



Moa Island song and dance at Mingaletta

The song and dance of Moa Island in the Torres Strait was presented at Mingaletta on Saturday, February 17, by the Naisda Dance Company from Kariong.

Head of dance Deon Hastie joined by cultural tutors Dujon Niue, Jeanetta Fabila, Helen Anu, Masepah Banu, Casey Natty, Berthalia Ruben and Aba Bero with Naisda developing and practising artists for the presentation.

Dance tutorials were offered and a free lunch included.

SOURCE:
Social media, 17 Feb 2024
Mingaletta ATSIC

Council urged to apply for 'Greenspace' funding

Central Coast Council should apply for funding for the Peninsula under a new NSW Government "Greenspace" grants program, according to the Peninsula Residents' Association.

The program aims to fund "open space projects to improve liveability and increase green space".

"This grant is entirely focused on the sort of issues we are facing on the Peninsula," said association secretary Ms Jennifer Wilder.

Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch said: "It's vital that the opportunities to improve links between our bushland, parks, centres and waterways, made

available through programs like this, are grabbed with both hands by our Council.

"I strongly urge Central Coast Council to apply for funding under this program, mitigating against the impact of heat island effects.

"The unique environment and green space of the Central Coast is one of the main reasons people love living here.

"We are so blessed to have an abundance of accessible green open spaces here.

"We need to harness these programs to help ensure this green space is protected and enhanced."

"It will be encouraging to see the emergence of fresh ideas and plans from Council."

Ms Wilder said: "This is a great opportunity for Central Coast Council to listen to our community and take action to address the dangerous urban heat island identified in Council's own Greener Places Strategy."

Playgrounds, walking tracks, pedestrian and cycle ways, bushland restoration and recreation facilities are among the eligible projects.

More information about the program is available at <https://www.nsw.gov.au/grants-and-funding/metropolitan-greenspace-program#toc-eligibility>

SOURCE:
Media release, 13 Feb 2024
Liesl Tesch, Member for Gosford

Marine Rescue may run more courses

Marine Rescue Central Coast is considering introducing more boat licence courses, after two seminars this month were sold out.

"The first, for Saturday, February 17, was swamped with bookings," said Central Coast unit publicity officer Mr David Wicks.

"A second course was organised for Sunday, February 25, but this too sold out in a short space of time.

"Marine Rescue Central Coast is a registered training organisation

with members professionally-trained to national standards for their roles both on and off the water.

"The next boat licence course is scheduled for May, but the based unit may hold another at Pt Clare before then."

Marine Rescue carried out 40 search and rescue missions on the Central Coast in January.

Central Coast unit Commander Ian Morrow is encouraging boaters to check equipment and conditions.

"Waterways are great places to be but it is important that you check

the conditions and your equipment, not once but twice," he said.

"Make sure that you have everything you need and that you keep safety front of mind.

"What we've seen over recent weeks and months is unstable weather conditions.

"It may be good at one point in the day, but it suddenly changes.

"That is why it is important that you check the conditions," he said.

SOURCE:
Social media, 17 Feb 2024
Media release, 13 Feb 2024
David Wicks, Marine Rescue Central Coast

Produced on the Peninsula

Peninsula news & advertising
for the Peninsula community

Peninsula News: A voluntary activity

Peninsula News is as much a community activity as it is a community service.

Our fortnightly voluntary non-profit community newspaper is produced by members of our community as a service to our community.

It relies on voluntary participation, ranging from submitting material through to being an active part of the production team. No-one is paid. Volunteering can range from spending an hour or two through to taking responsibility for a role within the production team. Training is provided.

Volunteers are currently needed to help with fundraising and sponsorship, news gathering, and sub-editing collected material into news style.

Other available roles include

that of photographer and picture editor, online production manager and bookkeeper.

For further information, call 4342 5333 or email editor@peninsula.news and one of our volunteers will get back to you.

Mark Snell, 9 Nov 2023

Can't find a copy of Peninsula News?

Read it on your phone
<https://bit.ly/PNphone>



Next issue: Monday, March 4

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.

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Please note: Peninsula News 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.

Booker Bay couple raises \$2700 for Vision Australia

A Booker Bay couple in their 80s has raised more than \$2700 for Vision Australia through their Christmas lights display.

Ms Shirley Crockett said that she and her husband, Noel, raised \$2713.85 "with the wonderful support from family, friends and the community".

As part of the display at their home in Booker Bay Rd, Booker Bay, they ran a competition to count the Santas in the display.

"We had 390 applications and we presented 47 people with

prizes," she said.

Another 10 people won but had not collected their prizes.

"I have left messages on their phones and the prizes are still available if they present themselves."

Ms Crockett said some people had "left wonderful messages on the back of the competition forms".

"We love doing the lights for the community, so see you later this year."

SOURCE:
 Media release, 8 Jan 2024
 Shirley Crockett, Booker Bay

Driver wanted

Mary Mac's Place is looking for a volunteer driver to help from 6am to 10am on Thursdays.

The driver would be "doing pick ups in the van, driving to Penrith", said project officer Ms Sally Baker. "We are really needing someone," she said.

"We have two drivers going but are needing one more for the trip."

Lifting of food packages and boxes would be involved, she said.

For further information, phone Ms Baker on 0428 122 136.

SOURCE:
 Social media, 15 Feb 2024
 Sally Baker, Mary Mac's Place

Marine Rescue volunteers recognised

Nine volunteers with Marine Rescue Central Coast have been recognised for their outstanding service at the February unit meeting.

Mr Paul Degeling was presented with the National Medal by zone divisional operations manager Mr Steve Raymond, recognising his 15 years of service.

Certificates were issued for training achievements to Marine Rescue radio operators Mr Bill Rathmell and Mr David van Gemert.

Marine Rescue crew Mr Warren Mann, Ms Suzanne Portefaix, Mr Pavel Khmelinin, Mr Michael Kerr, Ms Brooke Heyward and Mr Antonio Giorgio.

Mr Kerr was also named as



Member of the Month for his outstanding contributions to Marine Rescue Central Coast.

The two February Boat Licence courses have been completely booked out, and arrangements are

being made for additional courses to be held later this year, said unit publicity officer Mr David Wicks.

SOURCE:
 Media release, 16 Feb 2024
 David Wicks, Marine Rescue Central Coast

February rainfall down by one third

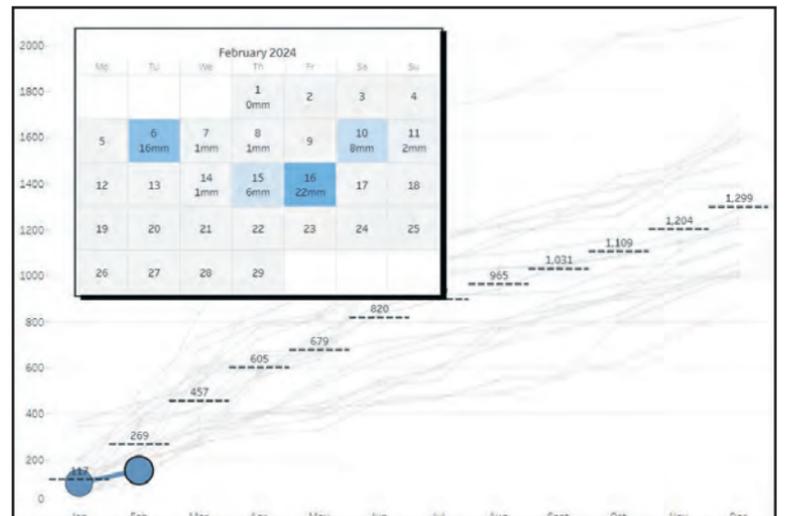
A total of 54.7mm of rain has fallen on the Peninsula in the first half of February.

This is about one third of the February average of 157mm, according to figures supplied by Mr Jim Morrison of Umina.

Highest falls were 21.5mm recorded on Friday, February 16, and 15.7mm recorded on Tuesday, February 6.

Total rainfall for the year to date was 153.7mm, 44 per cent less than the average end of February figure of 275mm.

SOURCE:
 Spreadsheet, 16 Feb 2024
 Jim Morrison, Umina



TIDE TIMES and Heights	Mon, Feb 19	Thu, Feb 22	Sun, Feb 25	Wed, Feb 28	Sat, Mar 2
	0547 1.04	0157 0.22	0357 0.14	0550 0.17	0139 0.90
	1311 0.20	0822 1.07	1005 1.06	1145 0.92	0815 0.28
	1855 0.63	1526 0.14	1649 0.10	1812 0.11	1354 0.68
		2112 0.74	2241 0.82		1949 0.24
AT ETTALONG	Tue, Feb 20	Fri, Feb 23	Mon, Feb 26	Thu, Feb 29	Sun, Mar 3
	0003 0.27	0241 0.19	0433 0.13	0017 0.88	0230 0.91
	0647 1.05	0900 1.07	1038 1.03	0632 0.20	0923 0.30
	1406 0.17	1557 0.13	1715 0.09	1223 0.85	1457 0.62
	1951 0.67	2144 0.77	2311 0.85	1842 0.14	2039 0.28
AT ETTALONG	Wed, Feb 21	Sat, Feb 24	Tue, Feb 27	Fri, Mar 1	Mon, Mar 4
	0104 0.25	0320 0.16	0511 0.14	0056 0.89	0333 0.93
	0739 1.06	0933 1.07	1111 0.99	0719 0.24	1045 0.30
	1450 0.15	1623 0.11	1744 0.09	1305 0.76	1613 0.60
	2035 0.71	2213 0.80	2343 0.87	1913 0.19	2145 0.30

Reid calls for The Esplanade to be resurfaced

Member for Robertson Dr Gordon Reid is asking that The Esplanade in Ettalong be resurfaced as a priority.

He has written to Central Coast Council Administrator Mr Rik Hart "concerning the road condition of The Esplanade, between Kourung St and Beach St, Ettalong".

"The Esplanade requires urgent resurfacing works as the condition of the road is no longer suitable for motorists to drive safely upon.

"The Ettalong beach foreshore

is one of the region's primary destinations for residents and tourists.

"The Esplanade is adjacent to the foreshore and is used to access beachside amenities.

"Considering the importance of this road to our region's economy, arrangements must be made for Central Coast Council to resurface The Esplanade."

SOURCE:
Social media, 13 Feb 2024
Gordon Reid, Member for Robertson



Join paddle out for cancer research

A group of female surfers is asking local residents to join them in a Paddle Out at Umina Beach at 4pm next Sunday, February 25,

The group, the Kook Warriors, is one of almost 100 teams of surfers from all over Australia taking part in SurFebruary.

The surfers will paddle out, catch some waves, and raise money for cancer research at Chris O'Brien Lifehouse.

Booker Bay team member Ms Vanessa Hession, a cancer survivor, said: "I found SurFebruary as I had been looking for a way to raise money and awareness

after my own life-changing cancer journey.

"It's been such a great way to combine my love of the ocean and raise money for cancer research at Chris O'Brien Lifehouse."

She said the team had received sponsorship from a local surf school, whose owner had joined the team and would wear wear a SurFebruary rashie to all lessons in February.

Donations may be made online at www.surfebruary.com/fundraisers/KookWarriors.

SOURCE:
Media release, 15 Feb 2024
Vanessa Hession, Kook Warriors

Peninsula Youth Services officially open

The Regional Youth Support Services organisation has officially opened its Peninsula Youth Services on Friday, February 16.

The service will use a "dedicated space" adjacent to Woy Woy oval, where it "aims to provide essential support for vulnerable young people aged 12-17 years across the Peninsula".

It would offer "a range of targeted intervention strategies, case planning, engaging group activities, and transformative life skill and independence-building programs", according to service

chief executive Ms Kim McLoughry.

She said the Peninsula Youth Services would set itself apart "with a unique service model that takes a holistic, client- centered approach".

"By recognising and addressing individual needs, the organisation fosters collaboration within the community to create positive outcomes for young people.

"The goal is to promote independence and build resilience, offering a diverse range of services to enhance the wellbeing of the local youth."

Ms McLoughry said: "By establishing a strong presence

in Woy Woy, the organisation is committed to working collaboratively with the local community to create a supportive and inclusive environment for the youth."

Located in Woy Woy, the centre is a hub for youth to access comprehensive support services, empowering them to thrive and contribute positively to the community.

For more information, phone 4323 2374 or email reachout@ryss.com.au.

SOURCE:
Media release, 8 Feb 2024
Kim McLoughry, RYSS

CWA branch holds fabric and craft sale

The Umina Beach branch of the Country Women's Association held its fabric sale on Saturday, February 17.

The sale featured fabric, pattern books and craft supplies.

Devonshire Teas were served for \$8 each.

A raffle was also drawn. "It was a great event to help raise funds for our new kitchen," said club president Ms Lin Griffiths.

SOURCE:
Social media, 17 Feb 2024
Lin Griffiths, CWA Umina Beach



Library to make mocktails

A demonstration of making "mocktails" will be held at Woy Woy library on Monday, March 4, at 12pm.

A selection of recipes for "fun drinks that everyone can enjoy without the alcohol" will be demonstrated and available for tasting.

The "curated a selection of Literary Mocktail recipes for everyone to enjoy" has been provided by the NSW State Library.

With names including "Fraise in the Sun" and "Bah Humbug", recipe cards will be available for attendees to keep and try at home.

Drug and alcohol information will also be provided by the NSW State Library.

Bookings are essential, and may be made at the library or by phoning 4304 7555.

SOURCE:
Website, 17 Feb 2024
Library Services, Central Coast Council

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Social housing provider Pacific Link Housing is one of many local organisations to benefit from the support of the Ettalong bank, with the donation of this maintenance van

Anguished neighbour puts plight to planning panel

The prospect of living next to a multi-dwelling development of four two-storey townhouses, each with four bedrooms, and parking for seven cars, has caused a neighbour to put his plight to the Local Planning Panel.

While 11 submissions had been received opposing the application, he was the sole speaker against the proposal, a gunbarrel development at 15 Allfield Rd, Woy Woy (DA/4112/2022).

He said his existing one storey house was bought for himself and his wife in retirement "for joy".

That joy is now turning to anguish as he contemplates what it will be like living next door to this development.

His concerns were numerous and included loss of privacy with 11 upper-storey windows overlooking his property.

He said he recently paid \$14,000 "up front" and was "encouraged by the government" for solar panels that will now be shaded.

He said that all that separated his house from the driveway of this



proposal was a metal fence which would be inadequate to protect against the noise generated by the continual comings and goings of a housing complex containing 16 bedrooms and a population up to 20 persons.

Every family had at least two cars which meant off-street parking for the proposal would be inadequate in spite of compliance with planning controls, thereby putting pressure on street parking.

"Every building around me is filled with people who are 75 plus,"

he said.

"And all day long, I end up with NDIS nursing, home nursing and care staff stopping out front to care for these people.

"Where will they park now?"

He also mentioned the proposed remodelling of the intersection of Allfield and Blackwall Rds, which would reduce the number of street parking spaces, exacerbating the situation further.

He said he was also concerned that he would suffer from car headlights shining into his bedroom

as people turned into the property.

The appearance also detracted from his amenity.

He said the only people who did not think developments like this looked "ghastly" were the applicants and the council assessors.

He said no consideration had been given to neighbours.

He said people who build properties that they have no intention of living in should be required to "give a hoot" for people who are forced to live nearby.

"Installing four two-storey units on a property this small" was like "stuffing a Christmas stocking until it's overfull and spewing out onto the street", he said.

With the Panel discussion and decision held behind closed doors, Panel chair Ms Donna Rygate said that the matter would be considered by the Panel and the result posted to the website this week.

Council assessors recommended approval despite non-compliance of private open space areas in terms of size, minimum dimensions and sunlight access.

The landscape plan and the shadow diagrams were only put on display long after the public exhibition had closed, and without the opportunity for public scrutiny.

The proposal was designed in the old-fashioned gunbarrel style with 187 square metres of concrete driveway extending virtually for the entire length of the site.

According to the plan, a single tree is to be retained on the north east corner of the site and seven trees are to be removed.

Of the 11 written submissions, many referred to the proposal as an "overdevelopment". However, the council assessment concluded that the floor space ratio was 0.49:1, less than the 0.5-0.6:1 permissible.

A letter to the council planner from the applicant's architect appears to confirm that the council had already agreed to a non-compliance: "Based on past email communication, we acknowledge Council's acceptance of variation to this DCP control of 4.5m width of private open space."

SOURCE:
Local Planning Panel
agenda 3.1, 15 Feb 2024

Proposed dual occupancy claims small floor area

An attached dual occupancy has been proposed at 14 Bangalow St, Ettalong.

The claimed floor space ratio of 0.2:1 is well below the maximum allowed, which is 0.5:1.

Unit 1 has a ground floor area of 73.69 square metres, a first floor area of 79.60 square metres and a garage of 20.54 square metres.

Unit 2 has a ground floor area of 74.03 square metres, a first floor area of 80.05 square metres and a garage of 20.68 square metres.

The application, prepared by Approved Pty Ltd, states: "The site is rectangular in shape and displays a total frontage width of approximately 11.88 metres, and maximum depth of 49.39 metres.

"The site area is 548 square metres, oriented on a north to south long axis and is relatively flat.

"The site [currently] comprises a single storey dwelling house with scattered mature trees located in the southern portion of the site."

Each proposed dwelling would comprise "three bedrooms, master bedroom with ensuite and walk-in robe, balcony, combined open dining, kitchen and living area, lounge room, bathroom, alfresco, and single car garage".

"External finishes include Colorbond roofing with matched gutters and downpipes, weatherboard cladding, aluminium windows, and timber doors."

"Minimal earthworks associated with the installation of drainage infrastructure and establishment of the building foundation (concrete slab) are proposed, contained within the building footprint.

"No significant excavation is required to facilitate the proposal."

The application claims that both dwellings will feature individual vehicle access from Bangalow St.

It mentions that "new driveway access is required and will be sought under Section 138 of the Roads Act 1993".

However this is not detailed on any of the exhibited plans.

The application states that "a tree is required to be removed to allow the proposed development location".

"The subject tree species is a mulberry (non-native) and has been shown on the demolition plan."

However the "demolition plan" is also not included in the exhibited documents.

Although it is claimed that only one tree is to be removed, it does appear that the rear alfresco will be located under the canopy of existing trees.

The proposal claims compliance with the planning provisions.

Setbacks are listed as front 6.1 metres, side setbacks ground floor one metre, side setbacks first floor 1.7 metres, rear setback 11.06 metres.

"Each dwelling is provided with a minimum 3000 litre rainwater tank, with overflow directed to the legal point of discharge (street kerb).

"Given the size of the proposed rainwater tank relative to the roof area and re-use required to comply with Basix requirements, it is expected minimal overflow of water is to be experienced from the tank.

The application concludes:

"The proposal will be notified in accordance with the requirements of Council's community participation plan, providing opportunity for the public to comment on the development.

"All reasonable concerns raised in any submissions will be considered if deemed substantiated by Council."

The proposal is currently open for written submissions from the public.

The date that submissions close is not posted on Council's website.

SOURCE:
DA Tracker, 17 Feb 2024
DA/2451/2023, Central
Coast Council



Flats to 21m and more multi-dwellings

Residential flats could be built to 21 metres high in medium density (R1) zones within 400 metres of the town centres of Umina, Ettalong and Woy Woy, and to 16 metres high within 800 metres, under changes proposed by the Department of Planning.

Gun-barrel and other multi-dwelling developments would be permitted in low density (R2) zones within 800 metres of the town centres.

They are not currently permitted in these zones on the Peninsula.

The Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure has confirmed changes proposed in its consultation, which closes on

Friday, February 23, would apply to the Peninsula.

Peninsula News asked the Department whether the Peninsula would be excluded from the provisions, after well-sourced rumours suggested that the sweeping planning changes would not apply here.

Using Woy Woy as an example, the Department said: "The low and mid-rise housing policy can be applied in Woy Woy because there is a train station, a local centre and it's located in the Six Cities.

"The proposed changes to low and mid-rise housing are on exhibition for public comment from the community, council and agencies until next Friday, February 23.

"In line with the planning process,

the community is encouraged to submit their feedback before a final decision is made.

"It is important to note that before these reforms are finalised, the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure will first work closely with councils to thoroughly understand local concerns and the capacity for development around nominated train stations and local centres."

Details of the changes and about submissions can be found online at <https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/draftplans/exhibition/explanation-intended-effect-changes-create-low-and-mid-rise-housing>

SOURCE:
Media statement, 15 Feb 2024
Alice, DPPI



Four-week council project at Umina Beach

Central Coast Council will remove pavers, plant trees, create new paths and replace the outdoor showers at Umina Beach in a project expected to take place over the next four weeks.

The project aims to “soften the existing landscape and provide a greener space for relaxation and recreation”.

“During the construction stage, the outdoor showers on the site won’t be available for a short period,” according to Council staff.

“However the adjacent amenities building with public toilets and shower facilities will remain operational.

“These landscape improvement

works will not impinge the sensitive dune vegetation area adjoining the site.

“This project is funded by local infrastructure contributions (section 7.11), which are charged by Council when new development occurs.”

Anyone with questions on this project or wishing to report any issues or give feedback, is asked to contact Council on 02 4306 7900 or the online Customer Service Centre.

Details of the project are available on the council’s project web page which can be reached at <https://hubs.la/Q02jYDPPh0>.

SOURCE:
Social media, 6 Feb 2024
Central Coast Council



Australian flags given out in Umina

Blackwall consumer rights campaigner Mr Bob Peel and Central Coast Council Australia Day Award nominee Mr Junior Johnson spent a good part of Australia Day handing out Australian flags in West St, Umina.

Mr Peel initially joined Mr Johnson at his stall outside Blooms the Chemist, where both flags and cup cakes were given away.

He later moved to Woolworths, which had decided not to sell Australia Day merchandise.

On arrival, he was confronted by the Woolworths security guard who attempted to move him on.

However eventually, after much discussion, Mr Peel was allowed to stay and distribute his flags.

Ultimately, the security guard even helped by ushering children to get flags and wearing one herself.

Mr Peel said the flags were well received, particularly by children and “elderly folk”.

“We are all Australians,” he said.

Mr Johnson was described in Federal Parliament last week as “the Peninsula’s answer to Santa Claus”.



Member for Robertson Dr Gordon Reid described him as a “local legend” and acknowledged and commended him “for his dedication to raising money to purchase presents for children during Christmas”.

Dr Reid said that Mr Johnson had given children 150 presents a year for 10 years, raising money through a meat raffle in West St, Umina.

“Junior Johnson is a local legend.”

SOURCE:
Media release, 10 Feb 2024
Robert Peel, Blackwall
Social media, 14 Feb 2024
Gordon Reid, Member for Robertson



Rotarians hear of solar energy sharing

The Rotary Club of Umina Beach heard about the concept of sharing solar energy generated by other people’s panels at its meeting last week.

Umina Community Group members Mr Sean Richardson and Mr Tony Winch spoke to the Rotary club about this and other energy-saving ideas to be presented at a seminar this Wednesday, February 21.

The seminar will be held at the Umina Beach Surf Club from 7pm to 8:30pm.



More information is available on the community group’s website at www.uminacommunitygroup.com.au/greening-umina/.

Pictured are Mr Richardson and Mr Winch at the meeting.

SOURCE:
Social media, 17 Feb 2024
Rotary Club of Umina Beach

How does local government really work?

How can we rebuild effective local democracy on the Central Coast?

This event will give community organisations, residents and potential candidates the background information that they need in the run-up to September Council elections.

Speakers include:

- **Glenn Inglis**, Managing Director, The Inglis Group, Former Council CEO and Councillor
- **Graham Sansom**, Adjunct Professor, UTS Institute of Public Policy and Governance

The speakers will suggest some fresh thinking about the varied roles of Councillors and the underlying purpose and nature of local government in our region.



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Forum

Government plan to increase housing density is concerning

The NSW Government's plan to increase housing density that is currently on exhibition is concerning.

The Woy Woy Peninsula climate change adaptation study states large sections of the Woy Woy Peninsula "will become increasingly untenable for residential use under climate change projections for sea level rise".

Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch has claimed Woy Woy would be spared from the Transport-Oriented Development program being rolled out across Greater Sydney, due to the impacts of flooding and sea level rise.

Was that because the Government has finally seen the light?

Does it support the implementation the regional plan strategy 7.8 to not build in areas if

there is a flood risk?

Or was it because "if the council's planning rules match or go further, the Transport-Oriented Development policy wouldn't need to be implemented" as stated by the Planning Minister in a press release on November 28.

A large majority of the Woy Woy Peninsula is zoned low density and the dual occupancies are already common place.

Yet in a statement by the Local Planning office, the Peninsula will be included in the new planning laws that increase dual occupancies, townhouses and manor buildings.

Such blanket policies, which increase in density in R1 and R2 zones, ignore the reality of climate impacts the Government knows about and the strategic planning policies recognise.

If the Peninsula is to take on

more population, what plans have the Council and the State Government to adapt the swelling population to the rising water levels and extreme floods?

For example, consider the high possibility of access to Gosford Hospital being restricted during increasing extreme weather events.

Shouldn't the area have its own public hospital and emergency department?

The Department of Planning has provided an explanation of intended effects of changes of low and mid-rise housing provisions can be found online at <https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/draftplans/exhibition/explanation-intended-effect-changes-create-low-and-mid-rise-housing>

SOURCE:
Email, 17 Feb 2024
Mark Ellis, Woy Woy

Council's appalling planning record stands out

The changes proposed by the Department of Planning for low and mid-rise residential buildings ("Blanket planning rules could change the Peninsula", PN 587) are a step in the right direction, but the explanatory document on exhibition is vague in its detail.

The various housing types and standards proposed are so complicated and arbitrary that they confuse rather than clarify the picture.

Of course, this is still better than the shambles of the Central Coast Development Control Plan, but it is difficult to work out.

For example, exactly how much of the Peninsula's medium-density zone is within 800 metres of a shopping centre, what kind of development already exists within those boundaries and what impact

will the proposed changes have on population densities and amenity?

This is, of course, the kind of data we should be getting from Central Coast Council, but, if the Council is making any submission to the Department on our behalf, it is being kept a deadly secret.

I seriously doubt that the average layman will be able to make head or tail of the report contents, so the invitation to make comments must be largely pro forma.

I, also, think it is a pity that the opportunity was not taken to introduce some rationality into the zoning system, but I suppose that one fight at a time is all that the state bureaucrats can manage.

If we establish the necessary performance standards, we don't need elaborate and arbitrary definition of finicky detail, but the suggested changes still muddle up housing types, housing heights, housing densities, housing requirements and housing amenities in ways that make no sense, particularly when some important amenities, such as access to sunlight, are completely ignored.

Nevertheless, the goal of the exercise is to make housing development easier (much to be desired, given the Council's abysmal record in this area), and the changes might go some way in this direction.

Let us wait and see what the outcome is.

The campaign by CEN to deprive the Council of planning powers ("CEN announces campaign to fix planning scheme", PN 587) is, no doubt, well-meaning, but one wonders what other body could take up the task and do a better job of it, as things stand.

The Council's appalling planning record stands out among the state's municipalities' standings, so it seems not to be the system but the personalities that are at fault.

How one deals with this I do not know.

That said, the CEN's apparent obsession with peripheral issues, such as conservation zones, flora and fauna, and cultural heritage, when the whole development pattern of the region is at stake, does not inspire confidence that it has any real grasp of the action priorities that we have to set.

It is clear that, in setting up its Developers' Committee, the state government intends to exercise far greater control over strategic decision-making for the "Central Coast City" than in the past and that this decision-making will be directed towards developers' interests rather than the welfare of the community at large.

This is where local interest groups should be directing their attention, if the place is going to be worth living in over the next couple of decades.

SOURCE:
Email, 10 Feb 2024
Bruce Hyland, Woy Woy.

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Vintage vehicles on show

An exhibition of vintage cars and motorcycles and market stalls was held in Ettalong on Sunday, February 11.

It was the final day of the Ettalong Diggers Club's Weekend of Stars, celebrating women of the silver screen.

The exhibition and stalls were mounted in the Diggers car park from 9am to 4pm.

A DJ and the band Rockin Express provided rock-n-roll music and dancing from 11am to 3pm.

SOURCE:
Social media, 11 Feb 2024
Ettalong Diggers

Free and low-cost workshops for older women

A series of free and low-cost workshops are being organised on the Peninsula for women aged 55 and older over coming months.

The workshops include a ukulele group, a vision board workshop, a frame drumming workshop, a mindful-drawing session and tap-dancing classes.

They are being run by the Art-Full Women group.

Group director Ms Brenda Logan said: "Despite receiving no funding in recent times, the group is more ambitious than ever, with an exciting range of skill and interest-based experiences and events to explore.

"We have been fortunate to find generous, talented women who are happy to volunteer their time to teach a new skill, which means costs can be kept to a minimum.

"We also hold informal events such as coffee mornings at Ettalong and excursions to places like the Art Gallery of NSW to foster connections and friendships with older women, who can become isolated and feel invisible."

She said this would be the third year the group would provide accessible and inclusive workshops and events for older women on the Peninsula.

The ukulele group meets at Umina Library on Mondays.

"A year or two ago, participants were mostly beginners, but have now developed into a fun and entertaining performance group.

"Their first gig was last October at a protest regarding the potential loss of trees for a carpark in the Austin Butler Reserve at Woy Woy.

"To the tune of Big Yellow Taxi, they sang: We'll strum along and play as Art-Full Ukers, till you keep these old beautiful melaleucas."

They then named themselves The Melalukas, adapting the name

from the trees they helped save.

The Vision Board Workshop will be held on Saturday, March 2, guided by artist Ms Wendy Burgess.

"This is a collage of images and words that represent one's dreams and hopes for the future."

Ms Jen Rosenwarne will teach frame drumming, "one of the oldest forms of drumming".

She uses "ancient rhythms designed to kindle one's creative spirit for relaxation and enjoyment".

Depending on interest, there may be both a beginner and a more advanced class.

Drums are provided.

Ms Rosenwarne will also conduct a mindful drawing session at the library on Friday, March 29.

"This workshop offers a great opportunity to play and enjoy the many transformative benefits of sketching/drawing and being in community.

"No experience in drawing is necessary, as the workshop is designed to help de-stress, with simple, mindful art exercises."

A weekly tap-dance class will begin in March, offered by committee member Ms Lindy Batterham.

Following a series of gentle "tap dance taster" classes at the Blackwall Guide Hall, enthused beginners are keen to continue.

"The dream is to build up a tapping troupe on the Peninsula to perform alongside the drummers and ukulele players to tell stories of older women in an entertaining and joyful way."

Membership of the group is \$10 a year.

Further information is available on the group's website at www.artfullwomen.com.au.

SOURCE:
Media release, 7 Feb 2024
Lindy Batterham, Art-Full Women

Council formally applies to expand Woy Woy tip

Central Coast Council has formally lodged a development application for expansion of the Woy Woy tip in Nagari Rd, Woy Woy.

The South Cell Project will cover five hectares and is expected to provide "an additional 920,000 cubic metres of air space" or 7.7 years of filling capacity, based on current filling rates.

The application is expected to be determined by the Hunter and Central Coast Regional Planning Panel.

It covers cell construction with excavation and earthworks to form the base of the cell and lining installation.

It includes associated access, and stormwater and leachate management infrastructure.

It also covers land-filling operations in the new cell location, as well as capping, closure and rehabilitation.

The project is expected to generate additional cell construction and cover materials for the ongoing landfilling operations.

It aim is to keep the tip open for as long as possible to accept and safely dispose of putrescible waste from the local government area.

The project would be constructed and filled in two stages.

The eastern half would be the first stage, followed by the western half, with each stage expected to take about four to six months.



The application states that the project is considered essential because of "a strong need to develop landfill capacity for safe disposal of putrescible waste generated within the Central Coast LGA that cannot otherwise be recycled".

A total of 13 documents have been lodged for public exhibition in support of the application.

They consist of "Appendix B" which is the preliminary design and consists of drawings, an environmental impact report,

a biodiversity constraints assessment and 10 "technical reports" covering various topics ranging from a soil and water impact assessment to a historical heritage assessment.

The environmental impact report, prepared by GHD Group Pty Ltd, states that "it has been prepared to support the application for development consent in accordance with the requirements of Part 4, Division 4.3 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act for determination by the Hunter and Central Coast Regional Planning Panel.

"The project is deemed to be regionally significant development in accordance with Clause 7(1) (c) and Clause 3 in Schedule 6 of State Environmental Planning Policy (Planning Systems).

"It is a development for the purposes of a waste management facility or works that meets the requirements for designated development under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation, Schedule 3, section 45 as well as being Council-related development with a capital investment value over \$5 million."

The application is currently on public exhibition.

No closing date for submissions has been posted on the Central Coast Council website.

SOURCE:
DA Tracker, 18 Feb 2024
DA/12/2024, Central Coast Council

Department investigates opening of Pearl Beach lagoon

A Pearl Beach resident has been told that the Department of Primary Industry is investigating the opening of the lagoon at Pearl Beach.

"Council officers are aware of the recent illegal opening and inspected the area soon after the opening," resident Mr Chris Gibson was told.

Mr Gibson said that, after a number of previous incidents,

"over the Christmas period, the creek once again reverted back its natural path and the lagoon started to reform - only to be destroyed once more".

"A deep channel has been cut from the creek to the beach."

Mr Gibson said: "Some residents felt that it may have been a natural phenomenon, others that the Council was responding to resident requests.

"The reply makes it clear that the channel being cut through the beach is neither natural nor a result of Council activity.

"It is in fact illegal."

Mr Gibson said he had been told: "Council fully supports the maintenance of a natural creek regime at Green Point Creek."

SOURCE:
Media release, 30 Jan 2024
Chris Gibson, Pearl Beach



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News

Fred Smith to launch album at Troubadour

Australian singer-songwriter Fred Smith will launch his new album "Look" on the Central Coast at the Troubadour Folk Club on Saturday, February 24, at the Everglades Club in Dunbar Rd, Woy Woy.

Former diplomat Fred Smith has earned himself an enviable reputation as a great singer-songwriter, according to Troubadour president Mr Michael Fine.

He had a "unique perspective on life and an unerring ability to focus in on his subject matter in a sensitive, moving and often quirky manner", Mr Fine said.

"He is loved for his engaging, observant, deeply honest and sometimes quirky songs about people, their amazing personal relationships and life in modern world.

"His sense of humour is sharp, even wicked, and never far from the surface, but he is also a singer who confronts the serious issues

and darker sides of life"

Mr Fine said: "Fred's return to the Troubadour is always very special."

The Troubadour would have two other concerts over the next month.

UK folk duo Winter Wilson would hold a mid-week concert at the Anglican Church Hall in Blackwall Rd, Woy Woy, at 6pm on Thursday, March 14.

The next monthly Grand Concert would be held at 7pm on Saturday, March 23, with

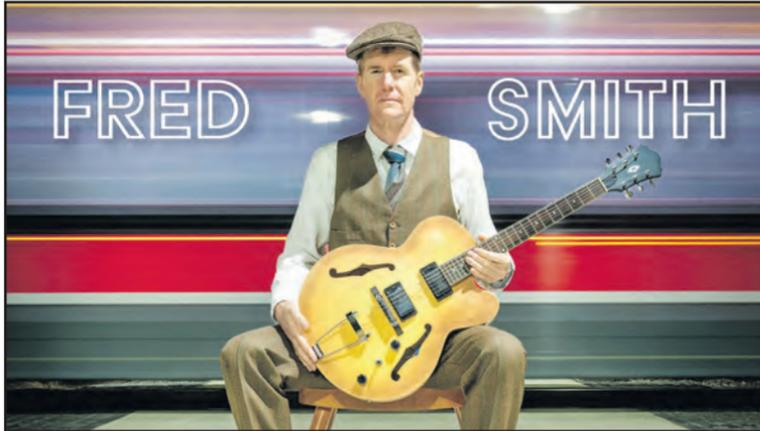
Irish singer-song writer Eleanor McEvoy and Scottish harpist Chloe Matharu.

Mr Fine said the Troubadour aimed to provide "great live music with fabulous performers, at affordable prices".

All are welcome, but bookings are essential.

Booking and more information is available online at troubadour.org.au or by phone on 4342 6716.

SOURCE:
Media release, 5 Jan 2024
Michael Fine, Troubadour Folk Club



Life membership for theatre members

Three members of Woy Woy Little Theatre have been awarded life memberships.

They are Ms Jan Grounds, Mr Lloyd Grounds and Ms Christine Cherry.

"These three Little Theatre legends have dedicated years

of their time and passion to help bring four major productions to audiences each and every year," said Little Theatre president Ms Christine Vale.

SOURCE:
Social media, 12 Feb 2024
Christine Vale, Woy Woy Little Theatre

Forum

Hospital volunteer finds herself a patient

I have worked as a volunteer at the Gosford and Woy Woy public hospitals for over 30 years.

In November last year, for the first time in my 90 years, I found myself a patient.

After a long illness and consequently a long period of time in Gosford Hospital and in

Brisbane Water Private Hospital (rehabilitation), I am now home and extremely grateful – grateful that I have a loving, caring family network and grateful for the outstanding care from the nursing staff across both hospitals.

We often underestimate the tireless, hard work, care and compassion that goes into looking after patients by our treasured

nursing staff and physiotherapists who got me walking again.

I would also like to say "thanks" to the catering-kitchen staff as the food was fabulous.

Thanks also to my many friends who followed my journey. "How fortunate am I."

SOURCE:
Email, 13 Feb 2023
Lucy Sharpe, Umina Beach

Reserve is well and truly locked up

Central Coast Council Administrator Mr Rik Hart speaks of Operational Land as "free", and Community Land as "locked up".

This is a mirror image of reality, at least to most of those people who bothered to listen.

At the moment our Memorial Ave reserve is well and truly locked up.

After the depredations of

the mountain bikers and the unchecked growth of paspalum, nobody can get in.

As for the trees, they are struggling to escape from the suffocating prickly-pear-lookalike creeper.

Even if the council is eventually to sell the land, the council should maintain the reserve in the meantime.

At least, a team of arborists

should be sent in to free the trees.

Council should cut the paspalum back, fill in the biker-made holes, and pick up the rubbish.

Local ratepayers could then enjoy what is rightfully theirs: a reserve, a park, a place to walk, sit, relax and even do a bit of bush care.

SOURCE:
Email, 14 Feb 2024
Jane Hendy, Blackwall

Conciliation becomes planning

Is the "amalgamation emergency" responsible for more problems in the development application assessment process?

Is conciliation an acceptable method to resolve development applications?

Why is it an option?

Who is capable:-of critiquing the confusing planning - development - conciliation process?

Events at an on-site Land and Environment Court conciliation

hearing have introduced conciliation as an equal with planning and development.

How this works or doesn't work is beyond my tax bracket.

A clue maybe the fact conciliation hearings are conducted behind closed doors, excluding the public, thereby allowing stakeholders including the Commissioner, to attend to the development application without public interjection.

Why is the conciliation meeting

held behind closed doors?

Is this another ploy to avoid transparency?

Imagine if the public were given the same privilege as stakeholders, and their opinions given equal consideration.

Is it possible?

Why haven't ratepayers been compensated for the amalgamation emergency?

SOURCE:
Letter, 12 Feb 2024
Norm Harris, Umina

Long-serving Rotarian Mr Colin Pratt has died at the age of 87.

A member of the Rotary Club of Brisbane Water, Mr Pratt joined Rotary at French's Forest in 1981 after he was guest speaker talking about computer technology, said Brisbane Water club secretary Ms Di Bartok.

"He was a pioneer in the development of our country's computer industry and accounting systems.

"Born in London on July 25, 1937, Colin Stuart Vaughan Pratt's childhood coincided with World War Two.

"He was evacuated to the country during the Blitz.

"Sadly, Colin's father died when he was a child and he was forced to become the family's breadwinner.

"This led him to seek a better life in Australia."

"He arrived in Sydney with his brother, Graham, as Ten Pound Poms on July 13, 1960, with the rest of the family following a short time later.

"Colin trained as an accountant in Sydney and met wife Margaret.

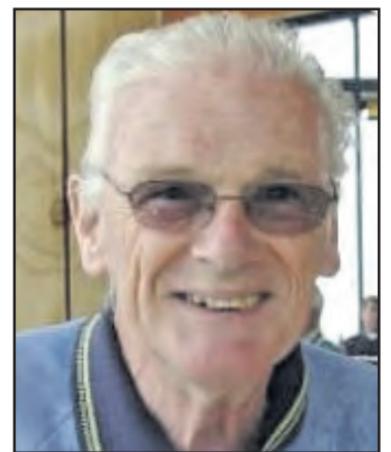
"Their dreams of starting a family didn't eventuate and they adopted a boy.

"A short time later, Colin and Margaret welcomed a biological daughter.

"Dreaming of a large family, they became foster parents of a brother and sister, with another biological daughter completing the family a short time later.

"Colin spent many years with the Scout movement.

"In 1967, Colin was one of the first members of the newly-established Australian Computer Society, which represents our country's technology community, across industry, government and



education.

"Colin held positions on the board of the Computer Society and ran about 120 education programs for the association.

"Colin's technical book, 'The Accountants' Computer Handbook', was published in 1986.

Upon joining the Rotary Club of French's Forest, he was asked to promote the upcoming district conference.

"From that point on, he held many board positions, including community, youth and international directorships.

"Upon moving to the Central Coast, Colin joined Erina club where he spent many years.

"While there, Colin helped raise funds for Central Coast Marine Rescue.

"In 2011, Colin served on the international committee when New Zealand suffered a major earthquake.

"Colin later transferred his Rotary membership to Woy Woy where he served as treasurer.

"When Rotary Brisbane Water was formed four years ago, Colin transferred to the club as a charter member."

SOURCE:.
Social media, 13 Feb 2024
Di Bartok, Rotary Brisbane Water

Public preschool to be located at Umina school

A “public preschool” will be located on the grounds of Umina Beach Public School, one of 49 new pre-schools to be built in regional NSW over the next four years.

Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch said: “This is such a fantastic announcement.

“I recently ran an early childhood education survey, which heard from parents who are struggling to access early childhood education and preschool, often waiting extended periods on multiple waitlists.

“It is clear that parents are crying out for spaces on the southern end of the Central Coast.

“Following this survey, I met with Minister for Early Childhood Education Ms Pru Car who shared my concerns with the availability of spaces on the southern end of the Coast.

“Early childhood education and preschool play a fundamental role in the development of our little learners, while allowing parents the economic freedom of returning to work.

“I have heard far too often that parents, particularly mothers, are unable to return to work because they don’t have a place for their little one in early childhood education.

“This is unacceptable.

“This announcement highlights that the NSW Government is listening.”

Ms Car said: “We made a commitment to build 100 public preschools because we understand the value of public education – and we believe that equity in education starts in the early years.

“Postcodes should not act as a barrier to accessing the best start in life and every child should have access to high quality resources from a young age, including having access to preschool.

“This investment is the biggest investment in public preschools in NSW history, and I am proud that close to half these new preschools will be in the regions.”

She said that co-locating public preschools with existing schools would ensure children are ready for kindergarten and help busy working families with cost-of-living pressures, and avoid the double drop off, making the transition to school as seamless as possible.

Ms Car said the Government had also committed up to \$29.4 million to expand the number of early childhood workers in NSW through a scholarship program, which has seen a record number of applications.

SOURCE:

**Media release, 17 Feb 2024
Liesl Tesch, Member for Gosford**

Early childhood forum held at Umina

A forum to discuss early childhood education and care was held at Ocean Beach Surf Lifesaving Club on Friday February 2, with educators, providers, and families.

Close to 100 people participated, and were able to speak directly with Federal Member for Robertson Dr Gordon Reid about the challenges affecting the sector on the Central Coast.

Those not able to attend in person attended via video link.

Dr Reid said: “Access to

affordable early childhood education and care is an important priority of the Federal Labor Government.

“This is why we tasked the Productivity Commission with establishing an inquiry into Australia’s early childhood education and care sector.

“Our government wants to see universal early childhood education and care across Australia.

“This outcome can only be possible when we identify the issues that are holding back the sector and affecting access for communities.

“I convened the Robertson Early Childhood Education and Care Forum to invite the region’s educators, providers, and families to speak with me about how we can improve the sector.

“The forum was insightful, where participants provided useful feedback which I will raise with the Minister for Early Childhood Education Ms Anne Aly, Minister for Education Mr Jason Clare, and Employment and Workplace Relations Minister Mr Tony Burke.”

SOURCE:

**Media release, 6 Feb 2024
Gordon Reid, Member for Robertson**

Uniform ‘helps with discipline and safety’

Wearing of the correct uniform has a significant bearing on a school’s ability to maintain a well-disciplined, safe school environment, according to Woy Woy South Public School principal Mr Matt Barr.

“This will be monitored very closely at the beginning of the year,” he said.

“This week our students have looked great in their school uniforms.”

He said families had prepared the children well for the beginning

of the school year.

“A strong start to the year in this area sets us up for continued success and a continuation of the high standards for behaviour and learning that our school has become known for in the community.”

Mr Barr said students were requested to attend school in full summer uniform during Term 1, which included a red school hat and plain black shoes.

He asked parents to familiarise themselves with the requirements and circulated photos of students

wearing the correct school uniform.

“In particular, please note the types of plain black school shoes and socks (girls plain white, boys plain grey) expected.

“Also note the school hat options in bucket hat and broad-brimmed versions and sport uniform with red polo and black shorts-skirts.”

He said questions about the school uniform requirements should be directed to the school office.

SOURCE:

**Newsletter, 12 Feb 2024
Matt Barr, Woy Woy South Public School**



Liesl Tesch MP

Member for Gosford

Parliamentary Secretary for Families and Communities

Parliamentary Secretary for Disability Inclusion



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Education

The new year can be ‘nerve-wracking and challenging’, says principal

Woy Woy South Public School principal Mr Matt Barr has reminded parents that the beginning of the year can be a nerve-wracking time for all concerned.

“New classrooms, new teachers and new procedures can all be a challenging adjustment,” he said. “Please reassure your children that feeling uncomfortable in new surroundings is a normal part of returning to school and that everybody experiences it to some

degree – even the teachers.

“With ongoing support from school and home, these feelings will quickly subside and the new circumstances and surroundings will feel normal in a matter of days.

“Your support, patience and understanding in these early stages of the year is greatly appreciated.”

Mr Barr said student numbers this year were “very good”.

“We’ve been able to avoid ‘holding’ our students in last year’s classes.

“This is fantastic, as our students were in their new classes on the first day back, have now settled in, and are down to the business of learning.”

He said specific class information would be given at the Parent Information Evenings, which would be on February 20 for Stage 3, February 21 for Stage 1 and February 22 for Stage 2.

SOURCE:
Newsletter, 12 Feb 2024
Matt Barr, Woy Woy South Public School

Parents plan activities for year

Umina Beach Public School Parents and Citizens Association has planned a number of activities at its first meeting for the year.

A splash-a-thon as the “legendary fundraiser”.

An Easter raffle will also be held.

A Kindy Meet and Greet has already been held as “a warm

welcome to new Kindy parents”.

A committee is being formed to revamp our school uniform policy, potentially including new sports shirts.

Input from parents will be sought.

The association is also looking to re-open the school canteen and has “started conversations with executives”.

The association is also seeking volunteers.

“If you can’t get to the monthly meetings but still want to get involved or help, you can send an email to pandc2257@gmail.com outlining your availability and your talents.”

SOURCE:
Social media, 14 Feb 2024
Umina Beach Public School P/C



Arts students have their work exhibited

Two of last year’s HSC Visual Arts students at Brisbane Water Secondary College, Georgie Clune and Jasmine Howe, have had their work exhibited as part of the Coast NextGen Art exhibition at the University of Newcastle,

Ourimbah Campus.

At the opening night, both students received praise for their work, with Georgie also taking out the Curators’ Commendation Award.

SOURCE:
Social media, 16 Feb 2024
BWSC Woy Woy



Woy Woy campus SRC is ‘ready to lead

The new Student Representative Council is in place at Woy Woy campus of

Brisbane Water Secondary College, “ready to lead, inspire, and represent” the student body.

SOURCE:
Social media, 12 Feb 2024
BWSC Woy Woy

Yarn Up to be on Ettalong foreshore

Ettalong Public School will hold its Term 1 Yarn Up at 3pm on Tuesday, February 27, at the Ettalong foreshore.

It will include an afternoon barbecue and a chance to connect with school staff, families and

community.

A number of local community service providers will be present with information about their programs.

Aboriginal Education Officer Mr Rheese Bull will be sharing a cultural activity for students and

families to enjoy.

Those attending should advise the school office before, Friday, February 23, for catering purposes.

SOURCE:
Social media, 13 Feb 2024
Jodie Campbell, Ettalong Public School



Students offered sponsored Kokoda trek

Brisbane Water Secondary College Woy Woy campus students have been offered the opportunity to apply for a 10-day sponsored trek along the original Kokoda Trail in Papua New Guinea.

The Kokoda Youth Leadership

Challenge will take place from Monday, September 30, to Friday, October 11.

Students will need to have turned 16 years of age by September 30.

The challenge is sponsored by the Ettalong Diggers Club.

Diggers community manager

Ms Kim Cole said: “Our management and board of directors recognise the importance of keeping the Anzac spirit alive, and this sponsorship is a great way to honour this.”

SOURCE:
Social media, 8 Feb 2024
BWSC Woy Woy.

New staff at Woy Woy South

Woy Woy South Public School has four new staff members starting this year.

Ms Amy Asmanas is 1A class teacher.

Ms Teigan Kelly is 3/4K class teacher.

Ms Alice Scott-Wells is school counsellor.

Ms Eliza Potter is community nurse.

SOURCE:
Newsletter, 12 Feb 2024
Matt Barr, Woy Woy South Public School



Surfers, swimmers spotted a kilometre off Ettalong

About 200 people were found swimming, on surfboards and jet skis, chasing waves on the bar nearly a kilometre off Ettalong Beach on Saturday morning, February 3, according to Marine Rescue Central Coast.

"A two-metre swell and ideal weather brought out the keen

surfers chasing waves off Ettalong. "It's unusual to see people that far offshore.

"The bar forms the official entrance to Brisbane Water and can sometimes be treacherous. "Fortunately, on Saturday morning, it wasn't."

Media release, 4 Feb 2024
David Wicks, Marine Rescue Central Coast



Rugby coach is pleased with progress

Woy Woy Rugby Union women's coach Iain Russell is pleased with the progress of his squad.

"First hit-out on the scrum machine and I was super impressed with the strength, technique and teamwork on display," he said.

"It's hard to believe it was the

first time for many.

"We made a start on line-outs which will improve as we practice more and get that strength to lift the jumper to full height.

"The backs looked good even dealing with a wet ball," he said.

SOURCE:
Social media, 15 Feb 2024
Iain Russell, Woy Woy Rugby Union

Call for volunteers after record event

Central Coast Disabled Surfers Association has opened volunteer registration for its March 2 event at Umina Beach.

Surfer registration opened on Sunday, February 18.

"We ask volunteers to register as soon as possible so we know how many surfers we can invite," said association president Ms Rae Fletcher.

Ms Fletcher said the February

event had a record number of volunteers and surfers, with 240 volunteers and 58 surfers.

"We need large volunteer numbers to make our surfing experience safe and enjoyable.

"There are water and land positions available, and you will be supervised by experience team leaders.

"Volunteers do not need to know how to surf although water skills are highly valued.

The Brisbane Water Bridge Club Swiss Pairs Championship was fought out over six nine-board matches.

The event attracted 20 pairs representing all levels of play at the club.

At the half way mark, eventual winners Sally Clarke and Jan Clarke, trailed leaders Pamela Lumby and Carol Long.

However, it wasn't long before the clash of the leaders occurred, which Pam and Carol won by a narrow two international match points.

For the final rounds, Sally and Jan put together two big wins giving them a final score card of five wins and one loss to win the championship.

The contest for second was a two-way battle with both pairs finishing with the same score card of four wins and two losses.

However, Hope Tomlinson and Jaan Oitmaa had a strong international match point advantage so were awarded second.

Martin Johnson and Chris Hasemore filled the final podium place.

Quite a number of novice players joined the championship giving them a great chance to test their bridge skills.

Swiss Pairs involves all levels



Developing players Steve and Kerry Anderson picked up sixth spot with a four-win two-loss score card, beating a number of championship hopefuls.

The Swiss Pairs Championship results after six of six matches were:

1 Sally Clarke, Jan Clarke 81 Imps (85.63 VPs), 5-0-1 w-d-l, 1.23 green points.

2 Hope Tomlinson, Jaan Oitmaa 71 (80.83), 4-0-2, 0.91.

3 Martin Johnson, Chris Hasemore 58 (76.69), 4-0-2, 0.78.

4 Julie Teague, Joan Walsh 42 (73.39), 3-0-3, 0.55.

5 Pamela Lumby, Carol Long 28 (69.93), 5-0-1, 0.71.

6 Steve Anderson, Kerry Anderson 17 (68.14), 4-0-2, 0.57.

7 Susan McCall, Pamela Joseph 14 (67.24), 5-0-1, 0.66.

8 Karen Ody, Jim Routledge 9 (63.25), 4-0-2, 0.43.

9 Peter Hume, Elaine Hume 18

(61.38), 2-1-3, 0.27.

10 Jodie Gudaitis, Colin Speller -4 (58.56), 2-1-3, 0.27.

11 Carolyn Harper, Merilyn Reid -6 (58.51), 3-0-3, 0.32.

12 Jenny Poole, Josephine Howie -8 (57.46), 2-1-3, 0.27.

13 Marcelle Goslin, Beryl Lowry 6 (57.38), 1-0-5, 0.11.

14 Blair Glass, Carolynne Mucharsky -16 (55.16), 3-0-3, 0.32.

15 Kerry-Anne Durrant, Carolyn Girdwood -29 (50.81), 3-0-3, 0.32.

16 Susan Ashley, Wendy Byrne -30 (50.34), 2-0-4, 0.22.

17 Caroline Nichols, Graham Woof -29 (49.94), 1-2-3, 0.22.

18 Annie Creasey, Julie Barker -56 (40.20), 1-0-5, 0.11.

19 Geoff Warr, Meg Warr -74 (39.86), 2-0-4, 0.22.

20 Cheryl Pearse, Jenni Murray -92 (35.30), 1-1-4, 0.16.

SOURCE:
Social media, 6 Feb 2024
Brisbane Water Bridge Club

Valentine Day Pairs was red-point event

The Valentine's Day Pairs was played as a red-point event at Brisbane Water Bridge Club on Wednesday, February 14, attracting 16

pairs.

The day belonged to club stalwarts with Christine Hadaway and Donelle Foate, sitting north-south, having a comfortable seven per cent winning margin.

Sylvia and Barry Foster took the east-west honours, also with a comfortable win.

North-south results were:

1 Christine Hadaway, Donelle Foate 202.2 (60.17 per cent), 0.40 red points.

2 Chris Hannan, Chris Hasemore 179.0 (53.27), 0.28.

3 Meg McGregor, Hilary Owen 175.8 (52.33), 0.20.

4 Graham Woof, Carolynne Mucharsky 170.7 (50.79), 0.13.

5 Ann Snow, Jenny Buckley 162.7 (48.41).

6 Marcelle Goslin, Rohan Creasey 162.0 (48.21).

7 Warren Nicol, Edith Marshall

160.8 (47.87).

8 Kerry-Anne Durrant, Carolyn Harper 130.8 (38.94).

East-west results were:

1 Barry Foster, Sylvia Foster 210.3 (62.60 per cent), 0.40 red points.

2 Qi Hasemore, Beryl Lowry 197.2 (58.68), 0.28.

3 Susan Ashley, Merilyn Reid 195.8 (58.28), 0.20.

4 Bob Lowry, Dieter Mucharsky 170.0 (50.60), 0.13.

5 Caroline Nichols, Wendy Byrne 166.2 (49.45).

6 John Sandra, Bernadette Sandra 164.0 (48.81).

7 Kerry Anderson, Steve Anderson 120.3 (35.81).

8 Ros Lunday, Margaret Hockley 120.2 (35.76).

SOURCE:
Social media, 15 Feb 2024
Brisbane Water Bridge Club

Sport

Pathway for younger soccer players

Southern and Ettalong United Football Club is looking for Under-16 and Under-18 soccer players for the coming season.

"Our Under-16s and Under-18s will have the opportunity to integrate and train with our Men's Premier League squad throughout the year," said Glen Balneaves.

"This provides a pathway to our younger players who aspire to play at the top level on the Central Coast."

Anyone "keen to play and still looking for a club" is asked to contact Glen on 0407 454 963

SOURCE:
Social media, 17 Feb 2024
Glen Balneaves, SEUFC



Rooster juniors seek players

Woy Woy Roosters Junior Rugby League Football Club is looking for players for its under-8s, under-9s and under-10s teams.

"We have teams in the following ages but need a couple more to round them out."

The vacancies are open to boys and girls who turn eight, nine or 10

this year.

"If they would like to try rugby league, we would love to hear from you."

Registrations may be made online at www.playrugbyleague.com, entering the 2256 postcode.

SOURCE:
Social media, 14 Feb 2024
Woy Woy JRLFC

Patonga regatta attracts 13 clubs

The Central Coast Outrigger Canoe Club held its regatta at Patonga on Saturday, February 17.

Clubs came from as far south as Jervis Bay and as far north as Port Macquarie, with a total of 13 clubs attending.

"Patonga Beach offered our visitors perfect conditions in a scenic location with the majestic Lion Island as part of the course,"

said club secretary Kerry Forrester.

The long course single canoe (OC1) men's race over a distance of 16km saw a difference of only seven seconds from first to last over the finish line. Mitchell Nasser from Five Islands was the winner with a time of 1:14:43.

Paddler Sandy Hauraki, who competed in the OC1 short course, said: "The swell around the Lion offered some good runners to

catch."

Club president Catherine Day said: "It was an inclusive regatta which provided opportunities for all levels of paddlers including junior and novice division races.

"Competitors appreciated the beautiful waterways of Broken Bay and Patonga."

SOURCE:
Media release, 18 Feb 2024
Debbie Sunartha, CCOCC
Photo: Jack Taylor



Tony Tully wins skins competition

Tony Tully has won a skins golf competition in the final played at Everglades Country Club on Wednesday, February 14.

The final was played for a prize pool of \$1200 by four A-graders with only five shots between them.

Tony Tully won \$375 from Ernest McGillicuddy \$335, Jim Martin \$295 and Ian Foster \$195.

Over five Handiskins qualifying rounds, Jim Martin scored 31, 39, 39, 28 and 36 for a total of 114.

Next was Ernest McGillicuddy with 0, 42, 33, 38 and 33 for a total of 113.

He was followed by Ian Foster with 38, 35, 33, 31 and 37 for a total of 110.

Tony Tully was fourth qualifier with 31, 30, 36, 38 and 33, totalling 107.

Round winners were: round one Ian Foster 38, round two Stuart Simpson 42, round three Jim Martin 39, round four Ernest McGillicuddy 38 and round five Jeff Andrew 37.

Totals scored in qualifying rounds by others in the field were:

Kevin Gleeson 106, Paul Bish 106, Michael Kelliher 105, Peter Mulholland 105, Stuart Ireland 104, Stuart Simpson 103, Bill Kemp 103, Colin Links 103, Ian Cameron 103, Rod Wales 103, Tom Campbell 102, Jeff Andrew 101, Matthew Chalder 100, Rod White 100, Des Remy 100, Neville Doak 99, Robert Burton 99, Garry Turner 97, Danny Cunningham 97, David Cullen 97, Grant McNamee 97, David Hayward 96, Grahame Steven 96, Graham Hall 96, Dave Robson 95, Tony Micallef 95, Steve Chay 95, Andrew Friend 95, Bruce Sinclair 95, Peter Batty 94, Wayne Hayward 94, Graeme Carroll 93, Simon Blake 93, William Palmer 93, Bill Paterick 92, Aidan Cuddington 91, Neil Bowman 90, Kevin Harris 89, Peter Ruddy 88, Robert Mullen 88, David Dowler 87, Rod Blake 86, Martin Jeffrey 82, Mark Simpson 80, James Robertson 72, Mike Zylstra 59, Paul Gibbs 56.

SOURCE:
Social media, 15 Feb 2024
Handiskins, Everglades Country Club

Mixed Fours declared after two months

The Everglades Mixed Fours Champions have finally been declared after a break of almost two months.

This Final commenced on December 9, with play suspended due to extreme weather with just seven ends left to play.

The game was finally completed on Sunday, February 4.

The team of Barry Cross, Loraine Cross, Jeannine Vigar and Ken Young (29) defeated Wendy Ide, Betty Cadwallader, Steve Chay and Vince Chand (12).

Upcoming events at Everglades include the Mixed Pairs starting Sunday, March 3, the Minor Pairs from Sunday, April 7, and a sponsored Triples Tournament on Wednesday, April 17.

For more information, contact



the Everglades Bowls Office on 4341 1089 or email bowls@evergladesc.com.au.

Pictured are the Everglades Mixed Fours Champions: Ken

Young, Jeannine Vigar, Loraine Cross and Barry Cross.

SOURCE:
Media release, 12 Feb 2024
Grant Ireland, Everglades Bowling Club

Three surf boat crews win four medals

Three Umina Surf Life Saving Club boat crews have won medals in the Surf Life Saving Central Coast branch championships.

The three boat crews competed across four divisions, all coming away with medals and club points.

The club was first in the Male Masters, second in the Female Masters, third in the Male Reserve Grade and third in the Female Under-19s.

SOURCE:
Social media, 13 Feb 2024
Umina Surf Life Saving Club

