

Peninsula News

Community Access

EDITION 563

THE PENINSULA'S OWN NEWS SERVICE INC

20 FEBRUARY 2023



More than 50 people and three police officers were attracted to a rally in Woy Woy against the rezoning and development of land in Kariong owned by the Darkinjung Aboriginal Land Council last Friday afternoon.

The rally called for the preservation of the "Kariong Sacred Land" and called on Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch to "step up for our environment".

Placards at the rally, held outside Ms Tesch's office, said the land was zone E2 for good reason and that "Native wildlife need their habitat more than land councils need money".

Kariong land rally held in Woy Woy

The rally was addressed by a number of speakers including Guringai elder Aunty Colleen Fuller, an independent Upper House candidate at the State election, and organiser Mr Jake Cassar of the Coast Environmental Alliance.

Aunty Colleen said the Guringai people were the traditional owners of the land: "This is Guringai land. It always has been and always will be."

"It will never be Darkinjung land," she said to strong applause.

The theme was echoed by a number of speakers.

Mr Cassar said he was disappointed that Ms Tesch, who he admired as a highly-motivated person, had not become involved.

He claimed that the Darkinjung Land Council was a corporate entity, which represented only about five per cent of indigenous people on the Coast.

Traditional custodian Mr Paul Craig said the Darkinjung had "no ancestors and no bloodlines".

"They are a non-existent tribe. Why should they have the right to rezone and develop sacred land?"

State Greens MP Ms Sue Higginson last Thursday called on

the NSW Government to purchase the land from the Darkinjung Aboriginal Land Council for addition to the protected area network and compensate the Land Council fully.

Darkinjung Land Council chair Mr BJ Duncan was reported telling a "Future of Housing" meeting

in Gosford earlier last week that opening up the Land Council land for development was important to self-determination.

Mr Duncan denounced the Guringai, stating there was insufficient evidence for them to lay any claim to traditional ownership, according to Peninsula residents who attended the meeting.

SOURCE:
Media release, 17 Feb 2023
Rhonda Williams, CEA

Produced on the Peninsula

Peninsula news & advertising
for the Peninsula community

Westpac closes Woy Woy branch

Westpac is closing its Woy Woy shopfront at 1pm on Friday, March 10.

However, according to the bank, it is not a "closure" but a "co-location".

The Westpac business will move in with St George at 28-30 Blackwall Rd and will re-open from 9:30am on Tuesday, March 14.

Both banks are part of the Westpac Group.

A Westpac Group spokesperson Mr Chris Hicks said: "It's important to clarify that this branch is becoming a co-location."

The co-location had been announced in a media release by Group CEO Mr Peter King in June last year, he said.

Mr King said there was an "ongoing program of co-locations, where select branches are combined, bringing two Westpac Group brands together under one roof".

"Westpac has already co-located 21 branches," he said.

"We are currently reviewing opportunities to co-locate around 100 more branches over the next 18 months.

"The co-location approach enables us to move two branches into one single location in cases where the two buildings are located close together.

"This maintains a physical presence for customers and signals a long-term investment in



these communities, while reducing footprint duplication in the same location," Mr King said.

Mr Hicks said: "We currently have more than 35 similar branches across the country, including in Gosford."

Westpac customers have received a letter stating: "We'd like to let you know that the Westpac Woy Woy branch is moving in with the St George Woy Woy branch to a shared space where you'll continue to enjoy great service and banking expertise.

"Both our branches will be available in the one location, meaning we can continue to serve the community and help you with your banking.

"Our team in this new location will continue to support you and are ready to help with your banking.

"Your account details (including

your BSB and account number) will remain the same.

"If you have a relationship manager, this arrangement will also remain the same.

"We've enclosed a flyer with information about other ways to bank with us, including online and mobile banking ..."

Last week, Westpac also advised the Finance Sector Union that it would shut down another 20 branches across four states with the loss of 91 jobs.

Union national secretary Ms Julia Angrisano said Westpac had closed large numbers of branches over the past year.

"Westpac is brazenly closing branches as a means of propping up profits and bonuses for senior executives," Ms Angrisano said.

She said Westpac's profit for 2022 was \$5.65 billion, up four per cent, with 2667 jobs cut.

Ms Angrisano said the recently-announced Senate Inquiry into bank branch closures would examine the impact of the closures in regional Australia.

She acknowledged that Westpac had previously announced the Woy Woy closure, but should pause its regional branch closures until after the Senate inquiry.

SOURCE:
Media statement, 17 Feb 2023
Chris Hicks, Westpac Group
Media release, 14 Feb 2023
John Hill, FSU

We're proud of our talented volunteers

In this issue, we announce we have created an interactive online map of council land.

The map joins other Peninsula News online facilities: rainfall charts and a planning portal.

The aim of the map is to help readers understand the Council's draft plan of management for its community land.

We have done this in the absence of the council itself giving the full picture of its land on the Peninsula, including the common names of the land and listing its operational land.

For this, we have to thank volunteer Craig Dewar, who is a data visualisation specialist.

Craig is one of an active and appreciated group of volunteers taking a range of roles at Peninsula News.

Indeed, Peninsula News is owned and operated by an

entirely voluntary non-profit community group.

We are always looking for talented volunteers who can contribute to the production of the newspaper, whether it be in news gathering, writing, photography or another role.

Please email us if you are interested in helping.

Mark Snell, 18 Feb 2023



DOWNLOAD this issue. SCAN here.

Next issue: Monday, March 6

Call us on 4342 5333
Email: contributions@peninsula.news

Peninsula News

Community Access

Peninsula News is a fortnightly community newspaper for the Woy Woy Peninsula, owned by The Peninsula's Own News Service Inc, a local non-profit incorporated association. Its aims include providing a viable, non-partisan news medium and forum exclusively for the Peninsula and developing a strong sense of community on the Peninsula.

Editor: Mark Snell

editor@peninsula.news

Distribution: Frank Wiffen

advertising@peninsula.news

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CONTACT DETAILS

NEWS: contributions@peninsula.news

ADVERTISING: advertising@peninsula.news

PHONE: 4342 5333 - Please leave a message

POSTAL ADDRESS: PO Box 585, Woy Woy NSW 2256

Please note: Peninsula News currently has no paid employees, and it may take a little time for us to get back to you. Our volunteers usually have other jobs and commitments, which compete for their time.

EMAIL ISSUES?

When emailing us, you will note that the domain name is PENINSULA.NEWS only. There is no .com or .com.au. If your email bounces or does not appear to have reached us, please check the address and try again. If this still does not work, try our old fallback address or call us by phone and leave a message.

Fallback email address: editor@peninsulanews.asn.au

Editorial policy and guidelines

At its heart, Peninsula News is a community effort.

It welcomes and relies on the contributions provided voluntarily and at no cost by local organisations, groups and residents.

The newspaper aims to be accessible to the community - both through making its columns accessible to community groups and by having copies available in accessible locations, including through its website.

The following policies and guidelines are designed to support the aims and standards of the newspaper.

Locality

The newspaper's editorial policy reflects a desire to reinforce the Peninsula's sense of community.

To qualify for publication, articles must have specific relevance to the Peninsula. For example, they must be about activities or events happening on the Peninsula or be organised by or involving Peninsula people.

The newspaper is not regional or national in nature, so regional or national issues will not be canvassed except as they affect the Peninsula.

Regional sports will only be covered from the perspective of Peninsula clubs. Regional plans will only be aired in the context of their ramifications for the Peninsula.

Peninsula News aims to be inclusive of as much of the Peninsula community as possible.

Readability

To ensure that the newspaper serves its purpose, it must be readable and represent the interests and activities of the community in its content.

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

All items will be dated. They must contain the name of the author to whom the contribution may be attributed, with their first name spelt out, along with their suburb or organisation. Anonymous contributions will not be accepted.

Forum letters

The Forum section provides the opportunity for readers to express their views on any aspect of Peninsula community life, with the aim of reflecting the community's diversity of opinion.

Nevertheless, letters may be edited for readability, including for length, spelling and grammar, and to avoid legal liability on the part of the newspaper, or they may be declined altogether.

Contributors are asked to keep their

contributions to the matter at hand, and to focus on the issues and not abuse or insult others.

Other than in the case of holding public figures to account, criticism of others (as opposed to criticism of particular opinions) is unlikely to be published in the interests of facilitating the expression of a diversity of views.

All letter writers need to supply name, address and contact details. Only name and suburb will be published.

Contributors who do not wish the wording of their letter to be changed at all should make a note to this effect when submitting their letter. In some cases, this may result in the letter not being published.

Corrections

We try to be as accurate as possible. However, mistakes can still slip through.

If you believe we have got something wrong, whether an error of fact or interpretation, we ask that you write to us by email with details for publication. These corrections may appear as Forum letters or as news items and should conform to our requirements for news and Forum contributions.

Source lines

Peninsula News includes "source lines" at the end of each article which aim to provide readers with information about where and how we came across the information, so that they might judge for themselves the veracity of what they are reading.

It should not be assumed that the article is a verbatim reproduction of the source. Similarly, it should not be assumed that any reporter listed is necessarily responsible for writing the whole news item. Source lines are not by-lines.

Often articles come from a number of sources. They are edited for readability and reader interest and given different headings, and consequently can be expressed quite differently from the source material.

Peninsula News usually receives its information in three ways: It is sent to us by someone wanting to promote their activities; it is sent to us in response to our inquiries; or it comes from a newsletter or other document to which we have access.

Sometimes we may interview a person or report what they said at a meeting.

The following descriptions are used:

Media Release - unsolicited contributions.

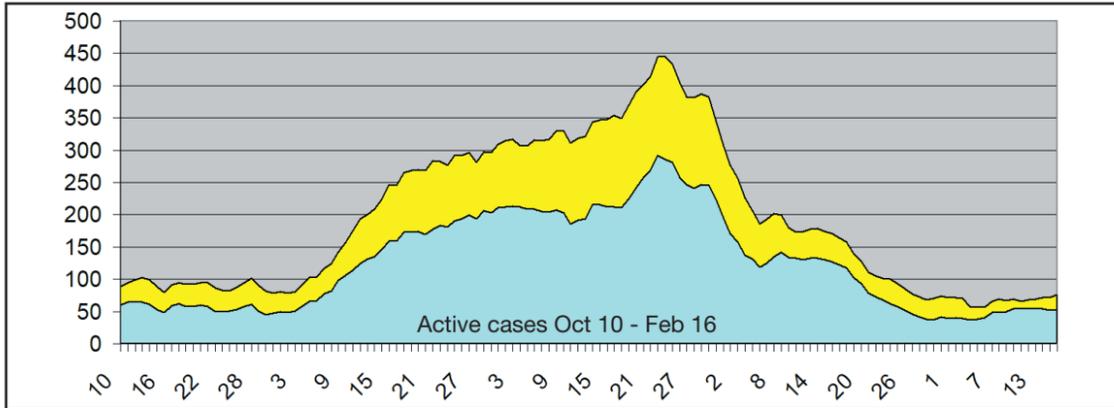
Media Statement - sent in response to our questions.

Website or **Social Media** - information published online.

Newsletter or **Report** - published in print or online.

Interview or **Meeting** - statements recorded by a reporter.

Forum contributions may be: **Email** if sent electronically and **Letter** if written on paper.



Active case numbers remain steady

The number of active cases of coronavirus on the Peninsula stood at 76 last Thursday.

This was about the same as at the start of the month, when the numbers were 72.

The numbers in the 2257 postcode increased steadily from around 40 to 53 in the last two weeks.

By contrast, the numbers in the 2256 postcode fluctuated wildly.

The month started with 33

active cases, dropped as low as 12 active cases on February 11 and rose back to 23 active cases last Thursday, February 16.

SOURCE: Website, 17 Feb 2023 Covid-19 cases, Data NSW

Annual charity event to be held at arboretum

Opera in the Arboretum will be held at Pearl Beach from 3pm to 5:30pm on Saturday, March 11.

"Opera in the Arboretum is an annual charity fundraising event hosted by the Rotary Club of Woy Woy," said Ms Mary Knaggs from the Arboretum.

"The event will include the amazing voices of Rodney Earl Clarke, Louise Callinan, John Longmuir, and Lorina Gore, supported by violin prodigy Alicia Poon, renowned pianist Donna Balsom, and Patrick Brennan

conducting the Central Coast Chamber Orchestra.

"Vocal and musical arrangements will include pieces from Don Giovanni, Carmen, Don Carlo, La Traviata, and more contemporary pieces from Schoenberg, and Rogers and Hammerstein."

More information is available at the website www.operarotarywoywoy.org.au/

SOURCE Website, 13 Feb 2023 Mary Knaggs, Pearl Beach Arboretum

Call for 'single ladies'

Umina Community Group is "calling all single ladies who would like some basic tips for using hand tools and basic power tools for home maintenance jobs".

The group has announced that Benchworks - U Fix It will be running short workshops from 12:45pm to 3pm starting Saturday, February 25.

This event is run by volunteers, and the cost is \$5 to help cover venue hire.

Email Benchworks1@gmail.com for more information.

SOURCE: Social media, 14 Feb 2023 Umina Community Group

Only 16 per cent of February average

Only 25.7mm of rain has been recorded on the Peninsula in the first two weeks of February.

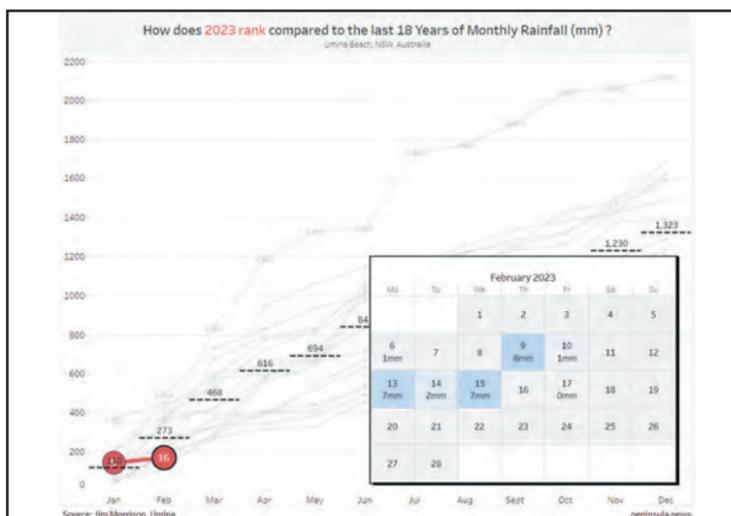
This is only 16 per cent of the the February average of 162mm, according to figures supplied by Mr Jim Morrison of Umina.

It currently is the second driest month in 19 years.

Only February 2016 was drier, with a total of 22.1mm of rain for the month.

The cumulative total for the year is 168.1mm, which is 40 per cent less than the average cumulative total at the end of February of 279mm.

However, this total is already more than the cumulative total at



the end of February 2021 which was 165.5mm.

SOURCE: Spreadsheet, 17 Feb 2023 Jim Morrison, Umina

TIDE TIMES and Heights	Mon, Feb 20	Thu, Feb 23	Sun, Feb 26	Wed, Mar 1	Sat, Mar 4
	0313 0.09	0554 0.08	0203 0.99	0501 0.94	0114 0.25
	0936 1.35	1155 1.13	0843 0.23	1231 0.24	0742 1.00
	1636 0.02	1836 0.06	1417 0.72	1816 0.58	1445 0.16
	2214 0.93		2026 0.20	2314 0.30	2037 0.71
	Tue, Feb 21	Fri, Feb 24	Mon, Feb 27	Thu, Mar 2	Sun, Mar 5
	0409 0.06	0029 1.00	0258 0.97	0602 0.95	0201 0.21
	1024 1.32	0645 0.13	0956 0.27	1327 0.21	0820 1.03
	1718 0.02	1240 0.99	1520 0.62	1917 0.62	1515 0.13
	2259 0.97	1913 0.10	2112 0.25		2108 0.76
AT ETTALONG	Wed, Feb 22	Sat, Feb 25	Tue, Feb 28	Fri, Mar 3	Mon, Mar 6
	0501 0.06	0115 1.00	0357 0.95	0018 0.28	0244 0.17
	1110 1.24	0741 0.18	1119 0.26	0656 0.97	0857 1.06
	1759 0.03	1326 0.85	1646 0.57	1409 0.18	1546 0.12
	2344 0.99	1947 0.15	2208 0.28	2002 0.66	2137 0.80

Residents call for more detail about floodplain works

Peninsula Residents' Association has called on Central Coast Council to provide more detail of action dates and costs for its floodplain management works.

The association said the details were needed to facilitate budgeting and the initiation of project planning.

The comments were made as part of the association's submission about the council's draft Woy Woy Peninsula Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan.

"Trading off drainage design standards for a fully-operational drainage network sounds good in concept," the submission stated.

"However, the study gives no data or projections of the competing scenarios either in budgetary terms or in effect in flooding events.

"It pays no attention to maintenance requirements or of the consequence of neglecting them.

"It provides no works or maintenance priorities, but seems to accept a status quo of an ad hoc and piecemeal approach to drainage works on the Peninsula.

"Teatree Creek (the main drain) is ranked by the Council as a high priority creek and its function as a drainage channel is clearly critical to flooding in most of the north-west portion of the Peninsula.

"Despite this, there is no integrated management plan or works program that covers its length from Ryans Rd to Correa

Bay."

The association's submission described the basis of the draft plan as "tenuous".

"The study acknowledges lack of data across a range of factors, including drain flows, flood levels, recent rainfall figures, rainfall rate (eg by quarter hour), drain sizes, drain invert levels, and drain condition.

"And it still relies on just one calibration event 35 years ago, recorded 25 years after the event with just 20 locations.

"With a changing climate, it is all the more important that all the contributing factors are continually monitored and more than one calibration event is available to attenuate the model."

The submission also questioned a reliance on planning provisions in the Council's Development Control Plan to implement mitigation measures.

To be effective, Council planning staff would need to adopt practices to ensure these provisions were not undermined, it said.

"Standards including setbacks, density, open space and impervious surfaces should be strictly and immediately enforced in all development approvals.

"The current practice of allowing variations, simply on the assertion without substantiation that the associated objectives are met, is already having a cumulative impact on flood risk for future occupants and whole suburbs.

"The Development Control Plan is a fragile instrument.

"It is clear that Council planning staff through their own decisions can undermine the strength and integrity of a Development Control Plan.

"It is the association's view that Council planning staff have both a professional and an ethical obligation not to take action or make decisions that would have this effect.

"However, the in-house practice standards seem to have slipped in recent years and it may be time to review them for their effectiveness for implementing recommendations of this draft Floodplain Plan."

The submission urged the council to adopt more recent projections of sea level rise by 2100, and to pay more attention to road access.

"Emergency response facilities need to be secured and provided to ensure the protection of the community in an emergency," the submission stated.

"While this is acknowledged in the study, no specific recommendations are made.

"The recommendations for reviews of emergency management arrangements lack the necessary urgency, given the level of risk and challenging topography.

"Work on this should start immediately, with priority actions identified and funded for each of the next five years in Council's Strategic and Operational Plans."

SOURCE:
Submission, 15 Feb 2023
Jennifer Wilder, PRA

Disaster funding review will benefit electorate, says Reid

Member for Robertson Dr Gordon Reid has claimed his electorate will benefit from a new independent review into Australia's disaster funding arrangements.

The review will ensure government investment in disaster funding is fit-for-purpose and effective in the face of increasingly frequent and more severe natural disasters, he said.

The Review will be led by Mr Andrew Colvin, who led the National Bushfire Recovery

Agency from January 2020 to May 2021.

Dr Reid said the review would consider how government investment in disaster risk reduction, preparedness, response, recovery and resilience can better support a national system.

However, he did not say how it would be reflected on the Peninsula or how it would affect emergency planning under the Council's current draft Floodplain Risk Management Plan for the

Peninsula.

He said there would be an opportunity for the Council, community groups, charities and businesses to take part in the review.

"We know communities are best placed to tell us what is and isn't working within the disaster funding system," Dr Reid said.

A final report is expected to be provided to Government in April 2024.

SOURCE:
Media release, 17 Feb 2023
Gordon Reid, Member for Robertson



Chess club seeks members

Ettalong Chess Club is seeking more members for the coming year.

The club meets at Ettalong Diggers on Thursdays at 1 pm or Saturdays at 10 am.

People of all ages are welcomed

to join and play chess.

Annual membership costs \$10.

For further information, phone Mr Keith Farrell on 0429 799 273.

SOURCE:
Media release, 18 Feb 2023
Michelle Sanson, Ettalong Chess Club

Council refuses multi-dwelling development

An application for a multi-dwelling development of three two-storey dwellings at 135 Paton St, Woy Woy, has been refused.

Central Coast Council has rejected the application after receiving only two public submissions.

Only 17 multi-dwelling applications have been refused in the last six years, according to Peninsula News planning portal.

The majority of these have been refused at Planning Panel hearings, after the council received 10 or more submissions.

In this case, the number of objections did not trigger a Panel hearing.

Council planners agreed with one submission that there was "excessive impervious hardstand".

The submission objected to the effect on ambient temperature, but the council refusal pointed to "resultant flooding issues".

The council's determination said that the application was not supported by Council's Flood Engineer because it fell within a "Drainage Black Spot on the Peninsula".

"The proposal is not consistent with the R1 zone objectives of the Central Coast Local Environmental

Plan 2022 as the proposal has not demonstrated that development is compatible with the desired future character of the zone or that it exhibits best practice design given its excessive impervious hardstand and resulting flooding issues."

The council found that the proposal was inconsistent with requirements for setbacks, deep soil, private open space, articulation and car parking.

It stated: "Approval of the proposed development is not in the public interest."

SOURCE:
DA Tracker, 10 Feb 2023
DA3276/2022, Central Coast Council/Clean-up at Pearl Beach

Clean-up at Pearl Beach

A Clean-up Day will be held at Pearl Beach on Sunday, March 5.

Registration, required for insurance cover, will take place at 8.30am at the Memorial Hall.

Gloves, hat and covered shoes are recommended.

For further information, phone Stephen on 0448 751 595.

SOURCE:
Social media, 15 Feb 2023
Friends of Pearl Beach

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Three identical multi-dwelling proposals in the one street

Three identical applications have been lodged for three identical multi-dwelling developments in Burrawang St, Ettalong.

Each application is for three three-bedroom dwellings in a gun-barrel configuration.

"Vehicular access is proposed via a shared driveway to separate garages provided for each unit," the applications in each case state.

Two of the proposals are on adjoining lots at 31 and 33 Burrawang St, while the other is just five houses down at 21 Burrawang St.

All three lots are 695 square metres in area, with identical dimensions.

The plans produced by ELK Design are all the same layout.

The applications, all prepared for Mr Andrey Vinogradov by consultants Clark Dowdle and Associates, are almost the same word-for-word.

The applications for both 31 and 33 Burrawang St both seek the removal of a street tree, when only 31 Burrawang St actually has a street tree.

In artists' impressions of the developments, they all render Burrawang St as a treed parkland environment.

All three applications state: "The dwelling construction would utilise reinforced concrete slab footings, timber roof rafters with colorbond roof sheeting, aluminium framed windows, mixture of external cladding.

"The external finishes schedule includes weatherboard cladding, powder-coated windows and colorbond roofing."

All three claim compliance with both height and floor space ratio requirements, stating that the height is well below the 8.5 metre maximum and that the floor space ratio at 0.49:1 is below the maximum allowed of 0.5:1.

They all also claim compliance with all other planning provisions, apart from parking.



No visitor parking provided.

The applications seek to justify the designs on the basis of "catering for the population increase and demand to cater for the housing needs which is now becoming a critical social issue as outlined with council's recently-adopted Central Coast Affordable and Alternative Housing Strategy".

It claims council's development approvals have changed "the character of the area to become higher density, east of Ocean Beach Rd towards Booker Bay", so that is now "eclectic in style and form".

The new developments were "contrasting with the lack of formal road formation due to the lack of kerb and guttering and drainage within the public road system as well as the lack street trees and landscaping".

"This development would not

only ensure increase amenity with upgrading with the new housing stock, it would provide kerb and guttering and street trees and appropriate landscaping that the local council has been unable to provide."

The council's planning portal originally showed lodgement dates of December 23 for 31 and 33 Burrawang St, and January 24 for 21 Burrawang St.

It is now showing lodgement dates of February 13 for 21 and 33 Burrawang St, and February 3 for 31 Burrawang St.

Written submissions close on March 10 for 31 Burrawang St and on March 17 for the other two.

Each application has been assigned to a different council planning officer for assessment.

SOURCE:
DA Tracker, 18 Feb 2023
DA4365/2022, 4367/2022, 185/2023,
Central Coast Council



Ettalong medical centre could be relocated

A medical centre at the rear of 249 Ocean View Rd, Ettalong, could be relocated to 2/255 Ocean View Rd if two development applications are approved by Central Coast Council.

The new medical centre would have six consulting rooms, two treatment rooms, a staff room, office and waiting areas.

One applications is for internal alterations to existing commercial premises at 2/255 Ocean View Rd, currently vacant but previously occupied as Kirby's retail premises.

The existing floor area would be reduced from 220.2 square metres to 214.3 square metres to improve disabled access from Ocean View Rd and to provide external waste bin storage area to the rear.

The floor space ratio for the site would be 0.65:1.

"The intention is to relocate the existing Medical Centre from nearby premises situated at the rear of 249 Ocean View Rd, corner of Picnic Parade," according to the application by Optima Planning Consultants on behalf of owner Mr Tony McPhee.

"The premises where the current medical centre is situated is the subject of a separate development application to undertake internal alterations to extend the existing pharmacy into the area occupied by the centre.

"Although the proposals have been assessed in and of themselves, it is important to acknowledge that the overall change in floor space and land use achieved further to an approval of both DAs would effectively result in no change in total commercial floorspace, no change in mix of land uses, and no change to overall traffic or trip generation or parking requirements."

The applications include minutes from a pre-lodgement meeting with council staff covering both proposals.

"All recommendations and

issues raised from the meeting minutes have been actioned and addressed as detailed.

"Both proposals are permissible with consent in the B2 Local Centre zone.

"The proposal is neither large nor complex and assessment should be commensurate with the extent of works and operational scale of the completed development.

"The subject development represents a change of use to a permissible existing commercial premises and should not be categorised or assessed as 'new commercial development'."

The application extends this to argue that the three on-site parking spaces should be regarded as adequate, despite the requirement of six spaces under current planning provisions.

"Given that the operation of the existing site must have been approved by Council at some time in the past, this inherently means that Council has also approved the use of three on-street parking spaces.

"The proposal does not increase parking requirements, because the parking rate for the medical centre is identical to the parking rate for the existing retail floorspace."

A similar argument is provided in the application for the pharmacy at 249 Ocean View Rd, which provides only one carpark.

"A monetary contribution was provided in lieu of the provision of on-site parking for on-street parking as a condition of Combined Development Application 230/97.

"The contribution made was for six parking spaces (\$60,000).

"As such, the site effectively provides seven parking spaces, with one on-site and six on-street.

"Council approved the current use of the site at a time when Council's parking policy also required the provision of one parking space per 40 square metres of gross floor area."

SOURCE:
DA Tracker, 17 Feb 2023
DA/154/2023 DA/156/2023,
Central Coast Council

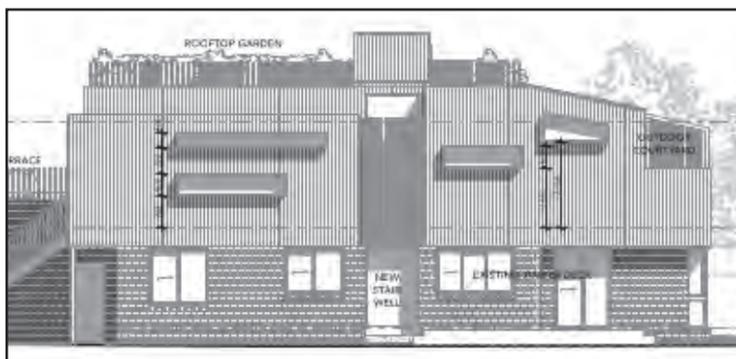
Second-storey dwelling proposed in laneway

An application has been made for the addition of a second storey extension, with secondary dwelling, to a house fronting an unnamed lane parallel to Ocean Beach Rd, Umina.

The property has an address of 492a Ocean Beach Rd, enabled by a pedestrian easement to that road.

The 382.6 square metre site is currently occupied by a three-bedroom, single storey brick dwelling house with a pitched roof, according to the development application.

A second storey will be added, with a substantial "roof terrace"



above.

The first floor will contain two extra bedrooms and a bathroom for the main house plus a one-bedroom "secondary dwelling" of 57 square metres with full facilities which will have access to an

outdoor terrace positioned on top of the existing garage.

Alterations to the ground floor of the existing dwelling including the removal of the laundry to make way for a stairwell accessing first floor and roof terrace and changes

to the main bathroom.

There will also be a separate stair provided to access the new secondary dwelling.

The application states that the gross floor area will increase from 108 square metres to 191 square metres, which will result in a floor space ratio of 0.5:1, which is the maximum allowed for the site.

The application claims no setback variations despite an obvious existing non-compliance in the case of the rear setback.

The garage which will now also be a raised terrace is as little as 1.45 metres from the lane, where planning provisions require 4.5 metres.

The application argues that

"setbacks are consistent with the setbacks of the existing approved onsite dwelling".

"The variation is minimal, and would not be visually observable."

The application mentions an existing non compliance is mentioned for site coverage of more than 60 per cent of the site area.

However, if the existing site coverage is only 160 square metres as claimed, this would not seem to be a non compliance.

The application is currently on public exhibition, but the closing date for submissions is not published on the council's website.

SOURCE:
DA Tracker, 19 Feb 2023
DA47/2022, Central Coast Council

Koala ‘translocation’ not ruled out, says Environment Minister

NSW Minister for Environment and Heritage Mr James Griffin has told Pearl Beach Arboretum that “koala translocation” to Brisbane Water National Park has not been ruled out.

However, despite this, it appears that no money is being allocated to the Brisbane Water National Park Koala Project.

“At no stage did the National Parks and Wildlife Service or the Environment and Heritage Group’s Science, Economics and Insights Division advise stakeholders - including Pearl Beach Arboretum - that Brisbane Water National Park or Royal National Park would not be considered for koala translocation,” Mr Griffin said in an email received on January 10.

“Up to eight translocations will be implemented by June 2026, which will enhance the viability of identified populations and improve koala prospects in NSW.”

He said that the National Parks Service was “currently considering

the suitability of several source and recipient sites”.

He said the University of Sydney had been commissioned under the 2018-2021 Koala Strategy to investigate the feasibility of Brisbane Water National Park, Royal National Park and Coolah Tops National Park as koala translocation sites.

Arboretum committee member Ms Ann Parsons said she had since received an email from National Parks on February 1 saying resources were being directed to Coolah Tops National Park.

“Under the former strategy, a research agreement was put in place with the University of Sydney to assess the feasibility of three locations for koala translocation (Royal, Brisbane Water and Coolah Tops National Parks),” it said.

“To ensure meaningful outcomes could be reached within the remaining time and budget of the research agreement, it was decided to direct resources

to Coolah Tops feasibility assessments.”

Ms Parsons said Mr Griffin had issued a media release “Funding boost for koala research” on February 2.

It describes the Government’s \$190 million NSW Koala Strategy as “the biggest commitment by any government to a single species in Australia”.

Ms Parsons said: “Some of this money is going to Queensland and the ACT which aren’t part of NSW.”

“There is a lot of money floating around but none being directed to Brisbane Water National Park,” she said.

Peninsula News reported on November 28 that the Department of Planning and Environment had advised the Pearl Beach Arboretum association that Brisbane Water National Park was no longer being considered for koala translocation.

SOURCE:
Social media, 6 Feb 2023
Ann Parsons, Pearl Beach Patonga Koala Group

Dog baits at Pearl Beach

Signs have been erected around Pearl Beach warning of dog baits at the beach.

The Pearl Beach Progress Association has issued a warning to dog owners and parents that rat poison had found on the beach

“A dog is currently fighting for its life having eaten a poisonous dog bait left on the beach,” according to the association’s website.

“Please beware and remove any you see.”

SOURCE:
Website, 10 Feb 2023
Pearl Beach Progress Association



Read Aloud Book Club

A Read Aloud Book Club will meet at Woy Woy library from 2pm to 4pm on Tuesday, February 28.

Those interested are invited to bring their favourite piece of writing to read aloud, meet new people, and have some fun.

No bookings required, and all

are welcome.

Woy Woy Library is located at the corner of Blackwall Rd and Oval Ave.

With inquiries, phone 4304 7555.

SOURCE:
Website, 18 Feb 2023
Library Service, Central Coast Council

Greens announce Pt Clare lawyer as Gosford candidate



The Greens have announced that Pt Clare lawyer Ms Hilary van Haren will be their candidate for Gosford.

“Successive governments in NSW have failed our community and our environment,” she said.

“I’m running for the Greens because I’m confident we can move beyond corruption, private interests, and short-term decisions to a government that strives for positive social and environmental change.

“I was lucky to grow up on the Central Coast and spent my childhood enjoying the lakes, beaches and bushland that make

up our region. There was no doubt I would return to raise my own family here.

“I love how generous, inclusive, and resilient this community is, despite increasing hardship and cost-of-living pressures.

“Throughout my legal career, I’ve been involved in the most complex social policy areas for our electorate, including children’s services, housing, homelessness, and disability support.

“I have also been proud to work with some of our leading charities to support people in our community experiencing hardship.

“I have seen the enormous impact government decisions can

have on the lives of individuals and on the organisations that support them.

“I want to see a government in NSW that listens to communities and acts in their interests - a government that makes decisions on their merits, not in the interests of developers or corporate donors.

“I want to see fairness and transparency in government. These things are not only possible but achievable at this election.

“We have an opportunity to build on the momentum of the Federal Election and show the major parties that we expect more.

“We can ensure every person in our community has access to good

quality, affordable housing.

“We can tackle climate change by rapidly transitioning to publicly-owned renewable energy.

“We can fund world-class public schools, hospitals, and transport networks, and restore integrity to politics and end dirty donations.”

Ms van Haren said: “I’m optimistic about what can be achieved in our community and our region.

“Together we can create a fairer and more sustainable future for all of us.”

SOURCE:
Website, 16 Feb 2023
Hilary van Haren, Central Coast Greens



Central Coast Friends of Democracy

ADVERTISEMENT

Our community should have a say about the future of Central Coast Council

It’s a little over a month until the NSW election. Both the Liberal and Labor candidates are trying hard not to talk about the removal of local democracy on the Central Coast—and their lack of commitment to holding Council elections.

The Administrator, appointed by the NSW Liberal government, continues to push through controversial decisions. After selling public assets, and continuing to do so, he is now focused on changing the category of community land. There are examples of bushland and wetland areas being changed to “park” - with no justification provided. All of this has been done behind closed doors with no accountability or transparency.

Many in our community continue to express their concern and anger about the lack of representation at the local level and the NSW government’s decision to not hold Council elections until September 2024. These decisions have been backed by the Labor opposition with excuses being made as to why they would also not hold a Council election until 2024. [It should be noted that the Minister for

Local Government could call a Council election for the Central Coast on any Saturday proclaimed for that purpose (Sect 187(2)(b) LG Act)]

Both political parties rely on the fact that our lives are busy. Most of us don’t have time to worry about democracy - until it’s too late.

The Central Coast Friends of Democracy is asking your view about the future of the Council.

Is this still an issue for you?

Tell us what you think - use the QR code to have your say about the future of Central Coast Council.

What do you think about the future of our council ?



Complete our survey at:
www.surveymonkey.com/r/CCC_merger_or_demerge

Health

New technology to detect pressure sores

A Umina aged care provider has introduced new technology to help detect pressure injuries before they become apparent.

Peninsula Villages' executive care manager Mr Steve Wills said his facility had recently acquired a scanner which could detect changes under the skin that suggest pressure damage that could later lead to ulcers.

"This sub-epidermal moisture scanning device is a particularly important early warning system because most pressure sores do not heal easily and require regular treatment or hospitalisation," he said.

"Pressure injuries can occur three to 10 days before becoming visible through inflammatory changes in the skin and underlying tissues.

"Injuries can develop quickly with irreversible damage occurring in vulnerable residents within a matter of hours.

"Having this innovative new



technology available means our team of clinicians, nurses and carers can take on a preventative approach rather than a reactive one," said Mr Wills.

The non-invasive technology from Provizio is now being introduced to registered nurses and assistants in nursing across Peninsula Villages' care facilities.

"This is a huge and innovative step for us," said chief executive Mr Colin Osborne.

"Our team is hugely supportive of the device because it contributes

to residents' overall wellbeing," he said.

It is believed the use of the device is a first for Australian aged care providers.

Pictured are nurse practitioner Ms Leanne Northrop and clinical care co-ordinator Ms Joanna Clarke with the national business development manager for the Provizio SEM scanner Ms Charlotte Piper.

SOURCE:

Media release, 9 Feb 2023
Nicola Leggat, Brilliant Logic

Aged care home explores ways to fill staff shortage

A Woy Woy aged care home is exploring ways to fill its shortage of aged care staff, the Rotary Club of Woy Woy has been told.

BlueWave Living human resources manager Ms Claire Tait explained that, despite advertising regularly, they had few applications.

They were seeking placement of first year nursing students, were recruiting staff through TAFE and universities, and were also looking at recruiting overseas.

"Claire gave us an excellent presentation on the growth of BlueWave, from opening with 20 beds in 1985 to expanding to 138 beds now," said club president Ms Julie Jones.

"With current construction, they will end up with 160 beds.

"As a result of the additional growth, they need additional carers

to assist with the residents."

Ms Jones said there was a substantial gap to fill to give the residents the care they deserve.

"Claire explained that it is difficult at the moment when advertising positions to get many applicants.

"They advertise monthly and are lucky to get eight or 10 applicants."

Ms Jones said BlueWave had sought first year nursing students for placement.

"They are also working with TAFE and universities to recruit staff, but it is a slow process.

"She then outlined the plan for recruiting, training and employing aged care workers from overseas - the Philippines at present."

Ms Jones said BlueWave Living was a not-for-profit community owned organisation offering a range of residential aged care services.

It offered permanent residential care including dementia specific care and also respite accommodation.

"There was much interest in Claire's presentation with many questions from members."

SOURCE:

Newsletter, 7 Feb 2023
Julie Jones, Rotary Woy Woy

Noticeboard - Public Notices

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Health workshops

Central Coast Health is planning to hold a series of free "Self-management for better health" workshops at Woy Woy Library in May.

They will run for 2.5 hours a week for six weeks from 10am on Monday, May 1.

The workshop is designed help to manage a chronic health conditions like arthritis, diabetes, lung conditions, heart conditions, chronic pain or anxiety.

This includes taking control of "lifestyle choices to make real change and manage your condition".

Carers, family and friends are welcome to attend.

For further information, call 4320 9416 or 4320 9417.

SOURCE:

Social media, 7 Feb 2023
Central Coast Health

Environment group AGM

The Peninsula Environment Group has announced it will hold its 2023 annual general meeting is on Saturday, March 4.

It will be held at 10am at the Woy Woy Community Garden, 85 Moana St, Woy Woy.

All are welcome.

SOURCE:

Social media, 11 Feb 2023
Peninsula Environment Group

Enda Kenny to appear at Troubadour folk club

The Irish Australian folk singer Enda Kenny will appear at the Troubadour Folk Club's concert at the Everglades Country Club next Saturday, February 25.

"Enda Kenny is known by folk music audiences across the country as the master of ballads and warm humour," said club president Mr Michael Fine.

"His performances for Troubadour audiences in the past have always been enormously popular.

"His appearances planned for 2020 and 2021 had to be cancelled due to Covid Lockdowns.

"After such a long wait, our patience will be rewarded this month.

"He's in great form, with a new CD released, and has just been awarded Artist of the Year 2023 at Newstead Live Music Festival in Victoria.

He's coming to Woy Woy as one of his last appearances in Australia before he leaves on busy year touring New Zealand, Europe and the United Kingdom."

Mr Fine said: "An Irish-born singer and songwriter, Enda made his home in Australia in the late 1980s.

"His thoughtful, descriptive stories of his adoptive homeland



have struck a chord with festival audiences all over Australia and are always memorable and spiced with plenty of humour.

"He has been hailed as the audience favourite at the National and a host of other folk festivals in Australia and internationally for years."

He said tickets were available online using the link available on the Troubadour website: troubadour.org.au.

"Readers will also find details of the Performers Concert on February 13 and other concerts and activities from the Folk Club."

With enquiries, phone 4342 6716.

SOURCE:
Media release, 15 Feb 2023
Michael Fine, Troubadour Folk Club

Chamber calls for roads upgrade

The Peninsula Chamber of Commerce has called for more funds for upgrading and reconstruction of Peninsula roads.

"We have reached a crisis point," said Chamber president Mr Matthew Wales.

"Our local roads are falling apart.

"They lack kerb and gutter, stormwater drainage and footpaths.

"It's an absolute disgrace."

He said: "We have repeatedly asked all levels of government at every election to allocate funds to kerb and gutter our roads, implement street drainage and construct footpaths for the safety of the community.

"Yet despite the urgency, we are ignored time and time again with the same old excuses.

"We are constantly told that

we live on a sandplain which is the best natural drainage and therefore we don't need kerb and gutter," he said.

"That's a nonsense.

"Try and explain that to residents who are constantly flooded every time we have a storm event.

"With modern engineering practices, full road reconstruction is essential to deliver safe streets with state-of-the-art drainage and concrete footpaths that can accommodate families and the elderly.

"With a population of over 36,000 residents, it is unacceptable that over 80 per cent of our roads are unkerbed, lack adequate stormwater drainage and concrete footpaths with virtually no local roads listed on Central Coast Council's forward plan of works.

"The Chamber is calling on Council to implement a long-term

program of works that lists every road in need of reconstruction so that we at least have a local priority list for future works.

"There are State and Federal grants available for Central Coast Council for both road maintenance and reconstruction which should be applied for.

"Council should be listening to the community as to what their priorities are and not telling the community what they think is good for us.

"We have to start somewhere so the Chamber is calling on all sides of politics to commit to the allocation of funds for a comprehensive audit of the Peninsula road and drainage system and set priorities for a yearly reconstruction program assisted by State and Federal funds".

SOURCE:
Media release, 1 Feb 2023
Matthew Wales, Peninsula Chamber

Funds of \$4.08M to fix 2238km of roads

Central Coast Council will receive \$4.08 million to fix 2238 kilometres of roads, Liberal Candidate for Gosford Ms Dee Bocking has announced.

"Council have been sent the funding deeds," said Ms Bocking.

"Once the deed is executed the money goes into the bank.

"If elected in March, I will be meeting regularly with Council to make sure the job gets done.

"This is part of the NSW Liberal and Nationals Government's focus on improving and repairing the roads you use every day, making them more resilient to help keep communities safe and supply chains moving.

"The Regional and Local Roads Repair Program is in addition to the \$50 million the NSW Liberal and Nationals Government provided before Christmas to help regional councils carry out emergency pothole patching."

SOURCE:
Social media, 6 Feb 2023
Dee Bocking, Liberal Candidate for Gosford

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Lack of participation in regional targets

Was the invitation to hear development plans for Central Coast revealed to the community as a fait accompli too good to refuse?

The meeting about "The Future of Housing on the Central Coast" last Tuesday at the Laycock St Theatre was announced with the Newspeak:

"The Central Coast is expected to grow by nearly 100,000 people between 2019 and 2041.

"To accommodate the growth and make the city more productive and liveable, better housing will be a focus for the city.

"Our Question and Answer panel includes Alice Howe from Central Coast Council, Dr Julia Cook from University of Newcastle and Ian Lynch from Pacific Link Housing. They will delve into how they see this happening.

"As Central Coast City Commissioner, Robyn Parker brings extensive expertise to undertaking important work

shaping Australia's first global region.

"Her expertise spans as a bureaucrat, roles in child and family services, aged and disability services, and Minister for the Environment and Heritage between 2011 and 2014."

It should have read: "The Government is intent on increasing the population of the Central Coast by 100,000 people between 2029 and 2041."

That includes the recent new "strategic policy" target of development of land west of the M1, including former Crown Land now owned by Darkinjung LALC.

By what means is our population "expected to grow"?

How did the community participate in establishing these targets and the unilateral declaration of "Australia's first Global Region"?

How will infrastructure costs be met? By increasing our rates again and reducing our quality of life and our natural environment? Who set

these targets and how?

Are these three people equipped to answer these questions of Government policy formulation?

The Administrator has actually said Central Coast Council does not have the resources to provide infrastructure for these Government declared initiatives. But they are happening.

Why is this not a State election proposal rather than a fait accompli?

Where is community consent? It is more than a housing issue. How did "Our New Commissioner" Robyn Parker get appointed? By us?

Is this how we now do democracy in the absence of an elected Council? Through a limited attendance ticketed community briefing event on apparent declared policy, while we further defer appointment of elected councillors?

SOURCE:

Email, 7 Feb 2023

Kay Williams, Pearl Beach

Practically impossible to comment on transport plan

The Draft Regional Transport Plan 2041 is now on exhibition, with comments being invited (closing on 24 February).

In this context, your article ("Gosford over 30 minutes away, transport document shows", PN 562) only emphasizes what I have pointed out on multiple occasions, which is that Gosford is unsuitable as the regional centre which should be nearer the population centre of gravity which is around Tuggerah.

However, the contrary conclusion of the Regional Plan is that Gosford should somehow be made to come within 30 minutes of the whole LGA, without giving the slightest indication of how this desirable situation could be brought about.

If the Department of Transport can produce a workable scheme for bringing the northern extremities of the LGA within 30 minutes of Gosford, we should see it and, then, we'd be able to make an intelligent comment about it.

As it stands, the report provides nothing but generic "solutions" that could have been copied from any planning textbook.

The crux of the publication comes in the Key Initiatives section which lists 80 items that have to be dealt with over the next 18 years.

Of these, 43 are in the "Investigation" phase.

However, a "plan" where more than half of the "key initiatives" haven't even been investigated doesn't seem to have yet reached a level of maturity that justifies the name.

These items might better be termed "Vague Ideas That We'll Get Around To Looking At In The Next 10 Years, Maybe", and it would be tedious to list them,

because most of them are largely meaningless generalities, and many of them have only the most tenuous connection imaginable to any of the region's transport requirements.

For instance, "investigating dual signage opportunities" hardly seems like a vital contribution to improving the lifestyle of our community, and others are just as nebulous.

The "Planning" phase includes such hardy perennials as the chimeric fast-rail project (no report would be complete without it) which has been studied by experts more than once and determined to be unfeasible but which is so dear to the hearts of our planners that it won't lie down and die.

We also have such ambitions as "transition of passenger vehicles to EVs": perhaps, this is to be fully achieved by the provision of a charging point at Woy Woy, but the linkage is not made clear.

The old adage that our reach should always exceed our grasp is a fine one, but there comes a point where reality has to be matched against fantasy.

This report could have been half the length (or less), if it had focussed on crucial points, instead of inflating every trivial side issue into an opportunity for departmental grandstanding.

Obviously, this publication has no value as a "plan" from which programs and projects might be derived.

It is equally obvious that it is practically impossible to make any meaningful comment about it.

Perhaps, this was the intention from the start.

SOURCE:

Email, 11 Feb 2023

Bruce Hyland, Woy Woy

Booker Bay Christmas lights raise \$2752

I just want to confirm that \$2752 was donated to our Booker Bay Christmas lights.

We are thrilled and just want to thank everyone for their generosity once again.

Santa Claus and our blind lady from Vision Australia were a great success and thanks to all the children who described the lights to the wonderful lady.

On Christmas Night, we went out to the front to discover an anonymous person left a fabulous

snowman, which will go straight to Santa's house.

I would be pleased if that person could identify themselves to me, as I would like to thank them personally.

We went through heaps of Candy Canes and sweets but ran out a couple of nights after Christmas and again one night we found on the front step a large bag of sweets again from an anonymous person, a big thank you to that person also.

We cannot believe the number of people who came to the display and there was not one bit of damage anywhere.

Just occasionally we picked up a few Candy Cane wrappers, so again children thank you.

I am getting ready for this year and hope to catch up again with all the wonderful people who come along.

Thank you all.

SOURCE:

Email, 11 Feb 2023

Shirley Crockett, Booker Bay

ADVERTISEMENT

An open letter to Ms Liesl Tesch, Member for Gosford

Guringai are an Aboriginal tribe of the Central Coast and recognised as such by senior academics at Sydney University, Christ Church, Gosford, and other Central Coast organisations.

Guringai are registered Native Title claimants, thwarted in the last sign off by bureaucratic hurdles. Guringai wish to protect our land for all.

Your refusal to acknowledge their concern that approx 15 hectares of culturally, and environmentally significant bushland in Kariong will be trashed for new housing suggests you are pro-development to the exclusion of anything else.

You are the current Member for Gosford so it is your job to protect the natural heritage of the Central Coast, not to stand idly by while it is trashed.

The Guringai/Darkinoong elders are strongly opposed to this development. New housing can be put somewhere else that will not profane the sacred.

Is a vote for Liesl a vote for environmental destruction?

Our natural heritage is vital to our wellbeing and voters want to keep it.

Authorised by Aunty Colleen Fuller & Gab McIntosh,
2 Dandaloo St, Kariong, 2250

Swimming pools are in short supply

Considering the population of the Gosford end of the Central Coast, swimming pools are in short supply, with the Gosford pool being outdated and the Woy Woy pool now being used for swimming carnivals by all.

Over the summer holidays there have been many notifications in the news regarding drownings and rescues.

As the numbers are increasing and there is a real need to give swimming and life saving instructions to children, I wondered what had become of the swimming pool that was available to families of Kariong at Parklands.

As the population of Kariong has grown, I am sure it would be a necessary addition to the well-being of the residents.

Also there are many schools in the area that would be able to avail themselves during school time with swimming lessons for their pupils.

Kariong is not overladen with facilities and, as the pool is there, could it not be used?

If it has been left too long in disrepair then perhaps it is time to consider a new and fit-for-purpose one that Kariong primary, high, sports, riding and even dance schools could use.

Learning to swim is a matter of life and death and in an area surrounded by sea and with many river locations, it is the responsibility of all to provide the means to prevent as many of these tragedies as possible.

Failing to do so will only see the numbers increase.

SOURCE:

Email, 8 Feb 2023

Hazel Gosling, Empire Bay

Interactive online map of council land

An interactive online map of council-managed land on the Peninsula is now available, courtesy of Peninsula News.

The map has been prepared to help residents understand Central Coast Council's draft Plan of Management for Community Land, which is currently on exhibition.

It is based on the community land listed in the draft plan and compares it with Gosford Council's 2014 land register for the Peninsula.

Umina data visualisation specialist Mr Craig Dewar volunteered his time to create the map for Peninsula News.

The map shows land identified as "operational" by Gosford Council as well as other land, such as Crown land, managed by the council at the time.

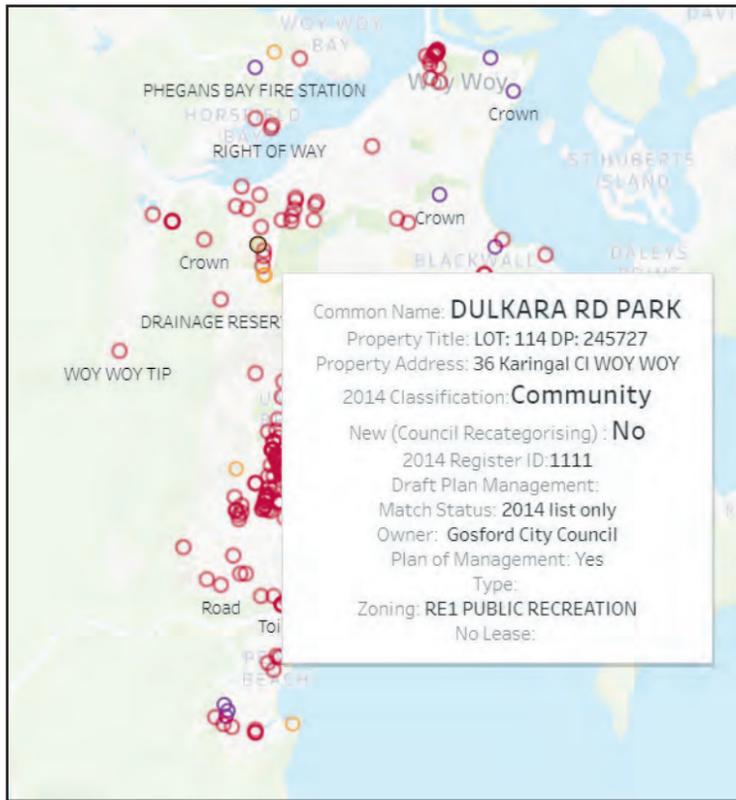
The map can be filtered to show land that is only on the Gosford Council list (205 parcels), that is on both lists (307 parcels) or is only in the draft Plan (34 parcels).

A description of each parcel, including its common name or description, is displayed when the mouse points to it.

The map can be zoomed and panned to see more detail.

A filter can be applied to show only those parcels that the council is treating as new categories or aims to reclassify.

Another filter allows the community land parcels of a



particular category (eg park) to be displayed, and another can be used to display parcels that were covered by a plan of management in 2014.

The interactive map can be found at <http://bit.ly/PNLand>.

Mr Dewar has also created a series of interactive graphs, which chart rainfall recorded on the Peninsula over 18 years by Mr Jim

Morrison of Umina.

The charts can be found at <http://bit.ly/PNRRainfall>.

Public submissions about the Community Land Plan of Management can be made to Central Coast Council until Wednesday, March 1.

SOURCE:
 Website, 17 Feb 2023
 Craig Dewar, Umina

ACF group calls for 'due process' for council land

Central Coast Council should "follow due process" with its draft Community Land Plan of Management, according to the Central Coast Australian Conservation Foundation group.

By not doing so, it is putting sensitive environments at risk, said group convenor Mr Mark Ellis.

"The Council has not followed the clear intention of the legislation," he said.

"The Local Government Act requires a Plan of Management to be prepared in consultation with the community.

He said that, whether or not the Council had met the letter of the law, it had clearly failed to establish a fully-fledged independent review and assessment of the draft Plan.

Mr Ellis said that insufficient information had been provided to date to justify changes to the management of the Council's community land.

This was especially the case at Blackwall Mountain where an existing comprehensive plan of management will be replaced with a "one size fits all" approach, with the reserve's biodiversity at stake, he said.

"A Plan of Management

provides a formal, transparent and coordinated approach to public land management and is essential for managing community land."

Mr Ellis said: "The council's process need to be better planned and communicated, and more transparent in providing reasoning for the re-categorisation."

He said there needed to be more clarity as to what impact re-categorisation will have on future public land use.

The Council should release its reasons why the specific re-categorisations were selected, hold further consultations and explain why communities were not involved in formulating the draft plan of management.

The community must have input and adequate time to understand any new draft to provide informed feedback."

Mr Ellis said the group was concerned with many aspects of the current plan of management and re-categorisation process.

The Council should establish a new properly-constituted hearing to make recommendations about the draft plan and submissions at the end of the process before proceeding any further.

SOURCE:
 Media release, 16 Feb 2023
 Mark Ellis, ACFC

LIESL TESCH MP
MEMBER FOR GOSFORD
A CHAMPION FOR US

f LieslTeschGosford @ liesltesch 🎵 lieslteschmp Labor

Authorised by Genny Murphy 18 Carrington Ave, Woy Woy NSW 2256

Plan of management may be unlawful, says CEN

The Community Environment Network has claimed the Central Coast Council's draft plan of management for community land may fail to meet its legal obligations under the NSW Local Government Act and Regulations.

"The Local Government Act is crystal clear about what plans of management for community land are supposed to do," said chair Mr Gary Chestnut.

"The generic plan exhibited by Central Coast Council fails to explain how the council will manage its most important public land to preserve its qualities."

"The exhibited Plan of Management opens up natural areas for more use and development and that could be unlawful," Mr Chestnut said.

He said the council was required to "conserve biodiversity and maintain ecosystem function" in natural areas, and access must "minimise and mitigate any disturbance caused by human intrusion".

"We are deeply concerned that over 100 existing pieces of bushland and wetland have

suddenly been reclassified, as part of this exhibition, as parks and for general use."

He said the Network's submission opposed the council's intention to replace site- and category-specific plans of management with a generic plan of management.

"We believe this approach will result in poor outcomes for the community and the local environment.

"We've asked Central Coast Council to slow down and have a rethink," Mr Chestnut said.

"Any site that includes more than one class of community land needs to have its own plan of management and so do sites that are clearly of long-term value to the community."

The Network will be holding a webinar at 7pm on Wednesday, February 22, to help community members who want to write their own submissions or have concerns about how land has been classified in their local areas.

"CEN does not believe Council has conducted its community consultation in the right spirit."

SOURCE:
Media release, 17 Feb 2023
Gary Chestnut, CEN



Raffle proceeds buy food for Mary Mac's

Deepwater Older Women's Network has used the proceeds of its "very successful raffle fundraiser at Christmas" to buy food for Mary Mac's Place in Woy Woy,

Co-ordinator Ms Genelle Solomon and secretary Ms Jennifer Brown presented their food shop to project worker Ms. Sally Baker.

Ms Baker said she was delighted to replenish her larder as the centre was running short of staple items needed for their rough

sleepers. "Deepwater Older Women's Network will be doing a series of food purchases during the first half of the year to help the Centre cater to their regulars," said Ms Brown.

She said the Deepwater group advocated for the rights, dignity and wellbeing of older women in the community and supported Mary Mac's, Care4Coast and Allawah House, an initiative to get homeless women into affordable accommodation.

SOURCE:
Email, 10 Jan 2023
Jennifer Brown, Deepwater OWN



'Distressed vessel' towed to Lions Park

Marine Rescue Central Coast has towed a "distressed vessel" from just outside Broken Bay back to Lions Park at Woy Woy.

The service was tasked on Saturday, February 11, to assist the vessel.

Rescue vessel Central Coast 21 as well as jetski rescue watercraft Central Coast 10 and 11 were despatched.

Central Coast 21 connected a towline to the vessel.

But it was decided to take the vessel to calmer waters and get one of the rescue watercraft to connect a towline to the trailer winch point.

Once this was done, the tow continued back to Lions Park at Woy Woy.

SOURCE:
Social media, 15 Feb 2023
Marine Rescue Central Coast

Blair wins bridge club individual championship

Brisbane Water Bridge Club played its Individual Championship over two Mondays, with Blair Glass declared overall winner.

Finishing on Monday, February 6, 45 members participated, each of whom played 26 others.

Blair Glass, who had not been playing long and only had 17+ Master points, added a few more in the process.

Results were:
1 Blair Glass 596.2 (63.7 per cent), 0.92 green points.
2 Chris Hasemore/Jenny Buckley 571.2 (61.0).
3 Robin Vaughan 535.6 (57.2), 0.64.
4 Christine Hadaway 529.2 (56.5), 0.46.
5 Judy Wulff 517.4 (55.3), 0.31.
6 Jurate Laisve 516.7 (55.2), 0.23.

Other scores were: Marcelle Goslin 514.7 (55.0 per cent), 0.18 green points. John Aldersley 510.9 (54.6), 0.15. Ron Meaney 499.1 (53.3), 0.13. Martin Johnson 497.9 (53.2), 0.12. Jim Routledge 494.0 (52.8), 0.10. Janice Abberton 489.2 (52.3), 0.09. Jacqueline Wilson 487.7 (52.1), 0.08. Helen

White 486.2 (52.0), 0.08. Edith Marshall 485.0 (51.8), 0.07. Caroline Nichols 484.3 (51.7), 0.07. Carolynne Mucharsky 481.8 (51.5), 0.06. Coral Erikson 478.6 (51.1), 0.06. Laurie Powell 477.9 (51.1), 0.05. Lorraine Lindsay 476.2 (50.9), 0.05. Marilyn Reid 472.8 (50.5), 0.05. Karen Ody 471.7 (50.4).

Scoring less than 50 per cent were Chris Hannan 464.0 (49.6 per cent), John Drew 455.6 (48.7), Rohan Creasey 443.1 (47.3), Wendy Byrne 442.6 (47.3), Peter Hume 437.0 (46.7), Tracey Dillon 431.2 (46.1), Susan Ashley 430.9 (46.0), Maria Rose 419.1 (44.8), Carolyn Girdwood 418.7 (44.7), Kerry-Anne Durrant 412.6 (44.1), Carolyn Harper 403.2 (43.1), Fiona Galea 392.3 (41.9), Jennifer Tebb 376.3 (40.2) and Annette Clarke 365.0 (39.0).

Other scores were: Elaine Hume 249.00, Steve Anderson 247.00, Cheryl Pearse 230.00, Jenni Murray 224.44, Maureen Lockwood 214.78, Carol Anderson 208.00, Marilyn Jarrett 200.00 and Jennifer Anderson 181.00.

SOURCE:
Social media, 6 Feb 2023
Brisbane Water Bridge Club

Pearl Beach fire brigade seeks new members

Pearl Beach Rural Fire Service brigade is looking for new members.

Members can come from anywhere on the Peninsula, not just Pearl Beach.

The brigade will hold a membership information night on Saturday, March 25, from 5pm to

7pm. "Find out how you can be part of the largest volunteer emergency service in the world.

"Being part of an organisation like NSW RFS can be an incredible and rewarding experience."

SOURCE:
Social media, 15 Feb 2023
Pearl Beach brigade, NSW RFS

Lotto win

An Ettalong Beach couple was one of three entries to win \$1 million in Monday and Wednesday Lotto drawn last Wednesday, February 15.

The winning couple said they had had been a rough start to the year.

They had a 10-game marked entry, purchased at Ettalong Beach Newsagency.

"Just as well that I'm sitting down," the husband was reported to have said when he received news of his win.

"We've played Monday and Wednesday Lotto now for some years.

"We usually have more luck on other games.

"This is going to change our lives."

SOURCE:
Media release, 16 Feb 2023
Francesca Figliano, The Lott

Dunecare resumes

The Umina Community Group has resumed Dunecare for 2023, continuing with its regeneration work on Wednesdays from 8am to 10am.

"We would love to have some new helpers," said dunecare member Ms Alison Winch.

"If you have an hour or two to spare on a Wednesday morning, please come and join us.

"No experience required."

There are different meeting points each Wednesday.

Meeting point on the first Wednesday of the month is at Ocean Beach Rd.

On the second Wednesday day of the month, the meeting point is at Berith St.

On the third and fourth Wednesdays, it is at South St.

4th Wed South St.

SOURCE:
Social media, 2 Feb 2023
Umina Community Group

Arts and crafts centre holds annual meeting

Ettalong Beach Arts and Crafts Centre will hold its annual meeting at 1pm on Monday, March 13, at its centre at Kitchener Park, Ettalong.

Members have been asked to attend to elect a management committee.

They have been asked to consider joining the committee by taking one of the many small roles that are needed to continue the effective running to our centre.

SOURCE:
Social media, 7 Feb 2023
Ettalong Beach Arts and Craft Centre

Courtney selected for 'First Class' exhibition

Brisbane Water Secondary College Woy Woy art student Courtney Gatt has represented the college at the annual "First Class" Exhibition.

The exhibition opened on Sunday, February 5, at The Museum of Arts and Culture, Yapang, Lake Macquarie.

Curated by Cormac O'Riordan, Karen Gilbertson, and Kate Endacott, the exhibition showcased work by 47 students from the Hunter, Upper Hunter and Central Coast regions.

SOURCE:

Social media, 6 Feb 2023
Rebecca Cooper, BWSC Woy Woy



First whole school assembly in three years

Ettalong Public School has held its first whole school assembly since March three years ago.

The assembly was held on Monday last week.

"Our student leaders did a fantastic job," said relieving principal Ms Jodie Campbell.

"And so did our younger students who experienced their first K-6 assembly since starting school."

SOURCE:

Social media, 13 Feb 2023
Jodie Campbell, Ettalong Public School



Runner-up in tennis trials

Brisbane Water Secondary College Umina student Bridget Broome has finished runner-up at the Sydney North Junior Girls Tennis trials held on Thursday, February 9.

The trials took place in Gosford. She will now represent the school and the region at the NSW Combined High Schools Sports Association State Tennis individual championships in Parramatta.

Bridget is pictured with her trophy.

SOURCE:

Social media, 9 Feb 2023
Kerry O'Heir, BWSC Umina



Chosen for rugby league teams

Southern Central Coast Primary School Sports Association has selected 11 Peninsula students to be part of two rugby league teams to play at a Combined Zone Trial on Tuesday, March 14, at the Woy Woy campus of Brisbane Water Secondary College.

Trials for the Under-11s and Under-12s were held at the Woy Woy campus on Monday, February 13.

Selected for the Under-11s team were Keaton Croft, Noah McKinnon and Finn Dixon from Woy Woy South Public School, Will Heap and Reuben Long from Ettalong

Public School and Bailey Fawcett from Umina Beach Public School.

The Peninsula students selected for the Under-12s team were all from Ettalong Public School: Izac Jones, Tyler Preston, Nash Haydon, Ethan Thompson and Jaxon Hodges-Markham.

"The trials ran in two sessions, with the Under-11s trialling first at 9:30am and the Under-12s trialling at 11am," said convenor Mr Chris Mensforth.

The NRL Central Coast Development Team helped warm-up the students and refereed the games, he said.

SOURCE:

Social media, 13 Feb 2023
Chris Mensforth, SCPSSA
Rugby League

Under-18s soccer coach wanted

Southern and Ettalong United Football Club is looking for an Under-18As soccer coach.

With pre-season underway, the Under-18s squad is seeking "an experienced and passionate coach" for the 2023 season.

The selected coach will work

closely with Premier League squad throughout the year to assist with the squad's transition into senior football.

Anyone interested in the position should contact Glen on 0407 454 963.

SOURCE:

Social media, 13 Feb 2023
Glen Balneaves, SEUFC

College is third-most improved in State

Brisbane Water Secondary College is the third-most improved school in the State in its HSC results over the last year.

Education Department deputy secretary Ms Cathy Brennan and director of educational leadership Ms Kylee Owen toured the school last week to see its facilities firsthand.

"This incredible accomplishment has been made possible due to the dedication of our students and community, and the expertise of

our hardworking teachers – from all our partner primary and high schools," said campus principal Ms Rebecca Cooper.

"We are proud to be an innovative school that delivers quality education and a diverse curriculum, which allows all students to achieve their full potential.

"This success story is a testament to that."

SOURCE:

Social media, 17 Feb 2023
Rebecca Cooper, BWSC Woy Woy



Students learn 'safe dance practice'

Year 9 dance students at Umina campus of Brisbane Water Secondary College have started their first unit based on safe dance practice.

They are learning appropriate

warm-up and dance techniques.

They are preparing for their first live performance later in the year.

SOURCE:

Social media, 14 Feb 2023
Kerrie O'Heir, BWSC Umina

Parents' evenings

Woy Woy South Public School held parents' evenings last week.

"These sessions have been arranged to provide families with multiple children an opportunity to attend each relevant classroom," said principal Mr Matt Barr.

Sessions were held on Monday for Years 1A, 1G, 1M, 1V, 1/2F, 2J and 2O.

On Tuesday, there were sessions for Years 2W, 3/4W and 5/6A.

Years 2C, 3/4E, 3/4L, 3/4M, 3/4O and 3/4S had sessions on Wednesday.

Sessions were held on Thursday for Years 5/6F, 5/6H, 5/6M, 5/6W and 5/6Y.

SOURCE:

Social media, 9 Feb 2023
Matt Barr, Woy Woy South Public School

Woy Woy South meeting

Woy Woy South Public School's Parents and Citizens Association will hold a meeting on Thursday.

The postponed meeting will be held at 6:45pm in the school library.

Those attending need not be a member of the association.

SOURCE:

Social media, 6 Feb 2023
Woy Woy South Public School P/C

Free swimming teacher training

Free training to become a swimming teacher is available through the Hunter regional office of the Royal Life Saving Society.

The Peninsula Leisure Centre, which is currently recruiting qualified swimming instructors, is promoting the course.

"The demand for Learn-to-Swim teachers is at an all-time high and Royal Life Saving is offering free training to become a swimming teacher."

For further information, contact the Royal Life Saving Hunter Region office on 4929 5600 or email hunter@royalnsw.com.au.

SOURCE:

Social media, 9 Feb 2023
Peninsula Leisure Centre

Sport

Spirit passed at five wickets down

Southern Spirit Cricket Club's First Grade team declared at the start of day two in round eight of competition.

"We set Northern Power a chase of 214," said captain Ross Watson.

"Despite the heat and a fairly flat deck for batting, the boys created some early chances without much luck.

"At 0/80, Mitch Wright got the ball and started with a bang, breaking through with a cracker of a ball to bowl an opener."

Daniel Friend then came on and bowled the other opening batsman.

"We continued to create some good LBW shouts."

Despite a lack of consistent

wickets, Jaylen Johnston bowled 17 straight overs, bagging three wickets in the process.

The Power passed Southern Spirit at five wickets down and batted on to get to 250 runs.

In round 16 of sixth grade, Southern Spirit played a last wicket partnership of 50 runs by M Channon and B White for a 144 total to defend against Wyong.

J Channon (54) and M Channon (35 not out) were the best batsmen.

With only 10 men, Southern Spirit fought hard to win by 20 runs.

Good bowling and fielding was shown all-round, with M Bull bowling 1/7 off eight overs and L Duggan 3/12 off seven overs.

In seventh grade, Southern

Spirit lost the toss again and Wyong chose to bat.

After 40 overs, Wyong was 7/169, with Ian Tomlinson taking 3/21 off seven overs, Paul Sharpe 2/22 off five overs and Don Quitadamo 1/19 off six overs.

Under-12 player Jaxon Markham took his first senior wicket with 1/14 off four overs.

In reply, Southern Spirit could only manage 5/111 to lose by 58 runs.

Best batsmen were Under-14 player Austen Cattley scoring 30 runs, Paul Sharpe 24 not out and Paul Broad 23.

SOURCE:

Social media, 13 Feb 2023
Ross Watson, Southern Spirit Cricket Club



Three runners celebrate milestones at park run

Three runners celebrated milestones at the Woy Woy Park Run in Lions Park on Saturday morning.

In total, the three have run a total of 450 park runs.

Pictured are Julian Bowker (100 runs), Ellen McMahon (250 runs) and Ian Bachelor (100 runs).

In total, 244 runners and walkers

took part "in great weather" in Saturday's event, Mr Bowker said.

All are welcome to register for the event held at 8am each Saturday and to enjoy a coffee after the run at a nearby kiosk.

SOURCE:

Media release, 18 Feb 2023
Julian Bowker, Woy Woy Park Run
Photo: Jody Weir

Valentine's Day bridge attracts big field

Brisbane Water Bridge Club's annual Valentine's Day Pairs was a red point event which attracted a big field.

North-South results were:

1 Karen Ody, Jim Routledge 253.0 (66.93 per cent), 0.45 red points.

2 Graham Woof, Marilyn Reid 208.0 (55.03), 0.28.

2 Marilyn Jarrett, Jenny Buckley 208.0 (55.03), 0.28.

4 Chris Hannan, Lorraine Lindsay 195.0 (51.59), 0.15.

5 Denyse Stephens, Beryl Lowry 174.0 (46.03).

6 Peter Wheatley, Edith Marshall 167.0 (44.18).

7 Peter Hume, Elaine Hume 166.0 (43.92).

8 Kerry-Anne Durrant, Carolyn Girdwood 141.0 (37.30).

East-West results were:

1 Hope Tomlinson, Martin Johnson 206.0 (61.31 per cent), 0.45 red points.

2 Susan McCall, Pamela Joseph 188.0 (55.95), 0.32.



3 Janice Donohoe, Meryl Duke 184.0 (54.76), 0.23.

4 Dasha Brandt, David Bowerman 179.0 (53.27), 0.15.

5 Alma Van Der Walt, Kathryn Ivits 165.0 (49.11).

6 Marcelle Goslin, Ron Meaney 160.0 (47.62).

7 Jorgen Boettiger, Anne Moody 153.0 (45.54).

8 Susan Ashley, Carolyn Harper 143.0 (42.56).

9 Meg McGregor, Robyn Serra

134.0 (39.88).

7 Peter Hume, Elaine Hume 166.0 (43.92).

8 Kerry-Anne Durrant, Carolyn Girdwood 141.0 (37.30).

North-South winners Jim Routledge and Karen Ody were pictured with East-West winners Hope Tomlinson and Martin Johnson.

SOURCE:

Social media, 15 Feb 2023
Brisbane Water Bridge Club



Women play Fours final

Umina Beach Women's Bowling Club played the finals of its Club Fours Championship on Friday, February 17.

The winning team was Lorraine Rynehart, Pat Neal, Lynn Kennedy and Leila Gilmour (above) which defeated the runners-up: Gay Foulkes, Lorraine Field, Terry Causby and Lynne Gordon.

"The final was played in very warm conditions but both teams were in good spirits," said women's website editor Ms Lesley Swales.

"They managed to get the game completed before it got extremely

hot.

"We saw some great bowls.

"In one end, the jack was on the edge of the green almost in the ditch.

"Leila drew a great bowl which came to rest beside the jack with centimetres to spare.

"Lynne replied with a great bowl of her own, cleanly moving the jack into the ditch together with her bowl claiming that end.

"However Leila's team kept ahead throughout and took out the match."

SOURCE:

Social media, 17 Feb 2023
Peter Springett, UBMC



Malibu club in three-way challenge

Ocean Beach Malibu Club took part in the Central Coast Three-Way Longboard Charity Challenge on Sunday, February 19.

A team of 20 surfers from the club competed.

Team members were Craig Coulton, Andrew Payne, Tony Trichter, Bryce Williams, Mitch Bolton, Matty Sing, Papa Sing, Toni Gerwin, Hands Halliday, Jack Williams, Ben Scully Hawkins, Ange Leone, John Gill, Gus Omalley, Martin Skewes, Calyn Wilko, Sally Oman, Mitch Conwell, John Rodney and Brett Wakelin.

Entry fee was \$30 per competitor with proceeds going to charity.

A raffle was also held on the day.

SOURCE:

Social media, 13 Feb 2023
Ocean Beach Malibu Club

Lions to hold annual lunch

Woy Woy Lions Rugby Club will hold its annual Sport Luncheon at Ettalong Diggers on Friday, March 10.

Master of Ceremonies for the event, which will run from 12pm to 4pm, will be Mr Peter "Fab" Fenton.

Guest speaking will be rugby commentator Mr Mick Colliss, whose claims to fame include being vice-captain of the first Australian sudoku team to compete

internationally.

Also speaking will be former NSW Waratahs and Australian Wallabies player Dr Marty Roebuck, who was a physiotherapist while playing rugby and later became a general practitioner.

Tickets will cost \$140 per person, with tables of 10.

SOURCE:

Social media, 16 Feb 2023
Woy Woy Lions Rugby Club

WPL players wanted

Southern and Ettalong United Football Club is seeking talented higher-level players to strengthen its Women's Premier League squad.

The squad promotes itself as "a competitive, yet social bunch -

loving nothing more than relaxing in the clubhouse bar after a win".

For more information, contact Cait on 0455 112 205.

SOURCE:

Social media, 14 Feb 2023
Southern and Ettalong United Football Club