

Peninsula News

Community Access

EDITION 604

THE PENINSULA'S OWN NEWS SERVICE INC

30 SEPTEMBER 2024



'Swim between the flags' remains the message

"Swim between the flags" remains the message, with the official start last weekend for the summer season beach patrol.

Ocean Beach Surf Life Saving Club president Mr Mick Cairns said that last year saw a significant increase in drownings in NSW within one kilometre of lifesaving flags.

"If we can't see you, we can't always save you," he said.

"We are very approachable so please come and talk with us if you have any questions or concerns."

He said that to help keep swimmers safe the Ocean Beach club on the coast, was on duty in large numbers despite the inclement weather.

While volunteer surf life savers patrol on weekends and public

holidays, council lifeguards are on duty from 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday.

"Both organisations work closely to provide a seamless seven day a week service," said council beach safety manager Mr Phil Cantillon.

He said that both provided search and rescue services as well as emergency medical care when required.

"They play an important role in educating swimmers and visitors on beach and water safety," he said.

Picture yesterday were: Jasmine Rybie, Zara Tucker, Bec Lawer, Brett Newton and Jeff Smith.

SOURCE:
Social media, 28 Sep 2024
Mick Cairns, Ocean Beach SLSC
Photo: Jo Freeman

Lights at level crossing to be investigated

Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch has announced "essential investigation development funding for the Rawson Rd rail crossing".

The funding under the Towards Zero Safer Roads Program includes an investigation of an upgrade to the intersection at Rawson Rd and Railway St, at the Rawson Rd railway crossing, she said.

Ms Tesch said she celebrated the announcement, highlighting the ongoing advocacy of the community regarding the need for safety upgrades at Rawson Rd Rail Crossing.

"It is fantastic to see development funding secured

to progress an upgrade to the Rawson Rd railway crossing, with investigation work funded for the installation of traffic control signals.

"The community has been clear that safety upgrades at this location are needed and I am thrilled to see this project progressing.

"Almost a decade after funding was removed from the upgrade of this intersection after a backflip under the former government, it is wonderful to see works finally progressing with development investigation funding secured.

"Since my election in 2017, I have heard the community loud and clear.

"Safety upgrades at this location are needed."

She said Transport for NSW

had been successful in obtaining development funding for the Rawson Rd and Railway St intersection to progress with an option to upgrade the intersection and level crossing with traffic control signals.

Work on this will commence shortly, with anticipated consultation with the community expected to take place towards the end of 2024.

More information is available online at <https://roadsafety.transport.nsw.gov.au/stayingsafe/safer-roads/index.html>

SOURCE:
Media release, 24 Sep 2024
Joely Langmaid, Office of the Member for Gosford
Photo: Jo Freeman



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, October 14

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

COUNT THE LOCAL NEWS: 53 articles in this issue

... and another 26 articles online at <http://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

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 POSTAL ADDRESS: PO Box 585, Woy Woy NSW 2256

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.



Morning tea for grant applicants

Everglades Country Club has hosted an afternoon tea for its successful applicants in this year's Club Grants funding round, totalling \$74,246.

The funding assist groups that may not have been able to secure financial assistance through other means and helps to ensure valued

services and projects continue to be delivered within our community, according to the club.

The successful applicants for 2024 were: Peninsula Junior Touch, TKT Ocean Beach Netball Club, BWU Physie & Dance Ettalong, Rotary Club of Woy Woy, Woy Woy Recreational Physical Culture Club, Roosters Social Club, Southern & Ettalong

United Football Club, Riding for the Disabled, Circle Junior Golf, Brisbane Water Secondary College Woy Woy Campus, Umina Rotary, Central Coast Disabled Surfers, Mary Mac's Place, Stroke Recovery, Umina Mens Shed and Swampies Social Club.

SOURCE:
 Social media, 19 Sep 2024
 Everglades Country Club

Girl Guides' 15th anniversary

Blackwall-Ettalong Girl Guides will hold its 15th anniversary celebrations on Saturday, October 12, at 2pm, at the Guide hall in Memorial Ave, Ettalong.

Peninsula residents are invited to help celebrate the fact that Guiding has been happening on the Peninsula for 75 years.

Among those attending will be Guide leaders past and present.

Current activities will be on display.

Email bronwyn.weatherstone@girlguides-nswactnt.org.au or phone her on 0409 985 029 by October 8, if you wish to attend.

SOURCE:
 Social media, 20 Sep 2024
 Rotary Club of Woy Woy

Surf club open day

Ocean Beach Surf Life Saving Club held its Open Day Sunday, September 15.

New members and renewals were signed up, faces were painted, the barbecue was well patronised, the talks well attended, and the band played.

SOURCE:
 Social media, 17 Sep 2024
 Ocean Beach SLSC

Month ends with above average rainfall

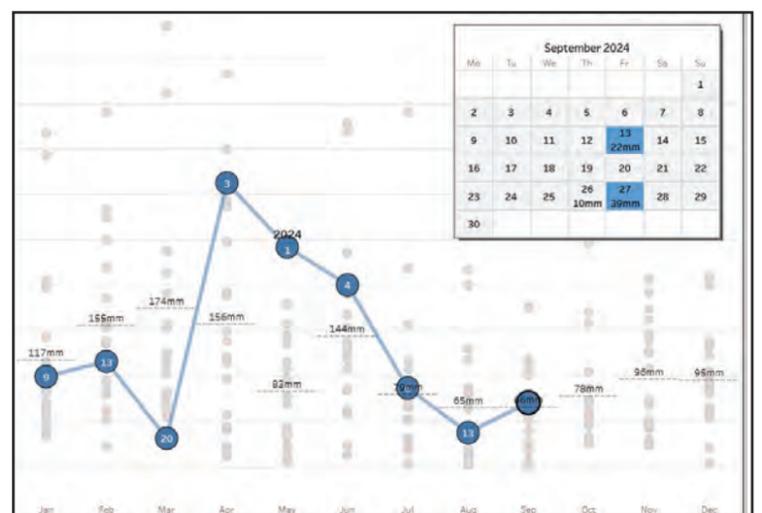
The Peninsula has ended September with 70.2mm rainfall, eight per cent above average with rain recorded on just three days.

Two of those days were last Thursday and Friday, September 26 and 27, with falls of 9.7mm and 39.0mm respectively.

The September average is 65mm, according to the figures supplied by Mr Jim Morrison of Umina.

More rain was expected over the weekend.

The September rain brought the cumulative total for the year to 1193.1mm, 15.9 per cent above the end of September average of 1029mm.



Further rainfall figures are available at <http://bit.ly/PNRainfall>.

SOURCE:
 Spreadsheet, 27 Sep 2024
 Jim Morrison, Umina

TIDE TIMES and Heights	Mon, Sep 30	Thu, Oct 3	Sun, Oct 6	Wed, Oct 9	Sat, Oct 12
	0124 0.17	0245 0.14	0508 0.19	0119 0.68	0447 0.69
	0725 0.86	0852 1.01	1123 1.07	0646 0.31	1007 0.35
	1314 0.23	1507 0.18	1806 0.22	1328 1.02	1653 1.06
	1916 1.01	2057 0.97	2346 0.80	2045 0.29	
	Tue, Oct 1	Fri, Oct 4	Mon, Oct 7	Thu, Oct 10	Sun, Oct 13
	0152 0.16	0312 0.15	0537 0.22	0220 0.64	0005 0.22
	0755 0.91	0920 1.05	1159 1.06	0738 0.34	0552 0.77
	1352 0.20	1545 0.19	1851 0.25	1430 1.01	1125 0.31
	1950 1.01	2130 0.93		2158 0.28	1759 1.12
AT ETTALONG	Wed, Oct 2	Sat, Oct 5	Tue, Oct 8	Fri, Oct 11	Mon, Oct 14
	0218 0.15	0340 0.16	0030 0.73	0333 0.64	0057 0.18
	0824 0.97	0951 1.07	0609 0.27	0846 0.36	0646 0.88
	1430 0.19	1624 0.20	1239 1.04	1541 1.02	1234 0.26
	2023 1.00	2207 0.87	1943 0.27	2307 0.26	1857 1.18

NEWS email: contributions@peninsula.news

New categories for eight parcels of 'community' land

Eight parcels of council-owned "community" land on the Peninsula will be "re-categorised", if amendments to Central Coast Council's management plan for community land go ahead.

The categories, specified in the Local Government Act, determine what use the land can be put to.

Three parcels in the Woy Woy will be re-categorised.

Previously categorised as "general community use", land at 9 Angler St will be categorised as "park".

The Nambucca Park, which has an address of 36 Karingal Close, will be changed from "uncategorised" to "park".

Two lots in Veron Rd, adjoining the Hillview House nursing home, which were previously "uncategorised natural area" will become "bushland" and "watercourse" respectively.

A parcel at 1A Plane St, Blackwall, will be re-categorised from "park" to "natural area - foreshore".

Two parcels near McEvoy Oval, Umina, will be changed.

One lot which includes the oval will have "community use general" added to "sportsground" and "natural area - bushland".

A map shows the new use in a small part of the south east corner of the lot.

Land at 20 Glen Haven Cl will have "general community use" changed to "park", while retaining other uses of "natural area - wetland" and "natural area - bushland".

Another parcel with a Umina address is 113 The Esplanade at

Ettalong Point.

It will be re-categorised from "general community use" to "natural area - foreshore".

Land at Pearl Beach which includes the tennis courts in Opal Cl will have "general community use" changed to "sportsground", while retaining "natural area - bushland" and "park".

The proposed changes are currently on exhibition until Monday, November 25.

The changes have resulted from public comments when the Council's plan of management was proposed in January last year, according to the Council's Your Voice Our Coast website.

Around 10 per cent of the 2300 lots of community land included in the Community Land Plan attracted public comments.

"For most lots, the proposed categorisation was deemed unlikely to negatively impact land management in the short term."

However, it was recommended that the categorisation of those which attracted public comments be reviewed in the future, the website states.

Of the 230 lots reviewed, "110 lots are being proposed for re-categorisation in whole or part".

The proposed amendments also "categorise a further 160 lots of land for the first time, including 78 lots of operational land reclassified as community land in January 2024".

The land to be reclassified does not include the reserve at 23 Blackwall Rd, Blackwall, which is currently operational land.

SOURCE:
Media release, 25 Sep 2024
Jamie Loader, Central Coast Council

Annual charity golf day

The Rotary Club of Brisbane Water will hold its annual Charity Golf Day on Monday, November 4, at the Everglades Country Club.

Registration costs \$100 per golfer and includes breakfast, lunch, drinks and prizes.

All funds raised are donated to the Cancer Council NSW or support local Rotary Youth

Projects.

Play will be four-person Ambrose.

Those attending are asked to wear something loud and bright.

For bookings and inquiries, email marksimpson5568@gmail.com.

SOURCE:
Social media, 25 Sep 2024
Everglades Country Club



New fire truck for Pearl Beach

The Pearl Beach fire brigade has a new fire truck.

The new "category 9" light tanker is also known as a "striker".

The four-wheel-drive vehicle carries two firefighters and 600 litres of water.

The new truck will be known as

Pearl Beach 9.

Normally operated in support of "category 1" heavy tankers, like Pearl Beach 1, the vehicles provide additional capacity to quickly access fires in areas which would be difficult to get to with the larger truck.

"We look forward to becoming more familiar with this vehicle and the additional capabilities which it adds to our Brigade," said captain Mr Lindsay Boyd.

SOURCE:
Social media, 25 Sep 2024
Pearl Beach Brigade, NSW RFS

Community group calls for support for masterplan

The Bays Community Group is urging local residents to make a submission to the draft Hawkesbury Nepean River Coastal Management Program.

It is seeking support for the Phegans Bay Foreshore Masterplan, an "action item in this draft".

"The implementation of our Masterplan has been included by our Council as an action item in this draft," said Group president Mr Sam Bunyan.

"However, the success of the Masterplan action item remaining in the final adopted Program depends upon the amount of community support.

"Therefore, to give our project the best chance we can, we need your voices heard."

Mr Bunyan said the

Hawkesbury Nepean River Coastal Management Program is a separate project that is running independent of our Masterplan.

"It is a comprehensive and overarching initiative aimed at managing the tidal reaches of the Hawkesbury-Nepean River System and its associated estuaries and beaches, including Pittwater, Broken Bay, and Brisbane Water.

"This program outlines strategies for the immediate future and sets long-term planning goals (20, 50, and 100 years) to address various challenges, including those posed by climate change."

He said the draft was open for comment until Sunday, November 24.

He said there would also be local drop-in sessions to provide feedback.

"These sessions have been

arranged under the Program project for you to discuss any existing or proposed options with project members of the Program."

Drop-in sessions will be held from 9am to 12pm on Saturday, October 26, at The Bays RFS Brigade, at 17 Wattle Cr, Phegans Bay.

They would also be held at the Brisbane Water Oyster Festival from 10am to 4pm on Sunday, November 10, at Lions Park, and again at Lions Park for the "Lakes Festival Gather and Groove" from 4pm to 10pm on Saturday, November 16.

The project team is also expected to be at the Woytopia festival at Woy Woy South Public School on Sunday, October 13.

SOURCE:
Newsletter, 29 Sep 2024
Sam Bunyan, The Bays Community Group

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The Ettalong bank is a major sponsor of 2024 Variety Bash car 26 "Ettalong Eagle". Driver Barry Henson is pictured with bank manager Pat Italiano and staff member Jay Vandenberg.

Planning



Council approves minor changes to shop-top housing

Central Coast Council has approved a number of minor amendments to an approved multi-storey development at the corner of Ocean View Rd and Ferry Rd, Ettalong.

The original application was for a five-storey mixed-use “shop-top” residential building at 302-308 Ocean View Rd, which straddles R1(General Residential) and B2(Local Centre) zones.

When it was first lodged, it attracted a large number of adverse submissions from residents and was recommended for refusal by the Central Coast Council for a number of reasons, the most important being excess height and floor space ratio.

This led to a “conciliation conference” at the Lands and Environment Court which, in turn, resulted in an amended application being approved by the Central Coast Council.

There are five amendments to that approval.

The council assessment report lists them:

“Parking Level: Access ramp provided to commercial area, driveway width increased from 5.1m to 6.1m, parking level adjusted from RL 3.9m to 3.4m

to increase head height and commercial floor levels adjusted to a uniform level of RL3.95m.

“Level 1: Modification of stairs beside lift, internal layout and landscaping of unit 1 amended and direct access to beach provided.”

“Level 2: Layout of units 2, 4-7 amended, main staircase amended, landscape area on Ocean View Rd extended and pebble paving to non-trafficable roof added.

“Level 3: Layout of units 8-12 amended and addition of balconies with 1.5m privacy screens on western side of units 11 and 2 off bedrooms.

“Roof Level: Fire stair amended and disabled lift, toilet, and pool entry provided.”

The assessment states: “There is no increase in height or floor space ratio or reduction in car parking.

“Council is satisfied that the development to which the consent relates is substantially the same development and the modification has minor environmental impact.”

The amendment was approved on August 26.

SOURCE:
DA Tracker, 29 Sep 2024
DA/59732/2020/B, Central Coast Council

Tesch welcomes new information for ‘knockdown rebuilds’

Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch has welcomed new information on the NSW Planning Portal for residents considering “knockdown rebuilds”.

“My Home Planner is an easy-to-use digital platform that takes away the guesswork when doing a new build, providing reliable information on key steps, obligations, and approvals, in a single location.

“This is a fantastic resource for helping people research, plan and design a home.

“I have taken a look through My Home Planner and it is clear that it is a comprehensive ‘single source of truth’ for current and prospective homeowners.

“Building a new home can be exciting and equally it can be fraught with complexity, which can lead to information overload.

“It is wonderful to see how

practical information from 48 government sites has been brought together to guide users step by step.”

“We need more homes built and expanding this digital resource to include information on knockdown rebuilds makes it that little bit easier.”

She said current and prospective homeowners could enter the property address and gain access to relevant council information, zoning, ratings, easement information, developer guidelines such as building heights and minimum block size, and relevant planning controls such as bushfire and flood risk.

“Reforms to low and mid-rise housing, which commenced on July 1 this year, allow development applications for dual occupancies and semi-detached dwellings to be submitted in more R2 residential zones, such as duplexes and

semis.

“Enabling dual occupancies in these locations allows homeowners with suitable blocks two to replace one existing home with two dwellings.

“Other low and mid-rise housing reforms will commence later in 2024.

“These will include townhouses, terraces and two storey apartment blocks near transport hubs and town centres in R2 low density residential zones.”

Ms Tesch said the My Home Planner was developed in collaboration with the Department of Customer Service and is available at the NSW Planning Portal at www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/myhome-planner

She said the NSW Planning Portal received more than 12 million page views each year.

SOURCE:
Media release, 25 Sep 2024
Liesl Tesch, Member for Gosford

Forum

NSW Planning Portal provides less and less information

The NSW Planning Portal may well have more than 12 million page views each year, but one wonders how much real information is actually being conveyed.

While more information appears to be supplied to prospective builders about individual sites, less and less appears to be available to people seriously interested in planning and development trends in a locality.

Taking Complying Development Certificates (CDCs) as an example, some basic information used to be available via the Application Tracker such as numbers and locality of current CDCs.

However even this scant information is not now available, thanks to an apparent “glitch” in the NSW Planning Portal software.

Of course it’s not just information about CDCs that is affected by the glitch, it’s information about every kind of development application.

However, in the case of ordinary development applications, alternative sources are available, such as Council websites.

Most people don’t even know what a complying development is, until one lands next door.

If a development complies with a set of rules decided by the State Government it doesn’t need to go through the council’s assessment process.

In the case of Complying Developments, it seems the State Government has decided that complete secrecy is the key to “expediting development”.

In my opinion this is why the glitch does not look like being fixed anytime soon.

The situation is much worse for Central Coast residents than for

any other council in the Greater Sydney Area.

The regulations require that certifiers must give two weeks notice to neighbours prior to a CDC being issued.

The list of councils for which this is mandatory appears to include every council in the Greater Sydney Area including Blue Mountains and Hawkesbury but not Central Coast Council.

The only notice that has to be given to neighbours on the Central Coast is two days prior to construction starting.

In other words neighbours can receive a letter in their letterbox on Friday and the bulldozers arrive on the Monday.

You can’t even get this information from the old Planning Portal.

But the NSW Planning Portal does not do what it says it does.

I have spent over a month from August 7, when I first noticed this problem, till now trying to get NSW Planning to fix the problem.

Their own documentation states that dropdown filters can be used for a “wider query” on submitted applications.

Their “How to use the Application Tracker” says so.

Three of the filters do not “drop down”. They are frozen.

These filters are “Status”, “Council” and “Development Type”, which includes CDCs.

Prior to August 7, I regularly used the Application Tracker to retrieve data on CDCs for the Central Coast Council with no problems. This is now not possible.

NSW Planning Support seem to be quite uninterested in fixing this problem.

Initially I reported the problem by using the “feedback” button on

the Application Tracker page.

After two weeks the recipient (Crown Land) decided that I needed to raise a technical issue with Service NSW by emailing ePlanning.support@planning.nsw.gov.au, which I did.

In reply I was informed: “Your enquiry has been received and your ticket number is P-1049278. We will attend to your enquiry as soon as possible.”

This was on August 20.

In frustration, on September 1 when there was no sign of any progress, I sent the following email: “There appears to be no progress on this problem.

“Basic metadata on development applications for an LGA, particularly CDCs, is effectively being censored by the inoperability of the dropdown parameters in the Application Tracker application.

“Surely such basic information should be open access?”

“Please let me know if NSW Planning actually intends to fix this glitch and allow access to the information.”

In response I received a puzzling email that told me to contact the web publishing team, supplying a link that didn’t work.

When I replied telling the sender this, they said that the web publishing team would contact me directly.

Guess what? They didn’t.

I have also received an email from the original recipients of my complaint informing me that they considered the case was resolved.

Surely this glitch must be affecting hundreds of people if not thousands.

SOURCE:
Email, 29 Sep 2024
Frank Wiffen, Woy Woy

ADVERTISEMENT

Improvement or political cover-up? An additional Thank You

Thank you to the editor Mr M Snell and Ratepayers’ Choice candidate Mr Kevin Brooks for their insightful comments on the draconian Performance Improvement Order in Peninsula News (September 16).

Responsibility of enforcement relies directly on the general manager Mr David Farmer and the council’s Audit Risk and Improvement Committee. For enforcement of this important PIO, is it expected there will be at least two compliance officers in the council chamber?

Will it be the general manager plus one or two additional officers to allow the general manager to concentrate on agenda matters? Was this decided before the PIO was released, as scrutiny must apply in the chamber not after meetings?

Council meetings thus will include additional input and extend meetings and make them more controversial. Over-governance creep began with amalgamation and is now frightening.

Why is it essential that residents support democracy in a country (Australia) that claims to be democratic? It appears opportunity has been lost to improve the character of the council chamber.

Time will tell.

Authorised by Norm Harris, 8 Lovell Rd, Umina



Woytopia – ‘as green as you want it to be’

The Woytopia sustainable living festival will be held at Woy Woy South Public School on Sunday, October 13.

The festival, organised by the voluntary non-profit Peninsula Environment Group, will feature green talks and stalls as well as live music, food stalls and children's entertainment.

“Woytopia is as green as you want it to be,” said event manager Mr Julian Bowker.

“If you want to explore sustainable living, we've got some amazing talks and workshops.

“But if you just want a good day out with the family, we've got great music, food stalls, and a full day of kids' activities and entertainment.

“There are free yoga and meditation sessions.

“It's a nice shady setting, with plenty of seating, and it's free.”

“The aim of Woytopia is to combine inspiring ideas about sustainable living with a fun day out celebrating the Woy Woy Peninsula and the local community,” he said.

The music lineup focusing on emerging local talent.

“Headlining is Ruby Archer from Phegans Bay, who last year won Triple J's 15 Years of Unearthed High, with dynamic and emotionally compelling songwriting that embraces everything from jazz to punk.

“The Cat Snatchers take you back to a 70s and 80s of stadium-style anthems and yacht rock vibe, while Goblet and Turtle Custard blend funky grooves and psych-rock.

“The children's fun includes circus shows and a circus skills play space by Roundabout Circus, and a roving 'silent disco' with games and prizes.

“All-day activities include old-fashioned games on the playing field, and a storytime corner and under-5s play space for little ones.

“There is also Indian dancing, kids yoga and creative art, and native animals shows from Australian Wildlife Displays”

The festival will include a clothes swap in the morning.

“We encourage everyone to bring some clothes to swap,” Mr Bowker said.

“You can drop them off when you arrive at the festival, then

the swapping starts at 11.30am. “It's a fun way to freshen up your wardrobe for free.”

Food options include paella, dumplings, Vietnamese, nachos and gozleme, and sweet treats such as churros, donuts and Spoon Bay gelato, with plenty of vegan and veggie options.

“Talk highlights are Mr Jake Cassar's edible and medicinal wildplant show and talks by native bee expert Dr Tim Heard.

“Ms Kerrie Anderson and Mr John Seed will introduce permaculture and deep ecology, two philosophies that explore our relationship with the natural world - and could change your life.

“Other talks include home energy, solar and batteries with Mr Ian Garradd, and sustainable home design and material reuse with architect Mr Milos Obradovic, plus aquaponics, composting and natural pest control.

“The program begins with a smoke ceremony by Mr Tim Selwyn from Girri Girra Aboriginal Experiences and concludes with a drum circle from local favourites Drumbala.”

The festival will run from 9am to 4pm.

No dogs are allowed in the schoolgrounds.

Further information, including parking and program details, is available online at woytopia.org.

SOURCE:
Media release, 19 Sep 2024
Mark Mann, Woytopia

Playgrounds included in council brochure

Central Coast Council has published a brochure about playgrounds suited to children with disabilities, which includes playgrounds at Ettalong and Umina.

Council director Ms Melanie Smith said the brochure was designed to provide parents and carers of children with a disability “more information on accessible playspaces so they can plan ahead when taking their children out”.

The brochure includes playgrounds across the Central

Coast, including the Ettalong Foreshore Playground and at the Peninsula Recreation Precinct in Sydney Ave, Umina.

Ms Smith said: “Playspaces are highly valued, and we understand the importance of accessible playspaces for everyone,” Ms Smith said.

“This latest brochure contains information listing the accessible features of each playspace and is designed in an accessible format including pictograms and a pin drop map.”

It was created with input from the Council's Access and Inclusion Reference Group, council asset managers and informed by the three principles of the Everyone Can Play Guidelines,

The brochure is available on the council's website as well as in print at local libraries.

The council has also produced other similar brochures, the Accessible Nature brochure and Accessible Beaches brochure.

SOURCE:
Media release, 17 Sep 2024.
Central Coast Council.

Patchwork tutor recognised for sculpture

Ettalong Beach Arts and Crafts Centre patchwork tutor Ms Penny Howard has been recognised for a “thread sculpture”.

She has won the Mayor's award in the Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize recently for her nostalgic sculpture “After School”.

The exhibition runs until October 20 at the Woollahra Gallery at Redleaf.

SOURCE:
Social media, 24 Sep 2024
Ettalong Beach Arts and Craft Centre



New manager appointed at PCYC

A parent, gymnastics coach and judge, who has been involved with the Umina PCYC for 10 years has been appointed its new manager.

Ms Judy Tolhurst says she is excited by the opportunity for the PCYC to help and grow with the local community.

“PCYC Umina is an amazing space that many in our community don't know exists and I want to change that.

“I want to see the facility humming with activity – full of local children, their families, and friends.”

She said the main building housed a large, state-of-the-art gymnastics facility, a space used

by Holistic Health and Movement, a kitchen, meeting room, accessible bathroom, and bathroom with showers.

There are spaces for hire in the main PCYC building and a meeting room that can be used to facilitate small groups for meetings.

The PCYC's reception space for example, which opens onto a compact grassed courtyard, is ideal for small parties and fundraisers, she said.

The Boxing Shed was a separate building measuring 40 metres by 10 metres.

“This is one of the best boxing spaces in the country, consisting of a ring, seven sparring rings plus a cardio area.”

As well as gymnastics, boxing,

women's fitness and archery, the PCYC is offering an all-abilities Kindergym Class on Mondays in Term 4, and an All-Abilities afternoon recreational class for 5-10 year olds.

Two new Kindergym classes have started on Thursday, from 10am to 10:45am for 2-3 year olds and 11am-11:45 for 3-5 year olds.

Anyone interested in finding out more about the PCYC is encouraged to call 4344 7851 or to email uminabeach@pcyc.org.au, or call Ms Tolhurst directly on 0418 491 298 or via email at jtolhurst@pcyc.org.au.

SOURCE:
Media release, 17 Sep 2024
Joely Langmaid, Office of Member for Gosford

SUSTAINABLE LIVING FESTIVAL

WOYTOPIA 2024

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Forum

Democracy not as important as planning and services

Oh man! thou feeble tenant of an hour,
Debas'd by slavery, or corrupt by power,
Who knows thee well, must quit thee with disgust,
Degraded mass of animated dust!
Thy love is lust, thy friendship all a cheat,
Thy tongue hypocrisy, thy heart deceit!

Epitaph to a Dog by Lord Byron

Democracy and The Law are not the most important things to most people, although they are grateful and benefit if they are there.

People want a comfortable life with food, water, electricity, transport and housing with their loved ones.

Why do you think China has risen? Unfortunately, non-democratic and aggressive.

With the advent of the internet there is much more disinformation, downright lies and distortions than was possible before.

Most do not have the resources to resist or challenge this.

The difference between hogwash and reality is now harder to discern.

The world, in most ways, is in a mess and locally we should focus on pot holes, ensuring sensible planning consent and the efficient provision of essential services such as garbage, electricity, water and sewerage.

Why are people who have proven themselves incompetent to lead in this area (our previous bankrupt council) allowed to stand for re-election now?

This is not democracy. It is dumb stupidity. I am more relaxed that the State government wants to keep them under control.

I do not like my ratepayer funds wasted.

SOURCE:
Email, 19 Sep 2024
Charles Hemmings, Woy Woy

Out of order automatic teller hits elderly and visitors

The automatic teller machine in West St, Umina, has been out of order for weeks.

This machine, outside Peninsular Office Supplies, is owned by "Precinct".

On Tuesday, September 24, I rang Dr Reid's office and reported the problem to his receptionist.

He gave me a telephone number.

It took me the entire day on Wednesday to connect with them and was assured that a "technical team" would be attending to it.

Today, Saturday, September 28,

it is still out of order.

There is no bank in Umina, and only one other ATM, which charges fees.

Many elderly and disabled residents are severely disadvantaged by this.

In addition, the local caravan park is fully booked with visitors, who need to access cash, particularly during weekends and school holidays.

What to do?

SOURCE:
Email, 28 Sep 2024
Yvette Pritchard, Woy Woy

Undercutting new councillors is unconscionable

May I congratulate you on your editorial in the current issue (Peninsula News 603).

It is a cogent and well-expressed position that we can all get behind, although I have no great hopes of a Ministerial turn-around.

It appears that the Minister's intention is to hamstring the Council from the get-go.

Of course, the fact that the same old hacks have been elected to the Council does not inspire confidence, but to undercut them before they even take office is unconscionable.

SOURCE:
Email, 16 Sep 2024,
Bruce Hyland, Woy Woy

Mr Hart's legacy

Administrator Hart has left the building and it's time to ask what was his greatest achievement?

Was it his last campaign when he espoused the value of reducing wards and councillor numbers to reduce costs?

This is akin to going on a world trip and focusing on ways to reduce toothpaste costs.

Did Mr Hart and all directors examine the council's huge budget and assets to identify waste?

All those who attended council meetings and observed electronically will know the answer, by the way meetings were conducted.

Directors will need to be retrained by the Minister for Local Government to comply with new meeting protocol or face suspension or sideways promotion, what is the cost of this action?

SOURCE:
Letter, 26 Sep 2024
Norm Harris, Umina

Woman of the Year nominations open

Nominations are open for the 2025 Gosford Woman of the Year Award.

"These awards recognise and celebrate the contributions of local women," said Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch.

"It is important to recognise the remarkable women in the Gosford electorate.

"There are so many outstanding women in the Gosford electorate whose efforts go unrecognised.

"Each year, the Gosford Woman of the Year Awards are such a fantastic opportunity to shine a light on women who make significant

contributions to our community."

"Each year, nominations recognise women from across community, professional and volunteer roles, who contribute in a million small and large ways to our community each day."

"I encourage members of the Gosford electorate to complete the secure online nomination form before 5pm on October 20."

The form can be found at <https://liesltesch.com.au/2025-gosford-woman-of-the-year/>

She said physical nomination forms were available at her office at 20 Blackwall Rd, Woy Woy.

Nominees must live in the Gosford electorate and must be aged 18 years and over.

Enquiries about the Gosford Woman of the Year Award can be emailed to gosford@parliament.nsw.gov.au.

SOURCE:
Media release, 19 Sep 2024
Joely Langmaid, Office of Member for Gosford

Noticeboard - Public Notices

The mower garage
New local mower shop
70 Rawson Rd, Woy Woy
Authorised STIHL and Bushranger dealer
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Woy Woy Peninsula Lions Club
Sunday **Oct 27**
7am to 1pm
Great variety of stalls - BBQ, Tea & Coffee.
Vendors Welcome - \$25 per car
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NB stall sites not open until 6.30am
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The Troubadour
Folk and Acoustic Music Club
Sat Oct 26, 7pm
Mimosa Duo
Everglades Club Woy Woy
Tickets \$20 members and \$25 non-members at www.troubadour.org.au
4342 6716

Small robots

A school holiday activity using small robots that can identify lines and colours will be held at Woy Woy Library at 10:30am on Tuesday, October 8.

It is promoted as "a screen-free robotics experience using Ozobots, tiny robots that can identify lines, colours and codes drawn on physical surfaces".

"Draw lines and arrange colours to get the miniature robots ziggling, zagging and zooming based on your commands."

The activity is designed for ages 9-12 years.

Bookings are essential, with tickets costing \$5 per child, and may be made at the library or by phone on 4350 5333 or 4304 7087.

SOURCE:
Website, 26 Sep 2024
Library Services, Central Coast Council



High Speed Rail Authority work starts

The High Speed Rail Authority has started survey work between Brooklyn and Dangar Island, according to Marine Rescue Hawkesbury.

It has been told that work is currently underway to develop the proposed first stage of a high speed rail network – a new connection between Newcastle and Sydney.

“Marine surveys will be carried out to support the development of the Newcastle to Sydney Business Case.

“Planned marine survey work Marine survey work will be carried out in the Hawkesbury River from Wednesday, September 25, to Wednesday, October 16.

“This involves a vessel moving

slowly in straight lines or in a grid pattern.

“Marine surveying involves a water vessel moving slowly in straight lines and in a grid pattern, around Dangar Island.

“Some survey methods involve towing survey equipment on the surface and underwater.

“The surface survey equipment will be connected to cables approximately 20 and 80 metres long with visible buoys.

“The vessel will be displaying day shapes during this work.”

More information about the High Speed Rail Project is available online at <https://www.hsr.gov.au/>.

SOURCE:
Social media, 26 Sep 2024
Marine Rescue Hawkesbury

Woy Woy Peninsula Community Garden has received \$14,500 for capital works under the NSW Community Building Partnership program.

It will be spent on fencing, gates, work benches and storage for the community garden.

Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch said the community garden and its team of passionate volunteers brought immense joy to locals' lives.

“I know how much joy I get from getting out in my garden, feeling my hands in the soil, getting amongst the joy of nature and enjoying the mindful pleasure that gardening brings to our lives,” she said.

“Members of our community from all walks of life are so very fortunate to have such a beautiful space in which to learn about the theoretical and practical aspects of growing and using food in a way that’s ecologically sustainable.”

The Garden’s public officer Ms Tania Haydn said the funding would go towards improvements and upgrades.

“Our focus is on enhancing facilities by installing workbenches and storage units inside the existing building and creating a secure storage area outside for our garden composting equipment.

“The capital work improvements will help sustain our garden resources for the future and deliver



positive social, recreational and safety outcomes at the garden for both the community and our team of volunteers.”

The Community Building Partnership program has funded more than 19,700 community projects since it commenced in 2009.

The Woy Woy Peninsula Community Garden is located at 85 Moana St, Woy Woy.

More information about the garden is available online at <https://wwpcg.org.au>.

SOURCE:
Media release, 17 Sep 2024.
Liesl Tesch, Member for Gosford

A cuppa and a chat

Woy Woy branch of the Country Women’s Association is inviting interested people to “pop in for a cuppa and a chat” on any Wednesday from 9am until midday.

The branch is located at 30 The Boulevard, Woy Woy.

“Every branch is different and works to what benefits their community.”

SOURCE:
Social media, 19 Sep 2024
CWA Woy Woy

Dr Gordon Reid MP

Member for Robertson



Caring for the Coast

Authorised by Dr G Reid, ALP, Level 3, 69 Central Coast Highway, West Gosford, NSW 2250

Thank you for putting your trust in me to represent you and our community in our nation's Parliament.

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- ✓ Federal Government Funding for Community Projects

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☎ (02) 4322 2400 ✉ Gordon.Reid.MP@aph.gov.au

Arts



Ettalong quilter wins blue ribbon at Quilt NSW Show

A quilter from the Ettalong Beach Arts and Craft Centre has won a blue ribbon at the Quilt NSW Show at Rosehill Racecourse.

A long-time member at the

Centre, Ms Carol Leitch was awarded a blue ribbon for her rendition of Bob Dylan, entitled "Blowin'".

SOURCE: Social media, 21 Sep 2024 EBACC



Arboretum to host History of British Rock concert

The Pearl Beach Progress Association and the Pearl Beach Arboretum will hold a concert with British rock music from the 1960s and 70s at the Pearl Beach Arboretum at 2:30pm on Saturday, October 12.

The show will start with the naive innocence of the post skiffle, poor man's 'rock and roll' of the early 60's, said progress association publicity officer Ms Lynne Lillico.

She said it would follow the world changing social tsunami of the British Invasion, into the development of British Soul, through Psychadelia, reinventing the Blues and finishing the decade with first stages of Hard Rock.

Covering artists from The Beatles to Queen, from The Hollies to T-Rex, from the Stones to ELO, the show is performed John Kater, Maddy Breen, Russell Crawford, Rod Auld and Michael Carpenter.

Ms Lillico said the Pearl Beach Progress Association and the Pearl Beach Arboretum were not-for-profit community-based organisations which relied on revenue from events and activities like this to manage environmental projects and local facilities.

"We have had music events in the Pearl Beach Arboretum since 1995, and we continue the tradition.

"The Arboretum with a capacity of 800 people at an event such as the History of British Rock promises to be a memorable afternoon."

Patrons are encouraged to bring a chair, picnic and rug.

Parking will be available near the tennis courts, accessed via Tourmaline Rd..

Bookings are essential, with tickets costing \$50 plus booking fee.

SOURCE: Media release, 27 Sep 2024 Lynne Lillico, Pearl Beach Progress Association

'Shop AI' wins Flash Festival competition

The short play Shop AI has won the Flash Festival ahead of five others at Woy Woy Little Theatre, performed over the weekend of September 20-22.

Shop AI also won an award for its writer Jenna Arnold for Best Unpublished Play, and was The People's Pick.

Professional writer, actor and drama lecturer Mr Carl Caulfield watched and adjudicated the performances.

Earlier in the year, he facilitated Flash workshops for writers, actors and directors.

He said he had read all the plays before coming to watch them and wondered how they would be interpreted by the directors and cast members.

He said he was "delighted at the great evening of entertainment".

"It was first class."

He awarded the Best Production award to Shop AI "for clever direction and tight ensemble work".

The Wunder of You was runner-up "for bold and surprising choices by the actors and director".

Its writer Sal Bartley won the award for Best Use of the 2024 Theme of Wonder, "for weaving it through the script both explicitly and implicitly".

Cast member Louise Sullivan won Best Actor "for being so relaxed inside the role but delivering a combination of comedic timing and emotion".

Fellow cast member Jake Cain-Roser was Best Actor runner-up "for intensity and surprising choices and range".

Mr Caulfield awarded the Judge's Special Award to actor Sue Kemp "for delivering a reflective and (without being patronising)



lovely, sweet and sensitive performance" in A Place in Time.

Six short plays were performed at the festival, selected from more than 20 script submissions.

They were the Wonder of Christmas, A Place in Time, The Wunder of You, Shop AI, The Waiting Room and Balance and Perspective

The Wonder of Christmas was written by David Crewe, directed by Mark Austin, with a cast of Amanda Benson, Micheal Sheather, Stephen McLaren and Angie Chase.

A Place in Time was written by Jake Cain-Roser, directed by Gordon Crawford, with a cast of Samara Dawson, Sue Kemp and Julia Telling.

The Wunder of You was written by Sally Bartley, directed by Natahnee Vetch, with a cast of Jake Cain-Roser and Louise Sullivan.

Shop AI was written by Jenna Arnold, directed by Eden McGilchrist, with a cast of Frank Wiffen, Michelle King, Takara Markwell and Trudi Slaven.

The Waiting Room was written by Trudi Slaven, directed by David Crewe, with Jessica Stanfield, Yvonne Berry-Porter and Vicki Sidoti.

Balance and Perspective was written by Scott Goodacre, directed by Terry Matthews, with a cast of Daz Knight and Donna Cromer.

Woy Woy Little Theatre president Ms Christine Vale said that behind the scenes were a team of members.

They included backstage: Lucia Mandile and Bob Farmer, stage manager Fran Armstrong, lighting and sound Lloyd Grounds and Flash convenor Graham Vale.

SOURCE: Social media, 23 Sep 2024 Woy Woy Little Theatre

Arboretum seeks artist-in-residence

The Pearl Beach Arboretum is seeking expressions of interest for an Artist-in-Residence and in its Local Emerging Artist Program.

The two positions will be part of the Pearl Beach Ephemeral Art Trail next year.

"The successful artist-in-residence applicant will receive a \$5000 artist fee plus \$2000 towards two weeks accommodation in Pearl Beach," said arboretum secretary

Ms Mary Knaggs.

"The Artist-in-Residence will be required to run at least two community or school workshops and will also mentor the Emerging Local Artist.

"The recently-upgraded Crommelin Cottage at the Arboretum will be the Artist-in-Residence Studio," she said.

The Local Emerging Artist must live on the Central Coast and will receive a \$2500 artist fee in return

for five days assisting the Artist-in-Residence and five days creating their own work.

Expressions of interest must be submitted by midnight Sunday, November 10.

November 2024.

More information is available online at <https://www.pearlbeacharboretum.org.au/pbeat-2025/pbeatforartists>

SOURCE: Website, 16 Sep 2024 Pearl Beach Arboretum

One-day literary event

A one-day literary event created by organisers of the Words on the Waves Festival and the Pearl Beach Progress Association, will be held on Saturday, November 2.

Called Words at Pearls, it will be held at the Pearl Beach Memorial Community Hall.

The theme for the day will "Inspired by Life", with authors

attending to inform and entertain, explaining how their actual life inspires their creative life.

The day will run from 9am to 4:30pm and will cost \$95.

Full details of the speakers and program can be found online at: <https://wordsonthewaves.com.au/words-at-pearls-2024/>

SOURCE: Media release, 26 Sep 2024 Words on the Waves

Spaces available

Spaces are still available for stalls at the Brisbane Water Oyster Festival to be held in Lions Park, Woy Woy, on Sunday, November 10.

A limited number of "general sites" was still available last week.

Email pwpevents@hotmail.com for an application form.

SOURCE: Social media, 26 Sep 2024 Brisbane Water Oyster Festival 2024

Bowling club gives \$8600

The Umina Beach Men's Bowling Club presented a cheque for \$8600 to the Central Coast Local Health District Prostate Cancer Unit on Wednesday, September 18.

"These were the funds raised at the club's Ron Pursehouse Prostate Cancer Charity Day, which was held on Wednesday, June 19," said club secretary Mr Peter Springett.

The club's sponsorship officer

Mr Ian Jarratt gave a brief history about the event.

Central Coast Health's cancer nurse co-ordinator Ms Kimberley Dalton thanked the club members for their outstanding effort in raising the significant amount of money, Mr Springett said.

"She gave a brief introduction to the possible equipment that CCH might buy with our donation."

President Lee Cribbs said a few words on behalf of the members.

SOURCE:

Social media, 18 Sep 2024
Peter Springett, UBMBC



Resident volunteers to help with defibrillation

A Pearl Beach resident has volunteered to help people needing a defibrillator.

Luke Stevenson has signed up as a responder with the phone application created by the NSW Ambulance Service.

The Goodsam app alerts him when someone nearby goes into cardiac arrest and a Triple Zero call has been received.

If he accepts an alert, the app shows him where to find the patient and the location of any nearby defibrillators.

Volunteers administer resuscitation while an ambulance is dispatched.

Mr Stevenson said resuscitation bought time "to keep patients' body and brain going".

"The ambos are brilliant at what they do, but if we as responders can get to a patient first, this can help improve their survivability."

He said: "As a responder you are helping somebody on the worst day of their life, and being able to give that help and support is important to them and rewarding to you."

"It's rewarding to take what you have learned and apply it in the real world."

"I am definitely more confident having actually performed CPR."

"It helps you to build endurance

and confidence, too."

He said he had been alerted on several occasions and had been able to attend two so far.

Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch said members of the community who were willing and able to perform resuscitation could make a real difference to peoples' survival rates.

"Nobody ever expects to go into cardiac arrest."

"For every minute that a patient doesn't get chest compressions, their chances of survival fall by between seven and 10 percent."

"Lives are already being saved, thanks to the assistance of GoodSAM volunteers," she said.

The app had 7300 responders signed up and 4300 defibrillators registered, incorporating the NSW public access defibrillator registry.

"Anyone with a defibrillator is encouraged to register it with NSW Ambulance, so responders can see it in the app."

Information about the application and becoming a registered responder can be found at <https://www.ambulance.nsw.gov.au/get-involved/goodsam/volunteering-with-goodsam>

SOURCE:

Media release, 18 Sep 2024
Joely Langmaid, Office of the Member for Gosford

MPs celebrate Meals on Wheels day

The Meals on Wheels restaurant in Woy Woy has had a visit from State Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch and Federal Member for Robertson, Dr Gordon Reid for Meals on Wheels Day.

Both politicians thanked the volunteers at Meals on Wheels Central Coast for their service.

"It was great to be able to help Meals on Wheels Central Coast during National Meals on Wheels Day," said Dr Reid.

"This fantastic service provides nutritious meals, and support to thousands of people on the Central Coast."

Ms Tesch said: "Meals on Wheels Central Coast helps the community by providing nutritious meals at a great price and leveraging the power of a meal to bring people together."

"Over 1000 tasty and nutritious meals a day are reaching dining tables across an area bigger than Canberra thanks to the dedication and commitment of Meals 160 caring volunteers, 18 dedicated staff and Board."

"Best of all, every time Meals on Wheels' caring volunteers turn up on peoples' doorsteps with delicious, affordable, quality meals they always bring with them generous servings of enthusiasm,

care, a helping hand and a listening ear."

The community restaurants, including at Woy Woy, serve morning tea, a hot lunch, dessert, and beverages and offer a social outing.

Meals on Wheels Central Coast operations manager Ms Leesa O'Keefe said volunteers were the lifeblood of the organisation.

"Volunteers are welcome."

Further information is available online at <https://www.ccmow.com.au/volunteering/> or by calling Amy Baulman on 0419 958 829.

SOURCE:

Media release, 25 Sep 2024
Gordon Reid, Member for Robertson
Liesl Tesch, Member for Gosford

Liesl Tesch MP

Member for Gosford

Parliamentary Secretary for Families and Communities
Parliamentary Secretary for Disability Inclusion

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Authorised by Liesl Tesch, 20 Blackwall Road, Woy Woy NSW 2256. Funded using Parliamentary Entitlements.

Education

Student satisfaction high at secondary college

A survey of student satisfaction at Brisbane Water Secondary College has shown it is higher than the state average.

"This fantastic feedback reflects the supportive, vibrant, and inspiring environment we've built together," said Woy Woy campus principal Ms Rebecca Cooper.

"Thank you to our amazing students, staff, and community for making our school a place where learning, growth, and connection thrive every day."

They survey found that students felt accepted and valued by their peers and by others at their school. They felt classroom instruction

is well-organised, with a clear purpose, and with immediate feedback that helps them learn.

Students felt they had someone at school who consistently provided encouragement and could be turned to for advice.

Students reported that school staff emphasised academic skills and held high expectations for all students to succeed.

Aboriginal students reported they felt good about their culture while at school (84 per cent) and that teachers understood their culture (75 per cent).

SOURCE:
Social media, 26 Sep 2024
Rebecca Cooper, BWSC Woy Woy



Governor-General introduces herself to Umina students

The Governor-General Ms Sam Mostyn has introduced herself to students from Umina Beach Public School on an excursion to Parliament House, Canberra.

"Our students were just starting a tour when Her Excellency arrived and was happy to join our group, introduce herself and talk with our students," said school principal Ms Karen Wardlaw, who accompanied the group.

"Year 6 were extremely respectful, interested and engaged

and were rewarded with an impromptu selfie moment with the accommodating Governor-General."

The tour of the national capital included 73 students from the school.

They were given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy.

Activities included an embassy tour, old Parliament House, the Electoral Education Office, the

National Museum, Government House and the Museum of Australian Democracy.

Other activities included a tour of the Australian War Memorial, a fun orienteering challenge at the National Arboretum, a little sightseeing and a bit of lunch before dropping in at Parliament House and chatting to Senator Deborah O'Neill, and a night visit to Canberra Reptile Zoo.

SOURCE:
Newsletter, 27 Sep 2024
Karen Wardlaw, Umina Beach Public School

Retiring after 41 years at the one school

Ettalong Public School's administrative manager Ms Helen Denning has decided to retire, after having been involved with the school for 41 years.

Her three children attended the school and then in 1983 she was employed in the school office.

"Helen began working at our great school, the same day that Mr Bruce Donaldson entered duty as principal," said current principal Ms Jodie Campbell.

"Helen first started when paper enrolments were entered into a book by hand, then she used a typewriter and now they are online.

"She has seen many computer programs come and go through the Department of Education and many faces across her busy desk.

"Helen has supported many students, families, staff members and principals throughout her



career.

"Helen's friendly, loyal and helpful nature will be missed in our day-to-day operations.

SOURCE:
Newsletter, 24 Sep 2024
Jodie Campbell, Ettalong Public School

Soccer knockout semi-final

Woy Woy South Public School's boys' soccer team competed in the semi-finals of the PSSA State Knockout competition.

They faced a tough Beacon Hills team and were defeated 5-0 on this occasion.

However, the boys have had an outstanding year of soccer, according to school principal Mr Matt Barr.

"They represented our school with passion, teamwork, and most importantly, exceptional sportsmanship in every game.

"We are incredibly proud of their achievement, as this is the furthest any team from Woy Woy South has advanced in a knockout competition in soccer."

SOURCE:
Social media, 26 Sep 2024
Matt Barr, Woy Woy South Public School



Borrow buddies for comfort

St John the Baptist Catholic Primary School now has a collection of hand-made "Borrow Buddies" to comfort students during their school day.

The "beautiful collection of toys" was made by a mother of two students, who donated them to the school, said principal Ms Nicole Davies.

"They are truly incredible. Our staff will be using these Borrow Buddies at their discretion, for students that might need a little extra help or comfort during their day at school.

"All Borrowed Buddies are to be returned to the office Buddy Tub at the end of each day.

SOURCE:
Social media, 26 Sep 2024
SJB Catholic Primary School

Good results in athletics championships

Peninsula students have featured strongly in the Sydney North Primary School Sports Association's athletics championships held at Sydney Olympic Park Athletics Centre on Monday, September 23.

The Southern Central Coast PSSA had over 100 students competing.

Four Peninsula students qualified for the NSW PSSA Championships next term:

They were:
Lylah Glynn (Umina) - 2nd place Jnr Girls 800m; 2nd place Jnr Girls 1500m.

Callan Atherton (Umina) - 1st place Snr Boys Shot Put; 1st place Snr

Boys Discus. He was also 10th place Snr Boys High Jump.

Samuel Rugendyke (Woy Woy) - 2nd place Snr Boys Multi-class Shot Put; 3rd place Snr Boys Multi-class Discus. He was also 7th place Snr Boys Multi-class 100m; 5th place Snr Boys Multi-class 200m; 4th place Snr Boys Multi-class Long Jump.

Leo Terjesen-soem (Woy Woy Sth) - 1st place 11 Yrs Boys Shot Put; 2nd place 11 Yrs Boys Discus.

Other students to achieve top 10 placings were:

Ettalong Public School: Sophia Arkhipova - 7th place Snr Girls 1500m. Constantine Arkhipov - 4th place Jnr Boys 800m. Harry Fawcett - 9th place Snr Boys Multi-class Shot Put;

5th place Snr Boys Multi-class

Discus.

Umina Beach Public School: Cavarlia Mundy - 5th place 8 Yrs Girls 100m. Ella O'Keefe - 9th place 8 Yrs Girls 100m, Eleanor Fleming - 9th place 11 Yrs Girls 800m; 7th place 11 Years Girls 1500m. Madeleine Bonnor - 10th place 11 Yrs Girls 1500m. Evelyn Harvey - 4th place Snr Girls Long Jump.

Woy Woy Public School: Annika Graham - 8th place 10 Yrs Girls 100m; 6th place Jnr Girls 200m; 4th place Jnr Girls Long Jump.

Woy Woy South Public School: Isaac Beecroft - 8th place 9 Yrs Boys 100m. Zane Proctor - 9th place Jnr Boys Long Jump.

SOURCE:
Social media, 24 Sep 2024
Southern Central Coast PSSA



Carol wins women's golf shootout

Carol Post has won the Everglades Women's Shootout, with Yvonne Kerkin runner-up, their finals week of play on Tuesday, September 17.

The weather was glorious on the final day.

As each competitor was knocked out they were presented with a prize and glass.

A drinks cart followed the play,

and happily kept those glasses topped up all the way.

Pictured below are the top 10 qualifiers after eight rounds.

SOURCE:
Social media, 19 Sep 2024
Everglades Country Club



Cold, windy and successful charity day

Ettalong Bowling Club held its charity bowls day on Sunday, September 15, with 50 attendees plus social bowlers and "the Rebels", according to organiser Mr Ken Dixon.

It was a "cold, windy" and "successful" day which raised \$1055 for Central Coast Kids in

Need.

"The spider was won for the first time by Jenny Hibbert and the winning rink went to Lyn Sawyer, Ray Reed and Bob Epis.

"We all enjoyed salad and meat rolls for lunch.

"Kitty Peterson was a prolific winner cleaning up with six prizes including the Michel's Voucher.

"Kitty turns 100 next month so

some early birthday presents went her way.

"The Wednesday Bowlers Vodka prize went to Bob Willis who donated it for auction with Alan Walton the winning bidder raising another \$50 for charity."

The next Charity Bowls Day will be held on Sunday, October 20.

SOURCE:
Media release, 21 Sep 2024
Ken Dixon, Ettalong Bowling Club

Sporting groups apply for defibrillators

Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch is encouraging local groups to apply for funds under the NSW Government's Local Sport Defibrillator Grant Program.

The program provides up to \$3000 to eligible sporting organisations for the purchase of automated external defibrillators at

sports facilities.

Applications close on November 27 or when funding is exhausted.

Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch said: "Defibrillators are vital pieces of equipment for our communities.

"With more people getting involved in sport and recreation, it is so important that sports facilities

have the critical equipment on hand to respond to life-threatening incidents such as cardiac arrest."

Further information, including eligibility criteria and guidelines are available online at: <https://www.sport.nsw.gov.au/grants/local-sport-defibrillator-grant-program>

SOURCE:
Media release, 19 Sep 2023
Liesl Tesch, Member for Gosford

Blind Everglades bowler wins championship

Everglades bowler Scott Jones qualified as a lawn bowler in July and started with the introductory Thirsty Thursday social bowlers at Everglades Country Club, despite his serious vision impairment.

After playing less than 10 games with Thursday group, Scott also joined the Gosford Blind Bowlers, playing every second Wednesday.

Then, just seven weeks after he was accredited as a lawn bowler, Scott nominated for the NSW and ACT State Championship hosted at Gosford on September 20 to 22, playing in both singles and pairs.

Over the first two days of the championships, Scott was undefeated, convincingly winning all his singles matches to win the Gold Medal in the B2 division, for those with the second most severe impairment.

In the latter half of the championship, the entrants were paired to equalise the competition and played a three-round round-robin competition.

After a win and draw, Scott and partner suffered a defeat in the last round, this being Scott's only loss



over the three days.

This resulted in the pair being awarded the silver medal on a count-back by a very narrow margin.

Observers at Everglades said they were not surprised at these results, having observed Scott's performance over the period.

Scott played blind cricket for NSW from 2012, captaining the State side in 2016.

He played his last game as recently as February this year.

SOURCE:
Media release, 23 Sep 2024
Ray Benton, Everglades Men's Bowls

Umina Eagles soccer club gives summary of year

The Umina Eagles soccer club has release a summary of its achievements for the year.

It had a total of 76 teams this year, with 47 non-competition teams (for 5-11 year-olds) and 29 competition teams.

Of the competition teams, 17 made it into the finals and semi-finals, with nine playing in the

grand final.

Five teams finished first in their competitions, earning the title of League Champions: M35C, U14A, WAA5, and WAA6-2, Div1 Reserve Grade.

Five teams emerged as Premiers: M35C, U12A-1, U14A, W12A, and WAA6-2.

SOURCE:
Social media, 27 Sep 2024
Umina United

Junior rugby roles 'on offer'

Woy Woy Rugby Club has the following junior rugby roles "on offer" for the 2025 season.

Roles that are currently available include junior president U6-U12, junior president U13-U17/18, junior secretary, junior registrar, and Central Coast Rugby Union junior rep.

Other junior roles include social

media, photographer, canteen manager and canteen organiser.

For further information and to apply, email secretaryjuniors@woywoyrugby.com.au or president@woywoyrugby.com.au or call Phil Burgess on 0435 814 412.

SOURCE:
Social media, 23 Sep 2024
Bianca Plunkett Gooley,
Woy Woy Rugby Club

Swans win Club of the Year

Peninsula Swans Junior Australian Football Club has been awarded the Junior Club of the Year at the Hunter Central Coast AFL awards night.

Up against the bigger clubs around the Coast, the award

recognises the work of the volunteers and children to create a welcoming and fun environment for children to play AFL.

SOURCE:
Social media, 25 Sep 2024
Woy Woy Peninsula Swans AFL

Sport

Soccer club holds academy presentations

Southern and Ettalong United Football Club held its Academy Presentation on Wednesday, September 18, at the Everglades Country Club.

"This year's academy was a tremendous success, and none of that would have been possible without the support of our coaches, families, and community," said club president Mr Sam Appleby.

"We are immensely proud of the progress that each of our players has made, and honoured those who have gone above and beyond in their journey.

"From technical skills to leadership and sportsmanship, each award recognised the unique contribution these players have made and the skills they have gained."

Bobbie Skene was named Most

Outstanding Female Academy Player.

Jackson Sceats was named Most Outstanding Male Academy Player (Bill Vrolyks Award).

Age Group Award recipients were: Over-10s advanced, Jackson Sceats; Over-10s Girls intermediate/advanced, Bobbie Skene; Under-8/Under-9s advanced, Nash Tomlin; Under-8/Under-9s Intermediate, Nate Taylor; Over-10s intermediate, Nate Fisher; Goalkeepers, Edward Pegg; Under-8/Under-9 Girls intermediate, Frankie Legge; and Under-8/Under-9 intermediate Alfie Tutton.

Recipients of Pathway Squad acceptance letters were: Rory Muldoon, Riley Needle, and Broden Preston.

SOURCE:
Social media, 20 Sep 2024
Southern & Ettalong United Football Club



Everglades Mixed Fours final played

The final of the Everglades Mixed Fours was contested on Sunday, September 22.

The team of Deb McInnes, Val Davey, Vince Chand and Ken Young (22) defeated Peter Green, Wendy Ide, Jan Mower and Ian Richardson (15).

"Ken's side started very well

winning the first four ends," said club secretary Mr Grant Ireland.

"However, Ian's side were back in the game after winning six consecutive ends, reeling the score back to 14/15 at one stage.

"Some fine bowling was demonstrated from all competitors."

For more information about

bowls at Everglades, email bowls@evergladesc.com.au

Pictured are Ken Young, Jan Mower, Val Davey and Vince Chand

SOURCE:
Media release, 26 Sep 2024
Grant Ireland, Everglades Men's Bowls

Little Aths looks for 'age managers'

The Woy Woy Peninsula Little Athletics Association is looking for "age managers".

The Association says it cannot function without them and each group needs someone to step up.

"Our age managers are responsible for getting their group to scheduled events, giving some basic instruction on what to do on the night, help coordinate the recording of results and hand out the weekly superstar award.

"We are currently in the process of finalising our age groups in the lead-up to the start of the season in a few weeks time.

"Committee members, volunteers and coaches are on hand to help on the night.

"We will also be holding an age managers' orientation training from 5-6pm on October 18.

"There are some good online resources available on the LANSW website you can check out.

"Age Managing is not a difficult job and it is a requirement that all parents stay with their children to assist the Age Manager.

"The role can easily be shared."

SOURCE:
Social media, 27 Sep 2024
Woy Woy Peninsula Little Athletics



Umina holds King and Queen Carnival

Umina Beach Men's Bowling Club held its annual King and Queen of the Central Coast Carnival on September 21 and 22.

Club secretary Mr Peter Springett described it as "a sensational carnival, played in great spirit in glorious sunshine".

"Unfortunately two of the bigger Central Coast Bowls clubs carded

their championships at the same time and a few of the early entries had to withdraw, so we had to scramble to get replacement teams."

The winners were: First place, Margaret and Russ Hughes, Avoca 6W +54.

Second place, Lauren Ford and Glenn Simington, Umina 6W +44.

Third place, Lyndall and Scott

Webster, Canton/Terrigal 6W +19.

Fourth place, Pat Neal and Ray Bourke, Umina W5.5 +19.

Fifth place, Mavis Bland and John Orme, Ettalong 5W +41.

Consolation prizes went to Vicki and Mick Redrup, Everglades, and Aileen and Ken Robertson, Umina.

SOURCE:
Social media, 22 Sep 2024
Peter Springett, UBMBC



Tennis club installs shed

The Woy Woy Tennis Club has installed a new equipment shed.

"Toxic chemicals, paint, old junk and tennis equipment" that were in the office are now in the new shed.

With this removed, the club has plans to improve the office facilities.

SOURCE:
Social media, 18 Sep 2024
Woy Woy Tennis Club

Woy Woy Football Club will hold its presentation night at Ettalong Diggers from 6pm-11pm on Saturday, October 26.

A three-course sit-down dinner and entertainment will be provided, with MC Matt Tancred.

Tickets will cost \$50

The junior club's Mini Roo and

Junior Presentation will be held from 9:45am on Sunday, October 13, at the Austin Butler Oval.

The two and a half hour event will include a variety of activities and entertainment for everyone.

Players will receive a sausage sizzle, drink (can or water), and cool off with a Zooper Dooper ice block.

Families are encouraged to

bring a packed picnic and a rug to watch the action.

A barbecue will be available all day.

The medal presentation will be held after lunch, from 1:30pm, to celebrate everyone's achievements.

SOURCE:
Social media, 11 Sep 2024
Woy Woy Football Club