

# Peninsula News

## Community Access

EDITION 636

THE PENINSULA'S OWN NEWS SERVICE INC

26 JANUARY 2026



## Peninsula is one quarter of region's visitor economy

The Peninsula sub-region represents almost a quarter of the region's "visitor economy", according to a draft Central Coast Council document currently "on exhibition".

The Peninsula has annual visitor spending of \$309 million (24 per cent) with 931,000 visitors annually, it says.

This is the highest spending of any of the six visitor "sub-regions" identified in the Draft Destination Management Plan on exhibition as part of the Council's consultation on "Strengthening the Regional Economy".

The Entrance and Northern Lakes receives the next highest with \$268M (21 per cent) with 1.2 million visitors.

Gosford and Surrounds receive \$234M (18 per cent) with 1.3 million visitors.

Terrigal is fourth with \$233M (18 per cent) with 863,000 visitors.

The Peninsula sub-region, which includes the Bouddi Peninsula, has the highest spend per visitor of \$332.

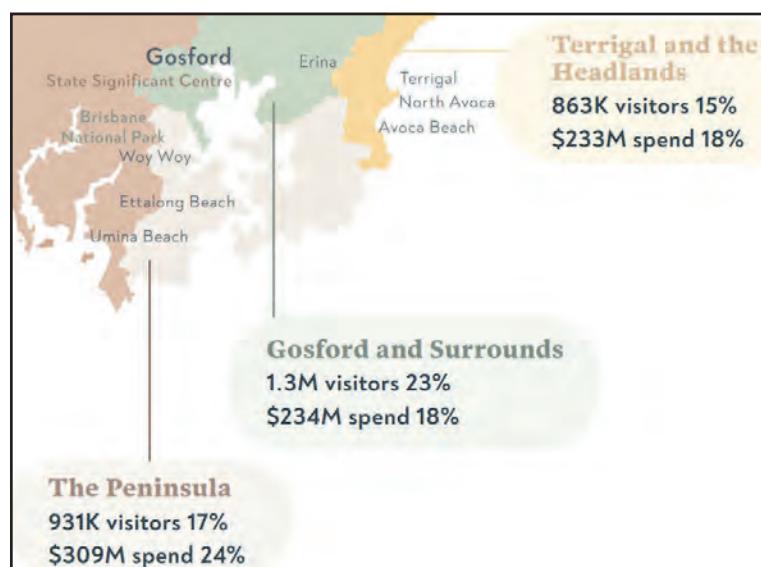
This outstrips Terrigal at \$270, The Entrance at \$233, and the Central Coast Hinterland at \$194.

Gosford, at \$180, receives less than Wyong at \$185.

The draft plan comments: "The Peninsula subregion generated the highest overall visitor expenditure, despite receiving comparatively low visitation.

"It is the only subregion to follow this pattern, suggesting visitors to the Peninsula spend more per visit.

"This is likely attributed to the high proportion of overnight stays, which is driven by the variety of visitor accommodation options available and the presences of



products and experiences that encourage and enable longer stays."

In its "sub-regional analysis" of the Peninsula, the draft Plan says: "Known for its laid-back coastal charm, this subregion offers a blend of natural beauty, local culture and convenient access to Sydney.

"The subregion is appealing as a destination for weekend getaways and short breaks.

"Woy Woy serves as a key gateway to the Central Coast, with its scenic waterfront.

"Umina Beach and Ettalong Beach are favoured for their pristine beaches, calm waters and family-friendly atmosphere, ideal for swimming and picnicking.

"The subregion also boasts a vibrant local food scene, with weekly markets, fresh seafood and waterfront dining.

"The Bouddi National Park Coastal Walk is also a major driver of visitation." It lists the "challenges" of the Peninsula.

These include "accessibility ...

difficult due to the geography of the Peninsula and road network".

It says its small villages have "limited development potential given the environmental constraints".

It lists opportunities as commercial boat tours, ferries, wildlife tours commencing in and from Brisbane Water (Woy Woy).

Investment in wellness tourism is listed as an opportunity for "accommodation, yoga, forest bathing etc".

Ecotourism development is also listed.

The plan lists one of seven "high impact tourism opportunities" as establishing a ferry which services Brisbane Water towns.

Council would "undertake a feasibility study for a large and regular ferry service operating from Gosford to Woy Woy, linking towns of the Brisbane Water".

The comment period closes on Wednesday, March 4

SOURCE:  
Website, 23 Jan 2026  
Your Voice Our Coast

## Heavy rain causes widespread flooding

The heaviest rain in at least 21 years caused widespread flooding around the Peninsula, brought trees down, caused beach erosion and stopped train travel between Hornsby and Gosford on Saturday, January 17.

Mr Jim Morrison of Umina recorded 288.2mm in the 24 hours to 9am on Sunday, January 18.

The rainfall rate at 2:10pm was recorded at 154mm/hour.

It was the wettest day in the 21 years that Mr Morrison has been recording Peninsula rainfall, with the next highest daily rainfall being 165mm recorded in January 2015.

A limited rail replacement bus

service was put in place on Sunday morning.

Trains were out of action until Sunday afternoon, when they resumed at a reduced speed due to flooding on the tracks between Hawkesbury River and Wondabyne.

Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch advised residents to avoid non-essential travel and not to drive in floodwater.

Both Fire and Rescue NSW and the Rural Fire Service reported clearing fallen trees and storm damage.

SOURCE:  
Social media, 17 Jan 2026  
NSW Central Coast Incident Alerts  
Photo: Woy Woy Fishermen's Wharf

RAINFALL REPORT: Page 2

## Produced on the Peninsula

**Peninsula news & advertising for the Peninsula community**

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Frank Wiffen, 25 Jan 2026

## Can't find a copy of Peninsula News?

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**Next issue: Monday, February 9**

**Call us on 4342 5333**

**Email: contributions@peninsula.news**

# Peninsula News

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.



## Gold trophies for trees in nature strips

The Grow Urban Shade Trees community group has recently awarded "gold trophies" to residents who have maintained trees in their nature strips.

"We love it when residents give us an update about how well the trees that we have planted are progressing," said group member Ms Deb Sunartha.

"After over 1000 trees planted, we don't get to see them all so we are happy for our residents to show off their trees' progress.

Recent winners included a water gum and an ivory curl, which was flowering for the first time since it was planted in September 2023.

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 21 Jan 2026  
GUST Grow Urban Shade Trees

## Highest daily rainfall in 21 years

Rainfall of 364.6mm has been recorded the Peninsula for January as of last Friday, January 23.

The total included 288.2mm recorded for the 24 hours to 9am on January 18, the wettest day in the 21 years that Mr Jim Morrison of Umina has been recording Peninsula rainfall.

At 2:10pm on January 17, the rainfall rate was recorded at 154mm per hour.

The following day, another 37mm was recorded.

The record daily rainfall was 75 per cent more than the next wettest day, January 19, 2015, when 165mm was recorded.

The month's total already makes this month the second wettest January in 21 years, with the next wettest January being in 2015 when just 2.4mm more, 367mm, was recorded.

This month's total exceeds the combined average rainfall of

Date	Rank	
18-Jan-2026	1	288mm
19-Jan-2015	2	165mm
09-Feb-2020	3	161mm
23-May-2025	4	159mm
08-Apr-2022	5	155mm
06-Apr-2024	6	152mm
05-Jun-2016	7	150mm
29-Jan-2013	8	128mm
21-Apr-2015	9	123mm
06-Jun-2016	10	111mm
09-Jun-2007	11	110mm
20-Aug-2007	12	106mm

120mm for January and 151mm for February.

It is less than 20 per cent short of the average rainfall for the first three months of the year, 443mm.

Several months in the past 21 years have recorded more than 365mm of rain with the wettest

## Volunteer for garden

Woy Woy Peninsula Community Garden has opened volunteering applications.

An information session will be held from 10am to 11:30am on Saturday, February 14, at the garden at 87 Moana St, Woy Woy.

Email membership@wwpcg.org.au for more information.

**SOURCE:**

Media release, 17 Jan 2026  
Julie Gilbody, Woy Woy Peninsula Community Garden

## Girls AFL

The Woy Woy Peninsula Swans AFL Club is launching a junior girls under-10 AFL team for the coming season.

The club describes the game as "a fun, inclusive team sport where girls can learn new skills, build confidence and make great friends".

It is free to register and to play.

All abilities are welcome.

"Never played before? That's totally okay."

**SOURCE:**

Social media, 21 Jan 2026  
Woy Woy Peninsula Swans AFL

TIDE	Mon, Jan 26	Thu, Jan 29	Sun, Feb 1	Wed, Feb 4	Sat, Feb 7
TIME	0253 0.97	0603 1.12	0231 0.12	0512 0.13	0032 0.91
and	0923 0.27	1328 0.18	0855 1.27	1115 1.19	0645 0.21
Heights	1500 0.79	1855 0.67	1624 0.07	1821 0.09	1236 0.98
	2113 0.17		2140 0.80	2351 0.89	1915 0.15
TUE, Jan 27		FRI, Jan 30	MON, Feb 2	THU, Feb 5	SUN, Feb 8
	0353 1.01	0031 0.18	0328 0.11	0559 0.17	0157 0.91
	1044 0.27	0706 1.18	0944 1.28	1157 1.10	0820 0.30
	1615 0.70	1437 0.13	1708 0.06	1851 0.12	1355 0.73
AT	2215 0.19	1959 0.70	2225 0.84		2006 0.22
ETTALONG	WED, Jan 28	SAT, Jan 31	TUE, Feb 3	FRI, Feb 6	MON, Feb 9
	0459 1.06	0132 0.15	0422 0.11	0032 0.91	0243 0.90
	1208 0.23	0802 1.24	1030 1.26	0645 0.21	0920 0.32
	1737 0.66	1534 0.09	1747 0.07	1236 0.98	1442 0.63
	2324 0.20	2052 0.75	2308 0.87	1915 0.15	2043 0.26

NEWS email: contributions@peninsula.news

# Council plan to simplify approval of 'key events'

Central Coast Council's approvals processes for key events will be "simplified" under a draft Events Strategy Action Plan.

The plan is currently on exhibition for public comment as part of the Council's "Strengthening the Regional Economy" consultation.

Under the plan, the Events and Placemaking staff of the council would "obtain blanket development applications for key event sites".

They would "prepare key plans that allow for events to operate", including traffic management plans in conjunction with NSW Police and Transport for NSW.

The draft action plan says this "can be delivered under existing budget and resources".

The planned action appears to address obstacles experienced by festival organisers, where one section of Council has appeared to encourage and financially-support festivals, while the planning section of the Council has appeared to stand in the way of the same festivals.

The Coastal Twist Festival's Coastie Carnie Fair Day in Umina

was almost cancelled last October due to the conflict within the council, with approval only being issued at the last minute after delays and a dispute about planning processes and traffic management approval.

In another action under the plan, Events and Placemaking staff would work with Community Facilities staff to "explore the establishment of an event concierge or similar function to streamline approvals and support event organisers through Council processes".

In other actions, Facilities and Asset Management staff would audit key event sites to inform future capital expenditure and "to ensure sites are fit for purpose and growth".

Events and Placemaking staff would also develop and implement environmental sustainability guidelines for events, encouraging practices that reduce waste, protect public spaces, and minimise environmental impact, with clear expectations embedded in event planning resources.

SOURCE:  
Website, 23 Jan 2026  
Your Voice Our Coast



## Woy Woy Rd to receive \$1.6 million

**Woy Woy Rd has received \$1.6 million through the Federal Labor Government's 2025-26 Black Spot Program funding.**

Member for Robertson Dr Gordon Reid said: "I welcome the announcement that Woy Woy Rd will receive \$1.6 million in federal funding for the implementation of safety improvements.

"As many people in our community know, Woy Woy Rd has seen many serious crashes over the years.

"I launched a petition last year calling on all levels of government to work together towards a solution.

"The Federal Labor Government has listened and will provide \$1.6 million for safety improvements through the 2025-26 Black Spot Program.

"This funding will be provided to the NSW Government and Transport for NSW, who are the responsible authorities that will undertake the work, and will need to complete the work over the next three years."

Dr Reid said the Black Spot Program funded safety measures such as traffic lights, safety barriers, roundabouts, and pedestrian crossings at locations where a number of serious crashes have

occurred or are at risk of occurring.

"The project was recommended by the Black Spot Consultative Panel in NSW," he said.

"This panel is comprised of local stakeholders who are best placed to ensure nominations of the highest priority and importance to the local community are recommended for approval."

Woy Woy resident Mr Paul Walker said: "This funding is a welcome outcome following events that affected my wife and family last year on Woy Woy Rd."

SOURCE:  
Media release, 13 Jan 2026  
Gordon Reid, Member for Robertson

## Helicopters called for fall injuries

**A child was transported by road to Westmead Children's Hospital on Wednesday, January 21, after falling from play equipment at Lions Park.**

Careflight was asked to assist NSW Ambulance, and landed at Austin Butler Oval.

The medical team attended to and accompanied the child on the road trip to Westmead.

The helicopter departed without them.

Three days earlier, on Sunday, January 18, a man was airlifted from Patonga to Royal North Shore Hospital after falling about



four metres from a ladder. Both NSW Ambulance and the Rural Fire Service attended, while the Toll Rescue Helicopter landed

at Patonga oval.

SOURCE:  
Social media, 21 Jan 2026  
NSW Central Coast Incident Alerts

## Couple celebrates 71 years

Kath and Len Player celebrated their 71st wedding anniversary on Monday, January 19.

Residents of Peninsula Village

aged care facility in Umina, they spent the morning with family and friends.

SOURCE:  
Social media, 20 Jan 2026  
Peninsula Village

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## Three side-by-side units proposed

**A new development application has proposed three side-by-side units over two lots at 15-17 Hector St, Umina.**

The application is non-compliant with planning provisions for floor space ratio and for parking.

It has a floor space ratio of 0.537:1 where the limit is 0.5:1 and provides only three car spaces, where six are required.

The proposal, prepared by Zsquare Urban Pty Ltd, seeks to amalgamate two existing lots to create a single site of 869 square metres for the construction of the three two-storey dwellings.

The application states that the flat-roof contemporary design by L87 Architects, which differs from surrounding traditional houses, aims to reduce its "mass by using "curved upper-level elements, varied materiality, recessed building planes, and deliberate breaks between the three dwellings".

The development comprises two four-bedroom units flanking a central unit consisting of three bedrooms and a home theatre, with each dwelling having a single garage.

Each unit will have its own pedestrian access.

One unit will have its own driveway, while the other two will share a driveway.

The application argues that the proposed floor space ratio is justified because it is "solely associated with improving internal amenity and delivering functional, well-proportioned dwellings rather than increasing intensity of use".

It states that the proposal does not introduce additional dwellings, parking demand, or traffic generation.

It argues that the shortfall in off-street parking is justified: "Given the site area and its close proximity to the local centre and public transport, the provision of one on-site car space per dwelling

is considered reasonable."

It states that an additional vehicle may also be accommodated on the driveway.

The planning provisions require six parking spaces for this development, including one visitor space, and does allow tandem parking to meet the requirements.

They also require vehicles to enter and leave in a forward direction, which has not been provided.

The application proposes two swamp mahogany street trees, and three cabbage tree palms and two Manzanillo olive trees on site.

The application claims the development exceeds minimum design expectations and achieves design excellence, despite non-compliance with planning provisions.

It will be on public exhibition from January 30 to February 20.

**SOURCE:**  
DA Tracker, 23 Jan 2026  
DA/1994/2025, Central Coast Council

## Application for jetty

**An application has been lodged for a jetty, ramp, pontoon, and mooring pen at 57 Woy Woy Rd, Woy Woy.**

The proposal, prepared by Southern Waterfronts, seeks approval for a 38-metre by 1-metre mesh jetty, a smaller mesh ramp, and a pontoon measuring 3.6 metres by 2.4 metres, alongside four new mooring piles to create a designated pen.

The application notes that the site, located in Woy Woy Bay, is currently devoid of structures but sits within a "high boating precinct" where such infrastructure is common.

The application states the project is designed to "achieve an equitable occupation and use of land for the family to safely berth, embark and disembark from a vessel at all tides".

The application paid regard to a bed of zostera seagrass spanning the site.

While the installation of 16 piers was estimated to result in the loss of approximately 0.8 square metres of habitat, the accompanying marine report concludes that potential impacts "are expected to be minor".

To mitigate shading, the design proposes "seagrass friendly" mesh

decking capable of allowing "at least 50% light penetration" to the vegetation below.

Government bodies have provided preliminary feedback, with NSW Maritime confirming the design has "minimal impact on the safety of navigation," provided that an existing private mooring is relocated at the applicant's expense.

Additionally, the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (Fisheries) indicated it has "no objections to the lodgement" of the application following their review of the conservation provisions.

The application concludes: "The assessment report has confirmed to Council that the works will not result in adverse impacts on the use of Brisbane Water, by either adjoining residents or the general public."

"The structures do not impact unreasonably on other waterway users. Equally, the works will have minimal impact on the surrounding marine ecology."

The application is currently on public exhibition and open for submissions until February 16.

**SOURCE:**  
DA Tracker, 25 Jan 2026  
DA/1919/2025, Central Coast Council



## Third attempt for change of use from shop to dwelling house

**A third attempt is being made to the change the use of the "Halfway Shop" at 471 Ocean Beach Rd from "commercial" to "dwelling house".**

Central Coast Council is currently exhibiting the development application (DA/1847/2025) for comment.

It describes its purpose as "the conversion of a commercial premises to a dwelling house on Lot 1 in SP 107487 1/471 Ocean Beach Rd, Umina Beach, as illustrated in the plans prepared by Lever Designs".

This was first proposed in DA/1964/2024 lodged on December 3, 2024, which was "returned" on December 13.

It was subsequently submitted as DA/147/2025 lodged on February 18, 2025, but withdrawn after the public exhibition for unknown reasons.

The current proposal appears



to remain the same as the last application, without explanation.

As well as converting a single-storey rendered brick and weatherboard restaurant into a residential dwelling, it demolishes a detached garage-shed to construct a new garage and covered rear deck.

It is claimed that the external appearance of the building, known colloquially in the 1980s

as the "Halfway Shop", will remain substantially the same, with only minimal changes.

A large covered deck will replace a service area at the rear, the building will be re-clad and the windows replaced to "complement the streetscape while maintaining its original corner-shop character", according to the application prepared by Clarke Dowdle and Associates.

The main, and perhaps only, real difference between the previous application and this one lies not within the currently exhibited documentation but in what has been left out.

The public exhibition for the previous application included 11 sheets of drawings and other documentation under the heading "Notification Plans".

This one has just two, sheets 6 and 7 which contain elevations only.

Amongst the missing sheets is the site plan (a requirement of the Act) and also sheet number 1 which contains a table of "Key Environmental Effects".

This differs from the application in that it lists two aspects as being non-compliant.

One is Site Coverage which is labelled "Does Not Comply" with a requirement of 50 per cent and the proposal being 67 per cent.

The other is Outbuildings with a

requirement of 45 per cent and the proposal being 57 per cent, which is also labelled "Does Not Comply".

The Final Design Safety Report which is included in this exhibition list several potential hazards associated with demolition included in the project including "dilapidated or unsafe structures", "asbestos removal or disturbance", "lead paint or dangerous chemicals" and "possible collapse or temporary instability".

The missing drawings and other information supplied with the previous application are still available on the Council's planning portal with the previous application (DA/147/2025).

The current application is on public exhibition and open for written submissions until February 2.

**SOURCE:**  
DA Tracker, 24 Jan 2026  
DA/1847/2025, Central Coast Council



## Filipino staff perform cultural celebration at aged care facility

Filipino staff at a Umina aged care facility have performed a cultural and religious celebration for their residents.

Residents at Peninsula Villages were treated to "Ati-Atihan", a vibrant cultural and religious celebration honoring the Santo Nino (Holy Child Jesus).

Chief executive Mr Colin Osborne said the celebration included energetic street dancing,

drumming, and tribal-inspired costumes where participants painted their faces black and shouted "Hala Bira".

"It blends pre-colonial traditions, like honoring the Ati, with Catholic faith, featuring parades, masses, and non-stop partying, making it a significant event for Filipino heritage and unity."

SOURCE: Social media, 16 Jan 2026 Peninsula Villages

## Little Theatre presents Dinner with Friends

Woy Woy Little Theatre will present the play Dinner with Friends from Friday, February 20.

The play, written by Donald Margulies, is about two married couples whose long-standing friendship is shaken when one couple's marriage dissolves.

Through its four characters, the play explores the fragility of relationships, the shifting nature of intimacy, and the impact of change on long-term bonds.

The play received the 2000 Pulitzer Prize for Drama.

Directed by Liz Munro, the cast includes Jarrod Rizzato as Gabe, Jessica Curtis as Karen, Madi Leidich as Beth and Paul Karton as Tom.

The play will run for a season of 10 performances over three weekends from Friday, February 20.

Subscriptions are still available for the full 2026 Little Theatre season, with a 20 per cent discount on the cost of all four plays.

SOURCE: Media release, 21 Jan 2026 Graham Vale, Woy Woy Little Theatre

## Fran Kendall receives OAM in Australia Day Honours

Frantastics Choir founder Ms Fran Kendall has been awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) in the Australia Day Honours "for service to music, and to the performing arts".

Ms Kendall founded the Frantastics Choir in 2005 and has served as director, accompanist, choreographer and soloist since.

She retired as its musical director in November 2024.

Ms Kendall was a member of the Gosford Musical Society since 1975 and appointed a life member in 1983.

Over the years, she served as its president, musical director, choreographer and stage lead.



In the early 1980s, she founded and directed the Gosford Musical Society Children's Theatre.

She is a former director, actor

and musical director at the Woy Woy Little Theatre and at the Wyong Drama Group.

She was director of productions including Les Miserables in 1993, Calamity Jane in 1991, Guys and Dolls in 1992, Mother Goose in 1982, Aladdin in 1982 and Let's Celebrate.

Ms Kendall is a former assistant principal at Ettalong Public School and has received a Pride of Workmanship Award from Rotary Kincumber, a Vocational Service Award from Rotary Woy Woy and a New South Wales Award for her Contribution to Children's Education.

SOURCE: Media release, 16 Jan 2026 Secretary to the Governor-General



## The Frantastics to hold open rehearsal

The Frantastics Choir will hold an open rehearsal from 1pm on Monday, February 16, at the Walter Baker Hall, in Blackwall Rd, Woy Woy.

Members will be available to answer questions during the rehearsal break.

The choir is hoping to attract both people interested in joining the choir and those who would like

to book a performance.

"The Frantastics is a mixed choir that performs a wide variety of popular music, from The Carpenters and John Denver to Grease, The Seekers, and more," said Ms Catherine Broady.

"This music delights not only our audiences but the performers as well."

"This is the perfect opportunity

to check us out."

Anyone interested in attending is asked to email cath.broady@gmail.com.

Registration for current members will be held at the Walter Baker Hall at 12:30pm next Monday, February 2.

SOURCE: Social media, 10 Jan 2026 The Frantastics Choir

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# The developer's dilemma: a fascinating case study

For local residents observing the changing face of Umina Beach, the proposed development at 15-17 Hector St, Umina, offers a fascinating case study in the economics of modern housing.

I asked myself why do developers of high-end developments submit non-compliant applications?

What are the financial considerations?

Can a high-end development succeed with single garages?

The plan involves demolishing two existing cottages to build three high-specification, two-storey residences.

However, a closer look at the planning documents reveals a "developer's dilemma": how to balance strict council controls against the demands of luxury buyers.

I resorted to Google's AI software, Gemini, to get some idea

of the considerations involved. It made the following suggestions.

The driving force behind this proposal is the potential "uplift" in value.

Current estimates place the value of the existing cottages at approximately \$1.07 million to \$1.08 million each.

However, by amalgamating the lots and building three premium dwellings, the developer is targeting a much higher price point.

Google's analysis suggests that new four-bedroom townhouses in this pocket of Umina Beach can command between \$1.65 million and \$1.85 million each.

To achieve these premium prices, the homes need to offer specific "lifestyle" features.

The proposed design includes modern "coastal" facades with timber-toned cladding, and layouts that feature either four bedrooms or a "home theatre" media room.

The dilemma arises when trying

to fit these luxury features into the site while respecting local planning rules.

The developer is seeking a greater floor space ratio, asking to exceed the allowable limit by about 32.8 square metres.

According to Google's analysis, this extra space is crucial.

Without it, the developer would likely have to reduce the units to three bedrooms and remove the media room, which could drop the potential sale price of each unit by \$100,000 to \$150,000.

Furthermore, the site sits in a flood zone. To ensure the homes are insurable and safe, the build must be raised to a height of RL 5.05m AHD.

This engineering requirement alone adds an estimated \$45,000 to \$70,000 per unit to the construction cost.

This is on top of professional fees and DA costs of \$80,000 to \$120,000, demolition costs of

\$45,000 to \$65,000, construction costs of \$1.4 to \$1.85 million, and \$60,000 to \$90,000 for landscaping and driveways.

To recoup the "flood premium", the developer is under pressure to maximize the internal living space and finish quality.

The most significant risk in this proposal is the parking situation.

While the project targets the "premium" market, each of the four-bedroom units is provided with only a single car garage.

In the current market, buyers purchasing a family-sized home typically expect side-by-side double garaging.

Real estate data suggests that premium units with only one garage can suffer a "value cap," potentially selling for significantly less than competitors with double parking.

The developer appears to be betting that the high-end finishes and the inclusion of a "lifestyle

media room" will be enough to entice buyers despite the parking shortfall.

The developer argues that the single-garage layout allows for a better streetscape with more landscaping, rather than a frontage dominated by garage doors.

They are essentially asking the Council—and the community—to accept a slightly larger building footprint in exchange for a "greener" design that meets strict flood safety standards.

Whether this gamble pays off will depend on whether local buyers or cashed up Sydney down-sizers value a home theatre more than a second parking spot, and whether the Council views the design quality as a fair trade for the variation in density and the shortfall in off-street parking.

SOURCE:  
Email, 24 Jan 2026  
Frank Wiffen, Woy Woy

## Noticeboard - Public Notices

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## A wonderful contribution to Vision Australia

I just want to thank our community for its support for the Christmas Light Display at Booker Bay and their wonderful contribution to our charity Vision Australia.

We raised \$3105 this year.

As usual, everyone was very respectful.

I do hope that they enjoyed the night with Santa and the puppies that the volunteers brought along for everyone to see where the money goes.

SOURCE:  
Email, 17 Jan 2026  
Shirley Crockett, Booker Bay

## Stars Festival to be held in Ettalong

The Stars Festival will be held at Ettalong from Friday to Sunday, February 13 to 15.

The festival celebrates "stars, cars, music and fashion" with events at The Galleria, the Ettalong Hotel and at Ettalong Diggers.

The festival has a focus on 1950s-inspired rockabilly music, retro fashion, and vintage lifestyle.

It will include live music and dancing, a classic car show with 20-25 vintage cars, a "greatest beard" challenge, vintage vendors and market stalls, temporary "tattoos" for children and breakfast and themed parties.

SOURCE:  
Social media, 14 Jan 2026  
Ettalong Diggers Visitor Information Centre

### Still \$33 for a public notice

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### Car Boot Sale

Woy Woy Peninsula Lions Club

Sunday  
**Feb 22**



7am to 1pm

Great variety of stalls ~  
BBQ, Tea & Coffee.  
Vendors Welcome ~ \$25 per car

Dunban Road Car Park  
NB stall sites not open until 6.30am  
Cnr. Ocean Beach Road Woy Woy

Not held in December  
Enq: 0478 959 895



### The Troubadour Folk and Acoustic Music Club

**Thu Jan 29, 6pm**  
**Flora Falls (Can/Aus)**

House Concert  
All tickets \$20  
For information  
[www.troubadour.org.au](http://www.troubadour.org.au)  
4342 6716

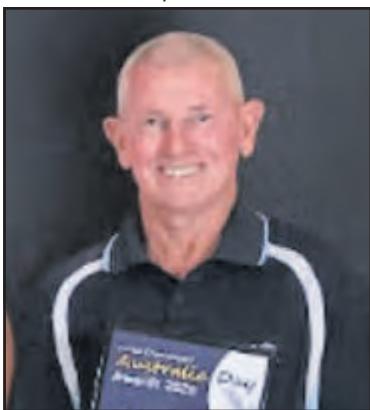
FORUM email: [contributions@peninsula.news](mailto:contributions@peninsula.news)



## Council makes Australia Day awards



Jacqui Barton



Graham Johnston

### Two local people have been recognised in the Australia Day awards from Central Coast Council.

Mayor Cr Lawrie McKenna said the annual awards celebrated and recognised those who enriched and served the community.

Ms Jacqui Barton, co-founder and chair of the Words on the Waves Writers Festival, was Community Life Award winner.

Cr McKenna said: "Jacqui Barton has transformed the Central Coast's only literary festival into a nationally recognised, six-day event since 2021.

"Her leadership has prioritised youth literacy and community engagement through extensive school programs and free family events.

"Running the festival as a not-for-profit, Jacqui's inclusive and collaborative approach has significantly enriched the region's cultural life and strengthened community ties."

Marine clean-up group Clean4Shore was highly-

commended in the Community Group Award:

Cr McKenna said: "Clean4Shore is a celebrated program addressing marine debris in the Central Coast region led by Graham Johnston.

"Through over 80 annual clean-up excursions involving schools and community groups, it has removed hundreds of tonnes of rubbish from local waterways.

"The initiative's collaborative approach with schools, organisations and government agencies not only enhances environmental health but also encourages community stewardship.

"Its impact is recognised by multiple awards and the expansion of its model to other regions."

Cr McKenna said: "It's a privilege to present these awards to remarkable local individuals and organisations, recognising the invaluable contributions they make to our community and the positive effect they have on many lives."

SOURCE:  
Media release, 21 Jan 2026  
Central Coast Council

## Tai chi starts at oval forecourt

About 40 people attended the first tai chi session for the year at the Woy Woy oval forecourt on Tuesday, January 20.

The free sessions are held at 8:30am on Tuesday mornings and organised by Central Coast Council.

No registration is necessary. Participants are advised to bring water and a hat and to wear flat shoes.

For more information, phone David Ross on 0410 050 080.

SOURCE:  
Website, 20 Jan 2026  
Central Coast Council



Is this what the Department of Planning means by "conservation"?

## Conservation or urban expansion?

Months after the exhibition of the Central Coast Strategic Conservation Plan, it is time for official honesty and transparency about the real purpose of the Plan.

Statements by the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure and by Minister for Planning and Public Spaces Mr Paul Scully avoid the underlying issue - urban expansion on the Central Coast.

Mr Scully has said: "The Plan has been developed with rigorous environmental assessment and consultation."

If so, why is climate change not addressed and only raised in third-party submissions?

The Department's claim that biodiversity will be protected "over the next 30 years and beyond" is unsupported, without the Minister or the Department supplying any evidence of how this will be achieved.

The Plan makes room for "32,550 new dwellings" plus infrastructure and services without any assessment of the probable and potential impacts of climate change.

Discussion and submissions about planning the future of the Central Coast, about the impacts of development and of climate change, have been discouraged and disregarded.

The Department did not allow discussion of these at its strictly-controlled forum at Kariang on October 13.

The forum was limited to matters of biodiversity.

It did not include the Plan's clear agenda for the expansion of urban area and the clearing of bushland for development.

Departmental claims that it will be up to the Council determine the suitability of "risk areas" for development are a shameful pretense.

This Plan is a subterfuge for continued incremental urban expansion and sets an expectation that more will follow. Describing urban expansion as "conservation" is deceitful and lacks transparency.

The Central Coast needs a long-term vision and strategy that looks further than the current vague regional plan and specifies the reality of Government plans for the region's future.

Norm Harris, Lovell St, Umina



## Religious service volunteers recognised

A Umina aged care facility has recognised volunteers who offer its religious services.

Volunteers from the Interdenominational Service at

Peninsula Village have been presented with gifts for their volunteer service.

"They provide such an important part of our spiritual care," said chief executive Mr Colin Osborne.

Uniting Church minister the

Reverend Frank Van Der Korput has recently joined the team.

"We are sure he will make a positive impact."

SOURCE:  
Social media, 15 Jan 2026  
Peninsula Villages



## Ashley speaks of her athletics journey to Oceania Cup

An athlete who competed with the Australian Under 23 team at the Oceania Cup in Tonga last year has addressed the Rotary Club of Umina Beach.

Ashley Pernecker was placed first in the 800 meters and the 400 meters hurdles, and second in the

400 meters.

Ashley is the granddaughter of club past president Mr Robert Meyer and wife Wendy.

She told the club she started running aged eight and has excelled ever since, spurred on by coach Tom Ristuccia and her own belief and determination.

She was selected for the Oceania Cup following success at regional, State and Australian championships.

Ashley is pictured with her proud grandparents in Tonga.

SOURCE:  
Social media, 19 Jan 2026  
Rotary Club of Umina Beach



## Aged care worker selected for youth leadership program

An aged care worker in Umina has been selected for a Rotary youth leadership program.

The Care and Support Coordinator at Peninsula Villages, Ms Chantel Grech, is Rotary Brisbane Water's candidate for this year's Rotary Youth Leadership Awards.

She spent a week at Knox Grammar School with other Rotary club nominees participating in the program.

Club youth service chair Mr

Mitchell Gordon said the program included "high-impact workshops led by experienced leaders and facilitators".

It presented "physical and mental challenges that revealed hidden strengths".

It also had "reflective exercises that helped participants articulate their values and vision".

"Every day Chantel demonstrates the compassion and dedication our community needs," said Rotary.

"What excites us most is watching her realise she has the

capacity to lead, not just serve."

Chantel is expected to give a presentation about her experience to club members and the wider community in the near future.

Next month, the club will sponsor Year 9 Brisbane Water Secondary college student Jay Sposito to attend the Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment at Sydney Academy of Sport in Narrabeen from February 13 to 15.

SOURCE:  
Media release, 18 Jan 2026  
Mitchell Gordon, Rotary  
Brisbane Water

## Rugby club announces junior registrations

Woy Woy Rugby Club has announced its junior registrations are now open, with a refund for players registering for both Rugby Union and Rugby League this season.

The cost is \$110 for players under-7 and younger and \$180 for under-8 and older.

"This year the registration fee will include the fundraising levy of \$30, instead of parents having an extra payment during the season," said club president Mr Phil Burgess.

"Registration costs include training T-shirt, playing socks, playing shorts, WWRC polo shirt to wear to games and events and a fundraising levy.

"If playing league and union in

2026, please contact Bianca on 0402 651 780 after registering for both codes, for a \$20 refund," he said.

Active Kids vouchers can be used if applicable.

Uniforms will be given out before the start of the season.

Pre-season fitness and skills sessions will be held for juniors running at 5pm on Thursdays through March.

"This is great for new junior players who want to learn the skills of rugby with qualified coaches and get fit having fun," said Mr Burgess.

"It is also an excellent lead into the season for our existing junior players, who want to improve their existing skills and fitness."

SOURCE:  
Social media, 23 Jan 2026  
Phil Burgess, Woy Woy Rugby Club



## Surf club observes Day of Mourning

Ocean Beach Surf Life Saving Club flew its flags at half mast to observe the National Day of Mourning on Thursday, January 22.

The club also lit a candle and

observed a minute's silence at 7:01pm to honour those who lost their lives in the Bondi Beach attack on December 14.

SOURCE:  
Social media, 22 Jan 2026  
Ocean Beach SLSC

## Surf club offers courses for new members

Umina Surf Life Saving Club is running Bronze Medallion, Surf Rescue Certificate and Award Member courses.

The courses will run Tuesdays and Sundays, starting on Tuesday, February 10.

The club is promoting the courses as offering "the skills to save lives, be a first responder,

and to gain confidence, skills and fitness".

The club is inviting membership applications ahead of the courses.

"No matter your water skill level, there's a pathway for you." More information is available online at <https://uminaslsc.org.au>.

SOURCE:  
Social media, 21 Jan 2026  
Umina Surf Life Saving Club



## Reptile show held as holiday activity

Ettalong Bowling Club hosted a reptile show as a school holiday activity on Tuesday, January 13.

Children attending handled lizards and snakes and observed the occasional spider.

"Our free school holiday events are proving to be a big hit," said marketing manager Ms Kylie Sharpe.

SOURCE:  
Social media, 13 Jan 2026  
Ettalong Bowling Club



## Ceremony for start of work on preschool

**Umina Beach Public School will be holding a ceremony to signify the beginning of the works for their Public Preschool which will open in 2027.**

The Turning of the Ground Ceremony for the new Umina Beach Public Preschool will be held at the school at 12pm next Monday, February 2.

"This special occasion will mark the beginning of construction of

the new public preschool at Umina Beach Public School, celebrating a significant investment in early life for our community," said school principal Ms Karen Wardlaw.

The ceremony will include a Smoking Ceremony and a special performance by the Aboriginal Dance Group, acknowledging Country and the importance of culture, connection and community.

"The new preschool will provide a safe, welcoming and engaging learning environment for young

children, featuring purpose-built indoor learning spaces and a high-quality outdoor play area." Construction is expected to be completed in time for day one term one 2027.

"All community members are welcome to join us as we celebrate this important milestone for Umina Beach and our youngest learners," she said.

SOURCE:  
Social media, 19 Dec 2026  
Koorana AECG

## Teacher receives School Sporting Excellence Award

**Brisbane Water Secondary College Umina campus teacher Mr Dane Stevenson has received a School Sporting Excellence Award for his "significant contributions to the representative school sport pathway".**

Mr Stevenson has had roles including school sports coordinator, Sydney North girls cricket convener, NSW Combined High Schools Sports Association girls cricket coach, Association

championship manager and School Sport Australia championship manager.

Umina campus principal Ms Kerrie Thomas said: "A huge congratulations to Mr Dane Stevenson on receiving this incredible honour.

"As an outstanding and passionate sportsman himself, Dane's contribution to sport within our school, our region and the entire state is immense."

SOURCE:  
Social media, 23 Jan 2026  
Sydney North Schools Sports Association



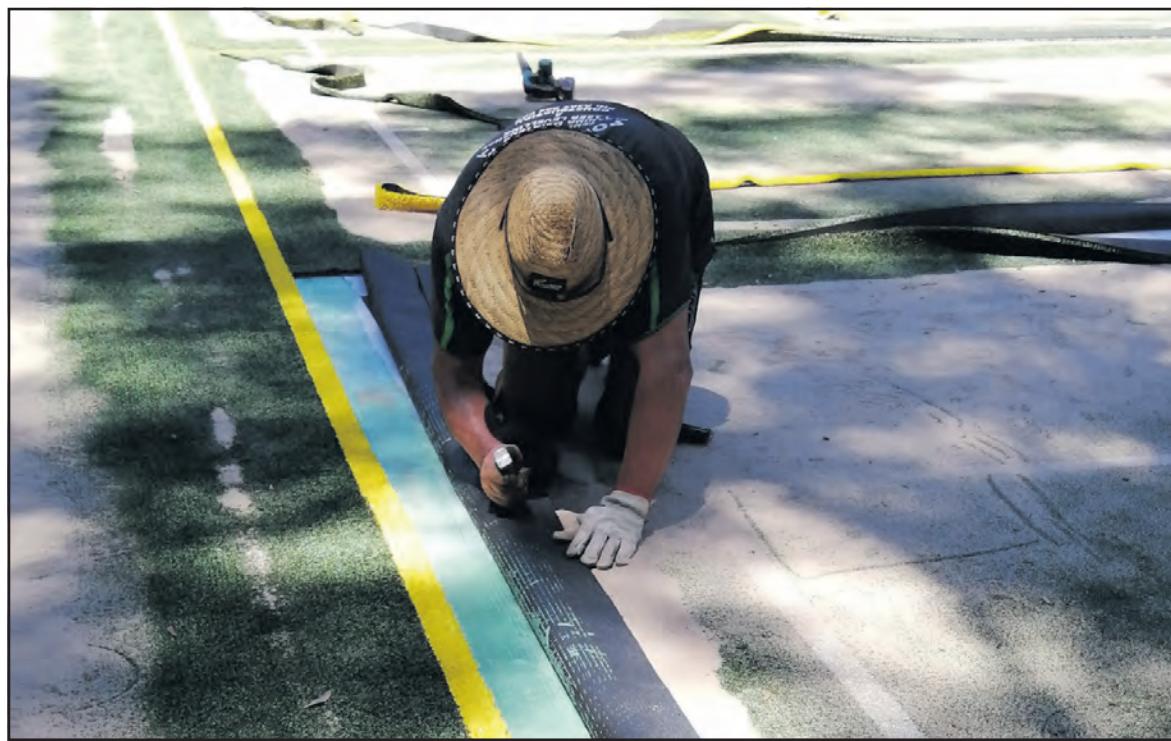
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## Permanent lines marked for Pearl Beach pickleball courts

**Pickleball at the Pearl Beach Tennis and Bowls Club has grown so quickly in 18 months that the club has now installed permanent inlaid lines for two of its courts.**

"We started Pickleball about 18 months ago by using masking tape to map out one slightly undersized court in the Memorial Hall," said booking officer Ms Judy McFarlane.

"With numbers growing quickly, we soon outgrew the hall, so

moved to taping out two courts up at the tennis club.

"Having to tape the courts whenever we played became a little time consuming especially as all we wanted to do was play pickle."

"So it wasn't long before we made a stencil to spray paint the lines."

"But that still needed to be redone every few months due to wear, tear, and weather."

"Now, due to the escalating

number of court hire bookings for pickleball, we've invested in two courts of proper permanent inlaid lines."

Pearl Beach Pickleball Club is now an affiliate of Pickleball NSW.

Pickleball hire is \$25 an hour for up to two courts including nets, paddles and balls, \$20 for members.

For bookings, phone 0418 436 225.

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 11 Jan 2026  
Pearl Beach Tennis and Bowls



## Umina wins through to RSL Triples final

**Umina Beach RSL team has won through to the RSL 2026 Zone Triples final.**

The semi-finals were played at Umina Beach Bowling Club on Wednesday, January 21, with Umina Beach RSL playing Gwandalan RSL and Davistown RSL playing Gwandalan RSL.

While Gwandalan RSL had two teams in the semi-finals, the winners were Umina Beach RSL and Davistown RSL, the same two teams which played the final last year.

The final was due to be played at Umina Beach Bowling Club at 9.30am on Friday, January 23,

but due to the illness of one of the players was postponed to another day.

Pictured is the Umina Beach RSL team of Ray Kaltenbacher, Rob Merrill and Colin Mew.

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 21 Jan 2026  
Peter Springett, UBMBC

## Bridge competition results

**A green-points competition was played at Brisbane Water Bridge Club on Wednesday, January 21.**

North-south results were:

1 Donelle Foate, Connie Lewis 213.0 (63.39 per cent), 0.24 green points.

2 David Lempert, Ron Meaney 197.0 (58.63), 0.17.

3 Warren Nicol, Edith Marshall 191.0 (56.85), 0.12.

4 Christine Hadaway, Jacqueline Wilson 177.0 (52.68), 0.08.

5 Meg McGregor, Hilary Owen 172.0 (51.19).

6 Denise Edwards, Jenny Buckley 163.0 (48.51).

7 Michael Hall, Jude Hall 129.0 (38.39).

8 Linda Dowling, Karen

Jamieson 102.0 (30.36).

East-west results were:

1 Susan Ashley, Kerry Robertson 198.0 (58.93 per cent), 0.24 green points.

2 John Sandra, Bernadette Sandra 179.0 (53.27), 0.17.

3 Steve Anderson, Kerry Anderson 172.0 (51.19), 0.12.

4 Judith Lambkin, Jennifer Tebb 168.0 (50.00), 0.08.

5 Vickie Betts, Roz Harvey 164.0 (48.81).

6 Wendy Byrne, Spider Redgold 161.0 (47.92).

6 Ros Lunday, Margaret Hockley 161.0 (47.92).

8 Annie Creasey, Julie Barker 141.0 (41.96).

**SOURCE:**

Website, 22 Jan 2026

Brisbane Water Bridge Club



## Disabled Surfers find First Aid volunteers

**A call for First Aid volunteers has succeeded in finding people to cover Disabled Surfers' Association events at Umina Beach over the next three months.**

Central Coast branch president Ms Rae Fiechter said she was "looking for a land-based volunteer with First Aid certificate to cover our February 7, March 7 and April 11 events".

"You will be based in the beach tent but can wander around."

Vest provided," she said in a social media post.

"We have a First Aid kit plus a

defib which we locate at the beach tent." Ms Fiechter later said she had one volunteer for February and another for March and April.

Volunteers are always wanted in other roles.

"We need large numbers of volunteers to make our surfing experience safe and enjoyable." Volunteers are asked to register prior to the event "so we know how many surfers we can accept".

Online registrations may be made online via <https://bit.ly/7thFeb2026>.

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 16 Jan 2026  
Central Coast Disabled Surfers Association

## Netball managers wanted

**Woy Woy Peninsula Netball Association is seeking managers for its junior and senior representative netball teams.**

Positive, organised and passionate team managers are wanted as "the glue that keeps the coaches and players energised

and ready to succeed."

Applications may be made online via <https://linktr.ee/WWPNA>.

For further information, email [wwpanetball@gmail.com](mailto:wwpanetball@gmail.com).

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 16 Jan 2026  
Woy Woy Peninsula Netball Association



## Medal wins at outrigger canoe regatta

**Central Coast Outrigger Canoe Club overcame tough conditions and last minute crew changes at the Lake Illawarra regatta on Saturday, December 13.**

All four Central Coast teams won medals in their age categories.

The first race headed out of the channel and up the coast in beautiful weather, but the storms were gathering.

"The conditions deteriorated through the day, with the last race which was the men's long

course being run inside in mostly protected waters due to hazardous surf and gale force winds," said coach Toni Melino.

After a steerer was injured, Andy Debus filled the spot despite having to compete again in the next race.

In the 8km race, the Master Women took bronze.

In the 14km race, the Master Women won gold, the Master Men took silver, and the Master Mixed crew took bronze.

Four club members also entered the 8km race for single canoes,

winning silver in the Senior Master Men category and gold in the Senior Master Women category.

Geoff Harding and Ron Lecky finished only one second apart, coming 5th and 6th in the Golden Master Men in their first ever race in single canoes.

The club trains regularly from Woy Woy and Patonga.

Anyone interested in trying outrigger canoeing should email [centralcoastocc@gmail.com](mailto:centralcoastocc@gmail.com).

**SOURCE:**  
Media release, 22 Jan 2026  
Linda Donnini, CCOCC



## Judo classes resume after work on dojo

**Woy Woy Judo Club classes resume tomorrow, Tuesday, January 27, following a refurbishment of the dojo at PCYC Umina Beach.**

"In preparation for our return, our team has been working to give our new space a facelift."

The work included a "reshuffle of our sprung floor, swap some

mats in and out, adding some signage and fixing our timer and music box to the wall", according to the club.

The Woy Woy Judo Club is claiming to have "the only purpose-built sprung judo floor in the Peninsula region".

"Our sprung floor is designed to minimise impact from throws,

making training safer for falling, easier on joints, and ideal for kids, beginners, Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu athletes and experienced judoka alike."

The first class is free.  
For further information, phone 0434 000 170.

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 18 Jan 2026  
Woy Woy Judo Club

## Umina United builds women's program

**Umina United Soccer Club has claimed to be "building the best women's program on the Coast".**

"We're not just putting teams together for one season," said club president Danny Nelson.

"We're building a connected women's program, with clear pathways, strong standards and real opportunities for development at every level.

"From juniors through to senior football, we believe in developing every player and creating an environment where women's

football is respected, supported and given the platform it deserves." Players were wanted for 16A, 18s, WPL, WAA1 and all women's teams to "step in, step up and help build something special".

"This is an exciting and important moment for female football at Umina United." He said registrations were now open, with family discounts and "early bird" discounts for those paid in full by January 31.

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 14 Jan 2026  
Umina United

## Levi finishes in top 10

**Woy Woy Swim Club member Levi Sinclair has finished in the top 10 in the 5km event at the National Open Water Championships.**

This was only the second time Levi has swum this distance competitively.

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 23 Jan 2026  
Woy Woy Swim Club



## Augusto Terra takes on development role

**Augusto Terra will return to Southern and Ettalong United Football Club this season in a development-focused role.**

The former technical director will be running weekly team-based development sessions every Wednesday night throughout the season.

The sessions will be for B, C and D grade teams.

Each team will be scheduled in advance so everyone gets equal access across the season.

They will focus on player development, technical improvement, confidence and game understanding, and "supporting players who want to grow".

"This is a deliberate investment in our players, and we are proud



to be providing this initiative at no extra cost to families," said club president Ms Stevie Skene.

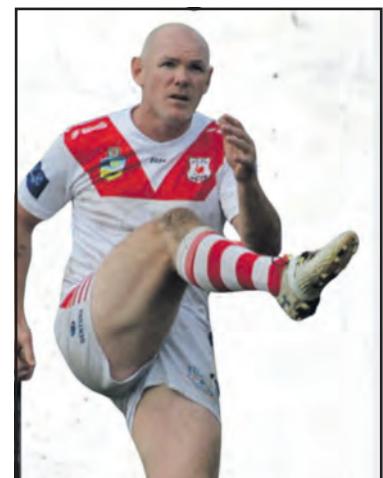
**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 21 Jan 2026  
Southern & Ettalong United Football Club

## Mack Fawcett in coaching team

**Woy Woy Roosters have announced that Mack Fawcett will be the club's second grade head coach.**

Mack was appointed for "his experience, knowledge, and passion for the game and the Woy Woy Roosters".

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 20 Jan 2026  
Woy Woy Roosters RLFC



## Sport

### Speakers for rugby club sports luncheon

**Woy Woy Rugby Club will hold its Sports Luncheon from 12pm to 4pm on Friday, February 27.**

Guest speakers will be 72-cap Wallaby Jeremy Paul and International referee 1999-2011 Stuart Dickinson.

Tickets costing \$130 per person, include a two-course meal with selected beer, wine, and soft drinks, along with entertainment

including auctions and raffles.

For further information, dietary requirements and table placement, email Bianca Plunkett Gooley on [vpjuniors@woywoyrugby.com.au](mailto:vpjuniors@woywoyrugby.com.au) or phone 0402 651 780.

"Expect a cracking afternoon of laughs, stories, and great company," said club president Phil Burgess.

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 23 Jan 2026  
Phil Burgess, Woy Woy Rugby Club

### Boardriders to hold AGM

**Umina Boardriders will hold their annual general meeting at Ettalong Diggers on Wednesday, January 28, from 6:30pm to 8:30pm.**

The meeting will elect the new 2026 committee with positions

including president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, contest director, live heats coordinator and junior development officer.

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 22 Jan 2026  
Umina Boardriders



### Rock, paper, scissors at tennis club

**Games of Rock, Paper, Scissors were used to decide which player served in Woy Woy Tennis Club's One Point Slam on Saturday, January 24.**

All names were drawn out of a

bowl and then, after Rock, Paper, Scissors, only one point was played with the winner progressing to the next round.

Club coach Jono Cooper, who did not play, recorded all the points.

Some sessions of social tennis were played before and after the

Slam.

The club meets Wednesdays and Saturdays at 1pm for mixed social doubles and on Friday at 9am for women's doubles.

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 24 Jan 2026  
Woy Woy Tennis Club

### Umina surf club to host three-month swim program

**Umina Surf Life Saving Club will host a three-month Ocean Swim Program, which includes a one or two kilometre ocean swim challenge, while raising money for cancer research.**

The 12-week Can-Too program will run from Friday, February 13, to Sunday, May 3, with two professionally-coached training sessions per week.

Friday morning pool sessions will be held at Peninsula Leisure

Centre, while Saturday morning sessions will be held at Umina Beach.

"Participants can join a program that not only boosts their fitness and confidence but also helps fight cancer," said the club's director of surf sports Damon Somerfield, who brought the program to the club after doing the program himself at Bondi Beach.

"The Umina Surf Life Saving Club is really excited to be the first surf club on the Central Coast to

take part in this program.

"It's perfect for anyone wanting to gain confidence in the ocean and increase their fitness while supporting a worthy cause."

Priced at \$399, participants will have the opportunity to raise \$1200 to support CanToo's mission of health promotion and funding vital cancer research.

Further details are available online at [www.cantoo.org.au/swim](http://www.cantoo.org.au/swim).

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 9 Jan 2026  
Umina Surf Life Saving Club



### Wet and mud did not stop touch teams

**A wet and muddy Wallsend Touch Junior Gala Day didn't stop representative teams**

from Peninsula Junior Touch.

They put some strong results on the board in tough conditions.

**SOURCE:**  
Social media, 18 Jan 2026  
Peninsula Junior Touch

#### Brisbane Water Bridge Club



**When:** Lessons commence 9:30am - 11:30am, Monday, February 2

**Where:** Peninsula Community Centre 93 McMasters Road, Woy Woy

**Cost:** \$30 for 5 lessons

**Book your place:**

To reserve your spot, call David 0413 337 023 or email [davidplaysbridge@gmail.com](mailto:davidplaysbridge@gmail.com)



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