



Shade trees group looks for homes for saplings

The Grow Urban Shade Trees group is looking for homes for eight tree saplings in Peninsula nature strips or front yards.

"We have two lemon scented gums already 1.5m tall," said group member Ms Deb Sunartha.

"These can get tall so space is needed without powerlines.

"Their leaves smell incredible and the trunk will be a beautiful pale colour."

The group also has three water gums (*Tristania laurina* "Luscious") of various heights, which grows to a small tree for under powerlines.

It also has three two-metre tall West Australian peppermints (*Agonis flexuosa*), a small-medium



sized tree that does not have a dense canopy.

SOURCE:
Social media, 1 Feb 2026
Grow Urban Shade Trees

McWaide vote change sees Umina Beach toilets rebuilt

A change of vote by Gosford West ward's Cr Trent McWaide has resulted in a decision to rebuild the toilets next to the Umina Beach Surf Club.

Central Coast Council's Gosford West ward covers the Peninsula.

The rare departure from block voting in the Council sees \$650,000 allocated for replacement of the toilets including the provision of change rooms for people with a disability.

Design development, consultation and approvals will be undertaken in the 2026-27 financial year, and construction will be programmed for the 2027-28 financial year.

"The toilets are 52 years old and were previously recommended for demolition in 2031 but need to be replaced earlier," said Gosford West's Cr Belinda Neal, who moved the motion.

She said the current toilets were of a poor standard and inadequate for the present needs of the community.

"The present block does not provide suitable change rooms for the disabled surfer group that uses the facilities on a regular basis.

"It does not provide showers or appropriate change rooms for the people with a disability who have been forced to provide their own portable facilities."

Gosford West's Cr Jane Smith seconded the motion.

She said it "came to light in 2025 ... that this facility was highly utilised by the Disabled Surfers Association and that facilities are

inadequate for that sector and that purpose".

Cr Smith said the Disabled Surfers Association was "a truly amazing organisation".

"Its mission is to put 'Smiles on Dials' by taking people of all disabilities surfing in a fun, friendly and safe environment.

"Being able to do that involves vast numbers of volunteers, policies, procedures and logistics."

She said: "There was a strong case to bring forward the plans to improve the facilities."

Cr Smith said it had taken three attempts at three different Council meetings to get the motion supported.

"Although Cr McWaide previously opposed this initiative, I am pleased that at the meeting on January 27, he changed his vote and supported the motion."

Disabled Surfers Association Central Coast branch secretary Ms Rae Fiechter thanked Cr McWaide "for coming on board and delivering a great speech".

She acknowledged the Umina Community Group for "strong advocacy and advice".

Umina Community Group director Mr Tony Winch said the new facility was a welcome improvement to the area.

"Today the area is enjoyed every day by people with a disability," he said.

"The area is also used for a number of regional activities including disabled surfers events, Umina markets, Umina Skate Jam and the Coastal Twist Festival, all of which are attended by visitors

with disability needs.

"The disabled surfers' events are held four times each summer at Umina Beach, with 50-60 surfers and their carers attending each event, along with up to 200 volunteers."

He said the new facility would be built as a regional facility with disabled toilets and change rooms.

Mr Winch said the group had been working with the Disabled Surfers Association and Cr Neal to lobby for and gain approval for the project.

He said that, over the last 10 years, the group had been working with Council staff to improve the shared paths coming into the area making the area more mobility friendly and increasing disabled access parking.

"There is now, in each of the four directions leading to Umina Beach, over 800 metres of mobility-friendly shared pathways," he said.

Pictured with Cr Neal (centre) are community group members Mr Winch, Mr Peter Springett, Ms Carol Richardson and Mr Sean Richardson, past surfer Ms Courtney Voltz, current surfers Mikayla and Mia Fordham with mum Tanya Bennett and Disabled Surfers' president Ms Fiechter.

SOURCE:

Media release, 27 Jan 2026
Cr Belinda Neal, Central Coast Council

Media release, 1 Feb 2026

Jane Smith, Central Coast Council
Social media, 29 Jan 2026

Rae Fiechter, Disabled Surfers Association

Media release, 30 Jan 2026
Alison Winch, Umina Community Group

Produced on the Peninsula

Peninsula news & advertising
for the Peninsula community

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Frank Wiffen, 25 Jan 2026

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Next issue: Monday, February 23

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Peninsula News
Community Access

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

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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.

Rotary plans for Biggest Morning Tea

The Rotary Club of Brisbane Water is planning for its Biggest Morning Tea.

Its "Biggest Morning Tea Ettalong Planning Committee" got together over a cuppa at Ettalong Diggers recently to organise this year's event.

The club is partnering with Ettalong Diggers to host the Biggest Morning Tea on Wednesday, May 27.

Last year's event attracted hundreds of people for tea, coffee, scones and champagne, along with entertainment and raffle prizes.

The morning raised more than \$7000 for the Cancer Council's work supporting people affected by cancer and their loved ones.

This year's committee is already lining up raffle prizes and entertainment to make it even



better.

Tickets are expected to go on sale soon.

Pictured are club secretary Ms Di Bartok, vice-president Ms Jayne

Mote, Diggers community relations manager Ms Kim Cole with club president Ms Cherie Simpson.

SOURCE:
Social media, 2 Feb 2026
Rotary Brisbane Water

Final stage of aged care work is 'on track'

The final stage of redevelopment at a Woy Woy aged care home is expected to be completed by May.

Blue Wave Living chief executive Mr Matt Downie said: "Our final stage of works in the original Shores building is continuing well, with demolition works now completed and roughing in of in-ground services well underway.

"Concrete pours will commence soon, along with internal framing and services beginning to be

roughed in over the coming weeks.

"We are still on track to complete this stage of works by around May this year.

"This will see us being able to deliver an additional 10 newly-rebuilt bedrooms and other spaces, completing the Beachside House section of Blue Wave Living.

"We will also be delivering a private lounge-dining area, which will be available for families to book for extended family gatherings in private with loved ones here at

Blue Wave."

Mr Downie said: "On completion of this current stage, we will take a pause before undertaking further building works.

"It does see us complete our aim of not only joining the two buildings together but also delivering four Households with 63 newly-built bedrooms and a variety of new and additional spaces inside and outside."

SOURCE:
Newsletter, 1 Feb 2026
Blue Wave Living

Only 4.6mm rain in last two weeks

The Peninsula has had only 4.6mm of rain in the last two weeks, following the record downpour of 288.2mm recorded on January 18.

The rain was recorded on a single day - Monday, February 2.

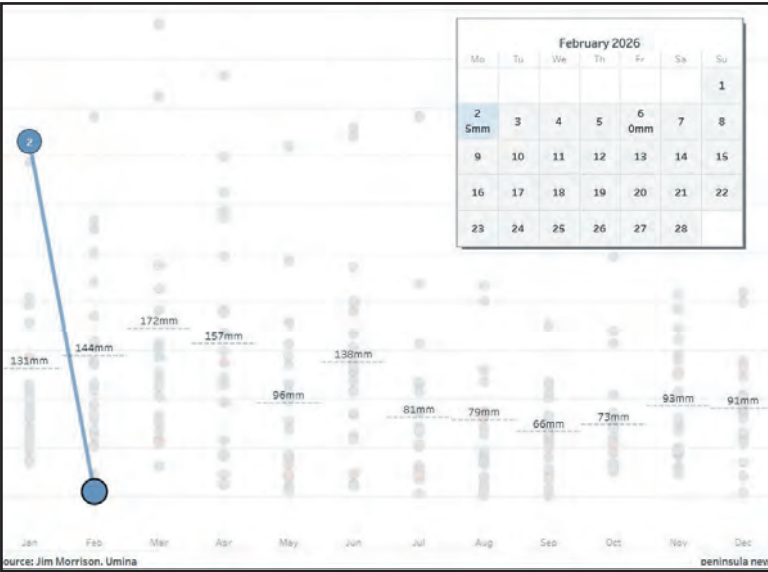
The fall is just three per cent of the month's average of 151mm.

However, the total for the year is 369.2mm, which is 36 per cent above the average cumulative rainfall at the end of February.

The total is only 17 per cent less than the average for the first quarter of the year.

More details, including daily rainfall figures, are available at <http://penne.ws/Rain>.

SOURCE:
Spreadsheet, 6 Feb 2026
Jim Morrison, Umina



TIDE TIMES and Heights	Mon, Feb 9	Thu, Feb 12	Sun, Feb 15	Wed, Feb 18	Sat, Feb 21
	0243 0.90 0920 0.32 1442 0.63 2043 0.26	0552 0.91 1302 0.26 1850 0.56 2358 0.30	0145 0.23 0816 1.08 1522 0.17 2048 0.74	0359 0.15 1004 1.20 1707 0.13 2234 0.92	0619 0.17 1206 1.05 1834 0.12
AT ETTALONG	Tue, Feb 10	Fri, Feb 13	Mon, Feb 16	Thu, Feb 19	Sun, Feb 22
	0337 0.88 1032 0.33 1548 0.55 2137 0.30	0650 0.95 1357 0.22 1938 0.62	0230 0.19 0853 1.14 1600 0.15 2122 0.80	0444 0.15 1042 1.19 1736 0.12 2314 0.97	0040 1.04 0712 0.19 1253 0.93 1907 0.13
	Wed, Feb 11	Sat, Feb 14	Tue, Feb 17	Fri, Feb 20	Mon, Feb 23
	0442 0.88 1151 0.30 1728 0.53 2249 0.32	0055 0.27 0736 1.01 1442 0.19 2015 0.68	0315 0.17 0928 1.18 1634 0.14 2158 0.86	0530 0.16 1123 1.13 1805 0.11 2355 1.02	0128 1.06 0811 0.22 1346 0.80 1949 0.17

NEWS email: contributions@peninsula.news

Seminar about home design for climate change

A seminar to explore how homes and landscapes can be designed to better withstand the impacts of climate change will be held at the Pearl Beach Memorial Hall on Saturday, February 28.

Two exponents of sustainable design will take part in a question and answer seminar hosted by the Pearl Beach Environment Group.

They are architect Ms Carol Marra and landscape architect Mr Mathew Taylor.

“Architect Carol Marra is a leader in the rapidly evolving field of sustainability, climate resilience and regenerative environments,” said Environment Group convenor Ms Mary Knaggs.

“Her work focuses on designing homes, housing, masterplans and community buildings that support both people and nature.”

Ms Knaggs said Mr Taylor “brings extensive experience across a diverse range of landscape projects nationally and internationally”.

“His specialist expertise includes

heritage landscapes, master planning, residential subdivisions and the adaptive reuse of former heritage-listed industrial sites.”

He is also the Landscape Master Planner for the Pearl Beach Arboretum.

The seminar will be moderated by local architect Mr Bruce Swalwell.

It will conclude with a panel discussion led by Mr Swalwell, inviting attendees to share their own bushfire experiences and practical design ideas.

“Residents are encouraged to attend and participate in what promises to be a timely and thought-provoking discussion on creating more resilient homes and environments for the future,” said Ms Knaggs.

Tickets for Pearl Beach Progress Association members are \$10 and for non-members are \$15.

Bookings may be made online at www.pearlbeachprogress.org.au.

SOURCE:
Media release, 29 Jan 2026
Karina Stafford, PBPA



Ground-turning for new preschool

A ground-turning ceremony has been held at Umina Beach Public School on the first day of the 2026 school year to mark the start of work on the new Umina Beach Public Preschool.

The event included a smoking ceremony and a performance by the school's Aboriginal Dance Group, acknowledging Country and highlighting the importance of culture, connection and community, said principal Ms Karen Wardlaw.

“It was a proud and respectful moment as we formally marked the beginning of construction on this important new learning space.”

“The new public preschool represents a major investment in

early learning at our school and across the Peninsula.

“It will provide a safe, welcoming and engaging environment for our youngest learners, featuring purpose-built indoor learning spaces and a high-quality outdoor play area.”

It is expected to be ready for use next year.

Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch said: “I’m delighted that work is starting on the new public preschool.”

“I share the community’s excitement about seeing the preschool take shape over the coming months.”

“I know how invested our community is in the opening of this project.” She said that families

could look forward to fee-free early learning at the preschool.

“The new preschool will offer a high-quality play-based early learning program, support childrens’ transition into kindergarten and schooling, as well as easy pick-up and drop-off for parents with older students at the same school.”

In addition to state-of-the-art learning areas, the new preschool will include staff facilities, a kitchen, toilet facilities and landscaped outdoor areas.

SOURCE:
Media release, 5 Feb 2026
Joely Langmaid, Office of the Member for Gosford
Newsletter, 6 Feb 2026
Karen Wardlaw, Umina Beach Public School



Lane to be closed on Mt Ettalong Rd

One lane of Mt Ettalong Rd, near the hairpin lookout, will be closed between 9:30am and 2:30pm each day over the next two weeks.

The closure will enable a council contractor, Pan Civil, to repair the crib wall.

It is expected that “variable message sign” boards will be in place.

For further information, phone Ms Gail McLellan on 0408 358 066.

SOURCE:
Social media, 29 Jan 2026
Pearl Beach Progress Association

Day on the Marina to support fire victims

A Day on the Marina will be held from 2pm to 6pm on Sunday, February 22, to raise funds for the Koolewong bushfire victims.

The afternoon will include live

entertainment by local artists, food stalls, an auction and raffles.

All money raised through ticket sales, at \$70 for adults and \$35 for children, will be donated to bushfire victims.

Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch supported the event, saying “Let’s make a difference together.”

SOURCE:
Social media, 6 Feb 2026
Liesl Tesch MP

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Four-level six-bedroom proposal exhibited a second time

Central Coast Council is exhibiting a proposal for a four-level six-bedroom dwelling in Uralla Lane, Blackwall, for the second time.

The development application for 11 Uralla Lane was first lodged on April 23 last year and placed on exhibition in May.

The application includes construction of a “dwelling, inground swimming pool and demolition of existing dwelling”.

It describes the 885.74 square metre site as “mostly comprised of low vegetation” with “a fall towards the east” with a 20 per cent gradient.

The application prepared by NA Hill Designs includes “basement for carparking, services, office, WC” and a ground floor with “entry, bedrooms with adjoining sitting room, bathroom, laundry, living”.

The first floor has “bedrooms, bathroom, living room, kitchen and pool”.

A fourth L-shaped level is designated as the “Library Level” with its main wall facing east.

One feature of the design is its first floor balcony, which faces Uralla Lane.

It is about 0.65 metre wider at the south end than at the northern end, with its irregular shape resulting in the sloping balcony roof to be higher at the south end than the north.

This is hardly noticeable when looking at the elevation drawing but the “uplift” will be more obvious when seen from the lane.

The application for the site, zoned R2 (Low Density Residential), does not comply with planning provisions for side setback and for height.

The application states a “minor section” of the front face (western elevation) “encroaches outside the upper floor side setback requirement”.

It also states that “a minor segment of the roof” exceeds the height limit of 8.5 metres, being 8.895 metres, 4.65 per cent higher.

The application claims compliance in all other aspects including privacy, overshadowing and view sharing, stating: “The proposal is consistent with the scale of development within the residential zone and is commensurate with the character of development within the surrounding area”.

However a primary concern for adjoining properties is the sheer bulk and positioning of the proposed building.

Submissions lodged with the first exhibition of the proposal argue that the new dwelling sits “significantly forward” of the established building line, disregarding the “staggered setbacks” that currently allow for equitable view sharing.

Neighbours contend that the design is “seeking to maximise its own northern view at the complete expense of others”.

One submission highlights that the development would block

the only northern aspect visible from their north-facing balcony, turning an open view into a solid obstruction.

Residents have commissioned drone photography to demonstrate the impact on solar access.

The images suggest the proposed roof line will cast shadows over neighbouring solar panels during winter, rendering them “useless” and blocking sunlight to north-facing windows and pool areas.

The scale of the home has also led to fears it will function as a short-term rental rather than a family residence.

Neighbours said that the provision of three car spaces is “insufficient for a six-bedroom house” and raised concerns about “fluctuating numbers of occupants and vehicles” associated with potential Airbnb use.

With Uralla Lane being a narrow, single-lane shared access road, residents state there is “no capacity for overflow parking”.

Photographic evidence submitted to the Council showed vehicles parked on the nature strip blocking access to driveways, with residents fearing this will become the norm if the development proceeds.

Residents argued that, during construction, there would be “no legal or practical space for truck parking, materials loading, or machinery movement without blocking the lane entirely”.

The submission warns that any blockage of the lane could stop emergency access, noting there are “elderly residents at the end of Uralla Lane” who would be left vulnerable.

Additionally, concerns were raised regarding the demolition of the existing older structure.

Neighbours cited a lack of documentation regarding the removal of hazardous materials, fearing environmental health risks in a “tight residential lane with limited ventilation”.

Residents urged the Central Coast Council to refuse the application in its current form, requesting that the applicant “reduce the building footprint” and produce a construction plan that guarantees the lane remains open.

For the second exhibition, the notification plans have been “revised” but not the application itself.

New documents added to the exhibition consist of a Bushfire Report, Geotechnical Report and a “Construction and Pedestrian Traffic Management Plan”.

Three floor plans have been added to the drawing schedule but not exhibited.

A comparison between the “superseded” and “revised” plans indicates that the “revision” is mainly focused on providing extra information in response to a request for further information from the council planner.

There has been some “refinement” of the upper levels,

particularly the “library” level ,which affects how shadows are distributed across neighbouring properties.

The revised site plan now features a distinct red setback line running along the eastern side of the proposed dwelling and new boundary and setback measurements have been added.

The newly exhibited “Construction Traffic and Pedestrian Management Plan” issued for the proposed development, outlines protocols for navigating the constraints of the narrow, three metre wide “No Through Road”.

Prepared by Barker Ryan Stewart, the plan attempts to address residents’ fears regarding access, by banning construction vehicles from parking in the lane.

It states that “parking of vehicles in Uralla Lane during loading and unloading operations will not be permitted due to the narrow pavement width and the need to maintain access at all times for residents and emergency vehicles”.

Confusingly the plan is inconsistent and ambiguous.

It also states that loading and unloading activities should be undertaken within the site “whenever possible”.

In the event a vehicle does obstruct the lane, the protocol requires it to be “relocated immediately at the request of a resident requiring access” or to allow emergency vehicles through.

The plan confirms that “on-site construction parking will not be provided”.

Consequently, construction workers “must not park their vehicles in Uralla Lane” and are directed to park off-site in nearby streets such as Koonora Ave or to use public transport.

Heavy vehicle access is also limited.

Due to the “restricted opportunities for manoeuvring”, the largest vehicle permitted to access the site is an “8.8 metre Medium Rigid Vehicle”.

Concerns of neighbours who claim the management of hazardous materials poses a “significant environmental health risk” do not appear to have been addressed.

The Waste Management Plan identifies approximately 100kg of hazardous waste roof material to be transported to a “Waste Management Facility”.

Residents have argued the details provided are insufficient.

Neighbours noted that the older structure “will almost certainly contain asbestos” and criticised the lack of specific safety protocols.

“No documentation has been provided about how this will be safely removed and managed,” the submission states.

The application will be on public exhibition for written submission from February 11 to 25.

SOURCE: DA Tracker, 7 Feb 2026 DA/471/2025, Central Coast Council



Home office studio for Birdwood Ave

A new home office studio has been proposed for 97 Birdwood Ave, Umina.

A development application seeks to transform a backyard garage into a double-storey home office and studio.

The proposal, submitted by the Council Approval Group on behalf of owner Mr Nathan Burrell, aims to add a second level to the existing garage located at the rear of the property, which backs onto Lens Ave.

The application says the project is designed to “contribute to the housing needs of the community within a low-density residential environment” and “encourages housing affordability and choice through the addition of extra space”.

The proposed addition will bring the total height of the structure to 6.5 metres, which is well within the local 8.5-metre building height limit.

The application claims that the new level “will not interfere with views,” noting that the site is relatively flat.

It also says that, to prevent overlooking neighbouring yards, the plans feature carefully placed glazing.

“No windows are proposed to the east and north elevations,” it says, while the western wall will feature “narrow high sill windows to allow for light and ventilation”.

The primary window on the southern elevation will face back

towards the owner’s main dwelling, for seclusion from adjacent properties.

The proposal also promises to maintain the leafy character of the area, with the application confirming that it “does not involve removal of trees or vegetation”.

The application states that solar access for neighbours will be preserved, with shadow diagrams indicating that “the proposal does not reduce the solar access to private open space on the adjoining property” to the west or east.

The application notes that “the proposed development will not generate additional traffic”.

The existing parking arrangements, one space in the garage and one driveway space off Birdwood Ave, will remain unchanged.

In their submission to the Central Coast Council, the consultants conclude that the addition will have a “positive effect on the streetscape and immediate locality” while allowing the owners to improve the “livability of the dwelling”.

The estimated cost of the renovation is listed as “\$50,000 or more,” and claims to meet NSW sustainability targets, confirmed by an attached Basix certificate.

The application is currently on exhibition with written submissions accepted until February 17.

SOURCE: DA Tracker, 7 Feb 2026 DA/62/2026, Central Coast Council



Council to hold regional economy webinar

Central Coast Council will hold an hour-long Online Webinar on Wednesday, February 11, "to gather feedback for three draft strategies" for the region's economy.

The three draft strategies are the Council's Economic Development Strategy, its Destination Management Plan and its Events Strategy.

The webinar aims to "explore our region's future economy" and "to explore three key draft strategies shaping the future of the Central Coast".

"These documents outline how we will strengthen local industry, foster vibrant and connected places, and build meaningful partnerships across business, education, government and the wider community.

"Together, they provide a coordinated framework to build resilience, attract investment and guide sustainable growth for our region."

Attendees will have the opportunity "to learn about key draft strategies shaping growth, industry and investment".

The webinar will include a "live survey", a question and answer session and information on how to provide formal feedback.

The media has been invited to join the webinar.

The webinar will be held for an hour from 10am on Wednesday, February 11.

More information and registration is available online through the Your Voice Our Coast website or via <http://penne.ws/b24CbG>.

SOURCE:

Media release, 4 Feb 2026

Sue Davis, Central Coast Council



Ettalong Bowling Club renovation expected to start in March

Major redevelopment of the Ettalong Bowling Club is expected to start in March.

"This redevelopment represents the most significant investment in our facilities since our beginnings and is designed to deliver lasting benefits for our members and the wider community," said chief executive Mr Tim McGavin.

Stage One of the project will build "a vibrant dining precinct featuring a new main bar, lounge, cafe and a range of seating options, including alfresco dining and a dedicated children's play area", he said.

"During Stage One, the main lounge and existing main bar area will be closed.

"Works will also include significant upgrades to the southern side of the car park and a substantial expansion of the club's back-of-house facilities.

"All other areas of the Club, including alfresco restaurant, sports lounge and auditorium will remain operational."

Upon completion of Stage One, renovation will move to the auditorium and other areas of the

Club.

Future stages will include upgraded bowls facilities, refreshed function spaces, and enhanced entertainment and sports lounge areas.

Mr McGavin said the Club was home to one of the finest lawn bowling facilities on the Central Coast.

"Ettalong Bowling Club regularly hosts NSW and Australian bowls events, proudly promoting both the Club and the sport of bowls at the highest level."

He said the redevelopment would "further cement Ettalong Bowling Club's position as a premier community destination on the Central Coast".

"The upcoming redevelopment represents the next milestone in the Club's long-term vision and will be the most significant construction project undertaken since its establishment in 1964."

Dacca Architecture had been engaged as the principal design consultant and Cliffords Constructions as the builder responsible for the construction and fit-out of the project.

"This has been a long and complex journey, but reaching this point marks a defining moment for the Club," he said.

It followed extensive consultation and a lengthy and detailed planning and design process.

He said Dacca Architecture had worked closely with the Club to create a contemporary design that "pushed boundaries while remaining respectful of the Club's proud history".

The redevelopment reflected the Club's ongoing commitment to reinvesting its financial strength into improved amenities, greater operational efficiencies, and a more connected and sustainable club for generations to come, he said.

Mr McGavin said that, while some inconvenience to patrons was unavoidable, the Club has staged the works to minimise disruption and allow the Club to continue trading throughout the redevelopment.

SOURCE:

Media release, 2 Feb 2026

Tim McGavin, Ettalong Bowling Club

Home lending specialist appointed at bank branch

The Ettalong Beach branch of the Bendigo Bank has appointed a new home lending specialist.

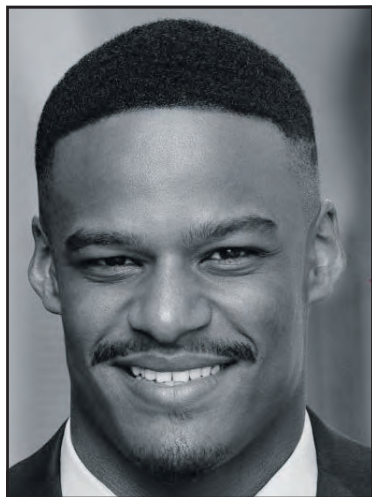
Mr Andre Jobson was born in the United States and has been an Australian citizen since 2018.

"Andre brings over 10 years of experience in customer service and sales, along with a strong finance background, including time as a credit analyst," said branch chairman Mr Michael Tame.

"That experience means our customers are in capable hands when it comes to navigating the home buying journey.

"Andre is passionate about supporting the local community and guiding customers step by step through one of life's biggest decisions - purchasing a home.

"When he's not helping



customers achieve their goals, you'll find him on the golf course, at the gym, or unwinding with friends."

SOURCE:

Social media, 5 Feb 2026

Community Bank Ettalong Beach

Apply for Club Grants

The 2026 round of the Club Grants scheme has opened, with applications closing on Thursday, April 30.

The scheme is funded by local registered clubs to provide community support through a regional committee for the Central Coast local government area.

The committee is made up of representatives from eligible clubs over the Coast, as well as representatives from Department of Community and Justice and Central Coast Council, in an advisory role.

Projects must benefit residents of the Central Coast.

Ettalong Diggers community manager Ms Kim Cole said: "This grant round supports projects that deliver real, positive outcomes for

our Central Coast community.

"If your project helps build strong, connected and inclusive communities, we encourage you to apply.

"Priority areas include: children, young people, families, older people, community capacity building, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities, people with disabilities, veterans and emergency services.

"If your project makes a positive local impact, now is the time to apply." Applications may be made online via the club's website www.ettalongdiggers.com.

For more information, phone Ms Cole on 4343 0140 or email kim.cole@ettalongdiggers.com.

SOURCE:

Social media, 1 Feb 2026

Ettalong Diggers

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Winner of 2025 awards

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GOAN INDIAN RESTAURANT

34 Blackwall Road, Woy Woy-NSW 2256, Tel: 02 43398225, www.spices29.com.au

Forum

Remove commercial electricity tariffs for strata residents

Residents in our 10-unit strata complex in Ettalong Beach have discovered that Ausgrid automatically classifies all strata common-area electricity supplies as “non-residential,” forcing us onto a commercial tariff, even though our property is zoned R1 General Residential.

Central Coast Council has formally confirmed our residential zoning, yet Ausgrid refuses to recognise it.

As a result, we are being charged commercial rates for

basic residential lighting such as driveway and pathway lights.

This is not just our problem.

Many strata complexes across the Coast are unknowingly paying inflated commercial tariffs, adding unnecessary cost-of-living pressure to households already doing it tough.

I encourage other affected residents to contact their local MP and ask for this policy to be reviewed so that residential strata communities are billed fairly and in line with their zoning.

SOURCE:
Email, 2 Feb 2026
Susan Roberts, Ettalong Beach

Peninsula News has reported that Central Coast Council intends to create an “environmental sustainability guidelines for events” as part of its draft Events Strategy Action Plan.

“Events and Placemaking staff would be ... encouraging practices that reduce waste, protect public spaces, and minimise environmental impact, with clear expectations embedded in event planning resources,” according to Peninsula News.

What have they learned from Gosford City Council’s Sustainable

Event Management Policy adopted in May 2011?

It was based on “encouragement” and action “where possible”, without any level of sustainability specified.

Fines did not apply when organisers failed to comply with only weak, tokenistic didactions.

This council has had almost 10 years to select its sustainability level.

Therefore the exhibited policy should comply with the council’s evolved administration and principles.

The policy will be a true insight

into the councils attitudes.

Gosford Council’s original Sustainable Event Management Policy was embarrassing.

Objectors said so.

What actions will be included in this draft Sustainable Event Management Policy?

Will the policy be comprehensive or tokenistic?

Will the council employ a sustainability officer?

Will the Sustainable Event Management Policy deliver sustainability?

SOURCE:
Letter, 2 Feb 2026
Norm Harris, Umina

Arts

Volunteer starts book club at aged care facility

A Umina aged care facility has highlighted the contribution of a volunteer who has started a book club for its residents.

Volunteer Ms Kerri Jobson has started a new book club at Peninsula Village.

Her efforts are now highlighted on the organisation’s website.

“From the very beginning, I’ve been struck by the strong sense of community and care that underpins everything here,” she is reported as saying.

“It feels like a place where

connection truly matters, and that aligns perfectly with why I wanted to get involved.”

She said the book club had been shaped around inclusion, so residents could take part in a way that felt comfortable.

“People read in different ways and at different paces, and that’s something we want to celebrate rather than limit,” she said.

The group was creating a flexible format that caters to a range of reading levels and interests, spanning genres such as crime, espionage and general

fiction.

“Our plan is to hold a comprehensive Book Club meeting on the first Monday of each month.

“These sessions provide structure while still leaving room for open discussion and the shared enjoyment of books.

“In addition, we’ll be running relaxed reading circles every Monday for those who’d like to drop in, chat and share what they’re currently reading,” she said.

“It’s all about creating a welcoming space where conversation flows naturally and

everyone feels they belong.”

A newsletter is also being prepared to help keep members informed and connected.

Peninsula Villages chief executive Mr Colin Osborne said: “For Peninsula Villages, initiatives like the book club reflect a person-centred approach, creating opportunities shaped around individuals, their interests and what supports their wellbeing day-to-day.”

SOURCE:
Website, 30 Jan 2026
Peninsula Villages



Noticeboard - Public Notices

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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
Fri Feb 27, 6pm
Michael Fix (Aus) & Christine Collister (UK)
Everglades Club Woy Woy
All tickets \$25
For information
www.troubadour.org.au
4342 6716

School for Seniors announces speakers

The Peninsula School for Seniors has announced its February schedule of speakers.

Mr Peter Dean will speak about "Easy steps to use Facebook" tomorrow, Tuesday, February 10.

It will be a friendly, hands-on learning session, according to School co-ordinator Ms Amber Golby.

"Peter has dedicated his time to helping people understand Facebook in a simple, stress-free way," she said.

"You will be able to connect with loved ones who live afar, view and share family photos, and discover how to connect with like-minded people who share a similar interest, hobby, community groups or articles you enjoy."

On Tuesday, February 17, Ms Marilyn Vale from Central Coast Council Watch will talk about "watching NSW Central Coast Council on behalf of fair-minded and reasonable people".

"Marilyn Vale was born and bred at Gosford hospital," said Ms Golby.

"Marilyn has been an active member of our area who studied journalism, working at The Central Coast Advocate, opening Lake Macquarie Advocate as well as Cumberland Head office, taking on the role of editor of the Bankstown Express then The Glebe, as well as deputy editor of The Manly Daily.

"Marilyn was editor-in-chief of Quest Community Newspapers and later The Senior Newspaper and became editorial trainer for Fairfax, so you can only imagine

the knowledge and stories Marilyn has to share.

"Marilyn has lived an adventurous life overseas in Ireland, France and the USA but her interests now lie with Central Coast Council.

"She has attended every council meeting since 2017."

Dance caller Ms Wendy Alexander will speak about Central Coast Ocean Waves square dancers on Tuesday, February 24.

Ms Golby said those attending could "take part in a few steps or simply watch".

"Square dancing is for everyone and every fitness level as it is literally a step," she said.

"Wendy has a keen interest to share her love of square dancing.

"Square dancing is a gentle way to get exercise, reduce stress, a memory booster, meet new friends all while getting a workout."

The square dance group meets on Tuesday evenings at the Peninsula Community Centre.

The Peninsula School for Seniors also meets every Tuesday during the school term at the community centre at 93 McMasters Rd.

Meetings start at 10am with morning tea at 10:30am.

Speakers talk from 11am, followed by questions.

Members bring their lunch to eat from 12pm.

Rummikub is then played from 12:30pm to 2:30pm.

SOURCE:

Media release, 26 Jan 2026
Amber Golby, Peninsula School for Seniors



Australia Day activities held at Pearl Beach

Local residents and visitors came together on Australia Day, January 26, to take part in a range of races, activities and friendly competitions at Pearl Beach.

"A fantastic day of fun and community spirit was enjoyed by all who attended," said Pearl Beach Progress Association publicity officer Ms Karina Stafford.

"In the days leading up to the event, a dedicated group of volunteers worked tirelessly to clean the beach following recent

heavy rains.

"It was a significant task that helped ensure the area was safe and ready for the community to enjoy.

"Their behind-the-scenes efforts were a vital part of the event's success.

"The day itself was filled with laughter, great energy and plenty of participation across all age groups."

SOURCE:

Media release, 27 Jan 2026
Karina Stafford, BPBA



The perfect way to start the day?

Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch has described sunrise on the waterfront as "the perfect way to start the day".

"It's the last weekend before Parliament goes back and the

list of jobs is long and the day is beautiful.

"May the sewing and the gardening be complete, the washing done, food for the week be prepared, the house be neat,

the speeches complete, the paperwork sorted and I have a successful pack," she said.

SOURCE:

Social media, 1 Feb 2026
Liesl Tesch, Member for Gosford

Older Women hold 100th birthday lunch

The Deepwater branch of the Older Women's Network has celebrated the 100th birthday of one of its members, Ms Elsie Alford.

A 100th Birthday Luncheon was held on Friday, February 6, at Everglades Country Club for Ms Alford who turned 100 the previous day.

Member for Gosford Ms Liesl Tesch made a surprise visit to the luncheon to congratulate her and to share some birthday cake on the day.

"Elsie is a remarkable woman who still lives in her own home, cooks for herself and tends her beloved garden," said branch secretary Ms Jennifer Brown.

"During World War II, Elsie was trained as a weather observer in the Royal Air Force and was stationed in Stornaway in the Outer Hebrides.

"After the war, Elsie took the first Constellation flight from England to



Sydney with her cousin in 1947.

"Elsie made a life for herself here and married another returned World War 2 veteran, having two children, Geoffrey and Miranda."

Ms Brown said Ms Alford had been a stalwart of the branch.

"She is a constant example and fountain of information and has many close friends within the branch.

"Elsie credits the branch as essential in the battle to combat loneliness within the ranks of older women in the community as well as being an enormous supporter of the branch's fundraising efforts to combat food insecurity and homelessness."

SOURCE:

Media release, 7 Feb 2026
Jennifer Brown, OWN Deepwater

PCYC celebrates 25 years with open day

PCYC Umina Beach celebrated its 25th anniversary from 1pm to 3pm on Saturday, January 31.

"To celebrate we had an open day and gymnastics displays," said manager Ms Judy Tolhurst.

People were invited to see a judo demonstration or just "see our club and what we have to offer".

A \$10 entry fee was charged, to go towards updating the club.

SOURCE:

Social media, 2 Feb 2026
PCYC Umina Beach





Activities for National Hugging Day

Residents and staff at a Umina aged care facility took part in activities for National Hugging Day on Wednesday, January 21.

shirts at Peninsula Village, creating artistic patterns.
There were plenty of colours and warm hugs were shared.
SOURCE:
Social media, 22 Jan 2026
Peninsula Villages



Mingaletta offers chiropractic information

Mingaletta is offering Spinal Screens and Chiropractic Care to its members over coming weeks.
Sessions will be held on February 12, 19 and 26 and in March.
The sessions will include a

spinal health check and information about chiropractic care.
Appointments may be made by phoning Mingaletta on 4342 7515.
SOURCE:
Social media, 5 Feb 2026
Mingaletta Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Corporation

Dementia advocate dies aged 76

Dementia advocate and Brisbane Water Rotary member Ms Bobby Redman has died peacefully at her home at the age of 76.
“A trained psychologist, Ms Redman turned her 2015 diagnosis of frontotemporal dementia into a decade of advocacy that changed lives across Australia,” said Rotary Brisbane Water membership director Mr Mitchell Gordon.
“She influenced national policy, strengthened support systems and gave voice to the 433,300 Australians living with dementia,” he said.
“Ms Redman joined the Dementia Australia Advocates Program in 2016.
“Within a year, she was appointed to the Dementia Australia Advisory Committee.
“By October 2021, her peers elected her chair, a position she held until March last year.”
Mr Gordon said: “She led major initiatives including Strengthening Connections, a regional program connecting advocates in less populous areas, and Consumer Involvement in Research, which ensured people with lived experience shaped research priorities.
“She guided committee meetings in Brisbane, Adelaide, Canberra and Sydney, ensuring people with lived experience remained at the heart of every decision.”
Mr Gordon said a letter she co-signed with the chair of the Dementia Australia Board calling for urgent action on dementia care, which ran in more than 150



publications nationwide in 2024.
Dementia Australia recognized her contribution with an award, stating that her unwavering commitment influenced national policy, strengthened community support systems and advanced research engagement.
Ms Redman was a foundation member of Rotary Brisbane Water, established in 2019.
She served as the club's inaugural vocational director.
“In this role, she established the vocational service program from its inception, launching the Pride of Workmanship Awards and coordinating the club's first vocational visit,” said Mr Gordon.
“Whether leading at the national level, serving on local committees for disability access, or supporting fellow Rotarians, Bobby embodied Rotary's highest ideal: Service Above Self.”

Mr Gordon said Ms Redman lived independently, managing her condition with technology and recorded prompts.
“This wasn't just personal determination. It was proof that dementia doesn't mean the end of independence, purpose or contribution.”
He said Ms Redman spoke publicly about the vulnerable, difficult parts of living with dementia.
“She helped others feel less alone. She challenged what society assumed about the condition.
“Her psychology background gave her insight. Her lived experience gave her authority.
“Those who knew her describe warmth, determination and unwavering commitment.”
SOURCE:
Media release, 26 Jan 2026
Mitchell Gordon, Rotary Brisbane Water

Foundation praises ‘oatmeal station’ trial

A Woy Woy aged care home has been praised for its breakfast Oatmeal Station for residents.
The kitchen team at BlueWave Living was praised by the Maggie Beer Foundation for trialling “a simple Oatmeal Station” for residents.
“It gives more choice and control over how and when they eat, supporting independence and dignity in a practical way,” the Foundation said in a social media post.

“It's a small change, but it makes a difference.
“When aged care kitchens share ideas and learn from each other, simple approaches like this can improve the everyday dining experience for residents.”
The Foundation said it was able to give chefs and cooks access to practical ideas, resources and support to help make everyday meals better.
SOURCE:
Social media, 17 Jan 2026
Maggie Beer Foundation



Aged care volunteers wanted

A Woy Woy aged care home is looking for volunteers who can spare an hour or two a week, a fortnight or a month.
The volunteers would “help brighten our residents' days with activities like Mahjong, gardening”, or something the volunteer enjoys.
SOURCE:
Social media, 3 Feb 2026
BlueWave Living

Concert for cancer services

Coastal Cruisers will hold a Comedy Fundraiser to raise funds for cancer services and research on Saturday, February 28, at Everglades Country Club.
The “night of fun and laughs” is Coastal Cruisers' largest annual fundraiser.
Tickets are \$30 each.
SOURCE:
Social media, 2 Feb 2026
Coastal Cruisers

Consumers invited

Brisbane Waters Private Hospital is inviting expressions of interest in membership of its committees as a Consumer Representative.
The role includes “providing feedback, helping review documents and policies, and giving a voice to the community”.
SOURCE:
Social media, 27 Jan 2026
Brisbane Waters Private Hospital

Folk club concert line-up for ‘great year’

The Troubadour Folk Club is promising “a great year of live music” in its concert line-up for 2026.

“Our first major concert this year is in the Everglades on Friday, February 27,” said club president Mr Michael Fine.

“The internationally acclaimed award-winning Australian finger-style guitarist, Michael Fix, will be with Christine Collister, a legendary singer with a hauntingly beautiful voice.”

They are from the Isle of Man, the self-governing British Crown dependency located in the Irish Sea between Great Britain and Ireland.

“This will be their only concert on the Central Coast, part of their 2026 Australian tour.

“There will many of the greatest ballads and popular music classics of the past 50 years – from the Beatles, Bob Dylan and Leonard Cohen, through to Roberta Flack and Aretha Franklin – along with a few of their own compositions.”

Mr Fine said that, on March 22, with a Sunday afternoon of Australian folk classics would be presented by Martyn Wyndham-Read and Warren Fahey.

“In May, we have the marvellous Cameron Jones Trio, playing gypsy-jazz classics in the Django Rheinhardt style.

“In June, the fabulous Ukrainian



Group, The Mar'vana Jaga Band (pictured), make a welcome return as they perform some of the most beloved music, the unbearably beautiful and emotive repertoire of Ukrainian folk and contemporary traditions.”

Mr Fine said that concert ticket prices had been kept low to make sure as many people as possible can get to enjoy a live performance right up close.

Mr Fine said: “As in other years, the Troubadour also offers plenty of other local events, such as our monthly Club Performers’ Concert on the second Saturday each month in Empire Bay.

“We also host a monthly session for musicians who enjoy playing

and singing with others.

“That’s the first Friday of every month, in Woy Woy.”

Mr Fine said that the Troubadour Folk Club was a non-profit live music club for members and all local residents, which was working on bringing great acoustic music and community concerts “right here on the Peninsula”.

Details and more information about all our events can be found on the club’s website-www.troubadour.org.au and on social media.

Phone inquiries are welcome on 4342 6716.

SOURCE: Media release, 4 Feb 2026 Michael Fine, Troubadour Folk Club

Working bee held for next theatre production

Woy Woy Little Theatre held a working bee over the weekend, February 7 and 8, to work on the set for its next production.

Volunteers came with tools and paint brushes to help with preparations.

The Pulitzer Prize-winning play “Dinner with Friends” opens at 8pm on Friday, February 20.

If you are handy with tools, a paint brush or helping out in any way, “Dinner with Friends” is a 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.

This play will run for three weekends.

“The first matinee is already sold out and the others have less than 30 seats each,” said box office manager Mr Graham Vale.

“There are still good seats at evening performances.

“The matinees will get harder to get seats.” Written by Donald Margulies, the play is directed by Liz Munro.

Jarrod Rizzardo plays Gabe. Jessica Curtis plays Karen.

Madi Leidich plays Beth and Paul Karton plays Tom.

SOURCE: Social media, 5 Feb 2026 Woy Woy Little Theatre

First square dance of year

Central Coast Ocean Waves has had its first square dance night for the new year.

“At first, we were struggling to get a square,” said caller Ms Wendy Alexander.

“Then suddenly everyone

arrived: Two squares with three new people.

“Unfortunately two were visiting from Sydney, but had a great night.”

SOURCE: Social media, 4 Feb 2026 Central Coast Ocean Waves



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Education

Volunteers needed for Bluey’s Snack Shack

Woy Woy South Public School is seeking volunteers to join the Canteen Crew at Bluey’s Snack Shack.

Volunteers need not have previous experience and can choose their shift and regularity. They may come once a week, a fortnight or a month. The recess shift is from 9am to 11:30am. The lunch shift is from 11:30am to 1:30pm.

Volunteers receive a \$5 canteen voucher. This may be used by the volunteer or their children “for something tasty at the canteen, whether a lunch order, a frosty treat or some snacks during recess or lunch”. For further information, email canteen@wwspandc.org. **SOURCE: Social media, 3 Feb 2026 Woy Woy South Public School P/C**

School photo day at Woy Woy campus

Brisbane Water School College will have a school photo day at Woy Woy campus on Tuesday, February 10.

Photos of Year 10 will be taken during Period 1 from 8:45am to 9:35am. Year 11 photos will be taken during Period 2 from 9:35am to 10:25am. Sibling photos will be taken during the break from 10:25 to 10:55am. Year 12 photos will be taken

during Period 3 from 10:55am and 11:45am. Photos of the SRC, captains and TLC will be taken during Period 4 from 11:45am to 12:35pm. Students have been told they must be in full school uniform, with white shirts for Year 10 and blue shirts for Year 11 and 12. Sports uniforms are not to be worn. A photo “catch-up” day will be held on Monday, February 23. **SOURCE: Social media, 4 Feb 2026 BWSC Woy Woy**

Year advisors make social media posts

Brisbane Water Secondary College has featured a series of posts by Year Advisors in recent social media.

Mr Luke Goodley said: “I am excited to be one of the Year 10 Advisors for 2026 alongside Ms Natalie Hammond. “I am currently teaching in the English faculty and have been for the past three years. “I have been fortunate enough to build some strong relationships throughout my time at the College and look forward to continuing this in 2026. “Outside of school, I love playing different sports, particularly Oz Tag and Rugby League. “I also value spending time with family and friends and generally anything that involves being outdoors. “As we enter into 2026, my goal as Year 10 Advisor is to build a close-knit year group where students feel that they belong and are valued by all their peers no matter their background or interests.



“Ms Hammond and I are aware of the nerves that can come with starting Year 10, but we are excited to help each student and their family navigate their way through this to achieve an enjoyable and successful 2026 school year.” **SOURCE: Social media, 1 Feb 2026 Luke Goodley, BWSC Woy Woy**

First parents’ meeting for year

Umina Beach Public School’s Parents and Citizens Association will hold its first meeting of 2026 on Thursday, February 12, at 9:30am in the school staff room.

Membership costs “just one dollar” and may follow the group on Facebook and Instagram and join its What’s App community group. **SOURCE: Social media, 5 Feb 2026 Umina Beach Public School**

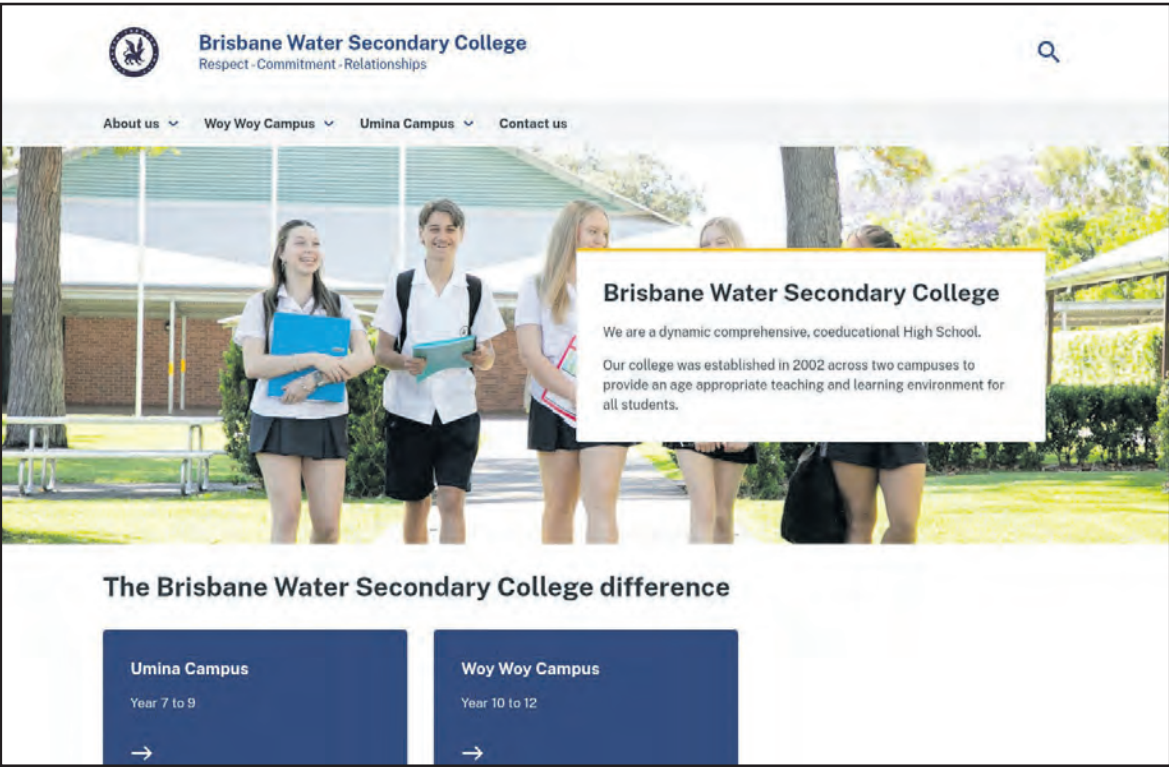


Year 12 students have their ‘last first day’

Year 12 students at Brisbane Water Secondary College have celebrated their “last first day” of the school year. “It was a huge milestone moment yesterday which filled our staff with pride, excitement and a

few nerves as our Year 12 students walked in the school gates for their final first day of school,” said Woy Woy campus principal Ms Rebecca Cooper. “We’re so proud of the young people they’ve become and can’t wait to see them lead, grow and

make this year one to remember.” The students had their photo taken with a “last first day” frame, marking the beginning of their last chapter at the College. **SOURCE: Social media, 3 Feb 2026 BWSC Woy Woy**



College has its own website after 22 years

After 22 years, Brisbane Water Secondary College finally has its own website. The College was formed 22 years ago with the amalgamation of Woy Woy High School and Umina High School. Woy Woy High School became the Woy Woy campus for Years 10 to 12. Umina High School became the Umina campus for Years 7 to 9.

However, the school website addresses remained. Until now, the Woy Woy campus retained the Woy Woy High School website: <https://woywoy-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/>. The Umina campus retained the Umina High School website: <https://umina-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/>. This year, the college finally has its own website: [https://](https://brisanewater-s.schools.nsw.gov.au/)

brisanewater-s.schools.nsw.gov.au/. Each campus has its own section of the new website. For Woy Woy campus, it is <https://brisanewater-s.schools.nsw.gov.au/woy-woy-campus>. For Umina campus, it is <https://brisanewater-s.schools.nsw.gov.au/umina-campus>. **SOURCE: Website, 5 Feb 2026 Brisbane Water Secondary College**

Boardriders prepare for coming season

Umina Boardriders have announced their committee for 2026, as well as competition divisions and membership fees for the coming year.

President is Nathan Shanks, vice-president Jarryd Hayne, secretary Brodie Shanks and treasurer Sally Oman.

Live Heats coordinator is Julie Papps.

Junior development officers are Kevin Field and Sally Oman, and "Trailer and Barbecue Boss" is Huw Toner.

Divisions for 2026 are Opens A

Grade, Opens B Grade, Over-40s, Over-50s, Juniors A Grade, and Juniors B Grade.

Membership will cost \$150, with discounts for multiple family members who register together.

Social membership for parents and supporters costs \$80.

Membership includes a club shirt, insurance, food, drinks and the end of year presentations.

Additional fees apply for outside of club competitions and junior training sessions.

SOURCE:
Social media, 3 Feb 2026
Umina Boardriders



Muddy? Good weather for Swans

Recent heavy rain has left many playing fields wet and muddy, and some events cancelled.

However, Woy Woy Peninsula Swans AFL Club says muddy games make for happy junior football players.

The club is asking returning and

new players to register.

New players get a uniform included with registration and returning players are supplied with the "fresh new club Guernsey" for the season.

The club says the Sunday games don't clash with soccer or netball.

A free sausage sizzle is held

every Wednesday after training at Rogers Park.

No experience is necessary.

"Ready to get muddy with us?"

Registrations are taken online at www.playhq.com/afl/register/93d324.

SOURCE:
Social media, 6 Feb 2026
Woy Woy Peninsula Swans AFL

Bridge club holds red point event for Australia Day

The Brisbane Water Bridge Club had 17 duos contested the Australia Day Pairs red point event.

Christine Hadaway and Donelle Foate had a narrow win (by 0.6 per cent) from Chris Hasemore and Barry Foster.

Karen Ody and Jim Routledge were hot on their heels taking third spot.

The top three percentages would be enough to win on many occasions.

Seven novice pairs participated in the red point event; some for their first time.

The special prize for novices went to Carolyn Girdwood and Annette Clarke.

The next red point day is on Saturday, Valentine's Day, February 14.

Results of Australia Day Pairs played on January 26 were:

- 1 Christine Hadaway, Donelle Foate 229.5 (60.71 per cent), 0.90 red points.
- 2 Chris Hasemore, Barry Foster 227.0 (60.05), 0.63.
- 3 Karen Ody, Jim Routledge 224.0 (59.26), 0.45.
- 4 Felicity Fane, Matt Raj Mal 221.6 (58.63), 0.30.
- 5 Jaan Oitmaa, Sylvia Foster 221.0 (58.47), 0.23.
- 6 Judy Wulff, David Adams 213.8 (56.55), 0.18.
- 7 Carolyn Girdwood, Annette



Clarke 191.0 (50.53), 0.15.

- 8 John Aldersley, Beryl Lowry 190.1 (50.30), 0.07.
- 8 Pamela Lumby, Carol Long 190.1 (50.30), 0.07.
- 10 Philip Harper, Meryl Duke 186.8 (49.40).
- 11 Susan McCall, Pamela Joseph 186.0 (49.21).
- 12 Jacqueline Wilson, Jenny Buckley 183.4 (48.51).
- 13 Caroline Nichols, Connie

Lewis 175.0 (46.30).

- 14 Steve Anderson, Kerry Anderson 167.0 (44.18).
- 15 Carolyn Harper, Susan Ashley 154.1 (40.77).
- 16 Anne Birt, Marilyn Reid 147.4 (38.99).
- 17 Fiona Galea, Maureen Lockwood 107.0 (28.31).

SOURCE:
Social media, 26 Jan 2026
Brisbane Water Bridge Club



Four generations of physie

Woy Woy Recreational Physical Culture Club has gathered members of two families who have participated in "physie" for four generations.

They are the Passmore-Frangos-Breadon family and Crouchman-Poulsen-Highlands

family, pictured.

"Physie is for all ages and runs deep in some families.

"It is a way to connect and share something you love with the people you love."

SOURCE:
Social media, 6 Feb 2026
Woy Woy Recreational Physical Culture Club



Sport

Soccer ‘meet and greet’ for women of all ages

Southern and Ettalong United Football Club will hold a Women’s All Age Meet and Greet at James Browne Oval at 6:30pm this evening, Monday, February 9.

It is described as a “no pressure kick around open to all women of all ages and skill levels”. Those attending are asked to bring their boots or joggers. The session will be hosted by

the club’s AA2 women’s team. The club currently has places available in its women’s squads, with six spots in WAA1S, three spots in WAA2S, and six spots in WAA6. “Whether you’ve played your whole life, haven’t kicked a ball in years, or are brand new, you’re welcome.”

SOURCE: Social media, 6 Feb 2026 SEUFC

Free pickleball sessions in Woy Woy

Two free “Come and Try Pickleball” sessions will be held at Woy Woy Tennis Centre on Sunday, February 15.

A children’s session, for ages five to 12, will be held from 9am to 10am. An adults’ session, for “ages 18 to 100”, will be held from 10:30am to 12pm.

The club’s coaches will describe the basics “in a fun and welcoming environment”. All equipment will be provided. “Just bring your energy and a smile.” Spots are limited, and registration is necessary.

SOURCE: Social media, 7 Feb 2026 Woy Woy Tennis Club



Piper and Will win junior life saver awards

Ocean Beach Surf Life Saving Club members Piper Lawrence and Will Nash have received Junior Life Saver of the Year awards at a ceremony at Avoca Beach Surf Life Saving Club recently.

The annual awards aim to recognise leadership, dedication and commitment to surf lifesaving and the wider local community. All junior lifesavers who nominated for the award went through an interview process, completed a resuscitation practical and a theory paper, which included pitching an activity or program for

Surf Life Saving. Piper’s proposal was a short course for local surfers about how to do basic rescues if they are called into action at a busy or unpatrolled beach. Will’s proposal was for a QR code displayed at the beach entrance, which links to information and tips on beach safety that can be translated into different languages. The presentation took place at branch championships for under-8s to under-14s with events designed to showcase their surf awareness, teamwork and rescue techniques.

Surf Life Saving Central Coast chief executive Mr Michael Hyslop said he was impressed by the strong field of contenders for the awards. “The Newcastle Permanent Junior Lifesaver of the Year award showcases the exceptional calibre of young people in our branch. “They are all dedicated volunteers who demonstrate remarkable leadership, commitment to beach safety, and a genuine passion for serving their communities.”

SOURCE: Media release, 4 Feb 2026 Scarlett Hurst, Newcastle Permanent

O’Farrell scores 159 in seven-wicket cricket win

Southern Spirit Cricket Club 3/229 has defeated Lisarow Ourimbah 228 by seven wickets in its two-day first grade round 16 match.

Southern Spirit captain Liam O’Farrell finished with 159 not out on Day 2, Saturday, January 31. He scored 20 fours and two sixes off the 191 balls he faced. His performance was described as “calm, patient at the crease and leading from the front, Liam steered the Phoenix to a well-deserved win, after the lads fired with the ball on Day 1.”

SOURCE: Social media, 31 Jan 2026 Southern Spirit Cricket Club



Tennis courts close for two months

Patonga tennis courts will be closed for up to eight weeks from today, Monday, February 9.

The courts will be closed while the synthetic court surface is upgraded. This is the second stage of upgrade work on the tennis courts, following the installation of new fencing before Christmas.

SOURCE: Social media, 6 Feb 2026 Central Coast Council



The final of the Everglades Club Championship Triples was played on Saturday, January 31.

The team of Brian Dolan, Mick Redrup and Tom Cain defeated Kevin Hughes, Vince Chand and Ken Young, 25-21. Brian, Mick and Tom fought hard to come back from being down 16-6. They clawed their way back with a couple of singles, then a six and a three. Going into the last end, they were two ahead and managed to hold three shots to win the game. Pictured are Mick Redrup, Tom Cain and Brian Dolan. The club started its Mixed Pairs Championship on February 1.

SOURCE: Media release, 1 Feb 2026 Grant Ireland, Everglades Men’s Bowls

