key stakeholders receive Council update

Central Coast Council is holding a meeting with key stakeholders to provide an update on the Regional Performing Arts and Conference Centre project.

Fears grow that PAC could lose State funding

As the long awaited Performing Arts Centre for Gosford remains in limbo, fears of \$12 million in State Government funding being pulled from the project grow.

Gallacher calls for reset button to find a viable long term solution to beach erosion

Long-term Terrigal resident and NSW Member of the Legislative Council, Mr Mike Gallacher, has decided to champion the cause of Wamberal residents who are fighting to protect ...

Failure of Coastal Panel to respond to rock wall application deemed as a refusal

The Land and Environment Court case to determine whether or not six residents at Wamberal can build a rock wall to protect their properties from erosion may be resolved by mediation.

New 48 unit North Gosford development approved

A new 48 unit residential flat building is set to add to the influx of highly anticipated, condensed multistorey developments sprouting around Gosford City.

Solutions implemented to beach front erosion have only been short term

A solution to the longterm erosion of Wamberal Beach does not appear to be getting any closer.

Merged Central Coast Council is here to stay despite calls for a plebiscite

The amalgamation of Gosford and Wyong Councils will stay in place, according to NSW Parliamentary Secretary for the Central Coast, Mr Scot MacDonald.

Australian Local Government Women's Association calls for a stop to council amalgamations

The NSW Branch of the Australian Local Government Women's Association (ALGWA) is urging Premier Gladys Berejiklian to put a stop to council amalgamations.

The full articles and more can be seen on line on our website www.centralcoastnews.net Coast Community News focusses on news specifically related to post code areas 2250, 2251, 2260 and articles can also be read and shared on your mobile phone by going to www.coastcommunitynews.com.au.

WYONG REGIONAL CHRONICLE

Issue 110
February 14, 2017

Your independent community newspaper - Ph: 4325 7369

Wyong Regional Chronicle focuses on news specifically relating to post code areas 2258, 2259, 2261, 2262, & 2263.

Confidential airport feasibility study recommended sale of the land

The former Wyong Council and the current Central Coast Council have continued to spend rate payer money on the expansion of the airport at Warnervale when a 2013 feasibility study recommended ...

Berejiklian refuses to confirm September council election

New South Wales Premier, Ms Gladys Berejiklian, during her visit to the region for a Community Cabinet meeting, was not prepared to confirm that the Central Coast would have a local election ...

Council reiterates call for repeal of the Warnervale Airport (Restrictions) Act 1996

The repeal of the Warnervale Airport (Restrictions) Act 1996 has again been called for by the Central Coast Council, even though Administrator, Mr Ian Reynolds, has stated the Council currently has no plans...

NSW Premier and Cabinet presented with Council's comprehensive wish list

A comprehensive wish list has been delivered to the Premier and Cabinet of the NSW Government by the Central Coast Council at Mingara Recreation Club on Thursday, February 9.

State Government asked to bring forward the Pacific Highway upgrade through Wyong

Roads and Maritime Services NSW has been asked to bring forward the commencement of the Pacific Highway upgrade through Wyong.

Council calls on State Government to contribute \$45 million to complete Link Road

The NSW Government has been called upon to contribute \$45 million to complete the Link Rd between Wyong and Warnervale and to assist Central Coast Council with the management of any ecological issues relating to its development.

Boarding House developer to take Council to court

The long-running battle between Ourimbah residents and the developer of the proposed Glen Rd boarding house has entered a new chapter, with the developer taking the Central Coast Council to the

Glenning Valley appeal listed for court

The developer's appeal against Central Coast Council's deemed refusal of a major residential subdivision at Glenning Valley has been listed for a Land and Environment Court hearing in May.

Rebels Outlaw Motorcycle Gang member arrested

A member of the Rebels Outlaw Motorcycle Gang (OMCG) has been charged after replica firearms, weapons and illicit drugs were seized during a search warrant in Halloran on February 1.

Wyong Regional Chronicle focuses on news specifically relating to post code areas 2258, 2259, 2261, 2262, & 2263. The full articles and more can be seen on our website www.centralcoastnews.net

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No evidence new wharf is needed

Mr Matthew Wales' notion that a new wharf at Bangalow St is somehow going to prevent traffic pile-ups on the M1 ("New ferry services 'urgently needed', says Chamber", February 6) is so breathtakingly fatuous that he has outdone himself over all previous efforts.

Furthermore, the idea that the so-called Bangalow wharf has an "active consent", when the approval is 15 years old and has long since lapsed for lack of "substantial

Forum

action" to implement the project, is completely ridiculous.

In addition, there is no evidence whatsoever from ferry operators (existing or potential) that a new wharf is needed at Ettalong: the existing wharf is ludicrously underutilized and can easily be upgraded, if there is any foreseeable need to extend services.

As to the argument that the existing wharf is a "poor cousin" to the "state-of-the-art" wharf at

Palm Beach, I am glad to see that you have published a photograph of the Palm Beach wharf, so that we can all judge what Mr Wales considers to be state-of-the-art.

If I couldn't do better than that with a renovation of the existing Ettalong Wharf, I'd hand in my architecture degree.

Why is Mr Wales so obsessed with this nonsensical idea (this is not his first outburst on the subject), and how many members of his Chamber of Commerce endorse this campaign?

Email, 6 Feb 2017
Bruce Hyland, Woy Woy



Jetski users are causing traffic congestion on and off the water at Ettalong

Justification for underpass has been made

In the Forum of the February 6 edition, Mr Bruce Hyland states we can do without the Bulls Hill Underpass "for years to come".

He appears to favour the economic rationalists who argue that the new pedestrian underpass at Rawson Rd absolves the Government (and Council) of any further life-saving measures.

If we follow this amoral line of thinking, the underpass at Bulls Hill can only be built when

Forum

the community can demonstrate increased benefit or reduced cost to make the cost-benefit equation balance.

But how should we demonstrate increased benefit?

Should we wait for more deaths at the crossing or more horrendous delays to traffic because a truck has blocked the single lane underpass from Woy Woy Rd?

Do we wait until the Peninsula becomes a no-go zone for tourists because of its appalling access?

Is it even realistic to expect significantly reduced cost in the future?

No.

The justification for an underpass at Bulls Hill has been made for many years.

It is time the community united to support it.

Email, 7 Feb 2017
John Taylor, Woy Woy

Apply jetski ban to Central Coast

Forum

I could not agree more with Ms Arlene Bridges' letter in your February 6 edition.

The only thing missing was the main cause of the problem: the banning of jet skis on Sydney Harbour by then Premier Mr Bob Carr.

Almost all of the plague come up from Sydney, dominate the beach and waterways, and leave their rubbish on the beach or in the gutter before returning home.

Removing the Sydney Harbour

ban would return the problem to where it belongs, Sydney.

If the ban remains it should also apply to all Central Coast waterways.

I live near this problem and have submitted three photos taken from opposite Half Tide Rocks on Australia Day.

Email, 7 Feb 2017
Ron Jackson, Ettalong

Disappointed to have been misquoted

As the publicity officer with the Pearl Beach Progress Association, I am a regular contributor to your publication providing items of local activities and news.

It is extremely disappointing to find that I have been misquoted in this current edition of your newspaper.

When your journalist contacted me in January about the condition of the Rock Pool following social media comments, I confirmed I would prepare a release after I had undertaken some research.

I read the eight social media comments, with the majority of them commenting that it was a tidal pool.

I also chatted to some of the

Forum

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

should be sent to:

Peninsula News

PO Box 1056, Gosford 2250 or
editorial@centralcoastnews.net

See Page 2 for
contribution conditions

locals who use the pool on a regular basis, and with this information I prepared the release printed in the January 23 edition.

In this recent edition, many of my words have been twisted and

misquoted.

I did not say that the pool was contaminated, as per the first paragraph.

I did say that the pool relied on tidal cleaning which is a fact.

I did not say it was definitely making swimmers sick. I had no proof of that.

I did not say the pool water is perfectly all right and that once a large tide drains out the stagnant water, it will no longer seem odorous.

What I did say was "with increased holiday use the water quality was often compromised, and that once Council were contacted they ensured that cleaning is undertaken".

Email, 13 Feb 2017
Lynne Lillico, Pearl Beach

No wonder Trump is president

Recent news shows that the head of Australia Post receives \$3 million more than the head of the British postal service, which is privatised.

Other postal heads in the USA and Canada receive half a million per annum.

This news reveals a disgrace, a ripping-off of the Australian people

Forum

who theoretically own Australia Post.

Like the ABC bias and fake news, the politicians say we can do nothing, even though the ABC and Australia Post are owned by the people.

It's no wonder that many people are browned off with politicians and that an outsider like Mr Trump is president of the US.

Email, 14 Feb 2017
Keith Whitfield, Woy Woy



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Council to appoint audit committee

An Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee will be established by the Central Coast Council with three independent members to be appointed by an open recruitment process.

Central Coast Council Administrator, Mr Ian Reynolds, resolved to establish the committee at Council's January 24 ordinary meeting.

He requested CEO, Mr Rob Noble, to "undertake an open recruitment process to identify potential independent members ...and provide a report to the Ordinary Meeting of the Council on March 22 on the appointment of independent members to the committee".

The new committee will replace the Audit Committees of the former Gosford and Wyong Councils.

The Central Coast Council doesn't have and is not under any current legal obligation to have an audit committee.

However, when sections of the Local Government Amendment (Governance and Planning) Act 2016 come into force it will be a requirement of the Act for all councils to appoint an Audit, Risk

and Improvement Committee.

According to the new law, the Committee would be responsible for keeping under review Council's compliance, risk management, fraud control, financial management, governance, implementation of the strategic plan, delivery program and strategies, service reviews, collection of performance measurement data by the council, and any other matters prescribed by the regulations.

In May 2016 the NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet issued an advice to recently merged council's titled Managing Change: Guidance for Key Staff.

That advice recommended that recently-merged local councils established internal audit committees.

The committee will comprise three independents and two councillors (or, prior to the election of the new councillors, the administrator and a person appointed by the administrator).

The chair of the committee must be independent.

According to a report from Council's Governance Department, independent candidates will be

selected on the basis of their skills, knowledge, competencies and professional development specifically covering: the Central Coast's regional profile; local government framework and regulatory requirements; Council services, activities, projects and operations; organisational performance; internal audit; financial management; risk management; organisational governance; continuous improvement, innovation and data analytics.

The set of proposals considered by Mr Reynolds was drawn up between the chief internal auditor, legal and governance manager, governance and business services manager and the governance co-ordinator.

"To progress to the next stage, the implementation of the committee, further input will be sought from other key stakeholders such as members of the executive leadership team, the senior internal ombudsman and ex-independent committee members of the former councils, if possible."

Mr Reynolds resolved to undertake the process to establish an audit, risk and improvement committee as a matter of priority.

"It provides sufficient lead-in time to consider the most effective way to determine how best the committee can meet its future responsibilities," the report said.

"It also allows sufficient time for the recruitment of suitable independent committee members.

"Having an audit, risk and improvement committee in place prior to the 2017 Council elections provides a degree of continuity for the Council administration, and facilitates a controlled transition towards establishing an organisational culture of ownership, accountability and robust governance."

The full cost of the committee are not yet known.

"The former Wyong Council paid a chairperson \$20,920 per annum and committee members \$2092 per meeting day.

An audit committee charter was also endorsed by Mr Ian Reynolds.

It was based on guidelines issued by the chief executive of the Office of Local Government and, according to Mr Noble, was consistent with best practice.

The charter was to be adopted and reviewed at least once during each council term.

The three external members will

be appointed, by resolution of the Council, for a term of three years after which they will be eligible for extension or re-appointment following a formal review of their performance by Council.

The independent external members can also be removed by resolution of Council.

"Expressions of interest for appointment as an independent member of the Committee are to be invited by public advertisement and written invitation.

"Any such nominations will be received and reviewed by the chief executive officer who will prepare a report for Council's consideration.

"The recruitment of those members of the Committee is to be based on merit, and it is important that the selection process used is transparent and accountable."

In response to questions about when and how the open recruitment process for the three independent members of the new committee would be appointed, Central Coast Council issued the following statement: "The process around establishing the committee is currently being investigated".

Central Coast Council
agenda 3.1, 24 Jan 2017
Media statement, 30 Jan 2017
Ian Reynolds, Central Coast Council

Let administrator merge planning schemes, says Wales

Peninsula Chamber of Commerce president Mr Matthew Wales has called for the Central Coast Council remain under administration for longer and the administrator's powers increased.

Mr Wales was responding to questions about whether he anticipated the Gosford by-election would be a referendum on the community's acceptance of the creation of a Central Coast mega-

council.

"I think it is fair to say people are frustrated because things appear to be taking so long but that is tempered by the fact that this is a merger of two huge organisations which is not easy," Mr Wales said.

"There is certainly a feeling in the development and building sector that it is not getting the sort of speed or attention it needs," he said.

"I would not be surprised if we had a longer period of administration because you cannot

hand over a Council structure that is ill-prepared to a newly-elected Council and on that basis the NSW Government will have to think about whether it extends the time."

The process of combining the two former Councils' Local Environment Plans, the main local government planning instruments, is of particular concern to Mr Wales, along with the former Gosford Council's Urban Fringe review.

"My fear is because the plan and urban fringe review are such

massive decisions, if a newly-elected Council is ill-equipped to deal with them, it could spiral into years of indecision," he said.

"I believe there is a case to be put to the State Government that the merging process be allowed to be done by the Administrator.

"We need the merged planning instrument to happen quickly.

"We've got a housing availability crisis and it is already due to outdated planning controls," he said.

Interview, 15 Feb 2017
Matthew Wales, Peninsula Chamber of Commerce
Reporter: Jackie Pearson

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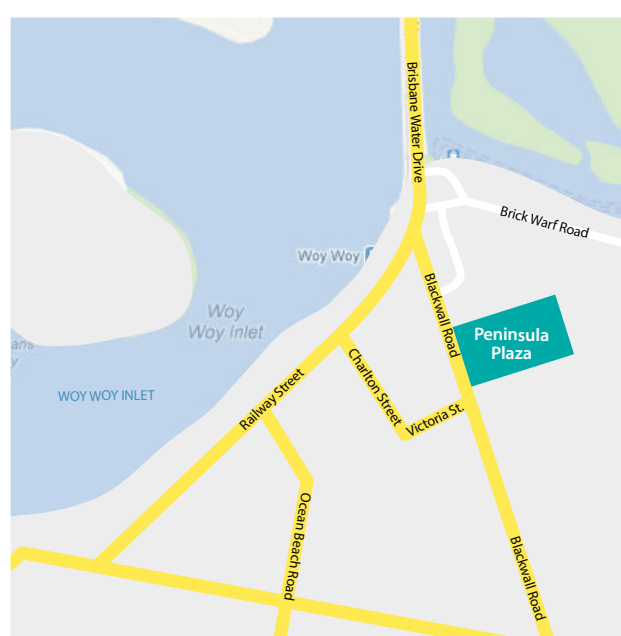
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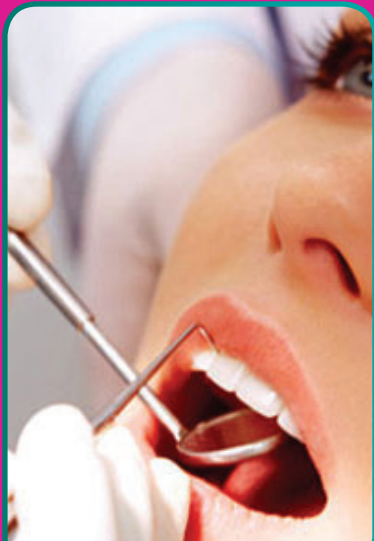
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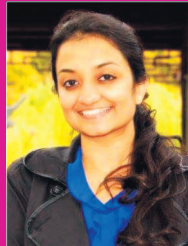
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medicare

Lifeline offers counselling in Woy Woy

Lifeline has decided to expand its services by offering face-to-face counselling on the Peninsula..

Counselling will be offered at Mary Mac's Place on Tuesdays between 9am and 1pm.

Lifeline Central Coast's psychology coordinator Mr Paul Armitage said the new service will help with the growing and unmet need for counselling support for people in the Woy Woy area.

Mr Armitage said people come to counselling to talk confidentially about their problems, to help find solutions and improve their mental health and well-being.

He said people don't have to be at crisis point or contemplating suicide to access Lifeline's service.

"Counselling can help you to increase your ability to deal with stress and stressful situations, look at areas of personal growth and build on your strengths," Mr

Armitage said.

"Whether people are feeling lonely or sad, facing a personal crisis, experiencing relationship problems, overwhelmed with anger or feeling unable to cope, we have an expert for them to talk to in a safe environment," he said.

He said all Lifeline counsellors were tertiary-trained and accredited professionals and were also graduates of Lifeline's Personal Counselling Training Program.

People can self-refer or have a health professional refer them.

The counselling sessions are held at Mary Mac's at 100 Blackwall Rd, Woy Woy.

Lifeline also offers face to face counselling at Wyong and Wyoming.

To make an appointment, call Lifeline on 4320 7400.

Media release, 10 Feb 2017
Craig Eardley, Lifeline Central Coast



From left: Eagles Plumbing's Mr Brett Allison, Umina Beach Rotary's Mr Paul Quinn and Peninsula Villages' Ms Jan Tweedie and Mr Shane Neaves

Rotary donates defibrillator

The Rotary Club of Umina Beach has donated the latest model defibrillator unit to Peninsula Village.

The defibrillator kit will provide support to visitors, volunteers and staff at the villages' three facilities in Pozieres Ave, Umina, in the event of a sudden cardiac arrest.

The donation was made possible with funding support of a local businessman.

The defibrillator unit was accepted by recently-appointed Peninsula Villages chairperson Ms Jan Tweedie, who was joined by CEO Mr Shane Neaves, executive care manager Ms Melinda Dempsey and several directors.

Newsletter, 12 Feb 2017
Rod Radford, Rotary Club of Umina Beach

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Health



Stall raises funds for guide dogs

The Central Coast Guide Dogs NSW-ACT Volunteer Support Group will be holding a fundraising stall on March 3 at Woy Woy.

The group runs around 30 fundraising stalls a year at shopping centres across the Central Coast to raise funds for Guide Dogs NSW-ACT.

The money is used to provide free services to enable people who are blind or vision impaired get around independently, so they can live the life they choose.

The stall will be held Friday 3 March, at Deepwater Plaza Shopping Centre.

The group, which includes a number of people with vision loss who have guide dogs, is always looking for volunteers to help prepare and run the fundraising

stalls, including preparing raffles, selling tickets and talking to interested community members about the work of guide dogs.

It costs more than \$35,000 to breed, raise and train each guide dog, with demand for them growing as the number of people with vision loss increases.

Every day in Australia, 28 people are diagnosed with vision loss that cannot be corrected, including nine who will become blind.

Over the past year, Guide Dogs has responded to almost 300 requests for services from Central Coast residents with vision loss.

Services include training in how to safely get around using long canes, guide dogs and electronic travel aids, such as talking GPS.

Media Release, 25 Jan 2017
Lynne Lillico, Guide Dogs
NSW/ACT Central Coast

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More water refill stations

Filling up drink water bottles should get easier following the installation of two new water refill stations on Hardy's Bay Foreshore and Trafalgar Playground, Woy Woy.

The project started in early November and was expected to be completed by the end of February.

The new fixtures complemented stations already established at Woy Woy, Umina, Ocean Beach and Ettalong Beach.

Each unit has multiple taps for drinking from, with refill dispensers on each side.

The station at Hardy's Bay will also keep canine companions hydrated with attached dog water bowls.

Council administrator Mr Ian Reynolds said the council was proud to provide a convenient resource to the community.

"Council is ensuring visitors and residents have unlimited access to free filtered water when they visit popular areas around the Central Coast," said Mr Reynolds.

"I'm proud that we can offer this service to the community and expand on the existing water stations that were installed in 2014.

"Our water refill stations will continue to help residents and visitors avoid outlaying millions of dollars on purchasing bottled water, they will also help reduce the amount of unnecessary landfill in our region."

Media release, 16 Feb 2017
Ian Reynolds, Central Coast Council

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Gosford audit report delayed until March

The audit report into the finances of the former Gosford Council will not be placed in the public domain until March, three months after it was due.

"Central Coast Council has agreed with auditors Price Waterhouse Coopers to extend the timeframe required to finalise the audit report into the finances of the former Gosford Council," Central Coast Council chief Mr Rob Noble said.

"As soon as the report is ready, Council will call an Extraordinary Meeting, if necessary, in March to be held in the Gosford Chambers," Mr Noble said.

He said the auditors were in the process of finalising their audit testing and Council was working closely with them to ensure the final

accounts were transparent and understandable by the community.

The proclamation that dissolved Gosford Council and created the Central Coast Council stated: "A new Council is to prepare audited financial reports for the former councils, in respect of the period from July 1, 2015, to the amalgamation day, on or before December 31, 2016."

When Council announced last December that the audit report for Gosford Council was delayed, it stated that the reason was that the auditors were not familiar with the systems used by the former Gosford Council.

More specific reasons have not been given for the ongoing delay.

"As with many issues in respect of Council mergers, the alignment of Council financial management is a complex issue, so we want to

ensure the community gets a clear view," Mr Noble said.

"We're here to deliver the best possible services to our growing community, and having a thorough and consistent understanding of financial management across both former Council areas moving forward is essential.

"Council accounts are governed by a strict Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting, and by legally-binding accounting standards," he said.

Parliamentary Secretary for the Central Coast, Mr Scot MacDonald, has said he would refer any anomalies in the audit report to the Office of Local Government and request a second audit to iron out any issues.

**Media release, 15 Feb 2017
Rob Noble, Central Coast Council**

Annual match with blind cricket team

The fifth annual match between the Blind Cricket NSW team and Southern Spirit Cricket Club was held at Rogers Park in Woy Woy on January 9.

Batting first, Southern Spirit CC had strong performances from Col Grant and Russell Downey.

These were complemented by Mitch Wright and Lachlan McDonald, who ensured a strong total was posted.

Top bowling performances from Blind Cricket NSW players Brian Edwards, Vaughan Roles and David Saxberg with a wicket a

piece, ensured the total remained in reach.

Southern Spirit CC had set Blind Cricket NSW 164 to run down and Kevin Dewar ensured this was always going to be a difficult chase with two wickets in the space of two balls.

BCNSW had a small fightback from Lindsay Heaven (Blind Cricket NSW and Australian Captain) who scored 24 and Scott Jones with 22.

Unfortunately Blind Cricket

NSW closed their innings at 93 in the 25th over.

All Southern Spirit players wore vision occlusion glasses, which provided an experience of having their vision impaired.

The annual event supports the Blind Cricket NSW team by providing quality practice in the lead-up to the championships.

**Website, 12 Jan 2017
Francis Walsh, Central Coast Cricket Association**

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Education

Maintenance backlog tops \$3M, says Shadow Minister

Shadow Minister for the Central Coast, Mr David Harris, has called on new NSW Premier, Ms Gladys Berejiklian, to address the backlog of maintenance for Peninsula schools, totalling over \$3 million.

According to Mr Harris, Brisbane Water Secondary College Umina campus had a maintenance bill of almost \$1.2 million, Woy Woy South Public School had a maintenance bill of more than \$1.1 million, and Woy Woy Public School had a maintenance bill of more than \$950,000.

Mr Harris said he would like to see Ms Gladys Berejiklian and

her new cabinet "addressing the appalling backlog of maintenance on Central Coast schools".

Mr Sven Wright from the Department of Education said \$330 million had been allocated in the 2016-17 state budget.

"The \$330 million was allocated over the next two years to allow for planned and priority maintenance works to be undertaken in schools across the State," he said.

"This is in addition to our ongoing maintenance program and is the single largest increase in maintenance funding in the last 20 years.

"This increase in funding will target roofs, floor coverings and

painting, as well as other backlog maintenance works selected by school principals.

"The Department of Education is currently consulting with principals to plan these works to ensure high priority maintenance items are undertaken first.

"As its first priority, and in addition to backlog maintenance funding, the department ensures that all schools are safe and compliant," Mr Wright said.

Media release, 31 Jan 2017
Zachary Harrison, Office of David Harris
Emails, 3 Feb 2017
Sven Wright, Department of Education
Reporter: Jasmine Gearie



Yarning circle complete

Umina Beach Public School's yarning circle is complete.

The space, which was suggested during a school parliament meeting, will provide a new area for students for group discussion and socialisation.

The work was funded with assistance from the former Gosford Council and Everglades Country Club.

Newsletter, 14 Feb 2017
Lyn Davis, Umina Beach Public School

Former teacher dies

Former Umina Beach Public School teacher Ms Michele Thomas has died.

Ms Thomas served as a teacher at the school from 1994 until her medical retirement in 2016.

Principal Ms Lyn Davis said staff and countless students had lovely

memories of Ms Thomas and that she would be sorely missed by the Umina community.

Newsletter, 7 Feb 2017
Lyn Davis, Umina Beach Public School

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1 IN 4 AUSTRALIAN WOMEN HAVE EXPERIENCED PHYSICAL OR SEXUAL VIOLENCE*. WE ARE HERE TO HELP.

If you or someone you know is experiencing domestic violence call Coast Shelter for support.

Kara Women and Children's Program Gosford - 4323 1709	Elandra Women and Children's Program Toukley - 4396 4263
Neleh Women and Children's Program Woy Woy - 4340 1052	Rondeley Domestic Violence Response Program Wyong - 4340 7088



Domestic Violence Hotline 1800 656 463 (24/7)
If anyone is in immediate danger call 000

Marie Lowndes Charitable Foundation

Coast Shelter's Domestic Violence Prevention Programs are supported by the Marie Lowndes Charitable Foundation *ANROS Horizons 1 (2015)

Volunteer ethics teachers sought

Umina Beach Public School is seeking volunteer teachers for ethics classes.

After the success of kindergarten ethics classes, the school is seeking more community members to facilitate lessons with other classes.

Volunteer ethics teachers will receive full training by Primary Ethics, the non-profit organisation approved to design curriculum and training for the ethics program.

Training will consist of a two-day workshop and short online modules.

Volunteers must have an interest in children's education and help develop their critical thinking

skills.

In ethics classes, children learn how to think logically, disagree respectfully and support their arguments with evidence, rather than act according to blind habit or peer pressure.

Children discuss topics such as: imagining how others feel, how do we treat living things, what is laziness, how do we disagree in a respectful way, and fairness.

Volunteers must also be available on Friday mornings the designated timeframe the school runs ethics lessons.

**Newsletter, 14 Feb 2017
Lyn Davis, Umina Beach Public School**

Mr Andrew Hardwick is the new owner of a Woy Woy cafe, leaving a 20-year career with a fast food store.

Mr Hardwick started working at Woy Woy McDonald's at the age of 16 when the outlet was first opened in June 1993.

"I gained employment to get money to buy a car and for extra spending money," Mr Hardwick said.

"I did intend to work at McDonald's while at school and then at university, but as it turned out I was promoted to a trainee manager the January after I finished Year 12 and then my journey at McDonald's began," he said.

Mr Hardwick said some of the reasons he decided to stay at McDonald's for so long, were due to the great team he worked with and the satisfaction of developing young Australians in the workforce.

"I felt I was part of their development and helped them on the road to their careers and future," he said.

Mr Hardwick said he had developed a passion for the hospitality industry while working at McDonald's.

"I truly get a kick from the satisfaction I feel when you see a smile on a customer's face and I know their expectations have been well surpassed."

During his McDonald's career Mr Hardwick completed a variety of courses, including a Certificate 4 and Diploma in Management.

"I learned about staff training, both crew and management, profit and loss, health and safety, crew and management rostering and equipment maintenance," Mr Hardwick said.

After working for McDonald's for 20 years, and being the Restaurant Manager for 10 years, Mr Hardwick decided it was time for a new challenge.



Andrew Hardwick, owner of Red Lime Cafe

"I always dreamed of having my own business and I thought a cafe would be great place to start.

"I worked hard on learning the ins and outs of a cafe and then realised my dream when The Red Lime Cafe at Woy Woy was up for sale," Mr Hardwick said.

Mr Hardwick decided to buy a business, as opposed to a franchise, as it would allow him have complete control over his Cafe.

"I want my cafe to have the legacy of customers enjoying an experience that exceeds their expectations.

"I want them to feel like they have come home and that they are part of my family.

"I want them to leave the cafe with a smile on their face.

"There are a lot of older people who live on the Peninsula and they sometimes need an ear to listen.

"Giving them your time is free and really being there for them and giving them a place to relax is very rewarding," Mr Hardwick said.

The Red Lime Cafe is located at 4/115 Blackwall Rd, Woy Woy.

**Interview, 1 Feb 2017
Andrew Hardwick, Red Lime Cafe
Reporter: Satria Dyer-Darmawan**

Dancers come to Ettalong

Dance enthusiasts from across the state will visit Ettalong in March for a dance convention.

Ettalong is the inaugural stop of the Xchange Dance Convention's Australian tour.

The convention will be held on March 4 and 5 at the Mantra Ettalong Beach.

The convention brings with it

some big names from the world of dance including Australian celebrity dancer and SYTYCD winner Talia Fowler.

Other celebrity teachers are Fox's So You Think You Can Dance and Dancing With the Stars Jessica Richens and Denzel.

**Media release, 10 Feb 2017
John Hoffman, Xchange Dance Convention**

Community fair

Hardys Bay Community Fair will be held at Hardys Bay Club on March 18.

Club member Ms Lisa Byrne said the aim of the fair was to bring together and celebrate the creative coastal community and raise funds for local causes.

"We would love your support to help raise awareness for this community event, as attendance will directly influence funds raised for the charities involved," Ms Byrne said.

**Email, 10 Feb 2017
Lisa Byrne, Hardys Bay Club**

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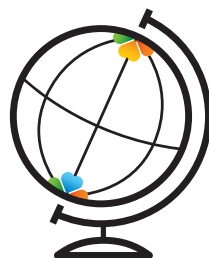
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Travel Expo and Fun Day

Just turn up on the day!

Saturday 25 February 2017 | 10am - 3pm | Ettalong Bowling Club



Hosted by your local personal travel managers:



Robyn Simmonds
0419 436 803



Renny Karsten
0412 632 218

Out&About

Eyeing the life of a travelling musician

A chance to perform at Tamworth Country Music Festival has Woy Woy teenager Molly Millington eyeing the life of a travelling musician.

Up-and-coming singer-songwriter, Molly Millington, 16, is planning to take her sound on the road.

She said she would like to pack her music gear into a van, and take off around the country to play by the coast and at country towns, hit festivals and bars.

But first she needs to finish high school and get her licence.

The Year 11 student started writing songs when she was 12 and has been a regular on the Central Coast busking circuit for the last four years.

But now, despite her age and relatively short time in the music business, Molly's career is coming off the streets and onto the big stage.

She's already recorded an EP entitled Cool Like You with Shane Nicholson.

And just last month her original song Somebody Else won Fretfest, a regional song contest, earning

her a Music Mentorship Package and the chance to perform at Tamworth Country Music Festival.

"I played all the main stages, and on the big main stage," Molly said of her time at Tamworth.

"I think there were about 2000 people in the crowd."

"It was unreal."

While the Fretfest win opened career doors for Molly, it was the Tamworth gig that gave her a taste for taking her music to different Australian places.

She said: "I'd love to travel with my music."

"I'd love to go in a van and do a self-promoted tour all around Australia."

But for now, the teenager who plays guitar, ukulele and banjo, is content busking and performing around the Central Coast.

She's hoping to release a single and get her songs heard by as many people as possible.

"Hopefully I can release a single, busk everywhere I can, get my music out there more."

And hopefully she'll get her licence too.

Interview, 3 Feb 2017
Molly Millington, Woy Woy
Reporter: Tynan King



Molly Millington wants to take her music around Australia



ABSOLUTELY 80S IS BACK...
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Starring FOUR original artists:

With the rockin' Absolutely 80's band!
It's the 80's Reunion Party not to be missed. So dust off your best 80's gear and get ready to dance, party and reminisce – catch the biggest and best Australian 80's stars together in one big show.

Sat 25 Feb
Tix: \$25 members / \$30 guests
Doors open 8pm for 8.30pm Show
ASK ABOUT OUR VIP PACKAGE!!

ADAM BRAND
Tour launch for new album "GET ON YOUR FEET"

Whatever gives Aussie music its heart, Adam Brand breathes plenty of life into its soul.

Thur 9 March
Doors open 8pm
Tix: \$45 Members/\$50 Guests

ATM & COURTESY BUS SERVICE

Good Morning Ettalong

Di Solomon presents her new show **DIAMOND DECADES**

With her fabulous dancers The Diamantes, Pocket Rocket, Di Solomon presents a good-fun musical selection of our favourite music from the 1950's & 60's.

Tues 28 February
Tickets \$8 members / \$13 guests
Doors at 10.30am for 11am Show.
Break for lunch.
Show concludes at 2pm.

Ettalong Beach Diggers ...your Destination

51 - 52 The Esplanade, ETTALONG BEACH
Ph (02) 4343 0111 ~ www.ettalongdiggers.com

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FOR TICKETS GO TO:
girrakoolblues.com.au

Progress association to hold annual meeting

The Empire Bay Progress Association will conduct its annual meeting in the Empire Bay Progress Hall from 7:30pm on February 21.

The meeting will determine the election of key positions on the committee including the new president, vice president, treasurer, secretary and public officer, and will celebrate the service of retiring president, Ms Jan Consoli.

Ms Consoli, who has been acting association president since 2008, said she most valued the relationships she had developed during her time as president.

"I have been happy to serve the community on the committee of the Empire Bay Progress Association, and am proud of what we have achieved in various fields.

"The relationships I have developed with various community groups have given me great pleasure and forging a strong sense of community has been a highlight," Ms Consoli said.

"What Ms Consoli failed to mention is that she was one of the principal organisers of the hall becoming wholly owned by the community through a trust," said association member Mr Gregory Olsen.

"Ms Consoli was also integral in negotiations with the NSW Government and Gosford Council for grants to finance the extension and upgrade of the hall that was completed in the early 2000s.

"Ms Consoli points out that she is just one of the many volunteers, going back about 100 years, who have worked to secure, maintain and improve the progress hall for their community.

"The story started in the early 20th century when the land was donated to the community by Mr Bill Myler senior, an estate agent, who subdivided many blocks of land at the western end of Empire Bay.

"Through the generosity and effort of local people donating

building materials and their time, the progress hall was officially opened in 1922.

"Since that time, it has been, and continues to be, a focal point for community activities," Mr Olsen said.

He said that last August the Hall hosted two ground breaking community meetings, facilitated by the newly formed Empire Bay and Districts Roads Action Group, where residents articulated their concerns about the substandard condition of Empire Bay's roads and drains.

Mr Olsen said this culminated in a promise by State Member for Terrigal, Mr Adam Crouch, to advocate for an upgrade of Greenfield Rd, the only access road to the precinct.

Four Central Coast Council representatives inspected the area in January and were preparing a report on all the issues for rectification.

"The Empire Bay Progress Association is a non-profit community organisation of volunteers, working for the benefit of their community," Mr Olsen said.

"As well as being responsible for the administration and maintenance of the progress hall and Empire Bay War Memorial, they partner with the Empire Bay Public School, the Empire Bay-Bensville Rural Fire Brigade, Kincumber-Bensville Sea Scouts and the Empire Bay Fishing Club to deliver four annual events: the Anzac Day Commemoration, the Village Fair in October, the Remembrance Day Commemoration and Christmas Eve at the Hall.

"If you are a resident of Empire Bay, please come along to the AGM, and get involved in the future of your village.

"Decisions are made by those who turn up," he said.

Email, 13 Feb 2017

Interview, 13 Feb 2017

Gregory Olsen, Empire Bay

Reporter: Dillon Luke



Sancha and the Blue Gypsies

Seasoned folk musicians play at Troubadour

The Troubadour Folk Club, Woy Woy, will host Sancha and the Blue Gypsies on February 25.

Led by one of Australia's best known jazz, gypsy, country and folk fiddle players, Marcus Holden, Sancha and the Blue Gypsies is

an ensemble of Sydney's most seasoned folk musicians.

The group features Sancha Prowse on vocals and the mandolin; Marcus Holden on the fiddle, vocals, mandolin and guitar; Garry Steel on accordion and Stan Valacos on the double bass.

The quartet will take on traditional folk, bluegrass, jazz and gospel tunes in the performance.

Doors open from 7pm with tickets available for purchase at the door.

Media release, 8 Feb 2017
Em Fine, The Troubadour



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Opposite Catholic Church at Woy Woy



Directory - Not for profit Community Organisations

Art & Culture

Central Coast Art Society
Weekly paint-outs
Tues 4369 5860.
Workshops 9.30am 1st & 3rd
Wed Gosford City Art Centre
4363 1156.
Social Meetings 1.30pm 4th
Wed for demonstrations
publicity@artcentralcoast.asn.au
4325 1420

Central Coast Handweavers, Spinners and Textile Arts Guild

Spinning and weaving,
patchwork and quilting, felting
and other fibre and fabric
crafts, community quilting bees
Day and Night Groups
4325 4743
www.cottagecrafts.net.au

Central Coast Potters Society

Running classes, workshops,
demonstrations, exhibitions
and social events - Annual
exhibitions in May and
December
info@ccpotters.org
4324 5343

Ettalong Beach Art & Crafts Centre

Adult classes in Pottery
Watercolours, Oils, Acrylics,
Pastels, Silvercraft,
Patchwork & Quilting
Children's Art & Pottery
Mon - Sat 10am - 3pm
4341 8344
madogis@hotmail.com

Point Clare Art & Craft

Wed - Adult Art Class
Wed & Fri - Adult Crafts
Bunka Embroid, Cards,
Crotchet, Cross Stitch \$3
Point Clare Hall
10am - 12noon 4325 5007

Hospital Art Australia Inc.

Meet every Tue and Fri
9am-2pm - 109 Birdwood Ave,
Umina - Painting and Canvas
drawing. Volunteers welcome
hospitalartaustalia.com.au
0431 363 347

Bushwalking

National Parks Association Central Coast

Twice weekly bush walks,
varying distances and grades
of difficulty. Explore, enjoy
scenery, fauna, floral, history.
Keep fit and make friends.
4389 4423 & 4332 7378

Community Centres

Peninsula Community Centre

Cnr Ocean Beach Rd & McMasters Rd Woy Woy
Activities, programs and
support groups for children,
teens, adults and seniors
including occasional care,
playgroups, dance classes,
karate, fitness classes,
youth services, gambling
solutions, internet kiosk
and social groups.
www.coastcommunityconnections.com.au
4341 9333

Ettalong 50+ Leisure & Learning Centre

Mon - Fri - Cards, Computer
Lessons, Dancing, Indoor
Bowls, Fitness, Handicrafts,
Leatherwork, Line Dancing,
Painting, Scrabble, Table
Tennis, Tai Chi, Yoga, Darts
4341 3222

Central Coast Community Legal Centre

Not for profit org in Wyong
providing free legal advice.
Intake times for legal advice
Monday to Friday 9am-5pm
4353 4988
centralcoast@clc.net.au

Community Groups

ABC "The Friends" Support
group for Public Broadcaster.
Aims: Safeguard ABC's
independence, adequate
funding, high standards.
Meetings through the year +
social afternoons

Well-known guest speakers
www.fabcsnw.org.au
4341 5170

Central Coast Social Group

Social contact, entertainment
events, new friendships, for
30's-60's
Live music, house parties,
dinners, BBQs, picnics, trips
away etc.
Monthly Meet & Chat
0422 243 101
email cco30s@live.com.au

Central Coast 50+ Singles Social Group

Ladies & gents dinner, dancing -
BBQs & socialising each w/end.
Monthly programme for all areas
0412 200 571
0437 699 366
50pssg@gmail.com

Mingaletta Aboriginal Torres Strait Islander

Provides members and other
groups a meeting place and
referral hub for education,
health, well-being and cultural
programs.
Mon-Fri 9am - 4pm
6 Sydney Ave Umina
4342 7515
admin@mingaletta.com.au

Peninsula School for Seniors

Community Centre,
McMasters Road, Woy Woy
Discussions, rumikin, craft,
history, walks, & coach trips
Tues, Wed, Thur
4341 5984 or 4341 0800

Peninsula Village Playgroup

Carers, Grandparents, parents
& children 'Intergenerational
Playgroup'
Tues 10-11.30am
4344 9199

Probus Club of Woy Woy

Friendship, Fellowship,
and social functions
for active retirees.
1st Wed - 10am
Everglades Country Club
4344 7070

Seniors Computer Club Central Coast

Classes held Monday to
Friday for everyone over 50
Basics: Mon , Tues and
Thurs 10am to 12noon
Different programs every day,
10am to 12noon or 1pm to 3pm
Apple-Mac: Mon, Tues, Wed
All at our club rooms, Kincumber
Neighbourhood Centre
Bookings or inquiries
02 4307 9421

The Krait Club

Community Centre - Cooinda
Village, Neptune St, Umina
10.30am For seniors. Gentle
exercises, quizzes, games,
social activities, guest
speakers, entertainment and
bus trips - 4344 3277

Umina Beach Men's Shed

Men share a variety of tools,
pursue interests and hobbies,
spend time with other men and
learn new skills
Darrell 4342 9606

Volunteering Central Coast

Refers potential volunteers
to community orgs. Supports
both volunteers and community
orgs. Training for volunteers &
their managers. 4329 7122
recruit@volcc.org.au

Wagstaffe to Killcare Community

Protect and preserve the
environment & residential
nature of the Bouddi Peninsula
and to strengthen community
bonds
2nd Mon, 7.30pm Wagstaffe
Hall 4360 2945
info@wagstaffetokillcare.org.au

Health Groups

Al-Anon

If someone's drinking is
causing you problems...
Al-Anon can help
4344 6939

1300 252 666
Meetings Sat 2pm
Woy Woy Hospital
Ocean Beach Road

Arthritis NSW

Woy Woy support group
Woy Woy Bowling Club
North Burge Road Woy Woy
3rd Tues 10.30am
1800 011 041

Better Hearing Australia - Central Coast

Hearing loss management
support and education.
7 groups across the Coast
Providing practical experience
and confidence
4321 0275
www.centralcoast.betterhearingaustralia.org.au

BlueWave Living

Woy Woy Community Aged
Care facility providing residential
aged care to the frail aged.
Permanent and respite care
accommodation available.
Information 2nd and
4th Tues - 11am
4344 2599
reception@bluewavelliving.org.au

Central Coast Parkinson's Support Group

We aim to help individuals and
their families better manage living
with Parkinson's Disease
Guest speakers are a regular
feature of our meetings.
2nd Tue - 1.30pm
1800 644 189

Gambling Solutions

Gambling help counsellors
providing free confidential
professional service to
gamblers, family and friends.
Woy Woy, Kincumber,
Gosford and The Entrance
4344 7992

GROW Support Groups

Small friendly groups formed to learn
how to overcome anxiety, depression
and loneliness and to improve mental
health and well-being. Anonymous,
free and open to all. Bring a support
person if you like. Weekly meetings at
Woy Woy, Beau Bay and Wyong
1800 558 268
www.grow.org.au

Meals on Wheels

Delicious meals delivered free
Join us for a midday meal
Help with shopping and
cooking classes
4341 6699

Mary Mac's Place

Providing hot, freshly cooked
meals - Mon to Fri 11am-1pm
with support, info & referrals
4341 0584
marymacs@woywoycatholic.org.au

Overeaters Anonymous (OA)

12-step fellowship for those
with eating disorders. No
dues, fees, or weigh-ins.
Peninsula Com. Cntr, cnr. Mc
Masters Rd & Ocean Beach
Rd. Woy Woy, Fri 8pm
www.oa.org
0412 756 446

Peninsula Village Wellness Centre

Offering holistic and
complementary therapies
including aromatherapy,
massage and music therapy
4344 9199

Peninsula Village Meals

Delivered daily to your door
Nutritious, great for the elderly
4344 9199

Peninsula Village Carer's Support Group

For carers of loved ones with
dementia - 1st Wed - 10 to
11.30am
Paula 4344 9199

Prostate Cancer Support Group (Gosford)

Last Fri, Terrigal Uniting Church,
380 Terrigal Drive, Terrigal
9.30am to 12 noon 4367 9600
www.pcta.org.au

Riding for the Disabled

Horse Riding as a therapy

for those with intellectual or
physical disabilities.
Volunteers required. No
previous exp. necessary -
School hours only. Mon to Sat
4340 0388
stateoffice@rdansw.org.au

Schizophrenia and Bipolar Fellowship

For Schizophrenia/Bipolar/
Mental Health sufferers,
family, carers and friends. .
1st Thur - 1pm Room 3
Uniting Church Donnison St
Gosford
4344 7989 or 4368 2214

Woy Woy Public Hospital Alliance

To restore medical services
previously available & upgrade
to a standard that meets with
local needs.
2pm 2nd Sat St Lukes Church
Hall, Blackwall Rd Woy Woy
4344 4811

Woy Woy Stroke Recovery Club

Everglades Country Club
2nd Tues 11am
Company, up-to-date info,
hydrotherapy, bus trips
4341 7177

Music

Brisbane Water Brass

Brass Band entertainment for
the community playing
all types of popular music.
Rehearsal every Tues
7.30pm-10pm
0419 274 012

Gosford Musical Society Minstrels

Entertain at various
venues on the Coast
seeking new members
Thur Night Laycock St
North Gosford 4341 4210

Soundwaves

Men's a-capella 4 part harmony
chorus - all ages 7pm Mon.
Central Coast Leagues Club
John 0413 276 698
jbthomson51@gmail.com

Troubadour Central Coast Folk, Traditional & Acoustic

Music and Spoken Word
Concerts, Ukulele
meets, and Sessions
4th Sat 7pm CWA Hall
Woy Woy 4342 6716
mail.info@troubadour.org.au

Political Groups

Australian Labor Party
Political discussions, national,
state and local government
issues

Umina Ettalong Branch

2nd Mon Umina Beach Bowling
Club 7.30pm 4342 3676

Ourimbah/ Narara Branch

Niagara Park Primary School
7.30pm 1st Mon
0410 309 494
kyle.macgregor@hotmail.com

Woy Woy Branch

Everglades Country Club
7.30pm 2nd Mon
0412 517 520
belindaneal@bigpond.com

Peninsula Day Branch

1pm 2nd Mon
CWA Hall Woy Woy
4341 9946

Central Coast Greens

Active regarding ecological
sustainability, social &
economic justice, peace &
non-violence, grassroots
democracy & getting Greens
elected
3rd Thur,
centralcoast.nsw.greens.org.au
centralcoastgreens@gmail.com

Politics in the Pub Central Coast

Discussion of important political,
social, economic, education, land
philosophy issues in a non partisan
manner - The Grange Hotel 4th
Thur every month besides Dec

Service Groups

Lions Club of Woy Woy

1st and 3rd Mon. Woy Woy
Leagues Club
0478 959 895
Make new friends and have fun

while serving your community.

Northern Settlement Services - Volunteers

Volunteers needed for friendly
visits to the elderly in nursing
homes.
People with a second language
encouraged.
Training support provided
4334 3877
cvsc@nsservices.com.au

Rotary Clubs

International service club
improves lives of communities
in Aust. & o/seas. Fun-filled
activities, fellowship and
friendship.

Rotary Club of Kariong

Phillip House, 21 Old Mount
Penang Rd, Fri 7.15am 4340
4529

Rotary Club of Umina Beach

Wednesdays 6.30pm
Everglades Country Club
0409 245 861
curleys@ozemail.com.au
0409 245 861

Rotary Club of Woy Woy

Tues 6pm Everglades
Country Club.
Don Tee 0428 438 535

Special Interest

Brisbane Water Caravan Club

located on the Central Coast
and looking for new members
www.bwcaravanclub.wix.com/bwcc
4344 4363

Biz Plus Networking Association

Business owners
networking group.
Biz Networking breakfast
every Thur 7:15am - 9am
Erina Leagues Club
Geoff Neilson
network@bizplus.com.au

Bridge

Duplicate Bridge Mon Tue Thur
Fri Sat-12.15pm
& Wed 9.15am

Brisbane Water Bridge Club,
Peninsula Community Centre
93 McMasters Rd.
Woy Woy
www.brisbane-water.bridge-club.org

Cash Housie

50 Games every Sat night
Peninsula Community Centre,
McMasters Rd, Woy Woy,
7.30pm. Proceeds to Woy Woy
Catholic Parish.
www.cashousie@hotmail.com

Central Coast Family History Society Inc.

Resources, information
& advice to study your
family's history.
1st Sat 1pm Lions
Community Hall, 8 Russell
Drysdale St, E. Gosford.
www.centralcoastfhs.org.au
4324 5164

Central Coast Tenants' Advice and Advocacy Service

Help with issues with landlords
& real estate agents? Free
telephone advice and advocacy
for all tenants and residents in
residential parks.
4353 5515
cctaas@hotmail.com

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Learn silverwork, cabochons,
faceting, enamelling, stone
fieldtrips & fossicking.
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Tues and Thurs 8.30am-2.30pm
Thurs evening 6-10pm
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Rd Ourimbah
4362 2246

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Marine Education Courses.
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Boat License & PWC License
Tests, Navigation, Seamanship
and Meteorology.
4325 7929
www.vmrcc.org.au

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Flying at Bloodtree Road
Mangrove Mountain Thur, Sat,
Sun (weather permitting)
0412 164 082
0414 635 047
www.ccssoaring.com.au

Peninsula Environment Group

Environmental projects,
(incl. Woytopia),
Woy Woy community garden,
social events, workshops,
organic food buying group
www.peg.org.au

Woy Woy Judo Club

3 Classes every Tue & Fri
5.00pm to 8pm
Ettalong Leisure &
Learning Centre
Min age 5 years old
0434 000 170
www.woywoyjudoclub.com

Veterans

National Malaya Borneo Veterans Association

1st Sat F(except Jan) 1pm
Ettalong Beach
War Memorial Club,
51-52 The Esplanade.
4342 1107

Vietnam Veterans', Peacekeepers' and Peacemakers'

Assist all veterans & families
with pension & welfare issues.
Mon & Wed 9am-1pm 4344
4760 Cnr Broken Bay Rd &
Beach St Ettalong.
centralcoastveterans@bigpond.com.

Woy Woy Ettalong Hardy's Bay RSL

Provide help with pensions and
welfare etc.
Shop 5/382 Oceanview Rd
Ettalong. Tues & Thurs 9am to
1pm 4341 2594

Women's Groups

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bpwcentralcoast@hotmail.com
www.bpw.com.au/central-coast

Country Women's Association Woy Woy

Opposite Fisherman's Wharf
Branch Meetings
2nd Wednesday 10am
Craft & Friends
Wednesdays 9.30am
2nd and 4th Sundays 12.15pm
0416 193 070 - 4340 1746

Country Women's Association Umina

Branch meeting
1st Wed 10am
Craft and Friendship
Other Weds 9am
1st and 3rd Sun 12.30pm
0416 193 070 - 4340 1746

Gosford RSL Women's Auxiliary

For women over 18 years.
Raise money for welfare of
veterans and their families
RSL Club, West Gosford
4th Mon 2pm 4323 7336

Peninsula Women's Health Centre

Counselling, therapeutic and
social groups, workshops,
domestic violence and abuse
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4342 5905
www.cccwhc.com.au

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info@wowgirls.com.au

NEWSPAPERS

central coast

If you would like your Community Organisation
listed here, see www.duckscrossing.org or
www.centralcoastnewspapers.com for the forms or
contact Central Coast Newspapers on - 4325 7369



Umina Rotary president Mr Mike Curley with new member Steve Boyd

New member at Rotary

The Rotary Club of Umina welcomed its newest member at the club's 41st birthday celebration dinner on February 8.

The club welcomed Mr Steve

Boyd who has been living in Umina for the past year.

Mr Boyd said he was keen to get involved in community service work.

Email, 9 Feb 2017
Geoff Melville, Umina Rotary

For FITNESS, FUN and FRIENDSHIP GOSFORD SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCERS

holds a class every Wednesday from 7 to 10pm at the
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No partner necessary
No special clothes - just soft shoes
Lively music
New dancers welcome

Janice on 4388 2253

Sandra on 4392 8716

\$7 per Night Come and join in on the fun!



A travel expo featuring exhibits from over 30 service providers will be held on the Peninsula from 10am to 3pm on February 25.

Ettalong Bowling Club will be the venue for the event run by Umina mobile Travel Managers agent Ms Robyn Simmonds and her associate Ms Renny Karsten.

Ms Simmonds, who has been in the travel industry for 23 years, said she had wanted to run a local travel expo for years and was pleased to be able to bring tour and cruise operators, travel insurance representatives, transfer companies and even a local medical centre to do vaccinations, to the expo.

Ms Symmonds said the advantages of being a mobile travel agent included that she could structure her business to best service her clients when they needed her, whether that was 8pm or even 2am.

She said that flexibility enabled her to service the needs of the whole range of Peninsula travellers from retirees, empty nesters,

cruisers and families.

Highlights of the expo will include Travel Trivia with a range of prizes to be won, along with lucky door prizes and a major prize.

Local troubadour Ben Woodham will entertain the crowd with some travel songs.

Interview, 15 Feb 2017
Robyn Symmonds, TravelManagers

Peninsula directory of services, contacts and support groups

Ambulance, Police, Fire 000

Emergency

Ambulance, Police, Fire 000

Police Assistance Line 131 444

Crime Stoppers 1800 333 000

Woy Woy Police Station 4379 7399

Energy Australia 13 13 88

Gas Emergency 131 909

Gosford City Council 4325 8222

Marine Rescue NSW -

Central Coast 4325 7929

SES - Storm and Flood

Emergency 132 500

Aboriginal & Torres Strait

Islander Organisations

Mingaletta 4342 7515

Aboriginal Home Care 4321 7215

Drug & Alcohol rehab 4388 6360

Accommodation

Dept. of Housing Gosford 4323 5211

Cassie4Youth 4322 3197

Coast Shelter 4325 3540

Pacific Link Com Housing 4324 7617

Rumbalara Youth Refuge 4325 7555

Samaritans Youth

Services 4351 1922

Youth Angle • Woy Woy 4341 8830

Woy Woy Youth Cottage 4341 9027

Animal Rescue

Wildlife Arc 4325 0666

Wires 1300 094 737

Community Centres

Peninsula Community

Centre 4341 9333

Men's Shed Cluster Inc 0413 244 484

Counselling

Centacare: 4324 6403

Relationship Australia: 1300 364 277

Interrelate: 1800 449 118

Family and Relationships

Centacare Gosford 4324 6403

Central Coast Family Support

Service 4340 1099

Horizons (For men with children) 4351 5008

Uniting Care Burnside

Gosford 1800 067 967

Health

Poisons Information 131 126

Ambulance Text Mobile 106

Ambulance GSM 112

Gosford Hospital 4320 2111

Woy Woy Hospital 4344 8444

Sexual Health @ Gosford

Hospital 4320 2114

After Hours GP Help Line 1800 022 222

Legal & Financial Help

Financial Counselling

Service 4334 2304

Tenants' Advice and Advocacy

Service 4353 5515

Woy Woy Court 4344 0111

Libraries

Gosford district:

Umina Beach 4304 7333

Woy Woy 4304 7555

Problems, Habits & Addiction

Alcoholics Anonymous 4323 3890

Narcotics Anonymous 4325 0524

Professional support phone services:

Mental Health Line 1800 011 511

Beyondblue 1300 224 636

Domestic Violence Line 1800 656 463

Lifeline 13 11 14

Kids Help Line 1800 551 800

Griefline 1300 845 745

Suicide Call Back Service

1300 659 467

Transport

Taxi 131 008

Busways 4368 2277

City Rail 131 500

Welfare Services

Gosford Family Support 4340 1585

Meals on Wheels 4341 6699

Department of Community Services

Gosford 4336 2400

The Salvation Army 4325 5733

Samaritans Emergency

Relief 4393 2450

St Vincent De Paul Society

HELPLINE 4323 6081

The Peninsula Diary of Events

For events in post code areas 2256 and 2257

Monday, Feb 20

Umina Library Knitters, Umina Library, 1pm to 2pm weekly until Feb 27

Wednesday, Feb 22

Lego at the Library, Woy Woy Library, for all Lego enthusiasts, 3:30pm to 4:30pm

Friday, Feb 24

Woy Woy Rugby Club Sports Luncheon with guest speakers Stirling Mortlock and Rupert McCall and MC Peter Fab Fenton, Ettalong Diggers memorial Club, bookings essential

Saturday, Feb 25

Compost and worm farming, Woy Woy Landfill Education Centre, 9am to 11:30am

Gardening in a small space workshop, Woy Woy Landfill Education Centre, 12pm to 2:30pm

Sancha and the Blue Gypsies at Troubadour Folk and Acoustic Music Club, CWA Hall Woy Woy, from 7pm

Absolutely 80s Show, Ettalong Diggers Memorial Club

Travel Expo and Fun Day, Ettalong Bowling Club, 10am to 3pm

Sunday, Feb 26

Wicking Bed Construction, Woy Woy Peninsula Community Garden, 9am to 11:30am

Lucky Starr and Roland Storm at Good Afternoon Ettalong, Let the Good Times Roll, fund raiser for Scholarships in Radiotherapy, Ettalong Diggers Memorial Club, from 2pm

Sunday Jam Session featuring Pat Dow, Hardys Bay Club, from 3pm

Tuesday, Feb 28

Brisbane Water Bridge Club lessons, Peninsula Community Centre, 93 McMasters Rd, Woy Woy, 9:30am to 11:30am, first lesson free and classes continue for six weeks

Di Solomon presents Diamond Decades, Ettalong Diggers Memorial Club,

Wednesday, Mar 1

Book Club, Umina Library, discuss this month's book South of Broad, 10:30am to 11:30am

Thursday, Mar 2

Ben Woodham, Bayview Hotel, Woy Woy, 8pm

Book Club, Woy Woy Library,

this month's book The Bourne Identity, 2pm to 4pm

Friday, Mar 3

Central Coast Guide Dogs NSW/ACT Volunteer Support Group fund raising stall, Woy Woy Deepwater Plaza

Seniors Week Gentle Exercise Classes, Peninsula Leisure Centre, 8:30am

Accommodation options for older Australians, Woy Woy Library, bookings essential, 10am to 12 pm followed by Aged Care Fees and Charges from 1:30pm to 3:30pm

Tai Chi for Seniors, Peninsula Leisure Centre, 11:15am followed by Aqua Fitness at 12:30pm

Sunday, Mar 5

Blues Jam, Hardys Bay Club, 2pm

Monday, Mar 6

Umina Library Knitters, Umina Library, weekly until March 27, 10am to 11am

Chess for Seniors, Ettalong 50+ Leisure and Learning Centre, 9am to 11am and Indoor Bowls from 9am to 12pm

If you've got something happening on the Peninsula over the next few weeks, let us know about it and we'll list it here for you, for free. Contact details are on page 2. See the Coast Community News for events in post code areas 2250, 2251 & 2260 and the Wyong Regional Chronicle for events in post code areas 2258, 2259, 2261, 2262 & 2263

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4339 2424
0402 186 546

POLICE MASTERS LIC 409982903
SECURITY LIC 2E409965334
CARPENTRY JOINER LIC 2568230C

DANCE

PENINSULA SOCIAL DANCE

50+ learning centre
Cnr Karingi St & Broken
Bay Rd - Ettalong Beach
NEW DATES
FOR 2017
1st Sunday 2 to 5pm
3rd Saturday 5 to 8pm
\$5pp Entry
enq **4342 7078**

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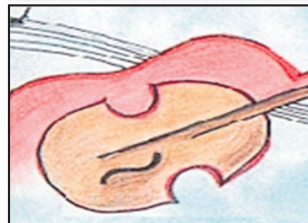
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4324 2801

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AT 7PM

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Classified advertising is the cheapest form of newspaper advertising. This newspaper is published on line on the night before publication date, and is read that way by hundreds of people. All advertisements, including these classified advertising pages, appear in full on-line as an additional benefit for free.

See www.CentralCoastNewspapers.com or www.CentralCoastNews.net

Central Coast Newspapers' advertising rates are relatively much lower than in other newspapers and at the same time much larger than in other newspapers, with the minimum size being 50mm X 42mm. Approximately 16,000 copies of each newspaper are printed and distributed every fortnight.

Personal and Not For Profit Organisations

As Central Coast Newspapers are community newspapers, the cost of advertising not for profit organisations' events is subsidised. This makes them the same rate as non business advertisements.

A mono 5cm advertisement only costs \$33. Each additional cm costs \$6.60 as does colour, and/or a photograph or a logo. Private advertisements need to be paid for at the time of booking.

Business rates

The minimum size of 5cm X a single column only costs \$40 + GST in mono and an extra \$8 + GST for colour, a logo or a photograph, every two weeks. Most businesses choose to advertise on an ongoing basis and discounts apply for multiple bookings, if they are paid for in full, in advance.

Having an advertisement run for 3 months only costs \$215 + GST, for 6 months it is \$385 + GST, and for 12 months advertising, the total cost is only \$700 + GST - Approximately \$14 per week.

Artwork is free and advertisers are encouraged to change their advertisements frequently

NEWSPAPERS To advertise here call **4325 7369**
central coast

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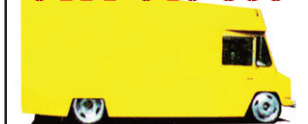
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No victories for Peninsula teams

Ettalong Memorial Bowling Club was the venue for the **Bowls Central Coast 2017 Fours Championship and President's Fours** recently.

Unfortunately none of the teams from the Peninsula was victorious on the day.

In a strong display of team bowls, Halekulani's Mitch McDonnell,

Chris Willingham and Pat Reynolds skipped by Michael Stead took advantage of the tournament favourites being defeated in the first round by going all the way to defeat the Mingara team of Russell Johnston, Jamie Wells, Peter Lyddieth and Neil Dell by 18 to 10 in the final.

In the President's Fours, after winning their first game by just one shot, The Entrance team of Jack Burns, Lindsay Brown and Arthur Austin skipped by Cameron Brown won their next four games by double figure margins to take out the President Fours Championship title in a comfortable style.

They beat an excellent Ourimbah RSL team of Jeff Watsell, John Martin, David Ryan and Keith Cooper 27-16 in the final under very hot and steamy conditions.

Media release, 9 Feb 2017
Kevin Dring, Bowls Central Coast

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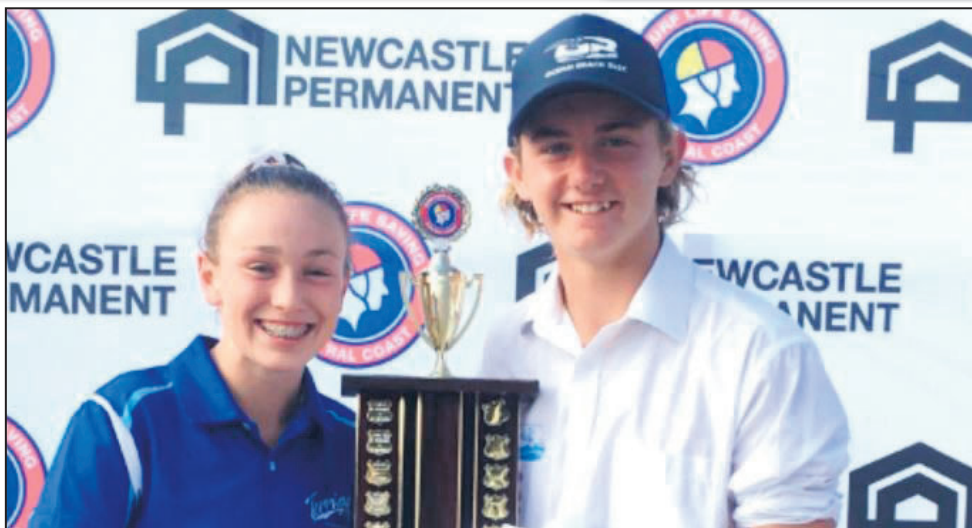
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Skye O'Mara from Terrigal SLSC with Hayden Doyle from Ocean Beach SLSC both Junior Lifesavers of the Year

Hayden is junior lifesaver of the year

Hayden Doyle from Ocean Beach Surf Life Saving Club has won the Junior Lifesaver of the Year for 2016-2017 at the Junior Branch Championships held at Umina on Sunday, February 5.

He will now represent the Surf Life Saving Central Coast Branch at the 2016-17 SLSNSW Junior Lifesaver of the Year camp which will be held at the Collaroy Centre in Sydney in April.

Hayden joined Ocean Beach SLSC in October 2013 and has participated in all aspects of Nippers and the Rookie program.

This year alone Hayden has patrolled at Ocean Beach for 131 hours.

Media release, 14 Feb 2017
Diane Moate, Ocean Beach Surf Life Saving Club

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PUBLIC NOTICES

Car Boot Sale

Woy Woy Peninsula Lions Club

Feb 26

9am to 1pm

Great variety of stalls ~
BBQ, Tea & Coffee.
Vendors Welcome ~ \$15 per car
Now at Dunbar Road Car Park
NB stall sites not open until 6.30am Cnr. Ocean Beach Road Woy Woy
Always Last Sunday (Except December)
Enq: 0478 959 895

PUBLIC NOTICES

Peninsula Environment Group Annual General Meeting AGM 2017
Saturday 11th March
2pm - 267 Blackwall Rd,
Woy Woy
(The old St Luke's Church)

THE SHAME FILE

Central Coast Newspapers has a very liberal credit policy for advertisers and realises that from time to time, people, businesses and organisations get into financial difficulty and may need assistance and time to get things back on track.

However, some people, businesses and organisations take advantage of this generosity they use advertising but simply don't pay their account after several months and need to be taken to court to do so.

From time to time, as necessary, we will name these people, businesses or organisations as a warning to our readers so that they will be wary when dealing with them.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Affordable Solutions - Brad Sedgewick Ettalong Sharon Martin - Devine Image Depp Studios - Formerly of Umina Stan Prytz of ASCO Bre Concreting Andrew and Peter Compton Bruce Gilliard Roofing of Empire Bay Jamie McNeilly formerly of Jamie's Lawn Mowing, Woy Woy William McCorriston of Complete Bathroom Renovations First Premier Electrical Service of Umina Beach High Thai-d Restaurant of Umina Beach Mal's Seafood & Charcoal Chicken of Ettalong Beach Simon Jones - All external cleaning and sealing services Erroll Baker, former barber, Ettalong Tony Fitzpatrick, Trading as Futuretek Roof Constructions Tye King - Formerly The | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fish Trap Ettalong Beach Jessica Davis of Erina - Trading as A1 cleaning services Simon and Samantha Hague, Trading as By the Bay Takeaway Empire Bay Rick Supplice of Ettalong Beach, Trading as Rick's Flyscreens Mountain Mutts - Monique Leon, Ettalong Beach Skippers Take away Seafood Marilyn Clarke, Umina RJ's Diner - Ryan Tindell of Woy Woy Thomas James Clinton, Trading as TMA Products & AthroBalm & Effective Business Solutions of Ettalong Greenultimate Solar PTY LTD Menhir Tapas & Bar PTY LTD Singapore Zing Cafe, Umina Dean Lampard - Trading as Lampard Painting Sharon Upton - Pretty Paws Pets and Skaterinas Callum McDonald - Trading as Sunset Decks |
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To advertise here call 4325 7369

NEWSPAPERS
Central Coast

Sport



Women’s golf club seeks playing members

The Everglades Women’s Golf Club is looking for new playing members.

President, Ms Donna Mitchell said the club was “a great bunch of women” and that places were available in beginner golf clinics.

“If you can already play, then come and have a chat with us any Tuesday or Thursday afternoon,” she said.

The women’s club has raised \$60,000 during the past 10 years for local charities.

It was established in 1957 and women became equal members with the Men’s Golf Club at Everglades in 1983.

Currently there are 165 women who are members, which is the second largest women’s golf club on the Central Coast.

Since 2006, Everglades Women’s Golf Club has raised funds for: Glenvale School (children with disabilities), Coast Shelter, Wigwam, Biggest Morning Tea, Iris Foundation, World Biggest Shave, Woy Woy School-Early

Prevention, Prostrate Cancer, Kids in Need, Umina Salvation Army Camp Breakaway, Pink Ribbon Foundation, Jane McGrath Foundation and Australian Cancer Research.

The women golfers were generous and proud of the support they have given to the community, Ms Mitchell said.

“Our raffles have always been sponsored by local businesses which have been supportive in their donation of major and minor prizes.

Social golf club celebrates 50 years

The Circle Social Golf Club competed at Everglades on Sunday, February 12.

The Peninsula club has existed for 50 years, and players tee up every second Sunday morning at Everglades Country Club.

It currently has 36 members and is sponsored by the Woy Woy Leagues Club.

The club has a rich golfing history, starting out of the Ettalong Hotel in 1967 and moving to Woy Woy Rugby League Football Club in the late 1980s.

The club provides a friendly environment for golfers of all levels with the emphasis enjoying the game of golf for what it is.

While most games are played at Everglades Country Club, there are day trips to different golf courses in Newcastle and Sydney to experience the challenges of

these courses.

On February 12, the hottest day of the year to date, 25 golfers hit off, playing in the local Everglades and social club competitions.

The week’s winner, with an impressive 40 points, was Daryl (Shrek) Creighton, followed closely by Lance Robinson on 38 points then Brian Paterson on 36 points.

The annual Match Play event is also in play with Round 1 results seeing Ian Lyndsay defeating Kevin James 2 and 1 and Brian Paterson defeating Sean Mason 5 and 4.

The players will travel from the Peninsula on Sunday, February 26, on a day trip to Turrumurra golf course with the next game at Everglades on Sunday, March 5.

Media release, 14 Feb 2017
Mark Smith, WWRLFC
Circle Social Golf Club

TIDE CHART

FORT DENISON

LAT 33° 51' S - LONG 151° 14' E - TIME ZONE - 1000

Times and Heights(m) of high and low waters

Time - Height(m)

Add one hour to the times below when Daylight Saving is in force

20 MON	0405 1.41 1048 0.70 1636 1.16 2227 0.70	21 TUE	0509 1.44 1157 0.65 1749 1.18 2330 0.67	22 WED	0607 1.51 1252 0.57 1846 1.24
23 THU	0025 0.62 0656 1.58 1337 0.49 1932 1.31	24 FRI	0112 0.56 0740 1.66 1416 0.41 2013 1.38	25 SAT	0155 0.49 0820 1.74 1453 0.33 2051 1.46
26 SUN	0236 0.42 0900 1.80 1530 0.28 2130 1.53	27 MON	0319 0.37 0941 1.83 1606 0.24 2210 1.59	28 TUE	0403 0.34 1024 1.82 1645 0.24 2252 1.64
1 WED	0451 0.33 1108 1.77 1725 0.26 2337 1.66	2 THU	0541 0.35 1154 1.68 1807 0.32	3 FRI	0024 1.67 0635 0.40 1245 1.57 1853 0.40
4 SAT	0115 1.65 0735 0.46 1340 1.44 1944 0.49	5 SUN	0213 1.62 0845 0.51 1445 1.33 2044 0.56	6 MON	0319 1.61 1002 0.52 1604 1.27 2155 0.60

APPROX. TIME LAG AFTER FORT DENISON

Ettalong 40 min, Rip Bridge 2hrs - Wisemans Ferry 2 hrs 30 min, Koolewong 2 hrs 10 min

In view of the variations caused by local conditions and meteorological effects, these times are approximate and must be considered as a guide only. They are not to be relied on for critical depth calculations for safe navigation.

Actual times of High and Low Water may occur before or after the times indicated

Woy Woy bowler wins Hawaii trip

A Woy Woy bowler has won the regional final of the Barefoot Bowls Competition.

Woy Woy Bowling Club’s Mr Kerry Watkins has won the trip to Honolulu, Hawaii, where the World Barefoot Bowls Championship will be held.

Mr Watkins teamed up with Ettalong bowler Mr Phil Watkins for the elimination round at Sporties to

qualify for the regional final where he beat players from the Hunter, Newcastle and Narromine to claim victory.

Mr Watkins is the third bowler from Woy Woy Bowling Club to make it to the World Championship in the four years since the competition began.

Email, 12 Feb 2017
John Orme, Woy Woy Bowling Club

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Outstanding results in tough conditions

The Central Coast Surf Life Saving Junior Branch Championships were held at Umina Beach on Sunday, February 5 with several local clubs achieving outstanding results.

The conditions were some of the toughest any of the participants and organisers can remember with the temperature topping 40 degrees and the sand so scalding some events were cancelled.

The Umina Surf Life Saving Club achieved some stand-out performances at the carnival.

Davara Marshall won gold in the under-11 girls' sprint and surf race and silver in the ironman.

Ronnie Jordan achieved a silver in the under-nine boys' board and bronze in the surf race.

Kiara Jack achieved a silver in the ironman and under-13 female surf race.

Lucy Marshall came third in the All Age Nippers March-Past for Umina.

Ocean Beach Team A achieved

a fourth place in the All Age (Nipper) March-Past.

Ocean Beach, represented by Zara Smithers and Jenna Styant came first in the under-12/13 two person R&R competition and in the five-person under-12/14 R&R represented by Hayley Doyle, Mikaela Kelly, Mercedes Newton, Zara Smithers and Jenna Styant.

Killcare's small surf life saving team returned some with a second place to Lexi Sheppard in the under-eight flags.

A second place was also achieved by Killcare in the under-11 relay for Lilly Hoffer, Lauren Sinclair and Ruby Smith.

Lilly Hoffer also achieved third place in the under-11 sprint and narrowly missed out on a media in the under-11 flags to come in fourth.

Newsletter, 10 Feb 2017
Killcare Surf Life Saving Club
Report, 14 Feb 2017
Richard Braddish, Umina
Beach Surf Life Saving Club
Website, 15 Feb 2017
Sports NSW SLSC Branch
Carnival results

Gymnastics NSW has awarded Umina Beach PCYC Small Club of the Year at its gala annual awards night in February.

The club's gymnastics coordinator, Ms Judy Tolhurst, also received an award for her dedication to the sport.

Ms Tolhurst was recruited by the Umina club two years ago to boost the number of members it had who were participating in gymnastics.

Since then Ms Tolhurst has taken the number of PCYC club members participating in gymnastics from 50 to 140.

She said all the gymnasts at Umina PCYC were from the local area and range in age from three to 14.

Children participate once a week in a one or two hour course in recreational gymnastics, women's competitive gymnastics, trampolining or free gymnastics.

The Gymnastics NSW Small Club of the Year Award was open to gymnastics clubs in NSW that had less than 300 members.

The application had to demonstrate the programs that the club had implemented and grown, the education of coaches and how they represented the club in the field of gymnastics.

Umina PCYC was chosen as one of three finalists, the other two were Sydney clubs, "and then we got the gong," Ms Tolhurst said.

Her son, Lachlan, is an accredited gymnastics coach at the PCYC, having joined as a volunteer after helping his mother in her early days with the club.

Ms Tolhurst said she attributed the club's success during the past two years to the "quality of its programs and the passion of its coach".



Lachlan Tolhurst with the Umina Beach PCYC Gymnastics NSW award

Lachlan Tolhurst and a former PCYC Umina gymnastics coach and Empire Bay resident, Ms Leela Cross, have been chosen as part of a NSW Performance Gymnastics team.

They will travel to Denmark in July to compete against 16,000 gymnasts from around the world for a week and then they will participate in a week of coach's education.

Mr Tolhurst was also on the NSW Performance team last year.

Performance gymnastics is a team-based mixture of dance, tumbling and acrobatics set to music.

Umina PCYC offers recreational gymnastics Mondays to Thursdays for ages three to 10.

Women's competitive

gymnastics is open to children from the year they turn six and involves the traditional combination of bar, beam, floor and vault.

The club had four members participating in competitions in 2016 and expects to have around 12 this year across women's competitive gymnastics and trampolining.

The club also offers Free G.

"Free G involves getting from one point to another as fast as possible across as many obstacles as possible," Ms Tolhurst said.

There are currently 14 boys, mainly in Year 7, participating in Free G at Umina PCYC.

Media release, 14 Feb 2017

Interview, 14 Feb 2017

Judy Tolhurst, Umina Beach PCYC
Reporter: Jackie Pearson

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