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Julian Burnside
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Online in **Echo**netdaily
**Indigenous rights and
Adani's land deal**
www.echo.net.au/indigenous-rights-adanis-land-deal



Meet some of the Byron Bay Girls Club members: around the table are Billie, Holly, Amelie, Anjali, River-Jay, Francesca and Maia. Facilitators standing are Leah Rettenmaier, Asuka Hara, Grace Walters and Catherine Hardman. Visit www.futuredreamers.com.au for more. Photo Jeff 'Dreamer Since 1986' Dawson

Mandy Nolan

Years ago when my 22-year-old daughter was a teenager, I searched tirelessly for a program that might suit her.

As a young person who was struggling with her identity and her place in the world and her community, I longed to find a place that offered her a breadth of experiences; that built her confidence through friendships and learning.

That inspired her to think about what kind of life she might like to live. The potential of the kind of person she could become.

At the time there was nothing.

But it seems my longing has paid off. Sitting in the heart of Byron Bay is Future Dreamers, a beautiful house that offers the haven of a home away from home as an inspirational hub for young girls aged 12–25.

Byron Bay girls club

This not-for-profit girls club facilitates workshops, events and unique experiences for teen girls and young women, inspiring them to be creative, confident and active members of their community.

The women at the centre of the project are as diverse as the girls they

attract. It's led by project visionary Leah Rettenmaier, CEO Catherine Hardman, co-founder and program facilitator and manager Grace Walters, program facilitator Eva King and Girls Club co-ordinator and facilitator Asuka Hara.

For Leah, who initially instigated the project, Future Dreamers was about her desire to 'motivate teenage girls.

'I have three girls,' she says.

'Where boys here gravitate to the surf, the girls tend to get lost. There were girls I was coming across who didn't want to be at home with mum

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Govt blamed over fish shop closure

Aslan Shand

The fish co-op in Brunswick Heads, now known as Brunswick Heads Seafood, has closed owing to what management say was a struggle with NSW Department of Crown Lands.

Staff were informed on Friday that the shop would close and that they would have two weeks' notice in lieu. Questions put to Crown Lands were not answered by deadline.

The announcement also comes just weeks after the Greens-led council majority gave its support to the North Coast Holiday Parks Trust for their Ferry Reserve Holiday Park plan of management (PoM). The shop is located adjacent to the park.

Owner William Silverman told *The Echo*, 'With a heavy heart Brunswick Heads Seafood have to give up a struggle with NSW Dept Crown Lands and close down the business

at Brunswick Heads old co-op for the time being. We are unable to sustain financial losses without some clear guidelines and encouragement from authorities in NSW government.

'We are very sad this means closing the old co-op, the loss of jobs and a local payroll of \$60,000 per month severely affecting [the] livelihood and ritual of Brunswick community. We have struggled to have our voice heard since our purchase of the old co-op sixteen months ago.

'Crown Lands' preferred masterplan makes no provision for a sustainable future of the commercial fisherman and the old Brunswick co-op. In fact, it prescribes demolition of the existing jetty and timber walkway; a local treasure and integral part of the loading facilities of the fishery. Crown Lands seem gungho in pushing a masterplan
continued on page 3 ➤



Brunswick Heads Seafood staff Andy, Adrian and Krystal.

Photo Jeff Dawson

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Lennox business awards July 17

Twelve categories are open for the Lennox Head Chamber of Commerce business awards, to be held July 17 at Club Lennox.

The categories are Young Entrepreneur, Business Leader, Social Enterprise of the Year and Best Small Business, Best Big Business, Start Up Superstar, Mi Casa, Su Casa

(Visitor Experience, Accommodation), Culinary Science, Shop Till You Drop, Body & Soul, Hammer in High Vis and Sharp at Your Desk. Award sponsors are also being sought. Closing date for nominations is June 30.

For more info visit www.lennoxchamber.com.au/2017-business-awards.

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Mullum men's shed launches

Blokes from the Mullumbimby Men's Shed will be holding a pizza fundraiser and shed awareness event July 1 at the Byron Community College, located on the corner of Burringbar and Gordon Streets Mullumbimby, from 12.30pm.

Also The Mullum Men's Shed is holding its AGM Friday June 23 from 5pm at the Repair Cafe in Mullum. Co-organiser Jonathan Hartland says the group are seeking input for designs to build in the community gardens.

To find out more or get involved visit www.facebook.com/mullumshed.

Most easterly peace gathering



A meditation for peace was held at the Byron Peace Pole last Saturday. The group says it wants to draw attention to the signing and ratification of the United Nations treaty to ban nuclear weapons, which will be negotiated by 7-7-17. Photo Jeff Dawson

WWI memorial park study underway

A report is underway to determine the heritage significance of the Brunswick Heads WWI Memorial Park, according to Council staff.

The park is believed to have been planted by locals around 100 years ago, with each tree representing a fallen soldier.

But the protected Cypress Pines have seen some branch-

es removed over the years the area operated as overflow to camping and residents complain of their poor health.

While it is located on Crown lands, it is managed by the North Coast Holiday Parks Trust, a state-run corporation.

Its CEO Steve Edmonds told resident Patricia Warren in a letter: 'The World War I Memorial Pine Park has not

been Gazetted as heritage and the minister recommended that Bryon Shire Council undertake its own study into any significance.

The Echo asked staff if there was a plan/date/budget for the study. Council's director of sustainable environment and economy Shannon Burt told The Echo the World War 1 Memorial Pine Park

has been referred to Council's heritage advisor and a report is being completed to determine its heritage significance.

She said when finalised if required, it will be reported to Council and if required, sent to the Department of Planning and Heritage Office for consideration for heritage listing in the Local Environmental Plan.

Clean energy target supported by Nats MP

A clean energy target has been supported by Federal Nationals MP Kevin Hogan, whose electorate of Page covers Lismore, Ballina, Kyogle and Grafton.

His response comes after local Greens MP Tamera Smith said that Hogan's

name was on a leaked list of MPs who spoke against a clean energy target in the Coalition's party room.

She said, 'It's clear that the vast majority of people living on the north coast support strong action on climate change and a transition to

renewable energy.'

In reply, Hogan told The Echo, 'I support our emissions reduction target of 26-28 per cent below 2005 levels by 2030.'

'I also support our renewable energy target that will result in more than 23.5 per cent of our electricity be-

ing derived from renewable sources by 2020.

Curb gas exports

'In the party room discussion I spoke about the need to curb gas exports to put downward pressure on electricity prices now.'

Bed tax trial needed yesterday: Cr Spooner

The need for state government intervention with short term rentals - which increases pressure on the housing market and infrastructure - has again been highlighted by councillor Paul Spooner (Country Labor).

'We need the reality of situations of places like Byron to be highlighted to convince the state government to change,' Cr Spooner told The Echo.

According to Cr Spooner, approximately 15 per cent of accommodation in the Byron Shire is now dedicated to short term letting and the pressure from the tourist trade accounts for around 30 per cent of infrastructure costs.

'We have just had a 33.5 per cent rate rise to fill the gap in our infrastructure needs,' he continued.

The profit to be made

from short term letting through groups like Airbnb is leaving many locals in the position where they can no longer secure, stable and affordable housing.

Byron Shire Council is currently looking at ways to create a register of short term accommodation providers with a view to the possibility of a bed tax or other similar option, however, the state

government would need to provide the legislation to support such a move.

'We need to develop specific proposals to present to the state government so that we are one of the areas that gets to trial these ideas,' said Cr Spooner.

'I am hoping to get the support to get a trial set up in this area. It needs to happen here - yesterday.'

Man charged with Belongil Beach sex assault

A man has been arrested at Coffs Harbour and charged over the alleged sexual assault of a woman at Belongil Beach on June 5.

Detectives from the State Crime Command's Sex Crimes Squad and Tweed/Byron Local Area Command established Strike Force Kabera to investigate reports of

a sexual assault at Belongil Beach, Tyagarah.

The 31-year-old woman told police she was at the beach (about 5km south of Brunswick Heads Surf Club) about 5pm, when she was approached by an unknown man and sexually assaulted.

After she escaped, she ran to a hotel on Childe St, Byron

Bay, where staff assisted her and notified police.

Local police attended the hotel before the woman was taken to Byron Central Hospital for treatment.

Following extensive inquiries, police from Coffs/Clarence Local Area Command arrested a 31-year-old man at a home at Coffs Harbour on Fri-

day June 16. He was taken to Coffs Harbour Police Station and charged with six counts of aggravated sexual assault (deprive liberty), three counts of commit act of indecency, and one count of reckless damage.

The man was refused bail to appear at Coffs Harbour Local Court on Saturday (June 17).



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Govt blamed over Bruns fish co-op closure

► continued from page 1

[that is] not supported by local stakeholders.

‘We wish to see a revival of a working seafood and recreational port at Brunswick Heads to contribute and regenerate [the] simple pleasures of Brunswick Heads.’

Plans by Crown Lands to develop the Brunswick Heads Boat Harbour were put on display in April 2016, yet community concerns were raised over the ‘large amount of parkland that could be turned into parking.’

Options in the report include 68 boat-trailer parking spaces and 160 carparking spaces, effectively turning most of the open space into carpark.’

The Brunswick Heads Progress Association president John Dunn highlighted the need for upgrades to the facilities at the time, but also emphasised it was viral ‘that any changes do not detract from the low-key charm that defines Bruns and makes it so appealing to both residents and visitors.’

Silverman said that they needed the support of the Department of Primary In-

dustries (DPI) to revive the simple pleasures of Brunswick ‘as a working port and for community recreation.’

DPI masterplan

‘The DPI doesn’t value regional employment and commercial facilities for local produce. Its masterplan is all about boating, not jobs and community.

‘Unfortunately we’re having to close today. Very disappointing for everyone and a sad day for people for whom the Bruns Old Co-Op had provided so much family pleasure.’

Loss to Bruns

Greens Ballina MP Tamara Smith said she was sad to hear the shop was closing, adding, ‘It is a big loss to Brunswick; locals and visitors alike have enjoyed the food there for many years.

‘It is disturbing to hear that a once-thriving local business feels it has been forced to shut down.’

Local Nationals MLC Ben Franklin was also contacted for comment but there was no reply by deadline.

Creative Hub opens its doors

Aslan Shand

Creative Hub, a space for 12- to 24-year-olds to get involved with art, music and technology, launched on Saturday at the Byron Bay Arts and Industry Estate.

Spearheaded by One Vision Productions (OVP), programs include beat making, hip-hop and Ableton Live electronic music production courses, a DJ school and street art, acting and dance workshops.

OVP founder Mark Robertson says, ‘Our focus is on empowering our youth to explore their creativity in a safe and supportive environment. What we’re doing is offering young people a space where they can be inspired to create, explore their potential and be met with unlimited opportunity.’

As a former street kid himself, Mark understands the challenges of getting back on your feet and moving forward and has been inspired by some of the opportunities he has had working with people throughout Australia.

‘Working with remote communities in the Northern



Pictured is OVP director Mark Robertson, in the white shirt, and course facilitator Daniel Crabb, in black, with a group trying out the Ableton Push beat box pads. Photo Jeff Dawson

Territory – it breaks you a lot as there is so much suffering, but the people and culture are so strong – it is amazing to be out there.’

Empower youth

Mark was recently awarded the Churchill Fellowship and in July he will be heading to the US for six weeks where he will be visiting places including the Bronx and Los Angeles. He is on a mission to gain an understanding of established arts-based edu-

cational programs and pathways designed to empower disadvantaged youth by giving them a voice.

The Creative Hub open day will run from 12 till 9pm this Saturday providing people with a ‘sneak peek’ into the space that ‘aims to inspire and promote creative collaboration for young people, through OVP’s specially designed youth programs.’

‘The hub is where kids can come and be part of an environment where they can

learn,’ continued Mark.

‘Working in the schools and getting this going – it’s been massive.

‘We’re really excited to be launching the new space and want to forge strong, long-term partnerships with other local organisations who want to get involved.’

The space is located at 4/10 Wollongbar Street, Byron Bay Arts and Industry Estate.

For more information visit www.onevisionproductions.com.au.

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Surf Life Saving members celebrated

Guy Knox

More than one hundred members and friends attended the fun-filled Brunswick Surf Life Saving Club annual presentation night last Saturday at the Brunswick Bowlo.

Club president Craig Reid acknowledged the life members, including recently deceased Gav Arthur, who will always be remembered for his surf knowledge and enthusiasm, before noting some of the year's achievements.

Club members spent more than 3,500 hours on beach patrols, effectively covering nearly 15km of patrol service area.

The club also made 18 rescues and treated 131 people with first aid with five



Pictured from left are Adrian Russell, Matt Holmes (club captain), Sue McCaughtrie (patrol captain), James Beard, Kieren Nugent, Barry Corley and Annabelle Keene. Photo supplied

going to hospital.

Club chief training officer and legend Braeden McHugh handed out certificates for successful completion of

courses including advanced resuscitation techniques, spinal management and first aid. Club captain and gentle giant Matt Holmes then

made the much-anticipated patrol presentations, with Bryce Holmes gathering more awards than any other member, including most patrolled hours, patrol person of the year and the Dick Arthur memorial trophy for best cadet.

Mass rescue

Bryce also bravely rescued two swimmers in the Christmas Eve mass rescue.

Club president (all-round good guy and wonderful mentor) Craig Reid was also recognised for his dedicated 15 years of good-humoured leadership!

Members of the best patrol for the 2016-17 season (Patrol Four) were presented the Gray Shield.

Spreading kindness



Byron local Rebecca Johnson, 24, has launched *The Kindness Book* project at the recent Young & Green eco-fair.

She says *The Kindness Book* was born to spread kindness, love, and human connection through a 'pay-it-forward' method.

'Using a notebook is a creative way to encourage others to practise spreading kindness, and a tangible way to keep track of people's

kind gestures. *The Kindness Book* can be used to share stories, inspire and empower everyday people to take action locally, communally and globally.

'*The Kindness Book* will benefit the community by encouraging people to give rather than receive.'

Rebecca can be contacted on 0415 559 541 or via bec.the-kindnessbook@gmail.com.

Photo Jeff Dawson

Nuclear debate hosed down by Nats leader

A challenge by Labor leader Luke Foley to debate the potential for NSW to become a nuclear-powered state has not been accepted by NSW deputy premier John Barilaro (Nationals).

Instead, Barilaro sent out a letter to media outlets last week accusing Foley of politicising the issue while highlighting his government's commitment that no CSG ex-

ploration will take place on the north coast.

He also blamed Labor for approving 'more than 119 CSG exploration, production, prospecting and other authorities... approved in NSW...'

Barilaro said the point he was trying to make was, 'The cost of living and the need to be able to have an open discussion about what might be the right mix of energy solutions.'

Man dies in aircraft crash near Bangalow

A 71-year-old man died in an aircraft crash near Bangalow Friday morning.

He was the sole occupant of the aircraft.

A NSW police media spokesperson said the four-seater Cessna aircraft crashed into a remote area covered with trees at Brook-

let at 8.55am.

Fire and Rescue NSW were called to Rishworths Lane, Brooklet, along with a Hazmat unit, the Rural Fire Service and the Westpac Rescue Helicopter.

Police say the Cessna took off from Jacobs Well, QLD, on route to Ballina Airport.

Byron man arrested with drugs at airport

Police arrested and charged a man with drug supply offences at Ballina-Byron Airport on Friday June 16.

At about 3.30pm, officers from the Tweed/Byron Target Action Group stopped and searched a 41-year-old man in the airport carpark.

Officers seized 110g of methylamphetamine and a

small amount of ketamine, arresting the man and taking him to Ballina police station.

A search warrant was conducted at the man's home in Byron Bay, where a number of items were seized for further examination.

He was granted conditional bail to appear at Ballina Local Court on Thursday July 13.

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Generational change among the defenders of Bangalow

Chris Dobney

She has been a teacher, Byron Shire councillor, Friends of the Library member and, for many years, secretary of Bangalow Progress Association.

But at 83, Jenny Coman says she doesn't need any excuse to retire from public life.

'There's quite a bit of work involved, you know,' says the public defender and lover of Bangalow's heritage.

But, with longtime president Tony Hart also moving on, there are going to be some big shoes to fill in the small town.

'If I can persuade someone younger to do it, that'd be great - and I've got someone in mind who's considering it,' she told *The Echo*.

That said, new members are very welcome - especially in a year when Bangalow is facing several large potential developments, the prospect of paid parking and a new masterplan for the village.

Asked about her concerns for the future, Ms Coman said there were 'some people who've taken up residence around Bangalow [who] have plenty of money and they want to exploit it.'

'Bangalow is popular because it's unique, really. It still retains its character of a little heritage country village and people think "oh, that's great, we can make money out of this",' she said.

'But when that happens - if developments like the one proposed again for 9 Station Street goes ahead - that



Jenny Coman and Tony Hart. Photo Jeff Dawson

character will go, Bangalow's attractiveness will go, and I suppose those people don't really care. I think in the end it's all about greed, unfortunately.'

Masterplan

Ms Coman is also critical of the timing of Byron Shire Council's masterplan process for Bangalow.

'That really worries me, because we were well on the way to having our DCP (Development Control Plan) revised and upgraded and made much stronger, to keep these heritage characteristics in Bangalow.'

'That got temporarily shelved while the masterplan process, so called, was going ahead. Consequently there's very little prescriptiveness in the DCP, which means that a developer can take [Council] to court, as happened last time with 9 Station Street.'

'We were a bit fortunate last time, as there were good grounds for refusing the development, but that might not necessarily happen a second time.'

Another thorn in the side

of Ms Coman - and many residents of Bangalow - is a massive planned 'food precinct' (read industrial estate) opposite the existing industrial estate on Lismore Road.

'That's a horror - that would just wreck Bangalow completely. More than 500 car spaces. What's it all about? The traffic would be horrific from that. Gradually, I imagine, there'd be development all along that road and, again, Bangalow's character would go.'

Ms Coman referred to fifth-generation Bangalow resident Jan Hulbert, who asks, 'Why did you come to Bangalow in the first place - why did you want to live here?'

Ms Coman says, 'We want development that is complementary to Bangalow's historic character. That's what we love about it. We'd like to keep Bangalow very much the way it is.'

■ The Bangalow Progress Association's annual general meeting is at 6pm on Thursday July 6 at Heritage House, Deacon Street, Bangalow.

All welcome.

Aboriginal culture honoured by Federal children June 25



Federal Community Children's Centre will host Connecting to Country on Sunday June 25 10am-2pm. Photo supplied

Federal Community Children's Centre is holding a Connecting to Country day to celebrate Aboriginal culture and respect for the environment on Sunday June 25 over 10am-2pm.

It will feature a program by a local Widjabul elder and Aboriginal artists across

dance, song, story and visual arts; Uncle Gilbert Laurie will be holding a yarning circle throughout the day for children and parents to learn more about the dreaming stories of the area.

A highlight of the childcare centre is the bush-tucker living classroom that was

made in 2014.

It is created with local bush tucker from the area, and you will be able to take a tour around the garden and learn to identify some native plants.

There will also be workshops on how to make a living cubby, natural silk dyeing and weaving workshops.

Latest Billi flood response? Positive

Aslan Shand

Recent heavy rains have allowed the Byron council and SES to demonstrate some of the changes that they are making in relation to flood responses in the north of the Shire following the flood meeting on June 1.

During the most recent rains, 'Water lapped the top of the driveway for two nights and then luckily the low moved north quite quickly,' said Rebecca Brewin from Billi Auto.

She said, 'It did, however, give us a chance to see how both Council and SES re-

sponded after the previous flood. The SES incident commander Andrew McPhee was in contact with the various business chambers to allow dissemination of warnings through the various networks as they came to hand.'

'Physically they were a lot more present in Billinudgel throughout this event than ever before.'

'Council responded by posting more warnings and road closures along with flood weather updates that are a new addition, all more detailed and frequent than in the past.'

'Considering that the response so far has only been

to the threat of another event, we are yet to test the full capacity of response from both SES and Council; however, it is a very positive step forward for everyone and I am sure welcomed by the community.'

Meeting planned

The SES are planning to have a follow-up flood meeting with residents and businesses that will be announced in coming weeks.

The Byron Shire Council is also aiming to have answers to the 48 questions submitted for the flood meeting in the near future, though there is no further meeting scheduled.



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Dunecare celebrate 20 years



Volunteers and guests of Byron Bay's Green and Clean Dunecare celebrated 20 years together regenerating sand dunes and clearing litter from the parkland in brilliant sunshine following days of rain on Sunday. Member Veda Turner said a celebratory Riberry (Szygium) was planted on the groups 'home turf' at Clarkes Beach. Photo Susie Forster

Mullum Music Fest announces first round acts for its tenth anniversary

From humble beginnings a decade ago, Mullum Music Festival has grown to be a much-loved local event that has so far presented over 600 world-class artists in a town with a population of just over 3,000 people.

Ten of the 80 acts have been announced for the November 16 – 19 festival, and

include New Orleans funk master Jon Cleary & The Monster Gentlemen (US), Canadian soul singer songwriter Frazey Ford, Marlon Williams (NZ), Nashville-based Canadian singer songwriter Lindi Ortega and New York City's Too Many Zooz (US)

Nationally, the line up

so far includes the soul inspired Teskey Brothers and the return of Jazz Party (Melbourne).

Earlybird tickets are now on sale, with general release tickets and full program available on July 19.

For tickets and program information visit www.mullummusicfestival.com.

Lennox sand mine operators deny over-production

Chris Dobney

Ballina Sands Pty Ltd, which conducts sand mining operations at Lennox Head, has told Ballina Shire Council it is 'complaint with its conditions' despite local residents saying the volume of truck traffic from the site suggests a significant increase in its production.

Ballina council told *The Echo* it had recently 'completed some on-site testing following the sand pit operators' submission outlining that they were compliant with their conditions.'

Prior to *The Echo* contacting Ballina council, residents' action group No Sand Mine for Lennox said it had made 'multiple requests' to the council to 'find out what action they would take in response to the alleged over extraction', adding it had 'acknowledged in March that the company appeared to be over its legal limits.'

But the council says it has yet to make such a determination. A council spokesperson told *The Echo* that following the testing 'it is proposed to

submit a compliance report to the August council meeting.'

The Ballina Sands mine is on the western side of Newrybar Swamp Road, off Ross Lane. It is opposite another, larger, mine proposed by McGeary Quarries, which is set to be three times the size.

No Sand Mine for Lennox has accused Ballina council of 'moving very slowly' on the issue, adding that 'in the meantime the residents have put up with considerable extra traffic.'

Unbearable

Ross Lane resident Kim Wright said 'the huge increase in truck movements, one every few minutes... have made life on Ross Lane unbearable'

'The extraction limits are there to minimise the impact on the environment and residents so if they've been breached something needs to be done,' she said.

Ms Wright added that she 'can't imagine life' on Ross Lane with a second mine 'adding up to 440 extra trucks per day.'

'It will increase noise, fumes, vibrations and [be-

come] a safety issue to locals and tourists on the road. It just doesn't seem fair or reasonable,' Ms Wright said.

No Sand Mine for Lennox spokesperson Amelia Hicks said she was concerned that 'if we can't rely upon the council to impose the regulations that they themselves help to set, how can we trust them to monitor this potentially new and bigger mine?'

'This mine was approved by the JRPP including mayor David Wright, who voted in favour of the mine going ahead. We're calling on him to direct his officers to take quick action on this issue.'

The council spokesperson said it still had not received any development application from McGeary Quarries to expand its operations 'beyond the approved area and volumes.'

'The council has received an application seeking an amendment of the current consent to allow a longer timeframe for operations but this hasn't as yet been determined.'

■ Full story www.echo.net.au/lennox-sand-mine-operators

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The case for compassion: interview with Julian Burnside QC, AO

Hans Lovejoy

June 18 to 24 is refugee week!

What better time to examine the divisive topic of the imprisonment of those who seek refuge in this country?

Documented human rights abuses (including deaths), limited to no media access, and a billion-dollar budget to manage their misery is apparently the cost the current government is willing to pay to 'keep the borders safe.'

We got to this point after a dramatic increase in boat arrivals during the Labor Rudd/Gillard years. And following former PM Abbott's simplistic sloganeering and ruthless policy, the boats appeared to stop.

But so did independent reporting of boat arrivals; verifying the boats that were turned around was prohibited.

That kept the nation uninformed of the arrival numbers.

Turning boats back has cost unknown lives as well as our reputation as a fair and welcoming nation.

Whatever the solution, it's a problem worldwide and one cause is surely wars that Australia and the US have been involved with.

In 2015 UNHCR reported that worldwide displacement had hit an 'all-time high as war and persecution increase.'

The following Q&A is with human rights and refugee advocate, Julian Burnside QC, AO, who will be keynote speaker at the Ngara Institute's first annual lecture on July 1.

I want to know your thoughts on the reported \$70 million class action settlement by 1,905 asylum seekers held at the Manus Island detention centre. That figure is around \$37,000 for each detainee and it appears a win for the government given it could have dragged on and become a lot more expensive. What do you think this means for future detention policies by the government?

JB: It is a plain indication that detaining costs a lot of money. \$70m is a tiny fraction of what we pay annually – it costs Australian taxpayers more than a billion a year to run these camps.

This decision is also a reminder that the Australian government put them there. These refugees landed at Christmas Island and were taken by force to Manus and

Nauru, where they are housed in government-built infrastructure, and we pay contractors to hold them there.

There, they were brutalised and some died.

The crucial ruling by the Papua New Guinea (PNG) Supreme Court [in April 2016] found detention on Manus Island breached their constitutional rights.

That tells us PNG have more interest in upholding human rights than we do.

I was in Jordan a few weeks ago [located south of Syria].

Its population is around nine and half million, its economy is weak and it has no oil. In the last few years, one million informal refugees – mostly from Syria – have arrived. Most are living within the community and have been assessed. They are not locked up and are allowed to work.

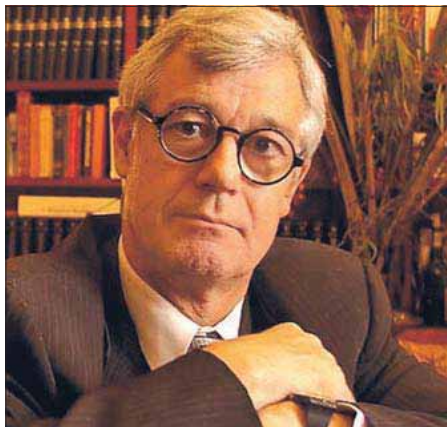
Jordan has received many refugees more than we have, despite Jordan not being a signatory to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Australia has signed that declaration.

I'm interested to know what asylum seeker policy you believe should be implemented. Labor's alternative policy appears slightly less draconian and less likely to lead the government to expensive court cases over human rights abuses. They have admitted they got it wrong when in government.

Labor say that a combination of offshore processing and regional resettlement, together with the policy of turning back boats, has stopped the flow of vessels arriving on our shores. How can Australia treat asylum seekers humanely without sparking more deaths at sea?

JB: Firstly, there should be no offshore detention; they need to be brought to Australia to be assessed.

If they are found to be not genuine then they should be sent home. [Under a more humane policy, we] would expect boat arrivals might increase again. They should be detained when they arrive – for health and security checks, but that should be limited to one month. Then they should be released into the community where they have to stay



Julian Burnside QC, AO.
Photo ANU College of Law

in contact with the [immigration] department.

Until they are assessed as genuine, they should be required to report back. They should be allowed to work and allowed full access to health, and unemployment benefits.

Let's suppose that doing this would lead to arrivals again. At the highest record of arrivals in 2012 it was 25,000.

Under this sort of policy, it would cost around \$500m a year [for that number of asylum seekers], but much of that money would be spent in the community.

It would be good for regional Australia and refugees would feel welcome. Instead, we treat them badly.

But what of Murdoch's media influence? Would you agree that generally Australians have formed a view that asylum seekers pose a threat?

JB: I agree that Murdoch has influence... the fear in part comes from calling

these people 'illegal'; they didn't commit any crimes.

And the government frames the issue as 'border protection'; we don't need to be protected from those escaping wars and persecution.

The Tampa judgment [*Ruddock v Vadarlis* 2001 FCA 1329] is when it all got nasty in terms of public opinion.

I was part of that case, which was held in the Federal Court. The judge reserved his decision, which was handed down on September 11, 2001.

That's when there was a shift – Australia fell into the mistake that asylum seekers are to be feared.

Scotland's economy is not great; they have roughly the same population as Sydney.

Yet they have a successful program of resettling Syrians. What are Australian values? How have we lost the ability to see them as human beings?

■ The Ngara Institute's first annual lecture will be at Mullumbimby Civic Hall on July 1. In addition to Julian Burnside, two Indigenous activists will also be presented with Australian Activist of the Year. They are currently holding the Native Title line against the proposed Adani coal mine in QLD. Organisers say to also expect food and music. Tickets are available at www.ngarainstitute.org.au/events.



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Meet coal-fawning MPs wrecking the climate

Hans Lovejoy

What's a Finkel Report you may ask? Australia's chief scientist Dr Alan Finkel presented his preliminary report of the review to the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) on June 9.

He was asked to create a 'national energy blueprint' because there isn't one.

Dr Finkel's brief was to deliver a plan for cheap, reliable and low-emissions energy and that means trouble for the coal industry, whose assets are ageing fast.

Everyone asked for this, including the business community.

But it's upset some talkback radio hacks and a handful of coalition numbnut MPs who are led by Abbott.

They appear scared they will become irrelevant because coal is not centre stage for this energy blueprint.

Currently the states have to sell energy to each other

to maintain supply, which is provided by majority foreign-owned corporations.

And prices, in case you haven't noticed, are going well up.

Where we go from here is likely to be an enormous and expensive PR battle, much like when Labor introduced that dreaded carbon tax.

Independent media outlet *Crikey* listed coalition MPs who they say shirt-fronted PM Turnbull on the Finkel Report in the party room last week.

So who are these coal bastions *Crikey* speaks of?



Kevin Andrews MP
(Victorian seat of Menzies)

As a Catholic with all the

guilt and no responsibility, Kev has been a fixture of modern Liberal politics since the Howard epoch (1996–2007).

Before that, he studied then practised law and now serves at the pleasure of prehistoric cold-blooded reptiles.

Fun fact: Kev addressed the influential US right-wing think tank the Heritage Foundation in January and billed taxpayers for some of it.

The Heritage Foundation is partly funded by the climate-change-denying Koch brothers, who are two of the world's richest polluters.

Kev also enjoys cycling and denying gay people rights because, well, he can.



Rick Wilson (WA seat of O'Connor)

This Western Australian's passion is deregulation, a favourite neoliberal hobby horse. Indeed he is proud to have 'brought about the end of the Australia Wheat Board's monopoly' before entering politics.

Wilson also enjoys pursuing the 'Liberal philosophy of free markets, competition, small government, individual responsibility.'



Andrew Gee (Nationals MP for Calare, NSW)

There's not much else to say other than Andrew represents the folks of the Calare

electorate, which covers Lithgow, Bathurst, Orange and Mudgee. Andrew has a legal background.



Andrew Hastie
(WA seat of Canning)

To his credit Andy is a little more well rounded than the typical climate change denier.

He studied philosophy and history and then went on to become a member of the Special Air Services Regiment (SASR), serving in troubled hotspots overseas.

Despite his study of philosophy, there is no elaboration to the statement on his website that says: 'Andrew is a strong advocate for the protection of Australian values.'



Chris Back (WA Liberal senator)

Back's a former veterinarian who eventually became chief executive officer of Rottne Island.

After that he turned to the oil and gas industries, and was business executive to 'SE Asia, India and the Middle East servicing oil majors and military clients and subsequently assisting in the establishment of a multi-national oil and gas services company.'



Ben Morton (WA Liberal MP for Tangney seat)

Former John Howard adviser and WA Liberal state director, Ben previously worked 'as a senior manager for one of Australia's largest home builders, BGC.' The gushing guff on his CV speaks highly of being a 'grassroots local MP'. Should we be wary of those who flatter themselves?



Tony Pasin (SA Liberal member for Barker)

Conceived, fermented, born, raised and educated in Barker, SA, Tony is a former councillor who served the City of Mount Gambier.

He has degrees in law and economics and dabbled as a garden variety lawyer for the commoners before finding his higher purpose of shilling for big coal.



Ken O'Dowd (QLD Nationals MP for Flynn)

Ken's bio says he knows how businesses tick – before being a political reptile, Ken

leased fuel distributorships and owned 'several local businesses, including hardware stores and hotels.'

But he was also a farm boy, having grown up sowing crops of beans, peas, peanuts and grain on the family farm.

But he's also part of the global mining industry too, having spent 'several years working on the Rio Tinto copper project in PNG.'



George Christensen (QLD Nationals member for Dawson)

Spawned in Mackay on a cane farm, George took a keen interest in politics by joining the Nationals at 15.

But isn't he One Nation?

It's hard to tell. Either way, he apparently has a journalism degree and produced two newspapers for the region.

George loves to tell anyone who will listen that Muslims are a problem, except there really aren't any in his electorate.

He also enthusiastically supports anything that will ruffle the greensies, such as mega-coalmines owned by foreign corporations.

It doesn't matter that royalties are minimal and the jobs will be eventually automated.

As long as George can stick it to the Greens for their love of the Great Barrier Reef and endangered marsupials, he's doing his job.

■ Other MPs not profiled include Bridget McKenzie (Nationals senator for Victoria), Mark Coulton (Nationals member for Parkes, NSW) and Andrew Broad (Nationals member for Mallee, Victoria).

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Future dreaming in Byron Bay

► continued from page 1

and dad and they didn't want to be up in the park getting drunk.

'I love the arts world and I wanted to bring the influences to the girls so they could have exposure to things and enjoy them on non-judgmental terms. There is a natural pull away from the family unit as a teenager and there was nowhere for them to go. There was a gap in the community

– adults and tourism get to access our incredible creativity, but young people were missing out. Future Dreamers was about providing access to creativity – and it's all free.'

Unstimulated

Grace Walters grew up in Byron. 'Growing up in the area I would say as a young girl I was definitely unstimulated. It was a small town and you understood that if

you wanted something out of your life you had to move away. Girls are at risk of being disengaged and unstimulated. I want something different for the girls of this community now.'

Future Dreamers is open from 9am till 6pm every day as a drop-in space for girls and young women.

They are able to come and use the kitchen, the bathroom, the internet, and to connect

with the women and girls who are there. There is also an impressive workshop program that runs weekly, along with an extensive holiday program.

■ Upcoming winter school holiday events are running from Monday July 3 till Saturday July 15, as well as regular programs. To volunteer or to donate, visit futuredreamers.com.au or email info@futuredreamers.com.au.

Breaking society's schismatic stalemates

Gross National Happiness expert from Bhutan to give talk June 24

Aslan Shand

Imagine a world where it wasn't the economic imperative that dominated the world but rather one where your happiness, and that of other people, was the key to measuring success?

For the small land-locked country of Bhutan, located within the Himalaya mountain range, this is exactly the world they have been creating for the last 40 years. In 1979, the fourth king of Bhutan declared that 'Gross National Happiness is more important than Gross National Product' and the government have used GNH rather than the GNP to measure their success ever since.

Inspired by a trip to Bhutan as part of a professional development program, Felicity Blake is now bringing the executive director of the Centre for Gross National Happiness

in Bhutan, Dr Saamdu Chetri, to Mullumbimby to share his insights on the development of the GNH approach. He is also speaking in Sydney and Melbourne.

'Gross national happiness sounds quite cute, but it's a thoroughly serious approach to governance,' said Felicity.

'Essentially it's about ensuring that the way a community, a country, is run will create conditions that enable its people to experience happiness and wellbeing.'

Evolution

Highlighting governments' 'obsession' with economic considerations as measured by the GDP above all other measures, Felicity believes 'Now is a great time to explore evolutions in economic and political systems.'

'We're witnessing a crisis: our elections are resulting in schismatic stalemates and

hung parliaments. We keep electing plutocrats to run countries, as if they are corporations. Outside the oasis of progressive thought that is Byron Shire, things are getting ugly. So we need to ask: what's next?'

Recognising that GNH is no panacea, but a tool towards an outcome, Felicity is looking to the Byron Shire to lead the way forward with a more holistic approach to governance. In this model economic success becomes one element that, along with health, education, the environment, living standards, good governance and cultural resilience is used to measure the success of a country.

'We currently have an opportunity to connect directly with Bhutan's GNH community to explore how we can swap ideas,' continued Felicity.

'As always, we're at the leading edge of alternative lifestyle



Dr Saamdu Chetri.
Photo positivepsychologylearning.com

and progressive change. We could establish a sister shire relationship, or organise a school visit. We could allow the "pillars" of GNH to inform the development philosophy of this area. We actually have a surprising amount in common with Bumthang province, such as concerns about the impact of tourism, and an obsession with potholes.'

■ Dr Chetri will be at the Mullumbimby Civic Hall on Saturday June 24 from 6.30pm. Book via www.gnh_bhutan_byron.eventbrite.com.au.

Local business chip in for flood relief

The newly built Cape Byron Distillery has brought together three local businesses who raised much-needed funds for the Mullumbimby flood relief.

Cape Byron Distillery, Stone & Wood Brewery and Stockpot Kitchen raised around \$4,000 recently over an afternoon.

A barbecue was provided by Gray Stockdale from Bangalow-based Stockpot Kitchen. Eddie Brook from Cape Byron Distillery said, 'We are delighted that with our friends from Stone & Wood and Stockpot Kitchen we were able to help those in our community who were seriously affected by this devastating flood.'



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New Tweed Hospital announced

Chris Dobney

The state government has announced it will use a greenfield site to build a new 'state-of-the-art' hospital for the Tweed at a cost of half a billion dollars.

Deputy premier John Barilaro announced last week there would be provision in the 2017-18 budget for funding of up to \$534 million for the new regional hospital.

Mr Barilaro said the new hospital would greatly improve health services for the region, which is forecast to grow by more than 40 per cent to 128,000 people by 2031.

'The Tweed Shire is the latest area to benefit from the NSW government's pledge to enhance regional health services as part of a record hospital-building boom,' Mr Barilaro said.

Health minister Brad Hazzard said that senior clinicians consulted during the planning process and lobbying by Nationals Tweed MP Geoff Provest helped form the decision to build a new hospital in the area, given the constraints of the current site.

The government said in a media release that the hospital would 'likely include': more overnight beds; more operating theatres; a larger emergency department; an integrated cancer care service; and enhanced cardiac

care services.

But the inclusion of the word *likely* sparked a warning from the opposition that it could be 'another National Party stalling trick' to 'give false hope to the community'.

ALP shadow health spokesperson Walt Secord said: 'The Nationals have been twisting and turning for the last six years. Every budget the community gets excited about a new promise and then nothing happens.'

'The north coast is expecting a population explosion and deserves a proper hospital to meet the community's needs,' Mr Secord said.

Scant on detail

The opposition added the announcement was 'scant on detail'.

'It did not have information on: the hospital site; the future of the Murwillumbah Hospital and the future of the current Tweed Hospital site; the funding model for the hospital, including whether or not it will be a privatised model, a private-public partnership like four other regional hospitals or a fully publicly funded hospital; and when construction will begin and the final completion date,' Labor said in a media statement.

Those concerns were echoed by NSW Greens health spokesperson Dawn Walker

and the Health Services Union (HSU), which represents non-medical staff working at the hospital.

HSU NSW secretary Gerard Hayes said the announcement of an Expression of Interest (EOI) process raised the prospect of privatisation.

'The announcement has given Tweed residents and health workers some hope that better hospital facilities are on the way,' Mr Hayes said.

'Making plans, however, is just the first step, and the HSU

will be keeping up the pressure on the state government to turn these plans into reality.

'We're also seeking a rock-solid guarantee that the upgrade is not a front for privatising the hospital,' Mr Hayes said.

But Tweed Greens mayor Katie Milne has unreservedly welcomed the new hospital, appearing onsite with Mr Barilaro, Mr Hazzard, Mr Provest and treasurer Dominic Perrottet for the announcement.

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Oh... give me land, lots of low cost land

There are endless stories of non-property owning locals who are struggling to find accommodation.

Or they are leaving the Shire. Those I know who are leaving – or have trouble finding a home – are really good people; they are artists, musicians and thinkers. They are a big part of the attraction and charm of the place. So as a community, we have to ask: do we allow this to continue and if not, what can we do about it?

While the issue is not isolated to Byron Shire, Council appears fairly much on its own to work through solutions. This is despite the NSW government promising to release a holiday letting plan soon.

Perhaps tackling holiday letting is not in the interests of the political elite (state and federal), who want to keep holiday-letting their second or tenth property out.

Anyway, Council will discuss their *Byron Affordable Housing Summit Issues Action Plan* at this Thursday's meeting.

It follows a summit held on February 10 (www.byron.nsw.gov.au/affordable-housing-summit), and results of that summit have been 'distilled by staff' and form the basis of a 'Key Housing Issues Plan for Byron'.

If endorsed, then it will 'inform part of the *Residential Land Use Strategy* recommendations currently under preparation.'

Leverage at Council's disposal are listed, which are primarily policy and regulatory frameworks.

From the summit, four key housing issues were identified: homelessness, homes for workers, land availability and housing types and design. Also within the report is a confidential brief suggesting 'private and public land within and around the Mullumbimby township that could be made available.'

Along with the *Affordable Housing Summit* discussion at Thursday's meeting, councillors will also table the staff report: *Short term rental accommodation – enforcement options*.

The staff report is actually very comprehensive and outlines what legal options are at their disposal.

It begins with 'Sufficiency of evidence is crucial. Council should not proceed if there is no reasonable prospect of securing a successful result.'

As suggested in previous Council meetings, staff say that internet advertising (ie Airbnb app) may not produce accurate or reliable evidence.

'Internet advertising is circumstantial evidence and is not, of itself, capable of rising to the standard of evidence necessary to institute enforcement proceedings.'

Staff say that case law that relates to proven evidence of holiday letting is *Sutherland Shire Council v Foster [2003] NSWLEC 2*.

One key to proving unauthorised letting in that case was that contact details were established that related to another premises. There were also admissions from the accused holiday-letting, along with 'conversations with the respondent's family that the unit was available for short-term accommodation.' Additionally a log was 'kept by neighbour as to the movement of different people and different cars through the unit and in the carpark.'

With Council moving towards establishing a regulatory framework for holiday lets and beefing up compliance, the test will surely be in how fair and transparent it will be. Those who Airbnb and are struggling under mortgage stress have a much different reality from those whose home (perhaps second or tenth) is paid off and is just a revenue stream.

Hans Lovejoy, editor



Big king coal prepares for energy battle

Tony Abbott is winning. Chief scientist Alan Finkel's report on energy is not yet dead, buried and cremated, but Abbott and his gang of avid colliers have already left it struggling on life support.

Abbott has never believed in climate change – after all, in an unguarded moment he said the science was crap. There have been times when he has found it expedient to give the manifest evidence of its existence lip service, to dole out token acknowledgements in the form of renewable energy targets and what he laughably called Direct Action to combat global warming, but he was always happier – and far more convincing – when he was blaming Malcolm Turnbull, Kevin Rudd, Julia Gillard and the rest of them for seeking to impose a great big tax on everything.

So now, unleashed, he is preparing for a reprise: science is crap, partisan politics rule. Abolish the reduction emission target, forget about the Paris Agreement and, above all, no tax on coal. And as a result any prospect of sensible compromise or bipartisanship on the issue is, at best, highly unlikely.

Bill Shorten may or may not have been sincere about his offer of an olive branch to Malcolm Turnbull; his shadow environment minister Mark Butler seemed keen to use Finkel as a base on which Labor could build its own policy in government (which he appears to think will come sooner rather than later). But after the backlash within his own party room (which had not even attempted to read the report) our fearless prime minister decided that bluster was the better part of survival and went on to blame Labor for everything, effectively severing any serious

negotiation that just might have been possible.

Finkel himself was suggesting a form of compromise: he was prepared to ignore the market solution of some sort of a price on carbon, and he accepted the unambitious 26–28 per cent emissions reduction target for 2030. But even to achieve this, he postulated a level of subsidy for energy providers that would exclude coal – even the very best, the most futuristic, coal-fired plants would not make the cut, in the improbable event that any were to be built in Australia – or just about any-

into other areas – Adani, obviously, but also truly bizarre suggestions like the demand by George Christensen that the government should buy and commission a couple of new coal-powered plants itself, at the privileged price of – well, several billion, but who cares, it's only taxpayer money.

And speaking of taxpayer money, the other big news of the week was Peter Dutton and his dysfunctional department paying out \$70 million to asylum seekers and another \$20 million to their lawyers for – well, for what? Dutton says he

If the victims are allowed to exercise their right to free speech the whole shaky edifice of off-shore detention might collapse, and that would mean the flood-gates would open, our borders would collapse, the terrorists, drug dealers and disease carriers politicians have been warning us about for most of a generation would flood our lucky country.

And to an extent it seems to be working: numerous readers of *The Australian* have laid into not Dutton and his government but the asylum seekers, whom, they aver, are illegals (they are not), living in the lack of luxury on their tropical island paradise. But the \$90 million may be only a downpayment; if Dutton is prepared to pay protection money, there must be more where that came from. As with energy policy, Turnbull and his troops may be hanging on with their well-chewed fingernails, but sooner or later they will have to make a serious decision.

Sooner or later but not yet.

There is still time for a little fun and frivolity. Turnbull pulled off a couple of great gags last week: one, of course, was his piss-take of The Donald, for which he has been subjected to a merciless beatup by the demerited right.

But the other, which they have generally applauded, was his surely satirical idea that, as part of the never-ending blitz on the suspicion of terrorism, he will legislate to make patriotism mandatory. A few years ago there was outrage that thuggish bigots would demand anyone of non-European origin must kiss a grubby version of the Australian flag or get beaten up. Now it is to become government policy – the latest version of stopping the boats. Such is the nonsense to which Turnbull has been reduced. Tony Abbott is winning.

So the decade of climate wars will continue, with the well-cashed-up miners and their supporters in the coalition providing an effective veto to progress.

by Mungo MacCallum



where else, for that matter.

Finkel's proposition was pretty wishy-washy to begin with; but by the time Abbott and his troops have finished with it it will have to be diluted to homeopathic proportions before it can even be considered.

For Labor, the Greens (and indeed any other rational participant) – there is just no point. Which leaves us perilously close to the business-as-usual model which Turnbull and his energy (and, as an afterthought, environment) minister Josh Frydenberg assure us is unacceptable. So the decade of climate wars will continue, with the well-cashed-up miners and their supporters in the coalition providing an effective veto to progress.

Their devotion to coal may be perverse, and it often looks more like antipathy to its opponents than an energy policy, but it has become their unswerving ideology and has spilled

was absolutely confident about defending charges of negligence and loss of liberty on Manus island and anywhere else.

Also he is not responsible because it is Papua New Guinea's jurisdiction and of course it was all Labor's fault anyway.

But he is concerned to save money because if he didn't pay up it would involve funding a legal case which, if he won, would cost a lot less than the sum he has just paid out. Dutton and his heavily politicised bureaucrats can't even get their own lies straight anymore.

The point, as just about every commentator made clear, was that Dutton was raiding the treasury for hush money: what was important was aborting the coming legal hearing, which would have given the asylum seekers a public platform the government has consistently denied them. Silence is golden and gold is silence.

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Nicholas Shand
1948–1996
Founding Editor

'The job of a newspaper is to comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable.' – Finley Peter Dunne 1867–1936

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Hospital views
I would like to thank the kind staff at Byron Hospital. I had an accident on a building site, requiring numerous stitches. Too many times I hear bad things of this hospital; however, from my experience the attention I got from the doctor Oliver and the nursing staff displayed calm, friendly efficiency. The same applied to the wound clinic staff.

I thank you for turning an unfortunate painful accident into a good experience. Credit where credit is due.

Chris Burke
Ewingsdale

■ To the health minister Brad Hazzard: You may or may not remember my name – I

Letters to the Editor

Send to Letters Editor Michael McDonald, fax: 6684 1719 email: editor@echo.net.au
Deadline: Noon, Friday. Letters longer than 200 words may be cut. Letters already published in other papers will not be considered. Please include your full name, address and phone number for verification purposes.

am the patient that waited in emergency at the new \$88 million hospital here at Byron Bay for 13 hours before being transferred to the Gold Coast.

My neighbour, who is 72, had to drive to Lismore to have day surgery recently and there are more and more cases of people having to go out of our area for help requiring surgical suites.

I would like to know when we can expect a surgical suite for our 20,000 ratepayers here in Byron Shire. I have written to you in the past to explain that our population doubles during every music festival we have here (Splendour is coming up soon). We also are, as you well know, a huge tourist destination for people from overseas as well as Australiawide.

The surfing here is world class and we have many shark attacks that take lives, some of which could be prevented if we had closer surgical capabilities.

My concern is that there is a perfect storm brewing here with the above scenario. We

had a day surgery at the old Byron hospital, which has now been closed. I've had day procedures done there in the past. Mullumbimby hospital is now also closed and our only option is Byron Central Hospital, sorely lacking a surgical suite.

What can you do for us here in Byron Bay before something happens that will reflect horribly on you and your office? Please take a closer look at this problem before the proverbial hits the fan as summer starts the influx of massive numbers of people to this area, including lots of young people who take great chances with their lives.

I am hoping to hear a positive response from you in the very near future.

Sue Harrison
Ocean Shores

Farewell wildlife
It is no wonder that koala populations on the north coast have collapsed by 50 per cent over the last 15–20 years and that koalas in the north of Byron Shire have

been declared an endangered population, because, as exemplified by West Byron, our governments treat them with the utmost contempt.

West Byron contains small patches of core koala habitat that represent crucial stepping stones essential to maintain connectivity between koalas to the north and south of Byron Bay and thus the viability of our local population.

At each stage in the development process we have tried in vain to have koalas given due consideration. When the minister zoned 36 per cent of the koala habitat at West Byron for development we were assured that the Development Control Plan (DCP) would protect koalas. But that didn't happen because Council's draft DCP claimed that a koala plan of management would be prepared for the whole site with the first development application.

But that didn't happen because Villa World refuse to prepare a koala PoM for their development.

Same with the nationally vulnerable Wallum Sedge Frog that inhabits one small wetland on West Byron. Back in 2010 the developer's ecology report claimed it didn't need to be further assessed because its habitat would be fully protected at the DCP stage. But that didn't happen because Council's draft DCP ignored its existence and proposed turning its wetland into houses and roads.

Now Villa World are intending to compensate for building their houses over the Wallum Sedge Frog's only known home at West Byron with BioBanking.

continued on next page ➤

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MAYBE HE JUST THREATENS, HMMM.

I DON'T KNOW IF THIS WIG IS WORKING.

Tourism, transport, and the parlous state of rail

■ It is misleading of *The Echo* (June 14) to print Marie Lawton/NRRT Inc's letter promoting the rail trail under the headline 'In search of sustainable transport' because the rail trail is a tourist attraction, not transport infrastructure. It is clear from NRRT's literature that their aim is to attract tourists – coming on our already stretched road net-

work. The direct beneficiaries of rail trail will be small business operators in the tourism sector. The rest of the community can only hope that the trickle-down effect will outweigh the extra traffic, extra stress on existing facilities and the loss of our designated transport corridor.

Alistair Bell
Byron Bay

■ Alistair Bell (Letters, June 14) misses my point entirely by assuming that I am irrationally opposed to rail in general and unable to connect dots. The truth is I am opposed to the idiocy of campaigning for the return of trains on our local railway line, which has been abandoned and neglected for more than a decade now.

The railway served the region well for more than a hundred years, but by the end of last century maintenance costs for the ageing line were rising, patronage was falling and local rail services could no longer compete with road transport. Rail services finally ceased in 2004. Since then land slips have cut the line

in several places, many of the wooden bridges are badly deteriorated and vegetation has invaded much of the track ballast.

Local rail supporters tend to discount the poor condition of the line and overstate local demand for rail services. They seem to think the line only needs to be cleared of vegetation and trains can run again at a profit.

They point to the short length restored for the Elements of Byron resort and suggest the whole line could be similarly restored. But that section was not representative of the rest of the line in terms of overall condition or prospective patronage of the service.

The projected cost of restoring the local line to safe working condition for heavy rail or railcar is in the vicinity of \$900 million, according to studies that are available online at transport.nsw.gov.au and worth reading if you're interested in this issue. Their conclusions are unambiguous: the projected demands for rail services locally do not justify the cost.

The poor condition of the line is compounded by the fact that it doesn't service two of the region's three major population centres or align with current and future growth corridors, which extend from Lismore to Ballina, and along the coast from Ballina to Tweed Heads.

The line is mostly derelict, overgrown and impassable. The minimal amount of maintenance required for public safety at crossings, bridges, stations and near towns currently costs taxpayers about \$750,000 a year. The disused rail corridor presents a choice, not between a rail trail and the return of rail services, but a choice between a rail trail and a disused, overgrown corridor.

It presents an opportunity that could employ locals, attract patronage and benefit the local economy. With sufficient community support for the rail trail proposal, the corridor could realise its potential for eco-friendly development.

John Scrivener
Main Arm

► continued from page 11

There is more than enough cleared land for our homes; we have no need to continue to destroy the homes of our threatened species.

This is the process of extinction played out before our eyes by a careless state gov-

ernment and useless council.

Dailan Pugh
Byron Bay

Game of mates

'DA for 290 lots before public', (*Echo*, front page, June 14). In Australia, a permit to allow land to be used for residential

development is practically given away. Might this one be worth \$29 million? Is there another way?

In their recently published book *The Game of Mates* Drs Cameron Murray and Paul Frijters report that the city of San Paulo, Brazil, has taken

to auctioning such permits and raised almost \$US 1,000 million in five years!

In another example of how 'favours bleed the nation', *The Game of Mates* cites Danish and Dutch pension funds being managed with overhead costs of just 0.1 per cent of the stock of investments compared to the average Australian pension fund overheads at 1.2 per cent, twelve times greater; the lifetime cost of the difference is more than 25 per cent of your total potential super-wealth.

Murray and Frijters reckon that almost half of our common wealth is lost to the mates in games of property development, transport, superannuation, banking, mining and many others.

Not coincidentally, local activist author/retired medico Dr Liz Elliot reaches the same conclusion in her new book *A New Way Now – How we can afford a happier future and can't afford not to!* This is a most readable, informative handbook to lift your spirits and encourage positive actions; take one chapter per day or 'as directed by your community care practitioner'. Available at your local bookshop.

Also check www.gameof-mates.com and the 2.5-minute introductory video.

The way we have voted over recent years, do we deserve 'a new way now'? Good question; but the land, flora, fauna etc, society and future generations certainly do.

Colin Cook
Bangalow

West Byron blues

The DCP peer review for West Byron has come back
continued on page 14 ►

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FLAWED LAWS

Robot Personhood Act

Instead of a flawed law, here's a suggestion for legislation that might save the species: The Robot Personhood Act.

Humans have enjoyed an exclusive claim to biological intelligence, but it's estimated that within 50 years artificial intelligence (AI) will become the smarter entity.

Neuroscientist and philosopher Sam Harris warned a TedTalk audience a year ago that the gains we make in AI may destroy us.

Yet given the value of technology, we will continue to create it, he argues, and the only thing that will stop AI development would be a mass-scale wipeout.

Harris argues that the planet needs a Manhattan Project (the research and development undertaken during World War II that produced the first nuclear weapons). The aim would be to avoid furthering the arms race and aligning human interests over AI. 'We have one chance to get the initial conditions right,' he said.

The European Parliament's legal affairs committee recently voted to begin drafting a set of regulations to govern the development and use of artificial intelligence and robotics^[1]. Included in the draft proposal is preliminary guidance on what it calls 'electronic personhood' that would ensure corresponding rights and obligations for the most sophisticated AI.

The idea of robot personhood is similar to the concept of corporate personhood that allows companies to take part in legal cases as both claimant and respondent – that is, to sue and be sued. The report identifies a number of areas for potential oversight, such as the formation of a European agency for AI and robotics, a legal definition of 'smart autonomous robots', a registration system for the most advanced ones, and a mandatory insurance scheme for companies to cover damage and harm caused by robots.

The report also addresses the possibility that both AI and robotics will play a central role in catalysing massive job losses and calls for a 'serious' assessment of the feasibility of universal basic income as a strategy to minimise the economic effects of mass automation of entire economic sectors.

^[1] Christopher Markou from <http://theconversation.com>.

Find out more about flawed laws at:
flawedlaws.org and [facebook.com/flawedlaws](https://www.facebook.com/flawedlaws)

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Echo

That sinking feeling for flooding

■ In response to Bernard Hinchcliffe's letter regarding flooding in New City Road I would like to make the following points:

Firstly, the reference to your 'levee bank' – this in actual fact is a road, which has been there longer than you and I have lived in Mullumbimby.

Secondly, the gentleman on the western side of this road has his grass immaculately manicured, whereas on the eastern side where the grass is more than a metre tall, there was the same amount of water.

Hence, our concerned commentator was not able to see the actual depth of the water which hid inconspicuously in the long grass.

Leo Korialos
Mullumbimby

■ Not only has Jillian Spring not been taking her daily dose of 'Commonsense' but she seems to be believing things she finds on the internet (Letters, June 14).

The website she refers to is a quaint mixture of misunderstandings, misinterpreta-

tions and misinformation, all mixed up in a sauce of bizarre conspiracy theories. I suggest a double dose of 'Commonsense' before approaching it.

In the real world, Jillian seems to be a little confused when she refers to flood waters 'roaring out... into the sea' during Cyclone Daisy in 1972, but there is no record of a flood at that time, and the above website suggests that happened in 1974.

What is clear is that the sea has often broken in through the dunes in that area, between New Brighton and South Golden Beach. In February 1954 'North of the township a breach occurred where carriers had carted away many tons of sand from the rear of the terrace. Waves poured through and water flowed around the back of the park and into the North Arm of the Brunswick River.' (*Star Advocate*, 23/2/1954).

Again in August 1954 'The sea has again breached the terrace about half a mile north of New Brighton township' (*Star Advocate*, 6/8/1954). In September that year, 'This gap has now been

closed by shire workmen who filled it with logs and sand. A bulldozer was used for the work. Members of the [local progress] association complimented the council on the job done' (*Star Advocate*, 10/9/1954).

Yet again, in 1972 the *Northern Star* has an aerial photo showing 'where the surf has broken through the dunes flooding a large area inland near New Brighton' (*Northern Star*, 1/1/1972). No flood waters in sight.

Jillian suggests I have not seen Greg Alderson's letter of June 25, 1991, but I have a copy of it in front of me now. It does not contain any figures for the reduction in flood levels that an eroding outlet might produce, but it does have figures for a run with 'Entrance Training Walls Lowered', showing a reduction in the flood height of 14mm at New Brighton and 6mm at the Capricornia Canal.

Keep up that daily dose of 'Commonsense', Jillian; seems that you need it.

Matthew Lambourne
Mullumbimby

■ Go to a website and look up 'Insurance Companies World Conferences'.

You will see that one of their main concerns is climate change owing to sea level rising or land sinking (whichever applies).

You would think that they would be asking governments to cut down on emissions etc and supporting alternative energy sources.

Well, no. They have lifted the floodplain level (world-wide). If you are now between the one- to two-metre mark you are living on a floodplain.

You could probably ask someone who lives between these levels: have they ever been flooded. Answer would be no, but they are now paying extra for their premiums.

Every time a major flood occurs worldwide (ex-super storm on east coast of USA) their premiums go up.

The big question is should a landowner be concerned if local, state or federal governments start tinkering with floodplains. My answer is 'Yes'.

B Hinchcliffe
Mullumbimby

► continued from page 12

and has been reported on by Council staff. There is an assertion that there is no core koala habitat on the site. Council's own mapping states otherwise.

This proposed development has been aided by the dismissal of environmental guidelines implemented by the current state government.

The public and future home investors must be made aware that there is also no risk assessment to human life as well. The area is well known as a flood site, is situated below sea level and is an acid sulfate hotspot. These factors will impact negatively upon the integrity of the Belongil Estuary and no doubt in time affect aquatic and bird life.

If ever the precautionary principle needed applying, it is at West Byron.

Jo Faith
Newtown

Border madness

Australia's border protection policies are costing us billions and in return we've been given little knowledge about what's been done with those dollars or in our name. So the payment of \$70 million compensation for the mistreatment of the unfortunate souls held on Manus Island is an admission by the Turnbull government

of what most of us have long suspected: that living conditions in detention have been barbaric and inhuman.

How long can we maintain offshore processing in the face of this national self-condemnation? Or are we resigned (as citizens and taxpayers) to stumping up a few million dollars every so often to compensate and silence those people so badly damaged by our immoral policies?

Make no mistake. The government has paid \$70m to avoid the public airing of evidence documenting mistreatment and neglect at legal proceedings that would have lasted up to six months.

Paul Rea
Coorabell

Political realities

Supporters of Palestine are often asked why don't we agitate for Tibet, the Rohingya or Russian gays instead. The reason is simple: Australia backs apartheid Israel, ignoring its appalling human rights record, just as it backed Indonesia, despite its invasion of East Timor in 1975 and the subsequent loss of one-third of its population.

Many supporters of East Timorese independence switched their support to Palestine once the Timorese achieved independence in

1999. I went as a UN volunteer to Viqueque province and witnessed firsthand the terror inflicted on the Timorese by the Indonesian military.

I met women who said their babies were held by the ankles by soldiers who warned that that if they voted for independence it would be known and their infants would be whipped against a tree or wall. On the sacred mountain of Matebian I was shown a scar on the hillside which is all that remained from a cave that scores of young Timorese hid in. An Indonesian missile scored a direct hit and buried them all alive.

Australia hounded East Timorese activists and trained the infamous Kopasus special forces in Pearce Air Force Base and at Canungra in the Gold Coast hinterland. Outside the church in Makadiki, BAe Hawk aircraft screamed just above the palm trees.

One man in the crowd cried out, 'Do we have to die again?' Pushing through the crowd I embraced him, giving an assurance that the UN would stay in Timor regardless of the people's choice.

Around 1pm on August 30 our ballot boxes were snatched up by CIVPOL and we were told to get the hell

out of there because there was going to be a bloodbath: there was. Australia and the rest of the world stood by doing nothing.

Now, after 50 years, the Palestinians continue to die and be maimed while Israel is feted and our politicians, journalists, academics and captains of industry flock to this pariah. Why do they have to die again?

Gareth W R Smith
Palestine Liberation Centre
Byron Bay

Precious judges

It's not often that I heartily agree with the right wing, but the attempt by the Victorian Court of Appeal to silence three federal cabinet members is a bit rich. All they'd done is politely criticise that court over an apparently lenient attitude towards terrorists in terms of their sentencing.

The very concept of 'contempt of court' reminds one of those totalitarian countries where you can be jailed for slighting the leader. In our modern democracy, where even the royal family has to prove itself and adjust to public attitudes, I don't see how the judiciary can purport to be beyond criticism and immune to outside influence.

Fast Bucks
Coorabell

Talking things out makes for a better life

Young People Matters represents the voices of young people in Byron Shire, presented by the Byron Youth Service bys.org.au

Melanie*, 15.

What has been the best experience in your life?

Moving out of the Catholic school system. I haven't really done anything that great – I'm still young. Moving to Byron High made a really good change for me. It meets my criteria and I can have a really good shot at a future now.

What inspires you?

My grandfather, definitely. He's about 73 – he still works two jobs, I couldn't see myself without him – he's so hard working and amazing. I can't think of anything I've done that didn't require a little something from him – like his knowledge or money or talking to me. He's a very good person.

Who would you like to meet and what would you ask them?

I don't know who relates to me because I've been through a lot. Oprah is a go-to kind of person. I'd like to ask how she turned her bad past into something positive. How she took that and used that to turn it into something good.

What would you like to see happen in Byron Bay?

From my perspective, in my high school – a bit more union, a bit more unity. There are just so many groups by themselves... [It would be good if] everyone was more



Photo Yani Clarke

friendly in the streets, like it used to be. And less smoking. Especially at top park. Because everyone sits so close to each other, it could really divide the atmosphere; it breaks up groups, conversations. If there were a designated spot for them to smoke where it could affect nobody but themselves.

When do you think a person becomes an adult and how?

When they are forced to take on adult responsibilities, I reckon that's when they become adult. I don't think it matters about age. When they take their own responsibilities, make their own appointments, travel, that's what makes somebody a mature adult.

What do you believe in?

Is that a god kind of thing?

I wouldn't call myself a religious person. I believe there is someone there, but I don't know who, or something that has a say over everything and puts obstacles in front of you for a reason. I don't believe in war. I believe in a verbal community where you can say anything and express yourself and talk it out and not resort to those terrible things like war and violence. Because if you don't speak about things, it builds up and you end up hating the person way more than you have to.

What has been the worst experience in your life?

The second time my mum kicked me out was the worst, because it was resolved in an immature way; there was no talking. That made me resent authority because there was no talking. It was done in a scary way. She dropped me

off at the car – I had heaps of stuff with me because I had just came back from a camping trip and she said: 'Get out of the car. Don't call me Mum.' I didn't understand – that made me resent others in authority, teachers or friends, because if I don't understand, that's what happens.

What would you like to change in the world?

In a very broad respect – authority. I think my age and my gender or my race shouldn't impact upon my voice. If somebody says I can't do it, but doesn't give me an explanation, it makes me feel belittled. If they tell me 'because it's dangerous' then okay, I can see, but if they say I can't because I'm young or something like that without an explanation, I can't see and it won't stop me from doing it. Just because somebody

is trying to teach me, why should they control everything I think? [Sure] put the ideas out there, let me grab them, but then use them for my own good.

What's important in a relationship?

Trust. I think common values, definitely, if you value the same type of things. Attraction, but not so much physical attraction if you're attracted by somebody's energy. The person I want to be friends with or a boyfriend – I want to have very inviting energy and make me feel safe.

*Names have been changed.

Pings!

The Byron Youth Service initiative to give young people a place to voice their opinions about life, school, society, people.

About discrimination: 'Why are people so judging of each other?' Anonymous, 13.

'I think men, women, children and animals should all be treated equally and there should be no discrimination towards anyone no matter who they are.' Anonymous, 14.

'I hate that society judges you about how you look and what you like rather than your personality.' Anonymous 13.

'In my opinion you should be able to love who you want, boy or girl, whatever the age, love is love.' Anonymous, 14.

'I don't understand why the school makes such a big

deal about people (especially girls) being sexually active.' Anonymous, 14.

'I don't understand why I can't do stuff that my brothers could do at my age and why boys can do much more stuff than some girls.' Anonymous, 15.

'I don't understand why people get judged on how they act and dress, when they are being themselves. Society has its own mainstream way that people follow, as if we are robots. We aren't robots, we are all unique and different but we are always being judged for being the odd one out; being the odd one out is great.' Anonymous, 13.

'I hate how we are expected to conform to society and how from such an early age we are virtually brainwashed by those in power.' Anonymous, 15.

'Why can't we all live in peace, love and harmony instead of changing the world constantly like fighting and killing others because they aren't "accepted" as they are different in some way or another just because they have the power to do so.' Anonymous, 15.

'Bullying has followed me for my whole life and it still follows me. I've been punched, slapped, smacked, stapled and shot at with a BB gun. My life has been hell.' Anonymous, 14.

'I don't understand society nowadays. People are judging one another about looks, weight, clothes. Why can't people just be focusing on people without homes or money?' Anonymous, 13.

Climate Council: Coal is the most expensive source of energy

The Climate Council last week released a briefing paper on 'clean coal' and carbon capture and storage technology – climatecouncil.org.au.

'There has been a lot of misinformation flying around the Parliament this week. Certain politicians have been either misleading or seriously out of date with their stance on the future of coal,' said Amanda McKenzie, CEO of the Climate Council.

'Today renewable energy is far cheaper than new coal plants. New coal plants are at least double the cost of wind and significantly more than the cost of solar.

'New coal power stations

would need to see electricity prices to rise to up to four times higher than they are today to earn sufficient revenue to be viable.'

No fuel costs

The briefing paper notes AGL's Silvertown Wind Farm will deliver power to the grid at a price of \$65 per MWh, compared to new coal costing between \$134 and 203 per MWh and coal with carbon capture and storage (CCS) costing more than \$352 per MWh. Renewables, in contrast to coal, have no direct fuel costs.

'Coal is always polluting. A new high-efficiency coal plant run on black coal

(so-called clean coal) would produce about 80 per cent of the emissions of an equivalent old plant – so it is never clean,' Ms McKenzie said.

'Carbon capture and storage is a theoretical technology with only two plants operating worldwide. These two plants use the technology for oil recovery, rather than to reduce pollution from the power station. The government has invested \$590 million in CCS technology so far, but without a single operating plant.

'We need a pragmatic, informed debate about Australia's energy future, not false solutions and ideological posturing. Those vested

interests still promoting the false promise of "clean coal" are trying to distort the debate, but the numbers don't add up.

Out of date

'Politicians arguing that coal is cheaper are just plain wrong. They are out of date by about a decade. Renewable energy is now hands-down the cheapest source of power.

'As the government and the Finkel Review have acknowledged, a decade of energy and climate policy uncertainty, coupled with the rising cost of gas, is pushing up household power bills. We must introduce more supply to bring them down.

'All the evidence shows that industrial scale solar and wind power is now the cheapest source of power.

'Any clean energy target should be genuinely clean. Coal is a highly polluting source of power and so

should not be included.

'Tackling climate change means fundamentally phasing out polluting fossil fuels. It is impossible to continue to build more fossil fuel infrastructure and tackle climate change.'

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Do you want the good news or the bad news first?

Daniel Sage

Daily we are enmired in a bog of dark news. Terrorism, climate change, refugees, Korea, Syria, Brexit, Trump, murders, rapes, robberies and crashes, on and on it goes. The world has become a run of endless near-catastrophe. It's a wonder we have the cheek to imagine a future at all, let alone have children or fall in love!

The flow of terrors pouring in through our eyeballs and ears makes it easy to believe we're all off to hell in a handbag. Yes, we may be wired to pay attention for danger lest that tiger be near or the rains don't come, but we've become strangely addicted in the modern era to

harking every grisly, thunderous sign.

Curiously, in any case, the opposite is true: the world is in fact safer, richer, cleaner and healthier in general than it's ever been in the history of humanity.

In the last 25 years, world hunger has declined by 40 per cent, child mortality has halved, and extreme poverty has fallen by three-quarters, five years earlier than the UN's original millennium development goal.

There is an enormous raft of data to support this, with rises pretty much year on year in areas as diverse as tolerance, intelligence, education, medicine, poverty, welfare and jobs, a raft big enough you'd think to take us



all across the sea of calamity to the golden shore of confident wellbeing.

Not every sector is good, of course. Living standards have dropped for many in the last ten years and global warming remains a serious threat. But still, on the whole, life should taste sweeter.

But it doesn't. In a study last year, 71 per cent of Britons said the world is getting worse; only five per cent said it is improving.

Similar studies repeat the trend in other countries. What is going on?

Glum buckets

Perhaps we're a species of glum buckets. A peculiar part of our brain seemingly enjoys doom. While learning about danger is essential, finding satisfaction in tragedy and misfortune is something else entirely; yet it is core to our cultural life.

There is a strange comfort in having the dangers of the world confined to a neat white page or to a screen, or enacted before us in drama by people we simply know, these days anyway, are more likely to order extra froth in their latte than to butcher, maim or connive anyone.

We get to see in bloody detail the extremes and consequences of human behaviour, the potential of our own behaviour, and perhaps the tools with which to pick a better way.

Aristotle said we thrill at tragedy because it purges us. It cleans away our fear and guilt and pressure by seeing bad things performed. We feel strong emotions but know they are not real. So, we feel safe, safer even, because the unspeakable that lurks in terror and calamity has been spoken, and publicly, to boot.

As scholar Anne Pugh points out, there is a secondary aspect in play too: even if we know the story well, we are still rewarded. Though we

can't control tragedy in our own lives, we can watch it in an ultra-controlled environment and even know who is going to die or what is going to happen.

But others argue it's not what we get rid of that counts; instead it's something we take in. A drop of poison, of evil. A tincture, like in homeopathy, that fosters in us a response akin to an emotional antibody. This, in turn, in common with Aristotle's view, helps us better understand society and our place in it.

Modern psychology, as is its way, has coined a term to throw in to the mix. On top of our natural inclinations to pay more attention to bad

news for its protective properties, and to follow tragedy for its catharsis and ritual, we are also 'loss averse'.

Loss aversion describes how the pain of what we lose is greater than the joy of what we gain. We prefer not to lose \$10 than to find \$10. In a news or story context, we are electrified more by tales of loss than by tales of gain, and will feast on them rather than sup.

(Psychologists also have Prospect Theory, the Disposition Effect, Endowment Thinking and Regret Aversion, but that is a whole other tale!)

And just when we might have all of that figured out, and settled into balancing

our intake, along comes fake news, the latest chancer in the online news world, peddling its purposefully formulated drivel.

The problem with the fake stuff is it's harder than ever to distinguish from the real, which has itself become in the last few years so much more extreme, more garish, and more plain unbelievable.

Fake news

We've seen in the last couple of election cycles the damage fake news can do to voter decisions and democracy with its careless clickbait spinning.

Ironically, some of those who have suffered most from its spread, the traditional news makers – the papers and news channels – may provide the antidote as they will continue to be a beacon of quality, somewhere truthful reporting matters and isn't incidental.

Meanwhile, may we also heed that key to wellbeing – gratitude – and give good news its due now and then.

■ A former Byron resident, Daniel Sage is a London journalist and author of the novel *Fall Curve*. See more at www.danielsage.co.uk.



When you're parked parallel to the kerb and you go to open the door onto a bike lane, please reach over with your far hand, the driver's left hand, instead.

This forces you to swivel your body and brings any cyclists approaching from behind into view, thus avoiding 'dooring' them and perhaps saving a life in the process. This is known as the Dutch Reach, and has protected many cyclists from a world of pain.

Brought to you by Echo Publications Cycle for Life Service

CHESS by Ian Rogers

With 142 players, including three current Olympians, the 2017 NSW Open was expected to be a three horse race between Grandmasters Zhao Zong Yuan and Max Illingworth, plus young star Anton Smirnov.

Max Illingworth out-performed expectations, beating Australian number one Zhao in the sixth round, but two International Masters edged out Smirnov and Zhao to tie for first place with Illingworth.

Sydney's Gary Lane pulled off an upset by convincingly out-playing Smirnov in the penultimate round, before making an easy draw with Illingworth to wrap up a tie for first.

These two were joined by Canberra's Andrew Brown, who overcame an early misstep to draw with Zhao and share \$3,000 with Lane and Illingworth on a 6/7 score.

In Melbourne at the Victorian Open, Stephen Solomon won his fourth consecutive tournament, defeating top seeded Russian Julia Ryanova in the final round.

After finishing fourth in the 2015 Australian Open, Ryanova

has recently settled in Melbourne. She will become Australia's top woman player, above another newly arrived Woman Grandmaster Zhang Jilin, should she choose to officially change her allegiance as Zhang has done. ■ This week's game sees Lane produce a textbook positional game at the NSW Open.

NSW Open 2017
White: G Lane
Black: A Huynh
Opening: Ruy Lopez
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Lane is not interested in the heavily analysed main line 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6. 4...Bc5 5.c3 0-0 6.0-0 d6 7.Bg5 Bg4?! 7...h6, chasing the bishop, is necessary. 8.h3 Bh5 9.g4! Bg6 10.Nbd2 a6 11.Bxc6 bxc6 12.d4 Bb6 13.Qa4 Qe8?! The c6 pawn is the least of Black's problems. 13...Re8 or 13...h6 14.Bh4 h5?! could be tried to generate counterplay. 14.Rfe1 c5? This was the last chance for 14...h5, although 15.Bxf6 should be good for White. 15.Qxe8 Rfxe8 16.dxe5 dxe5 17.Bxf6 gxf6 18.Nc4 Now, contrary to most computers, Black is completely lost here. The problem is the bishop on g6 which, as Capablanca showed a century ago, can never emerge. This means that Black is effectively a piece down and Lane's technique for the rest of the game is near-perfect. 18...Rad8 19.Nfd2 Rd3 20.f3 Red8 21.Rad1 22.Kf1 Ke7 23.Ke2 Ke6 24.Nf1 Rxd1 25.Rxd1 Rxd1 26.Kxd1 Ba7 27.Kc2 Kd7 28.Kb3 Kc6 29.Ka4 Kb7 30.Nfe3 c6 31.Nd6+ Kc7 32.Nec4 Bb6 33.Ne8+ Kb7 34.Nxb6 Kxb6 35.Nxf6 1-0



Fake news is old news, allegedly

In *The New York Review of Books*, Robert Darnton writes on the long history of fake news and notes that 'the concoction of alternative facts is hardly rare, and the equivalent of today's poisonous, bite-size texts and tweets can be found in most periods of history, going back to the ancients.'

'Procopius, the Byzantine historian of the sixth century AD, churned out dubious information, known as *Anecdota*, which he kept secret until his death, in order to smear the reputation of the

emperor Justinian after lionising the emperor in his official histories. Pietro Aretino tried to manipulate the pontifical election of 1522 by writing wicked sonnets about all the candidates... and pasting them for the public to admire on the bust of a figure known as Pasquino near the Piazza Navona in Rome. The *pasquinade* then developed into a common genre of diffusing nasty news, most of it fake, about public figures.

'Although pasquinades never disappeared, they were succeeded in the seventeenth

century by a more popular genre, the *canard*, a version of fake news that was hawked in the streets of Paris for the next two hundred years. Canards were printed broadsides, sometimes set off with an engraving designed to appeal to the credulous.

'During the French Revolution, the engravers inserted the face of Marie Antoinette on the old copper plates, and the canard took on new life, this time as intentionally fake political propaganda.'

See more history of fake news at <http://bit.ly/nybfake>.

My first 80 days in America, home of rock'n'roll

Phillip Frazer

July 1, 1970: With a couple of hundred other journalists and editors I fly to San Francisco from Melbourne on the new Tullamarine Airport's inaugural flight. On landing I head out for the Fillmore West to hear Steve Winwood's band Traffic. The music, the light show, the packed fans half-dancing half-stumbling are all familiar; could be Melbourne's 'Thumpin' Tum or any RSL club in the Sydney 'burbs, except that every other person here has a joint that is inhaled then passed on to the right as the next arrives from the left.

July 3: I pass on the group trip to the Giants baseball game and head for the *Rolling Stone* offices on Third St. I've bought stories from *Stone* editor Jann Wenner, for *Go-Set* and *Revolution*, but this is my first meet-up with the guy and we talk lots. I offer to help install computerised typesetting – they're still pulling repros from type set in hot metal.

July 5: Breakfast at Jann and Janie Wenner's house on Ord Ct, followed by a benefit for the UN featuring Boz Skaggs, Steve Miller, and the *Hair* cast. Jann flies to New York and I'm set up in their guest room. Next day, Janie and I see the bizarre new *Ned Kelly* film starring Mick Jagger with appearances by my Carlton mates Linzee Smith and John Hawkes.

July 12: Drive to Los Angeles via Santa Clara County



Janis Joplin kicks out the jams at Santa Clara County Fairgrounds. Photo © Phillip Frazer

Fairgrounds, where Janis Joplin's doing songs from her upcoming *Pearl* album for 10,000 wild'n'crazy fans. With a stage-pass from *Rolling Stone* I get a full roll of pics on Tri-X film – many of a raging Janis up close.

July 27: In LA I interview the Beach Boys at Dennis Wilson's house and Mike Love tells me they have a

multimillion-dollar plan to 'socialise the rock'n'roll business'. Lots of talk in this town about soft revolution, not much action.

I meet Norma Whittaker, an English woman who does PR for Beach Boys and Country Joe McDonald. She's also an activist in the UK's new left. Tells me US filmmaker Saul Landau is

filming a drama against the backdrop of Chile's presidential election, about revolution versus reform in Latin America. Country Joe plays a one-man Greek chorus in multiple scenes. Half the cast and crew are Chilean, half from the US, and all share a rambling house in Santiago. I decide to fly there to watch and report.

July 29: A PR woman at CBS in Hollywood has press material for me and I find her in a recording studio where Joplin and band are finishing *Pearl*. Like onstage in San Jose, she's drinking Jim Beam while the boys smoke dope. 'Who the fuck knew I had fans in Australee-a?' she yells. Her energy's bursting her seams – it's a force of creativity, or a cry for help.

August 9: Santiago, Chile. The Popular Front has set up a stage spanning apartment buildings on each side of a main street and 100,000 workers and peasants have filled ten blocks listening to loudspeakers strung along the light poles. Our crew is onstage where the warm-up act for Socialist candidate Salvador Allende is the poet Pablo Neruda. Deafening cheers for a people's poet!

September 4: After weeks of rallies, dodging troops and water cannons, and discovering the sound guy has sabotaged all the sound recorded so far, today is election day. Posters cover every inch of public space and where there's less than an inch they paint a 1, 2 or 3 signalling their choice of the rightist, centrist, or socialist candidate.

Evening comes and our house is jumpin', everyone watching the count on TV, passing jugs of red wine. Allende and the rightist Alesandri trade the lead. Cheers or anguish greet each update. The phone rings constantly. Around midnight the Popu-

lar Front asks permission to hold a victory rally downtown – the city says no. At 1:30am city police chief is suddenly on-screen – permission for victory rally granted. The house erupts and we and half the city's residents converge on the square where Allende reads a message congratulating Chileans for taking their country back from the bankers, miners and the US imperialists. It's from Fidel Castro, and the massive crowd roars.

September 6: I'm headed back to San Francisco and on to New York. Santiago airport swarms with men in suits wanting out of the country – academics and artists in corduroy and youths with backpacks and jeans arrive from all over Latin America, laughing with joy at the new world unfolding.

September 21: I fly to London, knowing I will return to the USA soon because it's where our futures are determined.

On October 4, 1970, Janis Joplin dies of an accidental heroin overdose at age 27.

On September 11, 1973, Chilean military units with US support stage a coup, tossing the bullet-riddled body of President Allende in an unmarked grave and executing the first of many thousands.

■ These are notes from an account Phillip Frazer is writing of his 43 years in America, from his perch on coorabellridge.com.

Summer of Love now struggles to get a permit from Parks & Rec

Organisers of the San Francisco Summer of Love 50th Anniversary have been busy repeatedly appealing the San Francisco Park and Recreation staff's denial of a permit to present free public concerts in Golden Gate Park this June.

'In all my 40 years of organising these free public concerts, this is the first time we have been denied a permit,' said Boots Hughston, chief organiser of the celebration.

'Suddenly, it's all about money. We're a non-profit and cannot pay the same million-dollar-plus fees some big, for-profit promoters now pay.'

'We present this concert free to the public and we volunteer all of our services.'

'San Francisco has its global reputation at stake.'



Image from 50thsummeroflove.com

This city's heritage is steeped in the values forged by the Beat generation in the 50s, then morphed into the Diggers and hippies of the 1960s. It is part of our identity – not as visible as the Golden Gate Bridge but just as real.'

Hughston said 21 rock bands, including several with original members from 1967 performances, have confirmed plans to perform on the previously announced date of June 4.

He said San Francisco itself

has been promoting his Summer of Love concert around the nation, gaining publicity and booking hotel rooms for tourists who plan on attending an event that Park Board staff intend to prevent.

The Summer of Love celebrates San Francisco's welcoming of an estimated 100,000 young people during the summer of 1967, when the city's Haight-Ashbury District 'became a global beacon for young,

free spirits embracing the principles of peace, love and compassion. It grew into the worldwide movement known as the hippies and flower children.'

The Summer of Love Proclamation notes in part: 'There are moments in time when a word or thought has such power it changes history; a generation so involved in the moment it becomes unstoppable; a spiritual awakening so profound that its very con-

ception shatters perceptions, halts the world and makes people from all nations take notice.

'It began with a simple four-letter word:

'LOVE!'

'In the 1960s this word became synonymous with a generation and city called San Francisco.

'It was a concept, a belief deep in the hearts of all who were there (and those who wished they were).

'It began with Ken Kesey, the Merry Pranksters and their bus *Furthur*, Jack Kerouac, Allen Ginsberg, Lawrence Ferlinghetti and the Beat Generation.

'They gathered in North Beach, Haight Ashbury, and in cities Palo Alto, Berkeley, Seattle, Portland, New York and LA.

'These pockets of counter-

cultural, anti-establishment individuals questioned authority and their surroundings while searching for the real meaning of life and deeper truths.

'These small communities of like-minded individuals and their "families" of communal creativity focused on poetry, art, folk music, jazz, and rock'n'roll, demanding to be free of societal restrictions, restraints and hang-ups.

'Then one summer it happened!

'WE WERE EVERYWHERE!'

'The pureness of thought exploded exponentially and there were now millions of us. This event, this historical moment, which included most of 1967, became known as:

'THE SUMMER OF LOVE.'

World's first sustainable, industrial-scale agriculture began when crops became dependent on their ant farmers in the desert

Millions of years before humans discovered agriculture, vast farming systems were thriving beneath the surface of the earth. The subterranean farms, which produced various types of fungi, were cultivated and maintained by colonies of ants, whose descendants continue practising agriculture today.

By tracing the evolutionary history of these fungus-farming ants, scientists at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History have learned about a key transition in the insects' agricultural evolution.

This transition allowed the ants to achieve higher levels of complexity in farming, rivalling the agricultural practices of humans: the domestication of crops that became permanently isolated from their wild habitats and thereby grew dependent on their farmers for their evolution and survival.

Fungus farmers

In *Proceedings of Royal Society B*, scientists led by entomologist Ted Schultz, the museum's curator of ants, report that the transition likely occurred when farming ants began living in dry climates, where moisture-loving fungi could not survive on their own. The finding comes from a genetic analysis that charts the evolutionary relationships of farming and non-farming ants from wet and dry habitats throughout the Neotropics.

About 250 species of fungus-farming ants have been found in tropical forests, deserts and grasslands in the Americas and the Caribbean,



Ted Schultz, curator of ants with the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History, holds a lab nest of a lower fungus-growing ant while standing next to a lab nest of a higher fungus-growing leaf-cutting ant, underscoring the difference in agricultural scale and complexity between these two groups. Photo James DiLoreto, Smithsonian

and these species fall into two different groups based on the level of complexity of their farming societies: lower and higher agriculture. All farming ants start new fungal gardens when a queen's daughter leaves her mother's nest to go off and found her own nest, taking with her a piece of the original colony's fungus to start the next colony's farm.

In the lower, primitive forms of ant agriculture – which largely occur in wet rainforests – fungal crops occasionally escape from their ant colonies and return to the wild. Lower ants also occasionally regather their farmed fungi from the wild and bring them back to their nests to replace faltering crops.

These processes allow wild and cultivated fungi to interbreed and limit the degree of influence the lower ants have over the evolution

of their crops.

But, as with certain crops that have been so heavily modified by human breeders that they can no longer reproduce and live on their own in the wild, some fungal species have become so completely dependent on their relationship with farming ants that they are never found living independent of their farmers.

Vast communities

These higher agricultural ants cultivate highly 'domesticated' crops, enabling them to live in vast communities and to work together through division of labour to fertilise their fungal crops, haul away waste, keep pathogens at bay and maintain ideal growing conditions.

'These higher agricultural ant societies have been practising sustainable, industrial-scale agriculture for millions

of years,' Schultz said. 'Studying their dynamics and how their relationships with their fungal partners have evolved may offer important lessons to inform our own challenges with our agricultural practices.'

'Ants have established a form of agriculture that provides all the nourishment needed for their societies using a single crop that is resistant to disease, pests and droughts at a scale and level of efficiency that rivals human agriculture.'

Today, many agricultural ant species are threatened by habitat destruction, and as part of his studies, Schultz has been collecting specimens from the field and preserving them in the museum's cryogenic biorepository for future genomic studies. In the current study, he and his colleagues compared the

genomes of 119 modern ant species, most of which were collected during his decades of field expeditions.

Using powerful new genomic tools, the scientists compared DNA sequences at each of more than 1,500 genome sites for 78 fungus-farming species and 41 non-fungus-farming species. Their data-rich analysis gave the team a great deal of confidence in the evolutionary relationships they were able to map, Schultz said.

Survival traits

Their analysis clarifies the closest living non-farming relative of today's fungus-growing ants and allows Schultz and his team to begin to look at the geographic backgrounds of these species and deduce when, where and under what conditions particular traits emerged. In this study, the team was interested in learning when ants began practising higher agriculture – that is, when some fungal crops came to be dependent on the ant-fungus relationship for survival.

According to the evolutionary tree they constructed, the first ants to transition to higher agriculture likely lived in a dry or seasonally dry climate. The transition appears to have occurred around 30 million years ago – a time when the planet was cooling, and dry areas were becoming more prevalent.

Fungi that had evolved to live in wet forests would have been poorly equipped to survive independently in this changing climate. 'But if your ant farmer evolves to be better at living in a dry habitat, and it brings you along and

it sees to all your needs, then you're going to be doing okay,' Schultz said.

Just as humans living in a dry or temperate climate might raise tropical plants in a greenhouse, agricultural ants carefully maintain the humidity within their fungal gardens. 'If things are getting a little too dry, the ants go out and get water and they add it,' Schultz said. 'If they're too wet, they do the opposite.' So even when conditions above the surface become inhospitable, fungi can thrive inside the underground, climate-controlled chambers of an agricultural ant colony.

Fungal fates

In this situation, fungi can become dependent on their ant farmers – unable to escape the nest and return to the wild. 'If you've been carried into a dry habitat, your fate is going to match the fate of the colony you're in,' Schultz said. 'At that point, you're bound in a relationship with those ants that you were not bound in when you were in a wet forest.'

Schultz said the conditions present during this evolutionary transition illustrate how an organism can become domesticated even if its farmers are not consciously selecting for desirable traits as human breeders might do.

Ants that moved their fungi into new habitats would have isolated the organism from its wild relatives, just as humans do when they domesticate a crop. This isolation creates an opportunity for the farmed species to evolve independently from species in the wild, adopting new traits.

The beginnings of agriculture changed human history

Researchers from the Grantham Centre for Sustainable Futures at the University of Sheffield have shed light on how hunter-gatherers first began farming and how crops were domesticated to depend on humans.

Domesticated crops have been transformed almost beyond recognition in comparison with their wild relatives – a change that happened during the early stages of farming in the Stone Age. For grain crops such as cereals, the hallmark of domestication is the loss of natural seed dispersal – seeds no longer fall off plants but have be-

come dependent on humans or machines to spread them.

Professor Colin Osborne, from the Grantham Centre for Sustainable Futures at the University of Sheffield, said: 'We know very little about how agriculture began, because it happened 10,000 years ago – that's why a number of mysteries are unresolved. For example why hunter-gatherers first began farming, and how crops were domesticated to depend on people.'

'One controversy in this area is about the extent to which ancient peoples knew they were domesticating crops. Did they know they

were breeding domestication characteristics into crops, or did these characteristics just evolve as the first farmers sowed wild plants into cultivated soil, and tended and harvested them?'

Domestication

The new research, published in the journal *Evolution Letters*, shows the impact of domestication on vegetable seed size.

Any selective breeding of vegetables by early farmers would have acted on the leaves, stems or roots that were eaten as food, but should not have directly

affected seed size.

Instead, any changes in vegetable seed size must have arisen from natural selection acting on these crops in cultivated fields, or from genetic links to changes in another characteristic such as plant or organ size. In the last instance, people might have bred crops to become bigger, and larger seeds would have come along unintentionally.

The University of Sheffield researchers gathered seed size data from a range of crops and found strong evidence for a general enlargement of seeds owing to domestication.

They discovered domesti-

cated maize seeds are 15 times bigger than the wild form, soybean seeds are seven times bigger. Wheat, barley and other grain crops had more modest increases in size (60 per cent for barley and 15 per cent for emmer wheat) but these changes are important if they translate into yield.

Larger seeds

'We found strong evidence for a general enlargement of seeds owing to domestication across seven vegetable species,' said Professor Osborne.

'This is especially stunning in a crop such as sweet potato, where people don't even plant

seeds, let alone harvest them. The size of this domestication effect falls completely within the range seen in cereals and pulse grains such as lentils and beans, raising the possibility that at least part of the seed enlargement in these crops also evolved during domestication without deliberate foresight from early farmers.'

'This means that unconscious selection was probably more important in the genesis of our food plants than previously realised. Early increases in the yields of crops might well have evolved in farmers' fields rather than being bred artificially.'

David Haskell listens to the songs of trees

We cannot step outside life's songs. This music made us; it is our nature.

American biologist David George Haskell won acclaim for his eloquent writing and deep engagement with the natural world with his book *The Forest Unseen*.

With his new book Haskell puts a stethoscope to nature's great connectors and encourages us to listen to *The Songs of Trees*. Haskell repeatedly visits a dozen trees around the world, exploring the trees' connections with webs of fungi, bacterial communities, cooperative and destructive animals and other plants.

An Amazonian ceibo tree reveals the rich ecological turmoil of the tropical forest, along with threats from expanding oil fields.

Thousands of miles away, the roots of a balsam fir in Canada survive in poor soil only with the help of fungal partners – in links that are



American biologist David George Haskell. Photo Katherine Lehman

nearly two billion years old. Haskell chatted to *The Echo* ahead of his appearance at Byron Writers Festival

Describe where you write.

At whatever desk I can find, preferably near a window. For

research phase: clutter, papers, notes in disordered stacks. For writing: neat piles of notes around a laptop, formerly a writing pad. Editing: me and a screen. No clutter. The form of the space in which we write flows into us and out of our hands into the page.

Tell us something about you that people may not know.

I sniff books. Literally: ink, paper, glue – a gorgeous world of possibility. The nose-nip of books has changed over the decades. Now, it's more chemically acrid. Books

of my childhood smelled of warm cellulose and resinous glue, reminders of the forest.

What book made the greatest impact on you as a child?

Reading Shakespeare and seeing his works on the stage. Musicality of language embodied.

What author living or dead would you most like to meet, and what would you like to know?

Rachel Carson. I'd like to experience a walk on the seashore with her. But she left a legacy allowing exactly that: her words live on.

Who should we be reading?

Kathleen Jamie, Ed Yong, David Hinton, Rebecca Solnit.

What are you working on now?

Listening to trees, smelling the soil, puzzling over sexuality in nature.

Where do stories take you?

Across time and space, into someone else's consciousness. This is a marvel of reading: transportation into another mind, then a return, changed.

What are you looking forward to at Byron Writers Festival?

Listening to writers, readers, soaking up thought and experience from outside my usual circle of travels and ideas.

■ David George Haskell will be appearing in numerous sessions at the Festival as well as a special Feature Event in conversation with Richard Fidler at Byron Theatre on Friday August 4, 6.30pm. Cost \$30, bookings essential.

Kim Mahood immerses herself in the life of a small community

'If anyone's written more beautifully and modestly about this country and its people I'm not aware of it.' – Tim Winton

'Mahood is a writer of country. Her chapters unfurl like the ribbons of red dunes.' – Bruce Pascoe

Since the publication of her prize-winning memoir *Craft for a Dry Lake* in 2000, writer and artist Kim Mahood has been returning to the Tanami desert country in far northwestern Australia where, as a child, she lived with her family on a remote cattle station.

The land is timeless, but

much has changed: the station has been handed back to its traditional owners; the mining companies have arrived; and Indigenous art has flourished.

Comedy and tragedy, familiarity and uncertainty are Mahood's constant companions as she immerses herself in the life of a small community and takes part in groundbreaking mapping projects. What emerges in *Position Doubtful* is a revelation of the significance of the land to its people – and of the burden of history.

Mahood is an artist of astonishing versatility. She



Writer and artist Kim Mahood.

works with words, with paint, with installations, and with

performance art.

Her writing about her own work and collaborations, about the country she loves, and about the work of the desert artists, is profoundly enlightening, making palpable the link between artist and landscape.

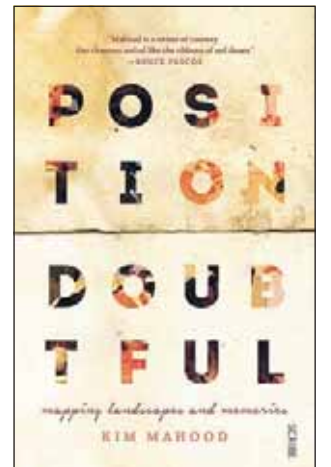
Kim Mahood will be taking part in the following sessions at the writers festival:

Friday August 4, Making Art About Country with Roanna Gonsalves, Venkat Shyam, Joshua Yeldham and Jill Eddington.

Saturday August 5, Writing the Landscape with Bruce Pascoe, Nicolas Rothwell and

Lynda Hawryluk.

Sunday August 6, Short Stories with Jennifer Down, Roanna Gonsalves and Zachary Jane.



From global roaming to poetry slamming: all of human life is here

Byron Writers Festival is hosting more than 20 different feature events throughout the region. Here are just a couple to whet your appetite.

Literary Dinner: Global Roaming and Probing – Join investigative journalists Pulitzer prize-winning Mei Fong and Gold Walkley award-winning Caro Meldrum-Hanna in conversation with award-winning journalist Rosemarie Milsom. Supported by Brookfarm. Wine generously supplied by Audrey Wilkinson. Saturday August 5, 7–9.30pm at Elements of Byron. Cost \$110 includes a glass of wine on arrival.

My Most Controversial Thought – In a world where fact and fiction are increasingly blurred, and nothing seems too farcical, too extreme or too personal to be out of bounds, join Clementine Ford, Bri Lee and Miles Merrill for an evening of storytelling and conversation with Lex Hirst, who will explore the controversial thoughts they still hold dear. Thursday August 3, 8.15–9pm at The Rails. Free, no bookings.

For all feature events visit byronwritersfestival.com/featurevents.

Be quick, as many feature events sell out.



Slam poet Arielle Cottingham will be presenting a workshop.

Workshops

For writers and aspiring writers wanting to hone their craft there are 15 different workshops to choose from, covering everything from writing for children to

writing a novel from start to finish.

If performance is your passion get along to these workshops.

Vayu Naidu – The Science and Soul of Storytell-

ing: performance narrative – Dr Vayu Naidu gets you to grapple with folk tales and epics to unlock your 21st century voice. RASA is a technique honed for writers and performers seeking to be ef-

fective communicators and artists. Bring a story to life! Thursday August 3, 9.30am–12.30pm at Byron Community College Room 1. Cost \$65/\$55.

Australian Slam Workshop – Two of the world's best wordsmiths tag-teaming on your writing and performance. This course is guaranteed to overhaul your poetry and help you deliver your words straight into the minds of your audience. Saturday August 5, 11.30am–3.30pm at Lone Goat Gallery. Free.

For all workshops, bookings and information visit byronwritersfestival.com/festival-workshops.

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- **Precision Cutting**
- **Keratin Straightening**
- **Natural and organic haircare solutions**

6685 6432
 Shop 3, Byron St, Byron Bay

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Mullumbimby Podiatry now offers laser therapy – the latest and most effective treatment for stubborn fungal nail disease. The clinic also uses state-of-the-art 3D digital foot scanning to produce high-quality custom orthotics.

Their experts can treat all foot injuries and foot-related conditions. They combine traditional podiatric techniques with advanced technology, delivering outstanding results for your foot health.

To find out more about laser therapy, 3D foot scanning or other treatments provided, look at their website:

www.kingscliffpodiatry.com.au | 6674 2933.

MANIK' HAIR AND MAKEUP STUDIO

has a longstanding reputation for excellence.

The team at Manik' have a wealth of experience in all facets of hairdressing, including colour correction, on-trend hair fashion techniques and classic cutting.

The salon also believes in challenging the norms in the world of hairdressing with the message that healthy hair begins with the hair's being free from chemical overload and strives to use a more natural approach where possible

The hair and makeup salon also has a professional makeup artist available for consultations and Manik' stocks INIKA organic makeup.

The team believe that a happy creative energy and exceptional friendly service is what makes a salon exceed. So escape to Manik' and indulge yourself and your hair with people who will make you look and feel great.

Shop 3, Byron St, Byron Bay
6685 6432

ORGANIC BEAUTY

Organic Beauty by Kamon uses organic certified products and has created an eco-friendly, organic and sustainable salon in Byron Bay.

Kamon is an internationally experienced beauty therapist with extensive knowledge in skincare and beauty therapy. She brings an in-depth understanding of all skin types with her and can prescribe a personalised La Clinica skincare program to address your individual needs.

Kamon's eyebrow shaping is famous locally and abroad; her attention to detail leaves you looking and feeling your absolute best. Kamon also provides the ultimate treatment in manicures and pedicures, and her application of Shellac and Bio Sculpture is of an outstanding quality. Kamon's gentle touch and serene nature will have you floating until your next visit.

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well

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We have been fascinated over the years by the astounding array of misinformation regarding diet and health. In clinic, one of the most common comments we hear when questioning a patient regarding their diet is, 'But I eat a very healthy diet.' The average patient's concept of what a healthy diet consists of is so far off the mark, and almost completely media-based information. It is the patient's misconception of the food they are eating that allowed them to generate many of their diseases in the first place and it is what keeps their disease rolling, way beyond a simple resolution point. At the Good Skin Clinic we have achieved international recognition for the astounding results we obtain by utilising the power of correct diet and the use of herbal medicine to completely clear diseases such as psoriasis, eczema, ichthyosis, rosacea... and the list goes on. If you have tried everything else then it's time to see the Good Skin Clinic.

Call 1300 956 566 to arrange an appointment.

*And beauty is not a need
but an ecstasy.*

*It is not a mouth thirsting
nor an empty hand
stretched forth,*

*But rather a heart
enflamed and a soul
enchanted.*

- KAHILIL GIBRAN -



6684 2644

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website: www.goodskinclinic.com.au



Good Skin Clinic



Saying 'I do' at Plan B – Jacqui King and Martin Bergin – credit Diego Chamon

Saying 'I do' when flood says 'You don't'

By Vivienne Pearson

'We have to get off the mountain or we'll be stuck,' was the call made mid-morning of Sunday 11 June, as rising floodwaters threatened to cut off Main Arm. Being flooded in is a daunting prospect at any time, but on your wedding day it is a whole other matter. With groom Martin Bergin already in Mullumbimby, bride Jacqui King heeded her mum's call.

The problem then was that the couple were cut off from their wedding venue, Kohinur Hall. 'We postponed the wedding from 2pm till 4pm,' says Jacqui, hopeful that the road would clear in time. By noon though, the SES had fully closed Main Arm Road and that hope was dashed.

A scramble to find an alternative venue began. 'We didn't have a Plan B,' says Jacqui, who works at the Mullumbimby IGA. 'We called so many places.' It was Albatross Restaurant and the Ocean Shores Country Club that saved the day. 'I would like to thank them so much for being so accommodating at short notice,' says Jacqui. 'Everyone had a big smile on their face.'

Jo Maiden of Albatross, says: 'It was so lovely for us to be able to help,' noting that the real hero of the day was Claire Kirkman, restaurant manager. 'She's one of the few people in the Shire who could turn around a wedding with three hours' notice,' praises Jo.

The wedding was held on the deck of the Country Club. 'By that time, the weather wasn't too bad so we had ocean views and some people saw whales,' says Jacqui.

Of course, not all aspects of the planned day could be replicated. 'Only about one-third of the guests made it to the ceremony,' says Jacqui. Unfortunately, one bridesmaid was among the guests who didn't make it off the mountain in time.

Sadly, the elaborately decorated hall stood empty; the fairy lights lovingly installed by brand-new business Gypsy Soul Weddings were unable to add their planned shine to the event.

Fortunately, the curries made by Mary-Anne at the Main Arm Store were able to be retrieved when water levels dropped the following day. 'It was a bit sad packing up after a party we hadn't had,' says Jacqui. 'We've frozen as much food as we can and will have a going-away party before we go on our extended honeymoon travels.'

Despite the challenges, Jacqui and Martin had a wonderful wedding. 'We had a beautiful day; everyone was so positive,' says Jacqui. 'We had lots of messages about how rain cleanses the past and how we will always remember our wedding whenever it rains.'



Martin Bergin and Jacqui King on their wedding day – credit Diego Chamon

Case22 Byron Bay showroom launch with special guest speaker Mr Jason Grant

Mid-century furniture specialists Case22 are opening the doors to their brand-new showroom, nestled in a laneway within the industrial estate, with a weekend of festivities. Guest speaker Grant (pictured above) will fly in from Bondi for the launch event to discuss mid-century modern styling with guests, and visitors to the showroom over the course of the weekend will have the chance to enter Case22's launch competition, which will put them in the draw to win an Eames Rocking Chair valued at \$750.

Grant, a regular visitor to the northern rivers, has a longstanding relationship with Kimberly Amos, owner of The Atlantic lifestyle hotel. The pair have styled many shoots onsite, which can be seen in Jason's second publication *Holiday at Home*. Now only months away from releasing his third book *Modern Retro Home*, which takes a look at mid-century modern styling, Grant is set to influence the coveted style in his own unique way.

Owners Kincade Wilks and Aaron Treloar have operated their business from Wollongong since 2012 and have recently arrived in Byron Bay to open their second showroom in the Arts and Industry Estate. Their collection of sourced furniture and objects from an array of designers such as Charles Rennie Macintosh and Frank Gehry is impressive. Whether it's buying, selling or hiring out their range of fine vintage, mid-century and modern designs, the pieces in Case22's carefully curated portfolio promise to reflect the originality and uniqueness of this celebrated era of design.

'We felt that inviting Jason Grant to speak at the launch event was the perfect way to kick off Case22's journey here in Byron Bay,' said Mr Wilks. 'We would invite everyone to be a part of this milestone in Case22's history and share in what will be a significant contribution to the world of mid-century interior



Case22 owners Kincade Wilks (pictured left) and Aaron Treloar have recently moved to Byron Bay from Wollongong to open their second gallery.

Join renowned 'super stylist' and creative talent Mr Jason Grant (pictured right) to celebrate the launch of Case22's Byron Bay showroom.



design Down Under.'

Case22 will soon be joining the exclusive 1st Dibs marketplace as one of the few Australian retailers available on the site, helping put Byron Bay on the map as a destination for unique furniture finds. The website handpicks dealers in fine treasures from around the globe and has become known as the destination for big players in the design world, used by the likes of Robert Couturier, Marc Jacobs and Tom Ford.

More info: The Case22 launch event is open to the public. Saturday 24 June 2017, 3.30–5pm. Studio 2/8 Grevillea St, Byron Bay Arts & Industry Estate. www.case22.com.au. www.facebook.com/case22byronbay

Sporting local snacks

By Vivienne Pearson

The contradiction of sporting facilities selling sugar-laden snacks made by huge multinational companies is so accepted that it rarely rates a mention.

For adults participating in sports, having to pass counters filled with calorie- and food-mile laden 'treats' is hard enough. For parents, having to deal with the pester-power of their kids (whose height the snacks are often displayed at), can add a real burden to extra-curricular activities.

The Cavanbah Centre, run by Byron Shire Council, recognised this problem and decided to do something different. Over the past year, the centre has transitioned all food and drinks sold to locally sourced.

'Currently, 63 per cent of products sold are produced within a 100km radius. The rest are all Australian made, with one exception – coconut water,' says Jesse Tucker, the community facilities coordinator. 'We eventually aim for 100 per cent local.'

The incentive for the change, according to Jesse, came from public and parent demand. The move also fits with two Council initiatives: Zero Emissions Byron, and updates to the procurement guide that will include looking at the benefits to the local community.

'Part of what has been great about this is that it's wonderful to share locally made products with the community, including with people who come to events from other regions and states,' says Jesse.

Renamed eighteen months ago through a public submission project, the nearly five-year-old centre was previously known as the Byron Regional Sports and Cultural Complex. It hosts sports (ranging from basketball to roller derby), classes (including The Cassettes and capoeira) as well as meetings, workshops and community activities.

Cavanbah means 'meeting place', and the Cavanbah Centre sees up to 2,000 people flow through its doors each week. That's a lot of people so it's not surprising that the changes haven't been universally embraced.

'There will always be the kids who want their lollies,' says Jesse. 'Some people have taken time to get used to what we offer.' Health is one aspect of the changes, though Jesse recognises



Jesse at the Cavanbah counter – credit Vivienne Pearson

that health means different things to different people, so individual choice of snacks is always key. 'The snacks offered now are relatively healthier,' says Jesse, 'but local is the main priority.'

'Parents in particular are very grateful that there are options for snacks other than a sugary bar – such as tahini or nuts,' Jesse says. The centre also has a fruit bowl, with pieces selling for only \$1.

One such grateful parent is Chrissie Dunsmore from Bangalow, who takes her two daughters to activities at the Cavanbah Centre three to four afternoons each week. 'It was hard before – I'm trying to educate my kids to be healthy but before they were always lining up for lollies,' Chrissie says. 'Now, it's all good fuelling food, not that quick sugar fix.' Though health is the main benefit of the changes according to Chrissie, the move to local products is also appreciated. 'Supporting local businesses is a bonus,' she says.

Drinks are as important in the new policy as food. Juices sold are now fresh rather than made from concentrate and an Australian-made sports drink option is available. There is also a fresh orange-juice machine in the foyer, where your juice is squeezed before your very eyes! Bottled water is still sold, though the centre has always had a bubbler available for those who prefer their water non-plasticised.

The changes have proved so successful that some people now stop into the centre for a snack even if they aren't coming for an activity.

Cavanbah Centre, a Byron Shire Council Community facility. Ewingsdale Road. Open M–F 8am–9.30pm, Sat 9am–4pm, Sun 9.30am–4pm. Facebook: @cavanbahcentre

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Ballina Food and Wine Festival

The festival is fast approaching. The main festival day is Sunday 2 July and entry costs \$25, but for those who wish to claim a quick tax deduction, or celebrate a great financial year, Friday 30 June is the gala four-course dinner at Ballina RSL, featuring Kelly Knight and her jazz/funk ensemble. Tickets \$95.

Many Byron Shire restaurants, foodies and cottage industries will be featured at the festival on Sunday, including The Balcony, Zest, Safya, Taste Byron Bay and Byron Bay Mozzarella. You might also be able to sample the produce of Truly Tea, Detour En Provence, Cheesy Stick, Extraordinary Foods, Paella Time and Crow-Ket.

Both Stone & Wood Brewery and Byron Bay Brewery will have stalls, and there will be wine and beer information sessions.

On Sunday you will also be able to experience cooking demonstrations by top chefs, featuring: Sean Connolly – chef, Balcony Bar & Oyster Co Gavin Hughes – head chef, Byron at Byron Resort and Spa

Terase Davidson – Taste Byron Bay founder Blake Seymour – executive chef, Ballina RSL Club Keith Wilson – head chef, Bonefish Bar & Grill

Local entertainers Bourbon Street, Leigh James and Elizabeth Lord, Glenn Massey and Jed Zarb



from Sydney will all be playing on the day. Sunday will be a great opportunity to enjoy a multicultural experience in one place. The Sunday festival is an undercover event for 18+ only. Tickets are \$25. Return bus tickets \$5 from Brunswick Heads, Byron Bay, Bangalow, Suffolk Park, Lennox Head, Lismore, Goonellabah, Wollongbar, Alstonville and Ballina.

Tickets are available online from ballinafoodandwine.com.au.



Stone beer festival

Despite the cyclonic weather, locals and beer lovers braved the rain and showed their community spirit supporting Stone & Wood's annual event on 11 June, listening to local music, eating local food and celebrating the release of their seasonal Stone Beer while raising money for Liberation Larder and Bay FM.

Combining the \$1,800 that volunteers raised on the door, Stone & Wood's managing director Ben Summons said they were able to contribute \$8,861 to the two not-for-profits.

Under a marquee friends, families and kids heard Bunny Racket, MT Warning, Your Mates DJ, Polish Club and Kingswood while sipping this year's Stone Beer.

'We were just so humbled that, despite the rain, our community still came to support the event, enjoy a few beers and have a good time. With the event selling out in just two days, we are already thinking about next year and what's the best option for this community-favourite event,' Ben said.

Liberation Larder president Helen Hamilton said, 'We were just overwhelmed by the community's generosity, Stone and Wood's generosity and inviting us to be the charity for the evening. It means so much to us. Every cent will go back to our food program, and provide meals for those in the community who need it most,' said Helen Hamilton.



BALLINA		
	Ballina RSL Club River St, Ballina 6681 9500 www.ballinarsl.com.au Open 7 Days from 8am Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner and Snacks	New Breakfast Menu Out Now Monday to Saturday 8am to 11am Boardwalk Buffet Breakfast Every Sunday from 8am Adult \$19.90 Child U/12 \$9.90 Under 5 Years Free
BILLINUDGEL		
	Billi's Indian Open Tuesday – Sunday 4:30pm to late Closed Monday 8 Wilfred St, Billinudgel BYO. Credit cards 6680 3352	AUTHENTIC INDIAN RESTAURANT <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chef specials every night• Exciting New Menu• 10% off for seniors every day• Catering available for parties• Vegan and gluten free food available• Complimentary papadams if pre-booked!
BYRON BAY		
	Treehouse on Belongil Full Cocktail & Wine Bar. Extensive Menu Includes Tapas, Mains, Desserts and Famous Woodfired Pizzas. 25 Childe St, Byron Bay 6680 9452	New summer menu out now! Share plates, mains, desserts and famous Treehouse wood-fired pizza. Our kitchen is open all day and night. Presenting incredible original music in Byron's most intimate atmosphere. Check our website or Facebook for the gig guide. facebook.com/treehouse.belongil treehouseonbelongil.com
	Novella Open 7 days. Mon–Wed 6.30am–4pm Thurs–Sun 6.30am till late. Bay Street – opp surf club Bookings: 6685 7358 novellabyronbay.com.au @novellabyronbay	Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner by the Sea! Live Music Thurs & Fri from 5pm Taco Thursdays \$5 tacos, beers and sangria with \$10 margaritas. GF options avail. Dine in and takeaway. Fully Licensed
	Italian at the Pacific Open for Dinner & Cocktails 7 days from 6pm till late Next to the Beach Hotel Bay Street 6680 7055 italianatthepacific.com.au	Italian at the Pacific provides a bustling atmospheric restaurant, dishing up contemporary inspired Italian cuisine and some of Byron's finest cocktails and wines.
ADVERTISING ENQUIRIES: adcopy@echo.net.au 6684 1777 echo.net.au/good-taste		

BYRON BAY continued		
	Succulent Café Shop 3, 8 Byron Street, Byron Bay P 6685 5711 FB: succulent café Instagram: byronbaysucculentcafe Open daily from 8am till 3pm. Fully licensed, BYO wine only	NOW SERVING Japanese Ramen for DINNER! Succulent Café now open for dinner! Starting June 9 we will be serving Japanese noodles (Ramen) for just \$10 on the day! (Limited serving) Official dinner opens June 15th and every Thursday to Saturday 5-9pm serving Japanese Ramen and alternative Asian fusion cuisine! Our experienced Japanese chef will be preparing meals only from fresh, local products! Gluten free and Vegan friendly! Come in and warm up this winter!
	St Elmo Dining Room & Bar Mon-Sat: 5pm till late. Sun: 5pm till 10pm. Cnr Fletcher St and Lawson Lane, Byron Bay 6680 7426 www.stelmodining.com	St Elmo is a place where you can enjoy great company, first-class food, sophisticated cocktails and an extensive wine list. St Elmo is plating up modern Spanish cuisine to be enjoyed amongst friends and family. Our menus change regularly and feature daily specials.
	Sura Asian Cuisine Open every day 12 Middy–9.30pm 1/47 Jonson Street, Byron Phone 6685 7732 sura.asian.au@gmail.com	Self-serve Buffett Thai, Chinese and Korean 10 different options each day Self-Serve Take-Away from just \$8 or Dine in ALL YOU CAN EAT (only Wednesday & Saturday) + 1 can of drink just \$12.90
	Warung Bagus 3/14 Bay St (opposite the surf club) 7am–5pm daily Dine in or takeaway 6685 5194	Casual beachfront cafe with indoor/outdoor seating and sea views. All-day breakfast, Indonesian lunch, plus snacks and coffee, juices, smoothies and cakes. Gluten-free specialists with a great variety of vegan options plus beef, chicken and fish. Follow us! @warungbagusbyronbay
	Elixiba Opening Hours: 10am–3pm Brunch & Lunch All Day! 5pm–Late Dinner – 7 days a week Shop 10, Feros Arcade 23 Jonson St, Byron Bay 6685 6845	Elixiba Plant Based Restaurant and Bar A delicious vegan dining experience. Tapas, mains and heavenly desserts all house made and gluten free. Exclusive craft beers, herbal elixirs, exquisite cocktails and a unique atmosphere. Dine in/Takeaway/Catering/Functions
	Hog's Breath Cafe Open 7 Days, 11.30am–2.30pm Dinner from 5.30pm 9/4 Jonson St, Byron Bay 6685 5320 www.hogsbreath.com.au	Hog's Breath Cafe's menu just got better with some mouth-watering new steaks, salad, pasta and an abundance of delicious dessert selections. As usual, the diverse menu also offers chicken, seafood, snacks, burgers, ribs, kid's meals, a range of Lite Options, plus their famous Prime Rib Steak – slow cooked for up to 18 hours for maximum flavour and tenderness. Kids eat free Mon – Wed nights and you can grab lunch for just \$9.90, so there's something to please the whole family.



Good Taste

Eating Out Guide



BYRON BAY continued



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pages/Success-Thai-
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BYRON BAY continued



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Taking the Plunge *cont*

Here is the third and final part of the special feature on the things you need to consider when putting in a backyard pool.

Contract

By law, your chosen builder or tradesperson must give you a written contract for all residential building work, including swimming pools, if:

- the contract price is over \$5,000 (including GST), or
- the contract price is not known, is for the provision of labour and materials by the contractor the reasonable market cost of which is more than \$5,000 (including GST).

Deposits and progress payments

The maximum deposit that you can be asked to pay is 10% of the contract price. If the work is required to be covered by insurance under the Home Building Compensation Fund,

it is illegal for the contractor to ask for a deposit or other payment under the contract, unless a valid certificate of insurance is given to you.

Note: The loss of any deposit paid by a home owner that exceeds the legal limit will not be covered by the Home Building Compensation Fund insurance policy for the project. Progress payments are usually made at specific stages of a project and should equate to the value of work done. Never pay for work that has not been performed or pay any money exceeding what is required under the contract.

Note: The loss of any progress payment made by a home owner to a builder that exceeds the amount stipulated in the



contract will not be covered by insurance under the Home Building Compensation Fund.

Avoiding disputes

Prevent problems when your pool is being built by fostering positive communication with your builder or tradesperson. Be business-like and put all messages or instructions in writing. This includes variations to the contract, which should be agreed by you in writing before they are carried out. These documents should

be signed, dated and provided to the builder. Keep a copy of all correspondence.

If a dispute arises, Fair Trading has a free dispute resolution process that may assist you. For more information, refer to their Resolving building disputes page.

Notifying your insurer and making a claim

To safeguard your position under your Home Building Compensation Fund insurance policy, immediately notify

your insurer in writing of a loss (eg. financial loss or damage) on becoming aware of defective or incomplete work.

If attempts to have work completed or rectified prove unsuccessful, you may be able to formally lodge a claim under your Home Building Compensation Fund insurance policy.

For more information about notifying your insurer of a loss or making a claim under the Home Building Compensation Fund, refer to Fair Trading's Home Building

Compensation Fund insurance claims web page.

Know the law

Be wary of builders who encourage you to become an owner-builder. They may be avoiding legal responsibility for the project.

If you become an owner-builder, you take on full legal and financial responsibility for the project. Do not take this step lightly. You will be unable to take out insurance under the Home Building Compensation Fund. For more information, refer to our Becoming an owner-builder web page.

Be aware that if you coordinate two or more contractors to build the pool (eg. excavator, concreter, plumber, tiler etc) and the work is valued at more than \$10,000, you will need an owner-builder permit.

Also, be wary of builders who use several different contracts of under \$20,000 for one job. They may be avoiding their insurance obligations under the Home Building Compensation Fund.



Katrina Beohm

real estate

whatever home means to you, we'll help you find it



KOONYUM RANGE 170 Boogarem Road
\$2.495 million

4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 car spaces, 29 acres

- + Quality architect designed renovated spacious home is completely private with majestic views
- + Open-plan living & stylish kitchen. High ceilings, timber floors & large doors open onto the patio
- + Huge master bedroom & ensuite. 2nd lounge/4th bedroom. Den/library. Landscaped pool
- + 'Off the grid' solar system. Set on the edge of a national park, 20 mins to Mullumbimby

Katrina Beohm 0467 001 122

NEW BRIGHTON 18 Casons Lane
\$2.5 million

4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 5 car spaces, 5173m²

- + Recently built quality home. High ceilings, impressive timber floors & views to the river
- + Polished concrete kitchen benches, dishwasher & a beautiful river red gum island bench
- + This home is also perfect as a recording studio, fully wired & insulated. Timber decks & shed
- + Potential to subdivide. 5KW solar & mains power. Close to beach, cafe & farmers market

Katrina Beohm 0467 001 122

Property

By Tender

84 Armstrong Road, Rosebank

1

Tenders Close 5pm 30 June 2017



Set on almost 100 acres is this private large hexagonal pavilion with 10kW of solar panels. Open plan with timber floors and windows plus an impressive timber-lined ceiling and Balinese wooden dividers that create a couple of separate rooms. There is a bathroom and a sink inside with free-standing timber cupboards. The wide deck enjoys elevated views. The property is ideal for grazing, horse riding and if you like it has potential for a multiple occupancy with a good balance of rainforest and private pockets of open grazing. You won't run out of water with a permanent spring, 38,000 litres of rainwater and a long flowing creek with swimming holes. Rosebank is central to everything in the northern rivers: Lismore is 20 minutes away; it's approximately 45 minutes to the Gold Coast Airport and the beaches are an easy drive. This property is for sale by tender; tenders close 5pm 30 June 2017.



Open: Inspect by Appointment
Contact: Katrina Beohm 0467 001 122
Katrina Beohm Real Estate



OPEN HOUSE
Saturday 12-12.30pm

As Cute as a Button!

3 2 1

86 Byron Street, Bangalow.

- ✓ Fabulous main street location with rear lane access
- ✓ Cute, character home, heaps of potential
- ✓ Live in or ideal work-from-home situation
- ✓ Two-minute stroll to the village, across the road from Heritage House
- ✓ Owner occupied for more than 20 years
- ✓ Sunny front courtyard and neat garden on 303sqm lot

- ✓ Single lockup garage with remote door
 - ✓ Lovely rear garden with mature garden
- For sale: \$790,000 – \$830,000**
Inspect: Sat 12-12.30pm
Contact: Janice Maple 0401 026 359
Elders Bangalow 6687 1500

Elders
Bangalow



OPEN HOUSE
Saturday 12-12.30pm

Paradise Amongst the Trees

4 2 1

10 Coachwood Court, Federal

- ✓ Beautiful 1.25-acre property in the sought-after village of Federal.
- ✓ Timber floored, 3 level character filled home
- ✓ 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 2 living area, with oversized decks and entertaining areas.
- ✓ Deck overlooking the stunningly landscaped gardens with in-ground pool and private creek.

- ✓ Offers the option of using the lower level of the home as self-contained 1 bedroom unit or granny flat.
- ✓ Only 25 minutes from Byron Bay and 50 minutes to Gold Coast or Ballina airports

Buyer guide: \$1,100,000
Contact: Scott Harvey 0412 296 872

SCOTT HARVEY
REAL ESTATE



OPEN HOUSE
Saturday 10-10.30am

NEW TO MARKET

Brilliant Blank Canvas – Renovators Delight

4 2 1

- ✓ 'Under Instructions from NSW Trustee and Guardian'
- ✓ Solid brick home on level 809.4m2 block, elevated hinterland views
- ✓ Generous open living floorplan, multiple living spaces, loads of natural light
- ✓ 4 generous bedrooms, main bed has ensuite and walk-in robe
- ✓ Spacious kitchen with soft-closing drawers, plenty of bench space & storage

- ✓ Expansive rear covered alfresco area for year round entertaining
 - ✓ Renovators delight in need of some TLC to bring back to former glory
- Auction 8 July Onsite 10am**
Contact: Lois Buckett 0428 877 399

Lois Buckett



OPEN HOUSE
Saturday 10.30-11am

Just Magic

3 2 2

42 Phoenix Drive, Tintenbar

- ✓ Sundrenched and elevated 3 bed, 2 bath home perched gracefully on 1.75 acres (7347m2) in the established Phoenix Park Estate in Tintenbar.
- ✓ North-east aspect and distant country views
- ✓ Tasteful living, dining and kitchen spaces with timber and terracotta tiled flooring, sunny eastern terrace
- ✓ Purpose built undercover, outdoor barbecue and entertaining loggia to the north.

- ✓ Large in-ground tank and a smaller reserve tank at the back of the house
- ✓ Close to everywhere, 2 minutes to Tintenbar Store and Medical Centre, School bus stops only 10 mins to Ballina/Byron Gateway Airport

Price: \$1,085,000
Inspect: Saturday 10.30 – 11.00am
Contact: Scott Harvey 0412 296 872
Agent declares interest

SCOTT HARVEY
REAL ESTATE



1635-1651 COOLAMON SCENIC DR, MULLUMBIMBY

2 1 1

- Timber Slab Factory – Freehold
- Iconic local business with separate residence
- Large showroom & gallery, workshops, storage shed, staff rooms
- 1.13 hectares of land backing onto Mullumbimby Creek
- Site of historic Livingstones Crossing, original dairy and bails
- Run as is, develop further or launch your own project

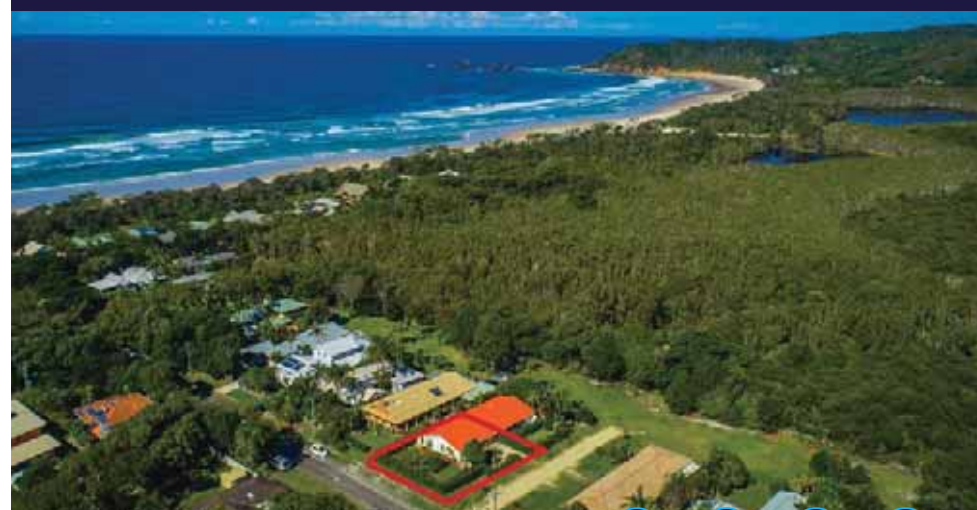
Open: Friday, 23 June 12.00 – 12.30pm
Price guide: Contact Agent
Enquiries: Paul Prior 0418 324 297



first national

35 Fletcher Street Byron Bay 2481 | call 6685 8466 | byronbayfn.com.au

FOR SALE
Relaxed beachside living



BEACH CASA ON TALLOWES

2 1 1 2

Unit 1/22 MacGregor St, Suffolk Park

93 m² (approx)

- 200m stroll to beach, village shops & tavern
- Tea tree nature reserve at rear
- Northerly aspect & Easterly courtyard
- Spanish aesthetic, white arches & terracotta tiles
- Sleep to the sound of crashing waves and feel gentle sea breezes
- Easycare tiled floors & European Jøtul wood heater
- 10 minutes to Byron Bay, 20 minutes to Ballina airport

Price: \$820,000 – \$880,000



Contact Denzil Lloyd on 0481 864 049
or denzil@greatrealestate.com.au

www.greatrealestate.com.au

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All information herein is from sources Great Real Estate considers reliable. However, interested parties must rely on their own enquiries. Vendors may remove a property from sale at any time and pricing can be subject to change.

great
REAL ESTATE



\$749,000



3 1 2

R&H Ocean Shores /Brunswick Heads 6680 5000

View
Saturday
12.00 – 12.30pm

Agent
Julie-Ann Manahan LREA
Licensee/Principal
0411 081 118

2 Pacific Place, Brunswick Heads Perfect Coastal Package

Situated in a quiet corner of the alluring coastal village of Brunswick Heads, this private, renovated, low maintenance brick and tile home is sure to please.

You'll love the large, level 782 square metre block with its easy care gardens and privacy. Inside the tastefully renovated home, you'll discover an inviting contemporary designed kitchen with well-appointed stainless steel European appliances.



Just 30m to South Golden Beach

PRICE GUIDE \$980,000 – \$1,050,000



3 2 2

R&H Ocean Shores /Brunswick Heads 6680 5000

View
Saturday
11.00 – 11.30am

Agent
Julie-Ann Manahan LREA
Licensee/Principal
0411 081 118
Charlie Markham
Director
0437 733 157

1 Beach Avenue, South Golden Beach "Moonbeach" – Ultimate Beachside Living!

Located just 30 metres from the pristine sands and crystal clear waters of South Golden Beach, this award winning architectural design by Gabriel Poole is simply stunning. Offering the ultimate beachside escape, the property is conveniently located in this unspoilt, sleepy seaside town. "Moonbeach" is currently set up as a first class Byron Bay style holiday rental, making good returns with potential to increase!

Raine&Horne®

rh.com.au/oceanshores



PRICE GUIDE from \$1,375,000



6 4 8

R&H Ocean Shores /Brunswick Heads 6680 5000

View
Saturday
1.00 – 1.45pm

Agent
Julie-Ann Manahan LREA
Licensee/Principal
0411 081 118
Jason Dittmar
Area Sales Specialist
0477 222 452

404 Middle Pocket Road, Middle Pocket Huge Private Sanctuary

You'll be captivated by the supreme sense of peace and serenity here. Set amongst the pristine rolling hills, this private 21 acre property offers a multitude of options for the savvy buyer

- New professionally engineered and installed causeway
- 2 council approved septic systems (main house, reed bed & nursery biolytic)
- Licensed bore, 2 water tanks (1 main house & 1 nursery)
- School bus pick up & drop off at front gate



PRICE GUIDE \$690,000 – \$720,000



4 2 2

R&H Ocean Shores /Brunswick Heads 6680 5000

View
Saturday
10.00 – 10.30am

Agent
Julie-Ann Manahan LREA
Licensee/Principal
0411 081 118
Charlie Markham
Director
0437 733 157

9 Nargoon Court, Ocean Shores Fabulous Family Home, Great Location, Potential Plus

Are you looking for a fabulous family home in a great neighbourhood surrounded by quality homes? Stop looking... this property fits the bill!

- Elevated position on a huge 923 m2 block of land
- 3 separate living areas
- Double garage internal access
- Great sized backyard plus garden shed

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Stuart Garrett LAWYERS

Housing affordability package

Ahead of the 2017 state budget, the NSW government has announced a housing affordability package that will take effect from 1 July 2017.

For first home buyers, this package includes:

- Abolishing stamp duty on all homes up to \$650,000 and providing stamp duty relief for homes up to \$800,000;
- No stamp duty on vacant land up to \$350,000 and providing stamp duty relief on vacant land up to \$450,000;
- The First Home Owners Grant will remain at \$10,000 for building a new home up to \$750,000 and purchasing a new home up to \$600,000.

The affordability package also includes:

- Abolishing insurance duty on lenders' mortgage insurance;
- Higher duties and land taxes for foreign investors;
- No longer allowing investors to defer paying stamp duty on off-the-plan purchases.

Contracts dated before 1 July 2017 will only be eligible for the grants and concessions currently in place.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our Byron Bay or Cabarita Beach office.

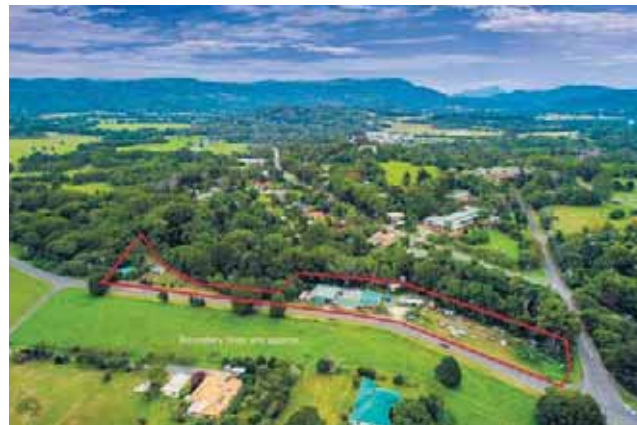
info@stuartgarrettlawyers.com.au
2/47 Tweed Coast Road, Cabarita Beach
(next to the newsagency) – 02 6676 0247
3/130 Jonson Street, Byron Bay (next to Services Club)
02 6639 1000 www.stuartgarrettlawyers.com.au

Timber Slab Factory – Freehold

1635–1651 Coolamon Scenic Dr, Mullumbimby

2 1 1

Contact Agent



Iconic Mullumbimby business with separate residence on 1.13 hectares of land. Site of historic Livingstones Crossing, original dairy and bails.

Unlimited potential.

Currently crafting solid timber furniture and cabinetry, with extensive stocks of local and exotic timbers. Includes large showroom and gallery, workshops, storage shed, staff rooms plus separate dwelling.

All backing onto picturesque Mullumbimby Creek, regenerated rainforest, flat paddocks and small orchard.

Run as is, develop further or launch your own project.

The location is fantastic, being ideally positioned on the edge of Mullumbimby, a short walk to Mullumbimby High School and the town centre.

This is an exciting and rare opportunity. Please call us today for further information and to book your inspection time.

Open: Friday, 23 June 12.00 – 12.30pm

Contact: Paul Prior 0418 324 297
First National Byron Bay



Rural resort-style living

225 Riverbank Road, Pimlico

4 3 6

\$1.2–1.3 million



Riverbank Retreat is an impressive property offering self-sufficient sustainable living amid luxurious surroundings.

Occupying a picturesque spot on the banks

of the Richmond River in Pimlico, this contemporary rural lifestyle block represents everything that is great about leaving the hustle and bustle of the city in favour of more sedate tree-change living without the need to compromise on quality.

This architect-designed home was built four years ago using the foundations of the old farmhouse and takes advantage of all solar principles. Solid concrete slabs act as heat sinks for thermal cooling and heating, thus the home is thermally insulated to maintain the ambient temperature, while bi-fold doors open to the north and east decks with retractable flyscreens that allow a cross-flow of cooling breezes. A clever placement of the two-way fireplace warms the lounge/dining and kitchen/living areas.

Open: By appointment

Contact: Denzil Lloyd 0481 864 049
Great Real Estate



Open for Inspection

ELDERS BANGALOW

- 4 Hibiscus Place, Mullumbimby. Sat 10–10.30am
- 86 Byron Street, Bangalow. Sat 12–12.30pm

FIRST NATIONAL BYRON BAY

- 9 Angus Place, Ewingsdale. Wed 12–12.30pm
- 2/136 Alcorn Street, Suffolk Park. Wed 1–1.30pm
- 57 Kingsley Street, Byron Bay. Wed 2–2.30pm
- 3/3 Sallywattle Drive, Suffolk Park. Wed 2–2.30pm
- 2/30 Byron Street, Lennox Head. Wed 4–4.30pm
- 11/64 Broken Head Road, Byron Bay. Thu 10–10.30am
- 11 Ironbark Avenue, Byron Bay. Thu 11–11.30am
- 3/7 Cooper Street, Byron Bay. Thu 11–11.30am
- 6A–D/155 Broken Head Road, Suffolk Park. Thu 12–12.30pm
- 1635–1651 Coolamon Scenic Drive, Mullumbimby. Fri 12–12.30pm
- 2/7–9 Hazelwood Close, Suffolk Park. Sat 9–9.30am
- 3/7 Cooper Street, Byron Bay. Sat 9.45–10.15am
- 30 Bottlebrush Crescent, Suffolk Park. Sat 10–10.30am
- 6–8 Browning Street, Byron Bay. Sat 10–10.30am
- 3/3 Sallywattle Drive, Suffolk Park. Sat 10–10.30am
- 11 Ironbark Avenue, Byron Bay. Sat 11–11.30am
- 23 Ann Street, Mullumbimby. Sat 11–11.30am
- 11 Shelley Drive, Byron Bay. Sat 11–11.30am
- 57 Kingsley Street, Byron Bay. Sat 11–11.30am
- 2 Ironbark Avenue, Byron Bay. Sat 11–11.30am
- 2/30 Byron Street, Lennox Head. Sat 11–11.30am
- 22 Rush Court, Mullumbimby. Sat 11.45am–12.15pm
- 22/58 Armstrong Street, Suffolk Park. Sat 12–12.30pm
- 64 Carlyle Street, Byron Bay. Sat 12–12.30pm
- 9 Angus Place, Ewingsdale. Sat 12–12.30pm
- 14/17 Mahogany Drive, Byron Bay. Sat 1–1.30pm
- 2b Beachcomber Drive, Byron Bay. Sat 1–1.30pm
- 2/136 Alcorn Street, Suffolk Park. Sat 2–2.30pm
- 624 Tunttable Creek Road, Tunttable Creek. Sat 2–2.30pm
- 478 Tunttable Creek Road, Tunttable Creek. Sat 3–3.30pm

LJHOOKER BRUNSWICK HEADS

- 3/90 Rajah Road, Ocean Shores. Thu 11–11.30am

- 15 Mundurra Ave, Ocean Shores. Thu 12–12.30pm
- 3/90 Rajah Road, Ocean Shores. Sat 11–11.30am
- 15 Mundurra Ave, Ocean Shores. Sat 12–12.30pm

LOIS BUCKETT REAL ESTATE, LENNOX HEAD

- 139 North Creek Road, Lennox Head. Sat 10–10.30am
- 60 Montwood Drive, Lennox Head. Sat 11–11.30am
- 7 Tea Tree Place, East Ballina. Sat 12–12.30pm
- 18 Pacific Heights Drive, Cumbalum. Sat 1–1.30pm
- 200 North Creek Road, Lennox Head. Sat 1–1.30pm

MCGRATH BYRON BAY

- 8 Sallywattle Drive, Suffolk Park. Sat 10–10.30am
- 680 Left Bank Road, Mullumbimby Creek. Sat 10–10.30am
- 1/68 and 2/68 Parrot Tree Place, Bangalow. Sat 11–11.30am
- 12 Hakea Crescent, Suffolk Park. Sat 11.30am–12pm
- 18 Scott Street, Byron Bay. Sat 12–12.30pm
- 624 Tunttable Creek Road, Tunttable Creek. Sat 2–2.30pm
- 478 Tunttable Creek Road, Tunttable Creek. Sat 3–3.30pm

RAINE & HORNE OCEAN SHORES

- 9 Nargoon Court, Ocean Shores. Sat 10–10.30am
- 1 Beach Avenue, South Golden Beach. Sat 11–11.30am
- 2 Pacific Place, Brunswick Heads. Sat 12–12.30pm
- 404 Middle Pocket Road, Middle Pocket. Sat 1–1.45pm

Auctions

FIRST NATIONAL BYRON BAY

- 9 Angus Place, Ewingsdale. Auction 5th July 2pm. Guide \$1.140M to \$1.260M
- 14/17 Mahogany Drive, Byron Bay. Auction 5th July at 4pm \$620k to \$670k
- 11 Ironbark Avenue, Byron Bay. Auction Saturday 8th July 12pm
- 2/136 Alcorn Street, Suffolk Park. Auction 8th July at 2pm



LOIS BUCKETT REAL ESTATE, LENNOX HEAD

- 139 North Creek Road, Lennox Head. 8th July 10am Onsite

MCGRATH BYRON BAY

- 23 Lismore Road, Bangalow. Thursday 29th June 3.30pm
- 12 Hakea Crescent, Suffolk Park. Saturday 22nd July 12pm
- 680 Left Bank Road, Mullumbimby Creek. Saturday 8th July 12pm

New Listings

FIRST NATIONAL BYRON BAY

- 2/102–104 Centennial Circuit, Byron Bay. \$470,000 to \$510,000
- 7/102–104 Centennial Circuit, Byron Bay. \$449,000 to \$489,000
- 624 Tunttable Creek Road, Tunttable Creek. Contact Agent
- 206 Upper Coopers Creek Road, Repentance Creek. \$865,000 to \$950,000
- 2b Beachcomber Drive, Byron Bay. Contact Agent

LOIS BUCKETT REAL ESTATE, LENNOX HEAD

- 7 Tea Tree Place, East Ballina. Contact Agent
- 28 Alison Avenue, Lennox Head. \$1,150,000
- 139 North Creek Road, Lennox Head. Contact Agent
- 2/69 Stewart Street, Lennox Head. Contact Agent

MCGRATH BYRON BAY

- 12 Hakea Crescent, Suffolk Park



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6680 8522



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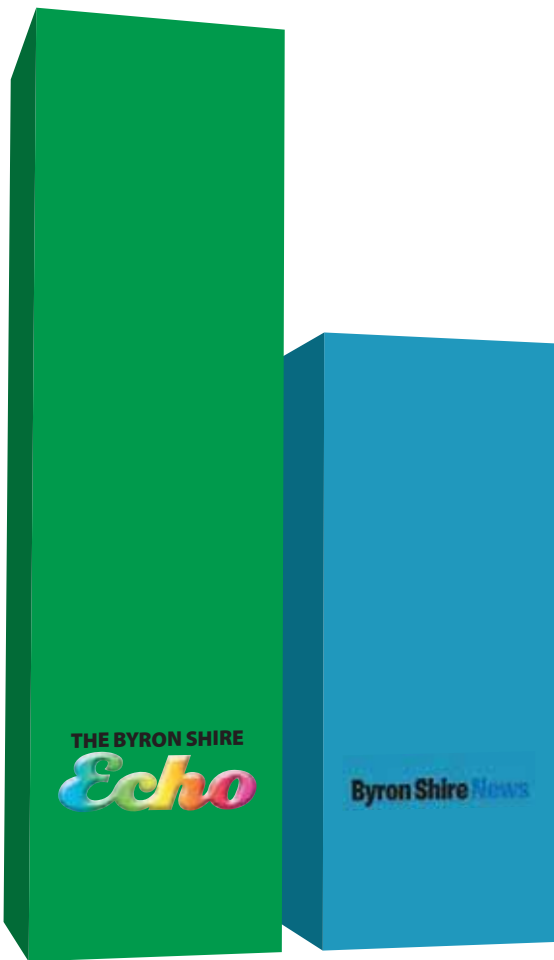
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Open for Inspection
← PAGE 28 →

**Another
7,656
reasons
to choose
The Echo**



The Audited Media Association of Australia measured the average weekly print distribution for the six months ended 30 September 2016 as:
The Byron Shire Echo: 23,190
The Byron Shire News: 15,534

Delivered to significantly more homes and businesses across a larger area, *The Echo* is clearly the more effective place for your print advertising.

SPACE, BYRON & YOU

AFTER THE COUNCIL REFUSED TO TURN OFF THE STREETLIGHT THAT SHINES DIRECTLY INTO HIS BEDROOM AND INTO HIS BACKYARD OBSERVATORY, DYLAN O'DONNELL WAS INSPIRED TO REALLY PUT BYRON BAY ON THE MAP AS A PREMIO STAR-GAZING DESTINATION.

Star Stuff brings together some pre-eminent speakers and scientists in the space community to present at possibly one of the most innovative and exciting festivals to date. And no, this is not an astronomy festival. This is Space. The last, and the most fascinating, frontier.

Dylan, why did you choose to do this in Byron Bay?

Most of the time going to a dark sky for a space event involves driving for hours west and inland into remote parts of Australia with no lighting and no infrastructure. I'm pretty lazy though, and live here in Byron Bay, so I decided to bring everyone here instead. Also some people in Council and tourism wanted to see if this

nerdy, low-impact, space-tourism thing is viable. Turns out, it is!

Is there a vision for this to be an annual event?

I think so. We've sold more than 300 tickets and haven't lost any money despite having no financial support, so I'm already thinking about Star Stuff II.

Why do you think we all love Dr Karl so much?

Because our angst teenage soundtrack (JJJ) was punctuated with his highly engaging, straight-to-the-point science, I think. That's my excuse, anyway.

Where are people coming from? How many people do you think will be attending?

I would say about 90 per cent of the 300 tickets sold are coming from outside

the region. We even have people coming from New Zealand and the UK!

Who will be attending? Is it all scientists, or are there enthusiasts amongst us? Do you need to be switched on to all things sciency to appreciate the presentations?

Oh it's definitely geared to the general public. The scientists and creators speaking are not only experts in their areas, they are fantastic at sharing higher-level science so we can all understand. Also if you're a local and not keen on the ticketed talks, come along anyway to look through the telescopes (day and night) and see all the gear and other activities. Everybody is welcome.

What are some of the highlights of your upcoming event?

If the weather is good, the stargazing

and solar astronomy are musts for anyone who hasn't recently looked through a telescope with their own eyes.

Anyone is welcome to come along for that and we'll provide guided tours of the night sky in groups. Also Canon Australia will be running photography workshops for anyone with a DSLR who'd like to learn how to photograph the Milky Way.

For the ticketed event, the VIP dinner with Dr Karl is going to be fancy and fantastic. Not to mention that we're giving away a \$2.4k telescope on the night. But really, the whole lineup of speakers is incredible.

Star Stuff at Elements of Byron is on Saturday and Sunday. For ticketing and program information go to the website at starstuff.com.au.

the northern

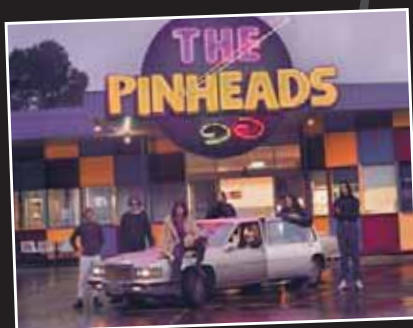
**WED 21 STATE OF ORIGIN 2
FERGO**

**THUR 22 MEAT TRAY RAFFLES 5PM
THE SWAMPS**

**FRI 23 LOS TONES,
DRAGGS, CROCODYLUS**

SUN 25 JESSE PUMPHREY

MON 26 DAN CLARK



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1 JULY TORA

7 JULY BLISS N ESO

8 JULY PANDAMIC

15 JULY HOLIDAY HIGGS

**20 JULY THE BABE
RAINBOW**

29 JULY THE SWAMPS

**19 AUG THE JUNGLE
GIANTS**

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A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A TOTAL WANKER

Meet Barry. He likes to wank at the beach. No, that's not a typo. I didn't mean to say walk. Walking isn't Barry's thing. Barry drives his car to the beach. Walking is only what Barry does to get to his prime wank spot. Although Barry does get the odd bit of incidental cardio making that transition from the carpark to the sand dune where his best wanking takes place. And on the occasions when he's chased by dogs. Or people with sticks. That was a bad wank day for Barry. But he did get a lot of cardio.

He used to wank barefoot. But now he wears runners. Sometimes he has to run so fast he has to stop wanking. That's always a bit disappointing for Barry. It's one of Barry's goals. In fact he's written it on his bucket list, or 'wank-it' list, and taped it to his fridge. The bullet point reads verbatim: 'To be able to wank and run at the same time'. The last time he tried this he tripped and fell cock first into a pothole in the carpark. He still has a small rock lodged deep under his foreskin. He won't go to the doctor to have it removed because he's worried he'll have to tell the doctor how the rock got there.

Deep down Barry knows he's got a problem but he can't seem to stop. Wanking is Barry's hobby. No, it's not a hobby. It's his calling. If he could wank for peace he would. He does it most days. He does it a few times a day in fact. He does it so much he's become quite good at it. In fact, he's the biggest wanker he knows. Some of his friends have called him a total wanker. But Barry likes to think of himself as more of a complete wanker.

Barry thinks about wanking all the time. And when he thinks about it, well it's only a matter of time before he's taken matters into his own hands and whacko, he's 'choking the chicken'. Barry gets worried when he's in the bank. Because Barry knows you are not supposed to wank in the bank. Which is ironic because having a wank in the bank is actually one of the major fantasies in Barry's wank bank. In his fantasy he approaches the lady teller and he says: 'I'd like to make a big deposit'. And then he ejaculates and runs out.

He knows there are cameras in the bank. He knows that wanking in the bank will make him famous. Probably not the kind of famous even Barry wants. Some days it's the only thing that stops him. The thought of being filmed and the police turning up and then his being charged with indecency or sexual assault. He doesn't think his public wanking falls into these categories. But, all the same, he doesn't wank at the bank. However, he once wanked on the autobank. He drove down to the CBA at 1 o'clock in the morning and pleased himself in the soft

glow of the screen. Viewed only by 200 bugs and a passing possum with eyes wide in marsupial disgust. He called it 'The Commonwealth Wank'.

Barry wasn't always such a big wanker. Barry used to wank at home. He doesn't any more. Mainly because he lives with his mum and she kept walking in on him and telling him to put his cock away. Perhaps that's where the fetish came from. Is it Mummy's fault that he likes to get his silly little cock out in public?

When he's wanking Barry loves the element of surprise. He likes to sneak up on women who are quietly meditating on their towels. Or reading their book. Or having some 'alone' time staring at the sea. He loves the thrill of tugging his wretched cock and edging up as close as he can. He loves the look on her face when she turns around. She looks surprised. Then frightened. She always looks appalled. Her disgust and fear make Barry feel dirty. Feeling dirty is what turns Barry on. And it makes him feel powerful, even though he's just a sad little worm with a shrivelled dick.

Wanking at home on the couch just doesn't do it for Barry any more. He likes to get a bit of sun on his cock. His favourite wank spot is between Belongil and Tyagarah Beach in Byron Bay. Kilometres of prime wank locations. Barry's had a crack at them all. He tells himself that it's okay. If women didn't want him wanking near them they'd swim at Main Beach where there are lots of people. Or at the swimming pool. And they certainly wouldn't swim alone. Or in the nude. Their warm glistening bodies just begging to be wanked on.

Barry thinks women are asking for it. Barry tells himself this today when he sneaks up behind me. I can hear his uneven breath. His muffled groans. The desperate slapping of his swollen sausage. I can always feel when a wanker is in my orbit. I call it my Wank-dar. I let him get really close. His toe is on my towel, at least I hope that's his toe. I can sense he's about to come. Then I turn and look him in the eye and I take a photo.

He's fallen victim to our wank prank. One hundred women jump out of the sand dunes. One thousand women. One million women. They're all wanking. And they're angry. Really really fucking angry. And they're running at Barry. Barry is crying. Barry is begging. Barry has fallen. Barry the Beach Wanker is gone. Buried cock deep at Belongil. So next time you get your cock out to intimidate or assault a woman remember this, you weak little pricks: there more than one billion of us and WE ARE COMING. Try having a wank to that.

LIVE MUSIC



COCO REPUBLIC

Byron's monthly tropical party is back this weekend with **Coco Republic FSTVL 2** hitting the Brewery. Live music kicks off the event in the beergarden with Jock Barnes performing at 1-4pm, then the tropical vibes kick off with the outdoor stage providing funky good-vibe music all the way through till close. The Rave Cave launches at 8pm in the old piggery band room with a churning pit of bass lines and crisp house music, accompanied by a mesmerising light show.

Dance the night away to Al Royale, Lippo, Mr Ha, Yes, Hot Robb, Ben Popp, Sammond, Anton Leaf, Leoch, Palangi Phil and more. The Party Shirt People will once again be selling their tropical shirts to raise money for local charities, as well as glitter body painting, temporary tattoos and free palm fronds to wave around like crazy. It's all happening this **Saturday at the Byron Bay Brewery** from 1pm. Free entry before 5pm, \$10 after.

BUNNY RACKET

Bunny Racket is here to rock you. Whether you are three or 103 years old, you will not be able to resist the beautiful madness of King Bunny and his gang of fluffy punk rock friends.

A couple of years back, King Bunny, along with Brant Bjork (Kyuss) and Robby Krieger (The Doors), burrowed down in the southern Californian desert to create a sound that would bring all generations together in rock'n'roll



harmony. King Bunny grew up in the early 80s and still wears his love of hard rock and pop culture on his sleeveless battle jacket.

The Bunny Racket sound is heavily influenced by the likes of The Ramones, KISS, Black Sabbath and The Muppets among others.

Bunny Racket's debut album *Rock'n'Roll Animals* strikes a (loud) chord for all of us who pine for a time where being a kid meant endless freedom. Buy the ticket and take the ride, because classics such as *A Chicken is Not a Fruit* and *Never Shake a Rattlesnake!* will have you grooving uncontrollably.

Bunny Racket serves up ageless, timeless, goodtime rock music for everybody. So get loose, get nostalgic and get into it... because it truly is on for young and old. The kids will love it. **Saturday 1 July, Brunswick Picture House.** Tickets at brunswickpicturehouse.com.

LIVE MUSIC & ART

Doni Raven & the Collective Insanity bring music and art together when Doni's performance is accompanied by live painting and projection by abstract artist **Hamish Gordon**. Modern contemporary art is created before your eyes while the band plays the raw energetic compositions of Doni Raven. Each unique piece of art will be created, capturing the intensity and emotion of the music, and auctioned on the night. Experience the arts like never before and watch as the performance comes to life on canvas; colours and imagery custom designed and in tune with the vibe and feel of live music. **Brunswick Picture House on Friday 30 June at 7pm.** Adults \$30/\$25.

seven



GO BANANAS FOR BELLA FONTES!

Lay down your bananas and let **The Bella Fontes** take you on a sun-kissed frolic back to the golden age of calypso. The Bella Fontes celebrate the radiant sounds of this bygone-but-not-forgotten era with a cabaret cocktail of calypsonian classics, gorgeous harmonies, infectious dance moves and hilarious enthusiasm, all presented in technicolor vintage style. Featuring the musical and theatrical genius of Nadia Sunde, Andrea Soler, Parissa Bouas and Alex McCleod,

this multitalented team of enthusiasm experts bring their love of world music, audiences and each other to the fore in this exciting ensemble. The setlist is crafted from the best of vintage calypsonian music (Harry Belafonte being the hero!), contemporary songs (performed in a calypso feel) and original compositions from a multi-awarded songwriting quartet. A runaway success at recent Woodford, Bleach and Wintermoon festivals! Not to be missed! With support by Carl Cleves of The Hottentots. **Saturday at Club Mullum.** For tickets go to mullumexservices.com.au.

AN EVENING WITH
THE BELLA FONTES
+ **CARL CLEVES** (THE HOTTENTOTS)
SAT 24 JUNE FROM 7:30PM
BOOK TICKETS NOW @ WWW.CLUBMULLUM.COM

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UKE NIGHT
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PIANO BAR FOR BALLINA RSL

The Ballina RSL has a swanky new piano bar. Featured this week on the keys is **Narelle Harris**, who has been playing piano and singing for many years and has performed in lots of countries around the world.

She did her training at the Sydney Conservatorium of NSW in classical piano. Narelle then moved on to playing with various musicians and also solo performance in many piano bars across Europe. Cruise ships were a regular gig as well. The styles of music that Narelle enjoys playing are classical, pop tunes, musical theatre, movie themes and swing tunes. Narelle currently performs with a trio called Dean Doyle with Sophistication, who have been performing together for 10 years. **Friday at the Ballina RSL** new Boardwalk Piano Bar at 4.30pm.



BLACK RABBIT
GEORGE AT THE
POINCIANA IN
MULLUMBI MBY
ON THURSDAY

GYPSY GUITAR

In early 2016, European Gypsy guitar great **Lulo Reinhardt** and emerging Australian world jazz fusion multi-instrumentalist **Bart Stenhouse** decided to join forces for a concert tour across Australia in 2017 to explore their shared passion for various world music traditions.

A mutual friend put the two in contact and the idea grew quickly from there. In their joint Australian performances they will be drawing from Lulo's vast back catalogue (exploring both his dynamic latin swing and swinging manouche material) and Bart's past three original world jazz albums (which combine heavy influences from Spanish flamenco, north Indian classical and modern jazz traditions). Lulo and Bart will be performing in solo and duo formations as well as featuring local rhythm sections and guest musicians consisting of some of the best musicians in each city.

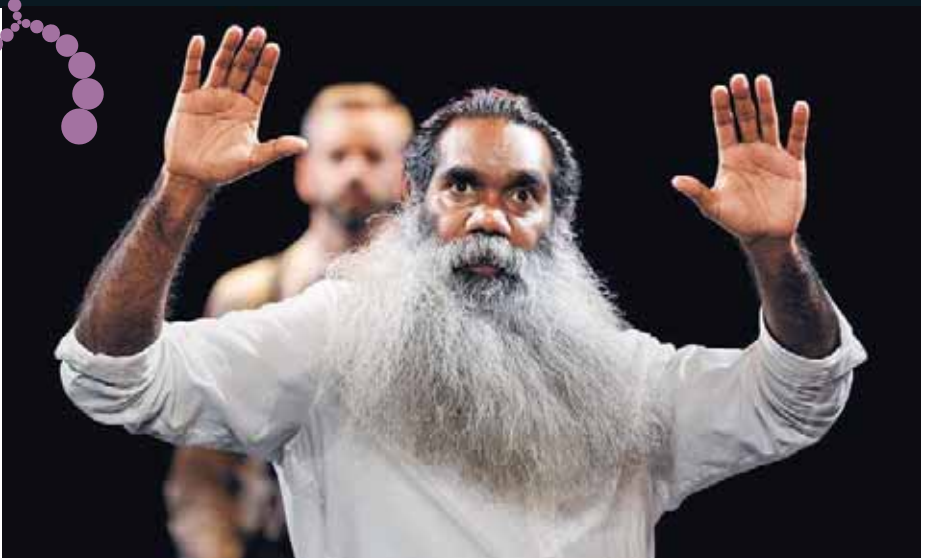
Gypsy swing and latin fusion from the great nephew of jazz legend Django Reinhardt meets the emerging world jazz fusion multi-instrumentalist Bart Stenhouse. Not to be missed! **Thursday 6 July**, at **Bangalow A&I Hall**. Tickets are \$35 and are available from the website at <https://bookings.bangalowtheatre.com.au>.

And for northern rivers musicians, **Lulo** is also running a **special one-off masterclass on Friday 7 July** at 11am-1pm also at the A&I Hall to share his vast knowledge and experience with participants! Tickets are \$30 (+ online booking fee) and are available at www.bartstenhouse.com/events.

RING MY BELLO

In just over a fortnight, world-class acts including NZ dub legends Salmonella Dub; US Dylan-esque singer/songwriter Joe Pug; Gomez's guitar-shredding Ben Ottewell and Australia's much-loved Mama Kin and Spender (to name a mere few) will grace the stages of Bellingen for the third annual **Bello Winter Music**. Not only will Bello Winter Music bring back the continual stream of mesmerising, toe-tapping, tear-jerking and belly-laughing live music, comedy and street performance over four days; this year there will be an additional New Orleans-style street parade on festival Sunday as well as a free outdoor show with special festival guests on the Church Street platform on Saturday morning – both events proudly supported by Kombu Wholefoods. As always the festival marketplace will be bringing good vibes and a selection of local food and artisan talent to the weekend while the 2BBB-FM crew will be broadcasting live from the Bellingen Greengrocers. Meanwhile the Bellingen Leaf Program presents another solid schedule of interesting and educational eco, cultural and wellbeing workshops for all to attend. Tickets are selling fast for Opening Night and festival Saturday so don't delay. There are still some camping spots available through the festival website, and don't forget the beautiful bell tent glamping option with The Stylish Camping Company with luxury airbeds and lots of blankets included. A big thanks to all who have helped to bring it together and to the local businesses who entered the Window-Dressing Competition;

Bellingen looks fantastic! **6-9 July**. For tickets and info go to bellowintermusic.com.



CORANDERRK, AN UNTOLD AUSTRALIAN HISTORY

The Ilbjeri Theatre Company present one of the many important neglected stories of Australian history – *Coranderrk* – the story of the Victorian parliamentary inquiry into the men and women of the Coaranderrk Aboriginal Reserve who went head to head with the Aboriginal Protection Board.

Their goal was simple and revolutionary: to be allowed to continue the brilliant, self-sustaining farming community they had established on the scrap of country left to them. And guess what? They used white man's system, and they won.

For director Eva Grace Mullally, a Widi woman from Yamatji nation in the midwest region of Western Australia, taking the show on was about 'communicating the strength and intelligence of the people of Coranderrk'.

This was a story that, like most of Australia, even Eva herself had never heard.

An important story that slipped away, like much of Indigenous history as told in white history books.

'It was the first time we know of that an Aboriginal community used the western construct to get what they needed. Writing petitions and deputations got them an inquiry.'

This happened at a time in Australia, 1881 to be precise, when Indigenous Australia had no rights.

So what was different about Coranderrk? What made it such a threat to the white establishment?

'It was an interesting station,' says Eva. 'It was self-determined, and the leaders there had strong allies who were well aware of the politics of the time.'

Coranderrk was established by surviving members of Kulin clans, who set up a thriving farming community.

'They were under manager John Green, the inspector of six reserves in Victoria. He started up Coranderrk to make it a self-sustaining community. He believed that if people worked and self-sustained they would keep their land. He worked with them as equals. The women would bake bread and sell it. They were making money and completely sustaining themselves as a community.'

And so, the Aboriginal Protection Board wanted the land back.

And why?

'Because a blackfella with too much pride is a dangerous thing,' says Eva.

Coranderrk has been created from verbatim statements and transcripts from the original case. This is not heresy. This happened.

One statement from another station-owner said, 'I don't want Coranderrk Aboriginals at my station because they disrupt mine'.

Ironically, says Eva, 'The only thing we needed protection from then was the Aboriginal Protection Board themselves'.

'Every person has a story,' says Eva. 'Every community has a story. There are so many stories out there that need to be told. The sad but wonderful thing about this one is that it was written down; it was indisputable. It happened and we have proof. It was written down in 1881 and it happened. You can't add dramatic flair to it, it is what it is. Audiences love the show, and they feel that they have experienced part of the real history of Australia and they want to learn more. There are so many great conversations happening around this play. As a theatre-maker all you can ask for is that people come out and that they felt something.'

'The writers have done a fantastic job,' says Eva. 'This is the fourth or fifth evolution of *Coranderrk*; it started out as pure verbatim. Ilbjerri has added narration and stories around it and brought the telling of the story to the present. But it is absolutely performed verbatim, and they say we are about to perform re-enactment into the inquiry into the management of the reserve word for word from their mouth.'

Eva and her crew worked up this incarnation of *Coranderrk* in just two weeks.

'I am very proud of it and proud of the team,' says Eva. 'It's very simple staging; we keep it simple and raw. It's literally five chairs and a blanket.'

And some damn fine acting.

Coranderrk is presented by Ilbjerri Theatre Company at NORPA's Lismore City Hall on Friday 30 June and Saturday 1 July at 7.30pm. Tickets are \$25-55. Bookings via norpa.org.au or call 1300 066 772.

PETE MURRAY

CAMACHO TOUR

Wednesday 12 July, 7.30pm
LISMORE CITY HALL

ON SALE NOW
lismorecityhall.com.au & 1300 066 772

LISMORE CITY HALL



WRITE LIKE A GIRL

FEARLESS FEMINIST AND ONLINE SENSATION CLEMENTINE FORD IS A BEACON OF HOPE AND INSPIRATION FOR THOUSANDS OF AUSTRALIAN WOMEN AND GIRLS.

According to Anne Summers, her book *Fight Like A Girl* is 'an impassioned call to arms for girls of all ages'. In this feminist memoir and powerful polemic Ford shares her stories of anxiety, anorexia, abortion and birth. She takes on women against feminism, rampant misogyny, and exposes just how unequal the world continues to be for women.

As a modern-day feminist Ford believes that it's perhaps more challenging now for women to powerfully identify and align with politics because sexism and patriarchal oppression is no longer explicit; it is insidious.

'It makes it difficult to explain to people, and sometimes I think the struggle might have been easier in the 70s when it was around equal pay, around representation in the workplace or government. It is really difficult to explain to people what we are up against now. It's like explaining what a gas is. You can't see it, you can't feel it, but it's everywhere around you.'

Ford's online critiques have made her a visible target for online trolls. Something she writes about in her book.

'A lot of the stuff people say to me is reportable, but the police don't really care. They can't be bothered doing something about it and the solution I am offered is to get offline.'

Once again the predominant ideology is to blame the victim for the behaviour. It's the same approach as don't walk at night or don't wear a short skirt. Asking the woman to modify her behaviour rather than asking the man to modify his.

Clementine believes this response is underpinned by a very simple fact. 'It's much easier to target women's behaviour because we are comfortable telling women what they should do.'

A common insult that Ford investigates is to use a woman's self-image to denigrate her. Instead of ideas being questioned, very often as a writer she's called 'fat' and 'ugly'; an insult most outspoken women have had levelled at them at some time in their career.

'I look at the underpinning of fat and ugly and it's meant to erase women; it's the rent we pay for having an opinion...' says Ford.

'The most beautiful women in the world can say something a man doesn't like, and she'll have that kind of abuse levelled at her.

Anger is expressed twofold. Part of it is being outraged; after all, this woman who is supposed to express a function and they have to reassert their power.

'In one point in my book I liken this to a boil. Previously there was this nasty boil that people just ignored; they weren't confronted with the true hideousness of it. As a result of cleaning the wound we are cleaning the pus out.

'The mistake is to ignore these people. The truth is they are functioning members of society.'

But trolling and insults don't diminish Ford. She continues to speak out loudly, in spite of the hateful vitriol.

'It's quite liberating to embrace it on an individual level,' says Ford. 'It doesn't bother me if some man on the street says I am an ugly bitch. It's not something that is going to send me home. I am an ugly bitch and no-one wants to fuck me. It's meant to reduce us as women because we all still live under the big umbrella of the male gaze.'

One of the issues that Ford takes on is 'choice feminism'. The idea that informed women make 'choices' about their social roles, about botox use, about how they dress or present themselves in the world.

'Choice feminism is really ignorant. It's ignorant of the pressures of capitalism, of race. It says, It's my choice therefore it's feminist. It's not.

'How much can any of us ever say that our choices are free? As humans we don't make free choices, we make choices based on the conditioning of women in society. If we lived completely by ourselves, in the wilderness, and had nothing to do with human civilisation then maybe those would be choices. But all the choices we make are informed by a system of currency that we perceive we gain from – and in that system there's no way women can win. They get shamed for too much plastic surgery, and they get shamed for looking old. Our media tell us that women are driven by vanity, that we are self-indulgent. This is why women aren't put into positions of power.

'Sometimes I like to go through the supermarket aisles and take photos of the magazine covers; the same woman lost five kilos on one magazine and then in another they're showing us how fat she is. They say she can't stop eating pizza. Taylor Swift is a young woman not yet in her 30s; every single relationship that ended, which is normal at that age, is depicted as a failure.

No-one says that about men's relationships.'

Clementine believes that as a culture we are suffering from internalised misogyny.

'We have been conditioned into this lie that women's success can only come at the cost of other women. If she is successful then I won't be. She has the limited amount of success that women are allowed. So I need to take that from her. Women say I'm not like that. I agree with you. I'm not that kind of woman. Most men generally aren't conditioned to turn on each other to placate large groups of women. They don't sit in opposition to large groups of women to align themselves with a dominant female.'

This is how Ford describes women who declare themselves as anti-feminists. 'These young women are gleeful about aligning themselves with men. The say, 'I enjoy male attention'. One of the most heartbreaking things I come across is young women saying I have been raped or sexually assaulted but I know it was my fault because I didn't take proper precautions.'

'We continue to blame and shame girls for boys' uncontrollable sexual appetites. Boys can't be blamed for that because it's their biology; men can't be controlled for that. This is why it's so difficult to have these conversations; society doesn't want to acknowledge they have set these parameters.'

In her book Ford tells that she wasn't always a feminist. For her, finding her voice, her passion and her politics was integral to finding herself.

'It was glorious becoming a feminist,' says Clementine.

'It was this explosive beautiful tribal thing. I finally had a girl gang I could talk candidly with about the issues that plagued me. Having that freedom was incredibly liberating. I think it needs to be spoken of again and again: women connecting with women; and it's not just about progression or mentoring, it's about having a space where women can be open and candid, not shield anything or downplay anything, and not having to justify the life you have lived.'

Clementine Ford is a featured writer at this year's Byron Writers Festival, 4–6 August. For tickets and program information go to byronwritersfestival.com.



KARL WALLIS AT THE NIMBIN ROOTS FESTIVAL 15–17 SEPTEMBER. TIX AND INFO GO TO NRFEST.COM.

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www.lulo-reinhardt-project.de

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SATURDAY 24TH JUNE, FROM 1PM
COCA REPUBLIC FSTVL2
2 STAGES OF LIVE MUSIC AND DJ'S
+ AL FRESCO + RAVE CAVE
AL ROYALE
LIPPO
MR HA! YES
HOTT ROB
BEN POPP
SAMMOND
ANTON LEAF
LEOCH
PALANGI PHIL
JOCK BARNES (LIVE)
FREE ENTRY BEFORE 5PM | \$10 AFTER



Stars with Lilith

NEPTUNE ENTERING
A SIX-MONTH
RETROGRADE IN PISCES
SIGNALS PRIME TIME
FOR DEVELOPING
SPIRITUAL AND ARTISTIC
ROUTINES AND RITUALS
TO BRING INNER VISION
INTO PHYSICAL FORM...

♈ ARIES: This week it's worth considering the old Cherokee teaching of the two wolves at war inside us all. Which will win? The one we feed. Best results currently accrue by putting cranky, negative wolf on a diet and nourishing the glorious north node mode of loving creativity.

♉ TAURUS: Use the KISS method (Keep It Simple, Sweetheart) this week, because the more people involved the more complex complications you can expect. Stick to sensible, reliable methods. And with Venus accompanying midweek moon in the Taurus pleasure zone, try not to overdo, overspend or overcommit. You mightn't succeed, but at least try.

♊ GEMINI: Resist assumptions this week. Spell things out. Insist on confirmation. If that means seeing arrangements dissipate and plans fail to gain traction, at least you'll know where you are. And be ready when late-week Gemini moon tosses a sparkling mystery box of intriguing takeaway into your orbit.

♋ CANCER: Health, exercise and stress reduction are key over the next six months. Cancerian author HD Thoreau considered wilderness a superior tonic, and Japanese eco-therapy studies show forest bathing (simply being in a green cathedral of trees) improves the immune system, lowers pulse rate, blood pressure, cortisol production, hostility and depression. Plus soothes the spirit...

♌ LEO: Feeling an urge to splurge on overpriced luxury merchandise? Not advised. This week's challenge is finding ways to add value to the gifts, skills, talents, friends, love and possessions you already have. To improve and refine, give them more polish and shine by your attitude of gratitude for the treasures that they are.

♍ VIRGO: Virgo video-maker and spoken-word artist Richard Williams, aka Prince Ea, offers this week's message to fellow Mercurians with heavy schedules, holding things together and managing to make it through the day. For that, I join him to say: good job. Thank you for all you do. Keep it up. You're appreciated.

♎ LIBRA: Libran comedian Steve Bhaerman, aka Swami Beyondananda, offers the most fun advice for this week with his Hokey Pokey dance steps for fool realisation. Which go like this: Put your whole self in (commitment). Pull your whole self out (detachment). Then turn your self around (transformation). And that's what it's all about...

♏ SCORPIO: Neptune retrograde renders the protoplasm of reality exceptionally receptive to imaginative imprint. Making this a primo week to practise the art of well-wishing, eg: May your obstacles dissolve, may abundance besiege you... Socially awkward? Then just tap your wrist, hit Telepathic Send, and feel reciprocal blessings stream back to you through the memosphere.

♐ SAGITTARIUS: As you doubtless know by now, expectations are the shortest route to disappointment. But a take-it-as-it-comes attitude to this week will provide you with plenty of instructive scenarios and amusing companions. Call a moratorium on stewing and brewing – sort symptoms of disgruntlement, your own or others', before they escalate.

♑ CAPRICORN: Planetary emphasis is back on relationships – again. All kinds. So be helpful where possible in abrasive situations. If that's not feasible then exit before you're the filling in someone else's spat sandwich. Try the creative exercise of finding something to compliment in everyone you meet. Express gratitude. Watch what happens.

♒ AQUARIUS: With the current trio of outer planets retrograde, most interpersonal interactions are likely to raise questions. And in an ocean of inaccurate information, toxic gossip and fake news, the most instructive line of questioning is self-enquiry. This week the less is said, the least chances there are for misunderstanding.

♓ PISCES: Watery Neptune retrograde in Pisces for the next six months highlights your astrological symbol of two fish swimming in opposite directions. Unkind critics might call these flounder (if you're indecisive and unreliable) or flake (if you're forgetful and late). But you'll simply continue to baffle and bewitch them with the old Piscean voodoo that you do so well....

CULTURE

GREASE LIGHTNING WITH THE CASSETTES

Who doesn't love a bit of *Grease*? The iconic film made in the 70s about the 50s that tells the love story of Sandy: a pure and wholesome Australian exchange student, and Danny: owner of the best chin-dimple at Rydell High. The most successful musical movie ever made, *Grease* is an explosion of sexuality, singing and dancing, swirling skirts and glistening chrome. Ears are pierced, cigarettes are gagged on and streamers sway innocently above the hot-to-trot born-to-hand-jive dance scene.



Join the **Cassettes** on **Saturday** at a local screening at the **Brunswick Picture House**. Dress up in your favourite 50s outfit and bop along. Byron Bay Flashmob Troupe teacher and choreographer Katy Woods has done an electrifying

job of creating a unified, rollicking dance ride with The Cassette Dancers; it's a complex, fun, short and immensely satisfying dance show. Tickets for the *Grease* film event at 7pm on **Saturday** can be purchased at the **Brunswick Picture House**.

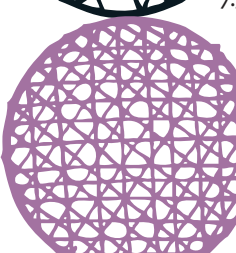
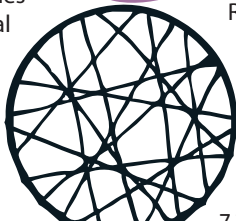
SASSY SALSA DANCE PARTY

Sassy Salsa presents **Friday Fiesta Latin Party** at the **Mullumbimby Ex-Services Club** with Daniella and the Sassy crew. Can't dance? Well the crew offer a \$10 Zouk workshop at 6.15pm with Joe Jurd, who has just arrived back from attending Congress in Prague, Czech Republic, and Netherlands.

CELEBRATING CROSS-CULTURAL COLLABORATION

Northern Rivers Community Gallery (NRCG) Ballina launches a vibrant cross-cultural exhibition this month to celebrate a unique collaboration between two groups of remote Indigenous women textile artists.

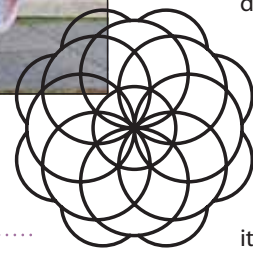
Wahng Ngullboo | Karriidjarrkduurkmirri *Working Together – Bundjalung Wake Up Time* and Kunwinjku Women textile artists collaboration launching on **Thursday 29 June** 5.30–7.30pm. All are welcome to attend. For more info go to www.nrcgballina.com.au.



Dress up latin style and enjoy this fun and exciting event as dancers and dance teachers share their favourite latin tunes while dancing to the rhythms of salsa, bachata, kizomba and zouk.

BEING WELL EXHIBIT

Come along to the first **Wellbeing4Life** event to be held on **Saturday** at the **Mullumbimby Civic Memorial Hall** 10am–4pm. This community-based event features the following exhibits: shamanic and Peruvian craft, essential oils, reiki, past life regressions, jewellery, crystals, books, pendulum (scientific)



dowsing, channelling of Lord Buddha and/or Lord Christ. Aura photography, sacred geometry items, workshop information, magnesium products, metal art, crystal healings, 100 per cent real food supplements, oracle cards, Himalayan salts/herbs, health and sustainable lifestyle and much, much more. There will be FREE lectures throughout the day, brilliant psychics, great coffee and delicious food – all for a gold coin entry. For further information call 0419 709 661.

In his upcoming workshop Dale will be teaching a simple and flexible method of beginning, progressing and finishing a portrait.

'I don't think it's possible to define what makes a painting great, but most great portraits have a strong visual concept that strikes you from across the room, and a sense of form and solidity. Features and details are important but not most important. The most common mistakes people make are to rush the beginning of a portrait and to look too much at details and too little at the big shapes.

'My process has been to gain as much inspiration as I can from painters I love, learn as much as I can from wherever I can, and spend as many hours as I can drawing and painting.'

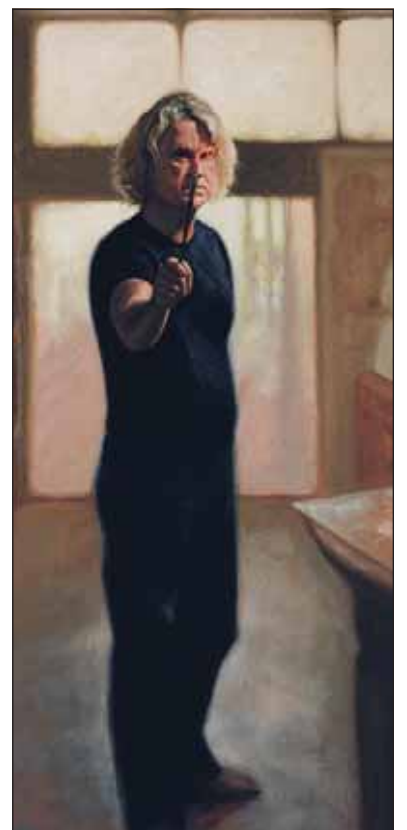
Dale Rhodes portrait workshop runs **1 and 2 July**, 9.30am–5pm. Beginners to advanced, and both drawing and painting.

For more please visit dalerhodespaintings.com email rhodes.dale@gmail.com or call 0425 254 851.

LEARN TO PAINT A PORTRAIT

Last year locally based artist **Dale Rhodes** found himself a semifinalist for the prestigious Doug Moran Portrait prize. Rhodes has an extraordinary ability to capture vital, living super-realistic portraits that seem to portray the real essence of a person.

Dale says, 'My teaching is based on the belief that your artistic vision is yours and can't be taught, but you can learn the skills and techniques to draw and paint however you want to.'



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J TIME 80s HITS AND HOUSE 11PM - 12AM
ANDY UPPO CLASSIC 80s 10PM - 11PM
DAN JUPITER 80s HITS 9PM - 10PM
KFAKTA 80s HITS AND CLASSIC 8PM - 9PM

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PUBLIC ACT OF SELVAGE

Public Act Theatre present their new performance *Selvae*. Expect a very personal performance by the women who have been deep in workshop exploring issues that arise and delving into their creative flow to expand their story. Bringing women together with laughter and tears, with shared issues, in realisation of the courage to stand up and speak out. Half the performance on the Wednesday will be pieces written by the women and the other half will be some Forum Theatre scenes. One of the issues we have explored is the fact that many local women no longer feel safe on some of our beautiful beaches. The upcoming show *Selvae* is the product of 10 weeks of theatre with women from the Shire (many of whom have never performed onstage before). **Wednesday 28 June**, 7.30pm at the **Byron Theatre**, Jonson Street, Byron Bay.

BLOODY KEV

The Kevin Bloody Wilson Show is not just a concert performance; for most, it's a full-on event and an opportunity to tick from your bucket list a chance to see Australia's unique international comedy legend. Kevin has become a national institution – a must-see for any person wanting to see absolutely original Australian comedy. Kevin Bloody Wilson's story is remarkable. He has become a part of Australian culture, a part of who we are and how we define ourselves.

He's been listed in *Who's Who*; his entire body of work has been preserved for future generations with the National Film and Sound Archive in Canberra; and his fanbase stretches from Broken Hill to Buckingham Palace. It's also a known fact that nobody tells Australian stories better than Kevin Bloody Wilson. **Kevin Bloody Wilson** at the **Ballina RSL** on **Friday**. Show starts at 8pm. Doors open at 7pm. Tix \$55.

COMEDY VIRGINS ON SHOW

Mandy Nolan, the comedian, the MC, the writer, the keynote speaker, is also one of Australia's most accomplished teachers of the comic artform, having trained and coached more than 1,500 students over the last 20 years.

This Monday the 26th, down at The Byron Ex-Services Club, you will have a chance to witness Mandy's newest brood of standup comedy hopefuls. Witness the fledgling funny people step on stage for the first time, watch them take to the spotlight like baby eagles teetering on the edge of the nest preparing to take flight or possibly to take a dive. Nolan's latest class of 13 students are going to be a blast. Featuring a veterinarian, a dance teacher, a Porsche-driving divorcee and more... See them all leap off the precipice of normal life into the void of possible stardom, possible ridicule, and certain hilarity.

Come along and give them a cheer as their lives flash before them as they stand up and offer their lives and their observations to us all in the name of getting a laugh. It's real live reality TV, Thumbs Up!

Byron Ex-Services Club on **Monday** 8pm in the Pandanus Room. Doors open at 7pm. Come early for dinner and enjoy a truly unique show. Tickets are \$10/\$15.

North Coast news daily: www.echonetdaily.net.au



THE PROMISE



When was it exactly that 'old school' usurped 'old fashioned'? The latter is far more applicable to this sumptuous period piece than the lightweight former, as Terry George's eye-opening historical drama evades potboiler status but plunges unashamedly into diatribe. We are all aware of the horrors of the Jewish holocaust, but the plight of Turkey's Armenian population when the Ottoman Empire was in decline and Mustafa Kemal's modern state was emerging is less well known (and to this day denied by Ankara). Mikael (Oscar Isaac) travels from his village to Constantinople in 1914 to study medicine, paying for the course with the dowry of the girl to whom he is betrothed. In the big city he meets and falls in love with fellow Armenian Ana (Charlotte Le Bon), the companion of Chris (Christian Bale), a hard-drinking American journalist at the coalface of events in the region. He also forms an inseparable friendship with the playboy student Emre (Marwan Kenzari – an actor of weighty screen presence).

The first hour is a bit like Lawrence Durrell-light, as love's whimsy weaves its intractable web around Mikael, Ana and Chris, their activities beautifully shot by cinematographer Javier Aguirresarobe – period recreation is so convincing these days. The brutality of 'ethnic cleansing' eventually comes to the fore, but it is exposed without George at any point mentioning Islam. That Armenians are Christian and Turks Muslim is an incendiary bomb that is never thrown – instead the emphasis is on the hateful narrowness with which a majority can treat a minority, regardless of religion's malevolent input.

It is a harrowing, tragic tale that has been repeated over and over, as refugees across the globe continue to seek safe haven from persecution. I knew nothing of the evacuation under heavy fire of thousands of Armenians by the French Navy, but the words uttered by Mikael were more familiar, and they have come to haunt us all in this age of terror: 'God, I want revenge'. Cheesy but convincing, with intense performances from Isaac and Kenzari.

ROUGH NIGHT

There's a lot of squealing in this, and almost as much alcohol consumption and cocaine snorting... but with none of the women involved showing any sign of being affected by the substances. Basically, the movie is a copy of *The Hangover*, only with girls acting the goat – meaning that it is rude and crude and sometimes funny, if in a try-hard way.

It also has a complex but coherent plot that bends over backwards to make everything okay in the end. Jess (Scarlett Johansson), campaigning for a senate seat, takes time out for a hens' night before her wedding to Peter (Paul W Downs).

She travels to Miami and is reunited with her best friends from college – Alice (Jillian Bell), possibly the most irritating character you will see on screen this year, Blair (Zoë Kravitz), the black chick, Frankie (Ilana Glazer), the lesbian activist and Pippa (Kate McKinnon), the Aussie wild girl (it's a pity they could not have found an Australian to play the part – Americans just can't do our accent). They hire a stripper and when Alice lunges at him he falls back, cracks his skull and carks it.

The usual idiocy follows, with a lot of pratfalls and swearing, and a threesome sex scene on the beach that might not conform to everybody's idea of good taste. Meanwhile, Peter and his mates are sitting at home doing a wine tasting. These sequences with the guys are the most original in the movie, with the idea of role reversals taken to its camp and clever extreme. Issues of friendship are explored when the girls, so tight to begin with, start to fray at the edges as the crisis worsens and the question of race raises its head briefly when Blair's colour is alluded to in a way that she finds offensive. My laugh-out-loud moment (I had one only) came when Peter, after scaling the engine of a Big Mack, was then propositioned by a truck driver. Otherwise it's just slapstick and ratbaggy.



Every Wednesday All Seats All Sessions \$9.50 Only

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Adults - \$14.00
Stud / Concs - \$12.00
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Children - \$10.00
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Administration: (02) 66869600
Fax: (02) 66814558
Website: www.ballina.info/cinema
www.yourmovies.com.au

THUR 22ND TO WED 28TH
11.20AM
4.00PM
6.45PM
9.00PM
TRANSFORMERS THE LAST KNIGHT

THUR 22ND TO WED 28TH
10.00AM
1.30PM
4.30PM
7.00PM
CARS 3
Buy a ticket to Cars 3 to enter into the draw to win a trip for 4 to Disneyland

THUR 22ND TO WED 28TH
9.10PM
THE MUMMY

THUR 22ND TO WED 28TH
11.35AM
2.30PM
SAT SUN 2.30PM
VICEROY'S HOUSE

THUR 22ND TO WED 28TH
11.35AM
2.10PM
5.20PM
DESPICABLE ME 3

THUR 22ND TO WED 28TH
12.00PM
6.30PM
WONDER WOMAN

THUR 22ND TO WED 28TH
9.45AM
3.30PM
9.25PM
ROUGH NIGHT

THUR 22ND TO WED 28TH
9.45AM
3.30PM
9.25PM
ANDRE RIEU
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SATURDAY 29TH JULY
SUNDAY 30TH JULY
2.00PM
Tickets On Sale Now
All Tickets \$40

Starting Thursday 29th June: The House, Diary of a Whinpy Kid: The Long Haul

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Wednesday June 21
Whiteley 1:30pm
King Arthur 3:20pm
Viceroy's House 5:50pm
I Am: Heath Ledger 8:00pm

Thursday June 22
The Country Doctor 1:50pm
Viceroy's House 3:50pm
Whiteley 6:00pm
King Arthur 8:00pm

Friday June 23 - Special Ev
Viceroy's House 1:50pm
King Arthur 4:00pm
Warren Miller's Here, There & Everywhere 6:30pm
I Am: Heath Ledger 8:30pm

Saturday June 24
Whiteley 11:00am
Don't Tell 1:00pm
Viceroy's House 3:15pm
King Arthur 5:30pm

Sunday June 25 - Final
Don't Tell 11:40am
The Country Doctor 1:50pm
Whiteley 3:50pm
Viceroy's House 5:50pm
King Arthur 8:00pm

Monday June 26 - Tix \$11
Viceroy's House 1:40pm
Alien: Covenant 3:50pm
Whiteley 6:10pm
King Arthur 8:00pm

Tuesday June 27 - Final
The Country Doctor 1:15pm
Viceroy's House 3:15pm
King Arthur 5:30pm
I Am: Heath Ledger 8:00pm

Wednesday June 28 - Final
Viceroy's House 1:30pm
The Country Doctor 3:40pm
Alien: Covenant 5:40pm
King Arthur 8:00pm

king arthur

VICEROY'S HOUSE

WHITELEY

DON'T TELL

HERE, THERE & EVERYWHERE
Special Screening Friday @ 6:30pm

COUNTRY DOCTOR

PHANTOM OF THE OPERA

NEXT

THURSDAY 22

- GREAT NORTHERN HOTEL, BYRON **THE SWAMPS**
- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON 7PM **FERGO**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 8.30PM **RICHIE WILLIAMS BAND**
- WOODY'S SURF SHACK, BYRON 8PM **CHEF DE PARTY & FRIENDS**
- BANGALOW BOWLING CLUB 7PM **BLUES CLUB**
- POINCIANA, MULLUMBIMBY 6.30PM **BLACK RABBIT GEORGE**

FRIDAY 23

- GREAT NORTHERN HOTEL, BYRON **LOS TONES, DRAGGS, CROCODYLUS**
- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON 7PM **PINK ZINC**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 5PM **JOCK BARNES 9PM MAMMALS**
- STICKY WICKET, BYRON 9PM **LOCAL DJS 9.30PM WEATHER MEN DUO**
- WOODY'S SURF SHACK, BYRON 9PM **ADAM HARPAZ**
- TREEHOUSE, BELONGIL 7.30PM **ENTROPIX**
- LUSCIOUS, BYRON A&I **KORA**
- SUN BISTRO, SUNRISE 5PM **OOZ**
- PIZZA PARADISO, SUFFOLK PARK 6PM **LUKE YEAMAN**
- BANGALOW HOTEL 7PM **THE HEART COLLECTIVE**
- MULLUM FARMERS MARKET 8AM **BROADFOOT**
- ST MARTIN'S, MULLUMBIMBY 12.30PM **ECSTATIC TEMPLE DANCE 7PM HOUSE OF BLISS KIRTAN**
- CLUB MULLUM 7.30PM **FRIDAY FIESTA PARTY W WORKSHOP & DANCE**
- MIDDLE PUB, MULLUMBIMBY 8PM **KRAPPYOKEE**
- OCEAN SHORES COMMUNITY CENTRE 6.30PM **MEDICINE DANCE**
- BILLINUDGEL HOTEL 8PM **DIRTY CHANNEL DUO**

- BALLINA RSL BOARDWALK 4.30PM **NARELLE HARRIS**
- BALLINA RSL 8PM **KEVIN BLOODY WILSON**
- KINGSCLIFF BOWLING CLUB **JASON DELPHIN**
- KINGSCLIFF HOTEL 8PM **RAKU O'GAIA**
- SALTBAR, KINGSCLIFF 8.30PM **FAT ALBERT**
- CHINDERAH TAVERN 7PM **NICOLE BROPHY**
- COURTHOUSE HOTEL, MURWILLUMBAH 12PM **CRAIG TELFER**
- TUMBULGUM TAVERN 6.30PM **CRAIG TELFER**
- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS 1PM & 4PM **GREG DOOLAN STORY**
- TWIN TOWNS JUNIORS, TWEED HEADS 5PM **DIRTY RIVER DUO**
- COOLANGATTA SANDS HOTEL 8.30PM **JOCK BARNES**
- CURRUMBIN PUB 8PM **DAVE, SAV BLONK, NOT LENNY, PURE MILK**
- CURRUMBIN RSL 5PM **ACOUSTIC SESSIONS**
- SOUNDLOUNGE, CURRUMBIN **NICK CUNNINGHAM, LUKE MORRIS, TOMMY SHEEHAN**

SATURDAY 24

- GREAT NORTHERN HOTEL, BYRON **THE PINHEADS, MINI SKIRT, MUDDY CHANCER**
- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON 7PM **SOUL'D**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 9PM **JONNY DRAMA & GUESTS**
- BYRON BAY BREWERY 1PM **COCO FSTVL WITH JOCK BARNES & DJS**
- BYRON THEATRE 1PM **ROSENCRANTZ AND GUILDENSTERN ARE DEAD**
- STICKY WICKET, BYRON 9PM **DJ KYLE WALKER 9.30PM JAMES SCOTT**
- WOODY'S SURF SHACK, BYRON 9PM **DJ NERY**



MURRAY KYLE LAUNCHING HIS NEW ALBUM AT THE MULLUM CIVIC HALL ON SUNDAY

p: 6684 1777 f: 6684 1719 e: gigs@echo.net.au
w: echo.net.au/gig-guide

- TREEHOUSE, BELONGIL 7.30PM **JESSE MORRIS BAND**
- ELEMENTS OF BYRON 10AM **STAR STUFF FESTIVAL OF THE COSMOS**
- PIZZA PARADISO, SUFFOLK PARK 6PM **JOSH HAMILTON**
- BANGALOW HOTEL 7PM **STEPHEN LOVELIGHT**
- BRUNSWICK HOTEL 7PM **VERTIGO DUO**
- BRUNSWICK PICTURE HOUSE 7PM **GREASE + THE CASSETTES**
- SOUNDSHELL, BRUNSWICK HEADS 10PM **PRIVILEGED COALITION MPS SHOUT ABOUT BEING VICTIMS OF PRIVILEGE AT THREE SEAGULLS AND A PERPLEXED PELICAN**
- CIVIC HALL, MULLUMBIMBY 10AM **WELLBEING4LIFE EXPO**
- COUNCIL CHAMBERS PARK, MULLUMBIMBY 10AM **STOP ADANI BYRON SHIRE LETTER WRITING PICNIC**
- LULU'S, MULLUMBIMBY 11AM **ESSIE THOMAS**
- CLUB MULLUM 7.30PM **THE BELLA FONTES**
- LENNOX HOTEL 5PM **DAN CLARK BAND**
- BALLINA RSL BOARDWALK 6PM **CONSPIRACY OF ONE 9PM MAL EASTICK BAND WITH MILENA BARRETT**
- BALLINA RSL BOWLING CLUB 6PM **BOB WALTON**
- LISMORE LANTERN **PARADE WITH STREET BAND**
- GOLLAN HOTEL, LISMORE 7.30PM **ANTIMATA, DJ DEEP FRYER & THE CRATES, MILLIE IVASCHENKO**
- LISMORE CITY BOWLING CLUB 9PM **DELICIOUS SOIREE WITH DJS SOMERVILLE & WILSON**
- MARY G'S, LISMORE **OCCA ROCK**
- ILLAWONG HOTEL, EVANS HEAD 8.30PM **DIRTY CHANNEL DUO**
- SHEOAK SHACK, FINGAL HEAD 2PM **FELICITY LAWLESS**
- KINGSCLIFF HOTEL 8PM **LEIGH JAMES**
- SALTBAR, KINGSCLIFF 8.30PM **DJ SAXON**
- CHINDERAH TAVERN 7PM **SWEET MIXJAH**
- CABARITA SPORTS CLUB **MESCALITO BLUES DUO**
- SOUTH TWEED SPORTS CLUB 7.30PM **TRIBUTE TO BON JOVI**
- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS 8.30PM **DAVID HOBSON & MARINA PRIOR**
- COOLANGATTA HOTEL 8PM **FAT ALBERT**
- COOLANGATTA SANDS HOTEL 8.30PM **EUREKA FUNK**
- CURRUMBIN PUB 8PM **LED ZEPPELIN EXPERIENCE**
- CURRUMBIN RSL 4PM **ACOUSTIC SESSIONS**

SUNDAY 25

- GREAT NORTHERN HOTEL, BYRON **JESSE PUMPHREY**
- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON 7PM **ROMANIACS**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 4.30PM **LATE FOR WOODSTOCK 8PM CASMIR**
- BYRON GOLF CLUB 4PM **LIVE MUSIC**
- TREEHOUSE, BELONGIL 5PM **SESSION DJS**
- ELEMENTS OF BYRON 10AM **STAR STUFF FESTIVAL OF THE COSMOS**
- SUN BISTRO, SUNRISE 5PM **JON J BRADLEY**
- BANGALOW HOTEL 12.30PM **CHRIS FISHER**
- BRUNSWICK PICTURE HOUSE 9AM **HOMEMADE JAM**
- BRUNSWICK HOTEL 4PM **ELECTRIK LEMONADE**
- CIVIC HALL, MULLUMBIMBY 7PM **MURRAY KYLE**
- MIDDLE PUB, MULLUMBIMBY 3PM **JAM**
- FEDERAL COMMUNITY CHILDREN'S CENTRE 10AM **CONNECTING TO COUNTRY**
- CLUB LENNOX 4PM **HORACE BEVAN & JOHNNY GIFT**
- SHORTY'S, LENNOX HEAD 4PM **JESSE MORRIS**
- LENNOX HOTEL 5PM **THE WHARVES**
- SPINKS PARK, LISMORE 10AM **PIAZZA IN THE PARK WITH PARADISO CHOIR & SUMMERLAND ROCKERS**
- CUDGEN SURF CLUB, KINGSCLIFF 3PM **LEIGH JAMES**
- KINGSCLIFF HOTEL 3PM **FAT ALBERT**
- CHINDERAH TAVERN 2.30PM **EUREKA FUNK**
- NIMBIN BUSH THEATRE 12.30PM **ELBURY**
- TWIN TOWNS JUNIORS, TWEED HEADS 2.30PM **BILL JACOBI**
- COOLANGATTA-TWEED HEADS GOLF CLUB 1PM **SMOKEHOUSE COUNTRY MUSIC**
- COOLANGATTA HOTEL **FAT PIZZA & HOUSOS COMEDY SPECTACULAR**
- CURRUMBIN RSL 4PM **ACOUSTIC SESSIONS**

MONDAY 26

- GREAT NORTHERN HOTEL, BYRON **DAN CLARK**
- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON 7PM **CRAIG ATKINS**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 8.30PM **REGGAE**
- BYRON EX-SERVICES CLUB 8PM **MANDY NOLAN'S COMEDY VIRGINS ON SHOW**
- WOODY'S SURF SHACK, BYRON 9PM **REGGAE AFTERPARTY**
- EWINGSDALE HALL 7PM **MOVING SOUL CONSCIOUS DANCE**
- B-SPACE, BALLINA 5PM **JAM**

TUESDAY 27

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON 7PM **LEIGH JAMES**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 8PM **OPEN MIC**
- WOODY'S SURF SHACK, BYRON 9PM **DJS JAMIE, SLHTE, 4 EYES**
- SUFFOLK PARK HALL 7.15PM **NO LIGHTS NO LYCRA**
- BANGALOW HOTEL 8PM **BRACKETS OPEN MIC**
- MIDDLE PUB, MULLUMBIMBY 7PM **TRIVIA**
- NEW BRIGHTON FARMERS MARKET 8AM **AJ HICKLING**

WEDNESDAY 28

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON 7PM **SWAMP CATS**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 8.30PM **AKOVA**
- BYRON BAY BREWERY 7.30PM **OPEN MIC WITH ALAIN DE CARNE**
- BYRON THEATRE 11AM **TWELFTH NIGHT 7.30PM SELVAGE!**
- STICKY WICKET, BYRON 9PM **NICK CUNNINGHAM**
- WOODY'S SURF SHACK, BYRON 9PM **DJ JAMIE**
- BYRON BOWLO **MUSICAL TRIVIA**
- BRUNSWICK PICTURE HOUSE 7PM **ESTEEM**
- BALLINA HOTEL 6PM **OPEN MIC**
- BALLINA RSL 7PM **SOCIAL BALLROOM DANCE**
- THAI BY NIGHT, BALLINA 6.30PM **BOB HOWLETT**

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WHAT'S ON

ROSENCRANTZ & GUILDENSTERN ARE DEAD BY TOM STOPPARD - NT LIVE SCREENING
PRESENTED BY BYRON THEATRE
Saturday 24 June @1pm Full \$25 | Conc \$23 | Student U18 \$10 | Group 10+ \$15 | Age 15+



TWELFTH NIGHT BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE - NT LIVE SCREENING
Wednesday 28 June, 11am
Full \$25 | Conc \$23 | Student U18 \$10 | Group 10+ \$15 | Age 15+



SELVAGE - A FORUM THEATRE PERFORMANCE BY WOMEN PRESENTED BY PUBLIC ACT THEATRE & BYRON THEATRE
Wednesday 28 June, 7.30pm
Full \$15



JUSTICE CREW CONCERT PRESENTED BY NUI EVENTS
Saturday 1 July, 5pm VIP Party, 7pm Live Show
General \$43.30 | VIP Sound Check Party \$83.30



10TH ARAKWAL NAIDOC FILM SCREENING PRESENTED BY ARAKWAL CORPORATION, FLICKERFEST & IQ INC
Tuesday 4 July, 6.30pm
Full \$10 | Conc \$8



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12 JULY
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\$140
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Byron Youth Activity Centre (YAC) is managed by
Byron Youth Service (BYS)

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DISPLAY ADS: \$66 per week for colour display ad. Minimum 8 week booking 4 weeks prepaid.

Please supply display ads 85mm wide, 28mm high. New display ads will be placed at end of section.

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ACCOUNTS & BOOKINGS: 6684 1777

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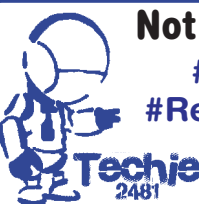
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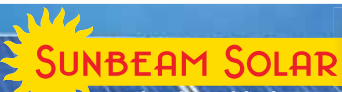
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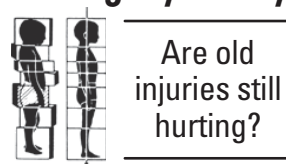
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Did you know that a line ad in our Service Directory will run for 3 months in *The Echo* and appear in our online edition *EchoNetDaily* every day? That's 13 weeks for only \$99 or \$340 for a whole year! Tell us you saw this ad and we will even give you an extra 2 weeks free! Call us on 66841777 for more info

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IK iRIG Keys Mini. 3 leads connects to PC/Mac IOS & Android. \$99. 0408267240

WANTED

COMPUTER MONITOR If you have one spare, we'd love it! Please call 66841777

LP RECORDS: good condition, no op shop crap! Ph Matt 0401955052

GARAGE SALES

MOVING SALE Myocum property sold. 29 Myocum Downs Dr. Sat 7am. Tools, tractor implements, shed storage cupboards, Colorbond roof sheets, bricks, fence posts, coppers logs, exercise benches, poly pipe & fittings, furn items, drum kit Pearl Export Series + Zildjian & Paste cymbals & much more

HUGE COMBINED SALE SUFFOLK
 6 Midgeberry Pl, Sat 8am. Rain or shine

MYOCUM Manse Rd, Sat 8am. Moving sale. Fridge, wash mach, quality furn, mower, bruschcutter, tools, ceramics, glass, clothes, books and more bargains

O.SHORES 5 Mia Court. Sat 8-1pm. Fridge, freezer, furn, sgle bed ensemble x 2. Restaurant equip, teenage fashion, k'ware, camping gear, bric-a-brac

BYRON FLEA MARKET @ Byron Youth Activity Centre (YAC), 1 Gilmore Cres, 2nd Saturday of each month 8am-1pm. Food, entertainment, vintage & pre-loved bargains. Next market on 8 July. Stalls or rug space avail 0490026840

Tip Runs & Rubbish Removal
 0408 210 772

MOTOR VEHICLES

BARGAINS

2007 NISSAN TIIDA AUTO 178,105km
 5 door hatch, very roomy. SN3295\$5,495
 1999 FORD FALCON FORTE SEDAN AUTO
 Great condition, rego Feb 2018. SN2844 \$3,490
 2009 HYUNDAI GETZ 5 spd manual 158,683km
 Low km, 6 months rego. SN3167\$5,850
 2006 FORD ESCAPE XLS AUTO 165,686km
 4WD, 4 cylinders, low km. SN0158\$7,950
 2010 HYUNDAI i30 WAGON 5 spd manual 87,831km
 low km, 2L, immaculate. SN7607\$10,490
 2005 HOLDEN RODEO singlecab 135,333km
 Canopy, low km, large tray, towbar. SN4422 \$7,990

BARGAINS
 ballinacarcentre.com.au
16 ENDEAVOUR CLOSE, BALLINA
Ballina Car Centre DLN 19950
6686 5586 / 0418 676 274

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Sat 24th June 9am 14 Ballina Rd Bangalow
 Go to nearly street end and follow signs on right
 Vendor moving away and needs to sell beautiful furniture and all household items:
 Sofa & spare cushion covers \$350; tall glass fronted French cabinet \$1300ono;
 1800mm long stylish wooden console \$780ono; large deep French white drawers \$750; old Oriental glass fronted cabinet \$1300ono; oil painting \$200; huge 2.7m high antique Mahogany fireplace \$1100; 1800s French marble mantle clock \$750; fine point 1700s French tapestry in original gilt frame \$1,500; white bedside \$50; Louis white bedside \$200; k/s bed and fab mattress \$600; 6.5kg Samsung washing machine \$350; near new Haier fridge/freezer \$600; near new treadmill \$750; lead crystal decanters; antique porcelain plates; silver champagne bucket; CD player with turntable \$100; vinyls; \$10 table of goodies. Free deliveries available in local (ish) areas.
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1998 FORD FESTIVA GLXI 185,000km. Rego 11/17. Good mech cond, hail damaged. \$1600 ono. 0404822443

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 Australia's original cotton mosquito net business, first began trading in 1989. Comprising four permanent & prominent market stalls: Byron Bay, The Channon, Bellingen & Bangalow and online business cottonmosquitonets.com first page presence on Google search. Will consider selling market & online business separately. Turnover \$38k pa. Sell \$55K. Contact Michael 0410304965 or creevs13@hotmail.com

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MULLUM 2 ROOMS FOR RENT in large fully-furn modern house, near Mullum Showgrounds \$190pw each, incl bills & WiFi. Ph Ebony 0412461321

OCEAN SHORES large house to share with one other \$240pw + bills. Own bathroom & LUG. Ph 0411561167

LENNOX HEAD room available, close to beach \$170pw. Ph 0402535340

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NORTH OCEAN SHORES 3br, 1 bthrm, 2 carport, outside pets OK, all bills included \$600pw neg. Text 0448448743

O.SHORES self-cont unfurn cosy granny flat for 1 wkg, n/s person, garage, \$270pw incl elect & water, no pets. 66801486

MCLEANS RIDGES modern 1br self-cont studio on acreage, incl elect, gas, water \$300pw. Avail now for worker, no pets. Call Glenn for more info on 0418225258

OCEAN SHORES cosy 2br studio, sunny, gas cooker/HW, large deck, small garden, pets considered, suit prof sgl/cpl. N/s \$500pw + 4 wks bond. Ph 0405410965

MULLUM 4br house. Avail Mon 3rd July. Close to town, 6 mnth lease \$680pw. Non-smoking. Ph 0422300594

MULLUMBIMBY No. 5 Nurubuan St. Wonderful 3br house, 2 living rooms + office, LUG. \$500pw. Email: zzz@eml.cc

WALK BRUNS Large quirky 2br garden flat. Long, sunny verandah. Share veggie garden. Versatile 2nd bed for sleep, work and yoga. Sgle/cple. \$380pw + elec. Ph 0417466287

LENNOX s/cont studio, fully furn, suit clean quiet working sgl. N/s, no pets, refs req. \$260pw incl gas/elect. 0466797978

BRUNS Very private 1br, f-f, self-cont, standalone dwelling with own entrance. Newly renovated, fresh & bright with garden courtyard. Suit prof couple, n/s, d/f \$390pw + elec. Ph 0421932219

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 Byron Community Centre is seeking an enthusiastic, passionate person to join our staff team. You will be involved in a unique and valuable service in **the Centre's activity.**
 The position is for 6 months at 18 hrs per week. A position description is available by contacting Paul Spooner: info@byroncentre.com.au.
 Applications close 26 June.
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Email cover letter and resume to info@crystalcastle.com.au by 26.6.17
(only successful applicants will be contacted)

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Seeking experienced Assistant Manager for 3-4 days. Hands-on role, requires ability to multi-task, place orders, lead team, manage suppliers, make decisions & operate store in Store Manager's absence. You are focused, diligent and organised with an easygoing personality. Experience in management and preferably retail management essential.

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 Must have 2 years experience in vegetarian cooking
 Please send you CV through subirbaba@yahoo.com
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Ability to work as a team with apprentices is essential.
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A national FMCG manufacturer situated in the Byron Shire seeks 2–3 days per week experienced Office Manager/Accounts Administrator.

The successful candidate will be able to demonstrate a high level of organisation, ability to take ownership of the office functions, bookkeeping acumen with experience in Accounts Payable, Accounts Receivable, Stock Control, Invoicing and MYOB systems. Will possess good communication skills and have the capacity to work well with our current office and factory teams.

Please send application to peter@wallabyfoods.com.

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We shop, deliver & assemble if required.
Shop & drop \$40 min. Rick 0400559929

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MUSICAL NOTES

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BIRTHDAYS



HAPPY BIRTHDAY MARGARET

Of Main Arm. 24.6.17
Still chasing cows at 70.
Love, Your Family

DEATH NOTICES

JAMES O'CONNOR

"A beautiful, gentle soul"

Sadly passed away on 17th June 2017.

Loved and adored brother of Brian, Eileen, John, Desmond, Peter (dec) and their families.

Aged 58 years.

Funeral details to be in the next edition of this paper.

THOSE WHO WERE lucky enough to meet James were surely touched by an angel. Rest in Peace brother, love Brian.

O'NEILL, GLENN DAVID

30.08.1962 – 18.06.2017.

In Murwillumbah after a long illness.
Loved friend of Hemi.
Will be sadly missed

JULIEN, ELVA MAY

20.05.1915 ~ 13.06.2017

Died peacefully in Byron Bay Hospital aged 102 years.
Loved Wife of Guy (dec).
Loved Mother of David, Ross, Mic and Elise. Much Loved Grandmother of 15, Great Grandmother of 33 and Great Great Grandmother of 4.
Will be missed by her entire family and friends.

White Lady Funerals
Northern Rivers
02 6680 7090

FUNERAL NOTICES

DEL KEMP

Peacefully on 18th June 2017.
Aged 87 years.
Late of Mullumbimby.

Family and Friends are invited to attend Del's Graveside Funeral Service to be held at Mullumbimby Garden Cemetery on FRIDAY (23rd June) commencing at 10am.



Ben and Emma Little
1300 678 443

MATTHEW CHARLES ROGERS

Beloved Son of Bruce Rogers and Terri Perry. Ratbag Brother of Jessy. Brother-in-law to Ossie. Much loved Uncle to Sidicci and Meecca. Will be fondly remembered by family and friends and sadly missed.

Family and friends are invited to attend Matt's Funeral Service to be held at Tweed Valley Lawn Cemetery Chapel, 813 Eviron Road, Duranbah NSW on FRIDAY (23rd June) commencing at 2pm.



Ben and Emma Little
1300 678 443

IN MEMORIAM



RONALD SWINBOURNE
10.10.1927 – 21.6.2012

Wishing you were somehow here again
Wishing you were somewhere near.

Sadly missed by Jacqueline & his family

LOST & FOUND

LOST BRANGUS COW (black in colour)
Lost during the floods Eltham area.
Please call Robert 0429662207

*ECHO CLASSIFIEDS • 66841777



MISSING English Staffy 16yo since Wed from Goonengerry. Partially deaf, blind, dementia. Ph 66849139 or 0421108314

PETS



Henna

HENNA is a 4-year-old desexed female German shorthair pointer x bull terrier. She is a gentle girl who loves human company and would do well with another dog as she doesn't like to be left alone. If you can give Henna a permanent, loving home please contact Pam on **0421 017 461**.

Visit friendsofthepound.com to view other dogs and cats looking for a home.



It is easy to imagine that young **CASEY** is wishfully humming 'somewhere over the rainbow' - my forever home! - **CASEY** is a cute, fine featured tabby kitten. Fun loving and friendly. To be honest she can't see a rainbow from her humble abode at the centre, but she will be a rainbow to a family or human friend, a source of enduring pleasure.

All cats are desexed, vaccinated and microchipped.



Please make an appointment
0403 533 589 • Billinudgel
petsforlifeanimalshelter.net

COMPANION ANIMALS WELFARE INC.



Wattle

Wattle is a 10-week-old border collie puppy. She is friendly, playful, energetic, clever and just adorable! Being a young pup still, she will need training to help her grow into the wonderful dog we know she will be.

For more info about Wattle or to submit your adoption application, see her profile on www.cawi.org.au.

It's raining cats & dogs!

Well, almost...
Every year many thousand unwanted cats and dogs are born to pets that haven't been desexed. And sadly, most end up being put down. So please...



This is a heartfelt plea on behalf of dearest **Luna Star**. She has now spent nearly half her short life in the cattery & why? None of us can work that out.

Luna Star is young, adorable & has beautiful tortoiseshell colouring. She's super friendly, affectionate & likes other cats. Although we all love her very much, nothing would make us happier than being able to wave her off with her new family. Luna Star has been so patient watching cats & kittens come & go. Please make her dream & ours come true. Adopt her & she'll be your shining star. To meet Luna, please visit the AWL at 124 Dalley St, Mullumbimby. *Like us on Facebook!*

OPEN:
Tues 2.30–4.30pm
Thurs 3–5pm
Sat 10am–12 noon
Call AWL 6684 4070



Luna Star



ONLY ADULTS

EXQUISITE

Be impressed with my hot body and warm hands. Tweed area. 0498073208

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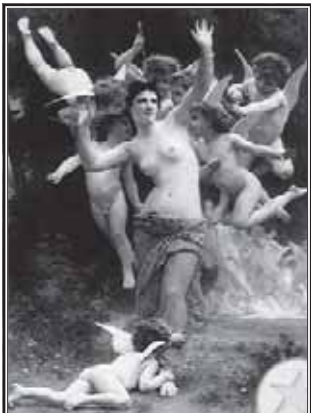
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MONTHLY MARKETS

1st SAT	Bruns Heads	6628 4495
1st SAT	Murwillumbah	0417 759 777
1st SUN	Byron Bay	6685 6807
1st SUN	Lismore Car Boot	6628 7333
2nd SAT	Flea, Byron YAC	0490 026 840
2nd SAT	Woodburn	0439 489 631
2nd SUN	The Channon	6688 6433
2nd SUN	Lennox Head	0419 369 609
2nd SUN	Alstonville	6628 1568
2nd SUN	Coolangatta	
3rd SAT	Mullumbimby	6684 3370
3rd SAT	Murwillumbah	0417 759 777
3rd SUN	Uki	0487 329 150
3rd SUN	Lismore Car Boot	6628 7333
3rd SUN	Ballina	6687 4328

4th SAT	Evans Head	0439 489 631
4th SUN	Bangalow	6687 1911
4th SUN	Nimbin	0458 506 000
4th SUN	(in a 5 Sunday month)	Coolangatta
5th SUN	Lennox Head	0419 369 609
5th SUN	Nimbin	0458 506 000

FARMERS MARKETS

Each TUE	New Brighton	6677 1345
Each TUE	Organic Lismore	6628 1084
Each WED 7-11am	M'bah	6684 7834
Each THU 8-11am	Byron	6687 1137
Each FRI 7-11am	Mullum	6677 1345
Each SAT 8-11am	Bangalow	6687 1137
Each SAT 8am-1pm	Uki	6679 5530
Each SAT 8.30-11am	Lismore	0466 415 172

JUNE 2017 Astronomical data and tides

☾ First quarter	June 1	22:42
☾ Full moon	June 9	23:09
☾ Third quarter	June 17	21:32
☾ New moon	June 24	14:30

Day of month	Sun rise	Sun set	Moon rise	Moon set	High tide, height (m)	Low tide, height (m)	
1	T	0630	1656	1159	2340	0128,1.66; 1424,1.24	0814,0.46; 1955,0.64
2	F	0631	1656	1238		0227,1.55; 1533,1.30	0910,0.47; 2110,0.67
3	S	0631	1656	1314	0036	0327,1.47; 1634,1.38	1000,0.46; 2220,0.67
4	S	0632	1656	1348	0131	0424,1.42; 1726,1.47	1046,0.44; 2322,0.67
5	M	0632	1656	1423	0224	0515,1.38; 1811,1.55	1127,0.41
6	T	0633	1656	1458	0317	0601,1.36; 1850,1.62	0014,0.59; 1203,0.39
7	W	0633	1656	1534	0409	0643,1.34; 1927,1.68	0100,0.54; 1237,0.39
8	T	0634	1656	1613	0501	0721,1.32; 2002,1.72	0142,0.50; 1310,0.39
9	F	0634	1656	1654	0552	0759,1.31; 2036,1.75	0221,0.47; 1342,0.39
10	S	0634	1656	1738	0643	0836,1.29; 2112,1.75	0259,0.46; 1415,0.39
11	S	0635	1656	1826	0732	0913,1.27; 2146,1.74	0336,0.45; 1448,0.39
12	M	0635	1656	1916	0820	0951,1.24; 2223,1.72	0414,0.46; 1525,0.42
13	T	0636	1656	2008	0905	1032,1.22; 2301,1.68	0453,0.47; 1603,0.44
14	W	0636	1656	2102	0948	1116,1.20; 2342,1.63	0535,0.49; 1646,0.51
15	T	0636	1656	2157	1029	1207,1.19	0620,0.50; 1735,0.51
16	F	0637	1656	2253	1108	0027,1.58; 1305,1.21	0710,0.50; 1834,0.62
17	S	0637	1656	2351	1146	0117,1.53; 1411,1.26	0802,0.48; 1945,0.65
18	S	0637	1656		1224	0215,1.49; 1519,1.35	0856,0.43; 2101,0.65
19	M	0637	1656	0050	1302	0318,1.47; 1623,1.48	0948,0.38; 2216,0.66
20	T	0638	1657	0151	1344	0421,1.45; 1722,1.62	1040,0.31; 2326,0.52
21	W	0638	1657	0256	1429	0523,1.44; 1817,1.76	1130,0.24
22	T	0638	1657	0402	1519	0623,1.43; 1911,1.89	0029,0.43; 1218,0.19
23	F	0638	1657	0510	1614	0719,1.42; 2001,1.98	0128,0.34; 1307,0.16
24	S	0638	1658	0616	1714	0814,1.40; 2052,2.02	0223,0.28; 1356,0.15
25	S	0639	1658	0719	1818	0906,1.37; 2141,2.02	0317,0.25; 1445,0.17
26	M	0639	1658	0817	1923	0958,1.35; 2230,1.97	0409,0.25; 1535,0.23
27	T	0639	1658	0909	2027	1050,1.31; 2316,1.87	0500,0.33; 1626,0.39
28	W	0639	1659	0955	2128	1144,1.28	0550,0.33; 1719,0.42
29	T	0639	1659	1036	2227	0003,1.74; 1242,1.27	0640,0.38; 1815,0.51
30	F	0639	1659	1114	2324	0051,1.60; 1345,1.27	0730,0.43; 1920,0.63

Times are Eastern Standard.
Time lags: Ballina Boat Dock: 15 min; Byron Bay: nil; Brunswick River Hwy Bridge: high 30 min, low 1 hr; Mullumbimby: 1 hr 10 min; Billinudgel: 3 hr 55 min; Chinderah: high 1 hr 15 min, low 2 hr; Terranora Inlet: high 2 hr 10 min, low 2 hr 25 min; Murwillumbah: high 2 hr 30 min, low 2 hr 50 min. **Tides in bold** indicate high tide of 1.7m or more and low tide of 0.3m or less.
Data courtesy of the Bureau of Meteorology.



EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Please stick this by your phone

AMBULANCE, FIRE, POLICE	000
AMBULANCE Mullumbimby & Byron Bay	131 233
BRUNSWICK VALLEY RESCUE Primary rescue.....	6685 1999
BRUNSWICK MARINE RADIO TOWER	6685 0148
BYRON CENTRAL HOSPITAL	6639 9400
POLICE Brunswick Heads.....	6685 1277
Mullumbimby.....	6684 2144
Byron Bay	6685 9499
Bangalow	6687 1404
STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE Storm & tempest damage, flooding.....	132 500
AIDS Confidential testing & information (ACON)	6622 1555
AL-ANON Help for family & friends of alcoholics	1300 ALANON
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS 24 hours.....	1800 423 431
ANIMAL RESCUE (DOGS & CATS)	6622 1881
LIFELINE	131 114
MENSLINE 7pm-11pm nightly (phone counselling & referral for men)..	6622 2240
NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS Meets daily	6680 7280
NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE	6684 1286
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE 24 hour crisis line.....	1800 656 463
NORTHERN RIVERS GAMBLING SERVICE	6687 2520
NORTHERN RIVERS WILDLIFE CARERS.....	6628 1866
KOALA HOTLINE.....	6622 1233
WIRES – NSW Wildlife Information & Rescue Service	6628 1898

Ride, swim, run: Matt Slee in focus

Ross Kendall

Local triathlon star Matt Slee has his eye on becoming a full-time, professional athlete after proving his talent on the local stage.

So far this year Matt has a second place at the recent Byron Bay event, building on a win in the Tweed Enduro and third at the Kingscliff Triathlon.

Considering this good form it is hard to believe that Matt has been racing competitively in triathlons for a little more than six months.

He came to the world of elite athletics as a cyclist.

When he was at Byron Bay High School his dad introduced him to the Byron Bay Cycling Club and his interest in sport blossomed.

The major turning point was being selected for a week-long cycling camp at the Australian Institute of Sport.

'Training with some of the best cyclists in Australia I real-



Matt Slee in the saddle and on his way to becoming a professional triathlete. Photo supplied

ised how hard it is. This is the sort of training I have to do,' he said. 'It was a real eye-opener'.

Matt then raced with a Sydney-based cycling team in Australia's top domestic competition before spending a couple of years riding in Europe.

After last season Matt 'felt a bit flat' and as he had never let go of his love of running he decided he would have a go at triathlons, when his friends suggested it.

His recent form has helped focus his attention on his childhood dream of being a successful, full-time athlete.

'I just got my professional licence and for the next few years I will try to make a living out of it,' he said.

Matt's advice to anyone thinking of taking up endurance sport seriously is to 'realise that the more you put in the more you get out'.

'You just have to want it. Pain is only temporary.'

Wilkinson wins Fiji Pro

Crystal Cylinders

Byron Bay's Matt Wilkinson has won the Outerknown Fiji Pro after an action-packed Finals Day that saw the world's best surfers battle in pumping waves at Cloudbreak.

Wilkinson's win in round five on the 2017 World Surf League (WSL) Championship Tour came after hard-fought wins over 2017 CT Rookie Connor O'Leary (Australia), and 2017 World Title contenders Michel Bourez (Tahiti) and Julian Wilson (Australia).

The Australian came into Fiji determined to take the win after earning a runner-up finish to 2014 WSL Champion Gabriel Medina (Brazil) at this event last year.

Wilkinson's incredible 2016 season saw him win the opening two events and finish the year in fifth place.

This win not only marks Wilkinson's third CT victory, but sees him lead the elite World Title race heading into the next event.

'We've had an awesome week that started with pumping waves and then had some lay days,' said Wilkinson. 'If you were going to have lay days anywhere, this is the place to do it'.



Wilkinson is the World Title leader after dominating at Cloudbreak. Photo Sloane/WSL

Wilkinson will now sport the coveted yellow Jeep Leader Jersey with 26,750 points on the leaderboard.

His win advances him past former leader and reigning WSL Champion John John Florence (Hawaii), as well as Jordy Smith (ZAF), Adriano de Souza (Brazil) and Owen Wright (Australia).

'I am so stoked,' continued Wilkinson. 'It definitely feels good to pick up momentum rather than to have the yellow Jeep Jersey to lose. Now I have it to keep it. Thanks to everyone, all my support crew and everyone who has helped me'.

Lennox Head's Stu Kennedy finished the event in ninth place after a great win over Adriano de Souza in round

four and picked up 4,000 valuable points that will help to assist his efforts to stay on tour for 2018.

President wins

Byron Bay's Neil Cameron managed to add another championship title to his mantelpiece at the 2017 HIF NSW Surfmasters Titles when he claimed the Over-60 Men's division at Boomerang Beach in Forster.

The current Byron Bay Boardriders president and former NSW and Australian Champion effortlessly linked together a chain of turns to post a heat total of 13.5 to take the top spot on the dais and earn a spot into the NSW team for the upcoming Australian Surf Festival.

News Extra

Oxfam welcomes Australian Humanitarian Partnership

Oxfam welcomed the launch last week of the Australian Humanitarian Partnership (AHP) by foreign minister Julie Bishop.

At the launch event, held at the Australian Aid warehouse in Brisbane, Ms Bishop announced a five-year \$50 million commitment to support humanitarian efforts through six Australian humanitarian organisations and partners, including Oxfam. The aid will primarily be focused on the Pacific.

Oxfam Australia's chief executive Dr Helen Szoke said it came at a time of great global need, with millions of people suffering from wars, droughts and severe food shortages.

'An astounding 30 million people are hungry across South Sudan - which I recently visited - East Africa, Nigeria and Yemen and 65 million people have been forced from their homes by wars and persecution and are seeking safety,' Dr Szoke said.

'Across our own region, the Pacific, we are seeing the devastating effects of climate change as our neighbours are hit by rising sea levels and stronger cyclones.



'But, on my recent trip to South Sudan, I saw how successful Australian aid can be when it supports the work of local people to improve their own lives.

'It is the Australian Humanitarian Partnership that will position Australia and Australian organisations to respond to humanitarian crises and natural disaster both globally and closer to home in the Pacific.

'Importantly, this funding and the Partnership also represent a substantial shift towards not just responding to disasters but also making vital long-term investments in disaster preparedness and prevention, so that our region itself is better able to manage disasters.'

The Partnership will build upon past successes the humanitarian sector has had in partnership with the Australian government and includes six lead organisations - CARE, Caritas, Plan, Oxfam, Save the Children and World Vision - and their consortium partners.

'Furthermore, the long-term predictable nature of the funding is particularly significant, and is part of Australia's efforts to deliver on commitments made at the World Humanitarian Summit,' Dr Szoke said.

'It will allow organisations to plan long-term approaches and form strong and ongoing relationships with communities across the Pacific and the world.'

Shand Cricket Cup begins 20th year

Brian Mollet

This winter season marks the 20th edition of the Nick Shand Memorial cricket series, a unique event on the sporting landscape.

All over the Shire the gladiators of the grass have been buffing up their boxes and polishing their pads in preparation for the game that turns young men into men, men into slightly younger men, and women, let's just say they only have something to gain.

Every team has its own distinct preparation for the series. Last year's champs the Byron Full-Tossers have been consulting their life coaches and workshopping the path of victory.

The hardy Left Bankers spend the off season relentlessly patrolling the perimeters of their backblock fiefdoms where only yowies go.

The Main Armors spend long evenings meditating on flickering candle flames in their geodesic dome houses.

The Suffolk Swingers meet behind the breakers at Bro-



The Geckos lost the first Nick Shand Memorial Cricket Match on March 2, 1997. Photo Jeff 'howzat' Dawson

ken Head to tickle the tummies of white pointers.

The Geckos libate crates of red wine and swap YouTube videos on how to hit the perfect coverdrive.

The invisible committee has apparently convened (although no footage exists), the entrails inspected (soy sausages), and the auguries declared good.

All that is required is for the bloody rain to stop. Lomath Oval is a quagmire and game one between the Left Bankers and the Full-Tossers was washed out without a ball

bowled in anger, although initiates were on the scene and could still discern the drowning patch of clover flowers that follow Ed the witchdoctor's runup or the wormhole in the fabric of reality where Snakebite Pete clipped his final boundary behind square leg.

This week the Suffolk Swingers are scheduled to meet the Main Armors and all are praying to their pantheons for sunshine. Either way the Shand Series is back and looking like it has the legs to last another 20 years.

Valiant defeat for Rams in FFA Cup

Dogwhistle

Byron Bay's Northern Hotel Rams took north coast football to new heights by representing the region all the way to round six of the FFA Cup competition in Newcastle over the June long weekend, but were beaten 3-2.

The Rams put in a strong performance against the much-lauded, semiprofessional Maitland NPL side despite playing with depleted numbers.

Going into its biggest-ever challenge the Rams were without their top two goal-scorers. Gianluca Bongiovanni was sidelined with an injury and Joel Wood by a red card suspension.

The game was fast and very physical from the opening whistle, with a tough end-to-end battle for dominance.

Byron surprised the Maitland side, pressing hard on the Maitland goal from the kick-off and leaving no doubt about their ability or intent.

The Magpies responded with some very tough play, apparently bent on intimidating the visiting country boys.



Young Rams' striker Sam Shepherd ran the Maitland defence ragged in a tough loss. Photo Dogwhistle

Seventeen-year-old Byron speedster Ronan Karup was hospitalised by a dreadful tackle early in the match - his badly broken leg requiring surgery over the weekend to re-attach ligaments and insert a pin in his ankle.

Byron fought back with renewed determination but the first goal fell to Maitland fifteen minutes in when a lofting free kick was bundled over the Byron line.

The Rams responded 15 minutes later with a soaring

cross from Quinn McDonald that found the head of Aaron Walker to claim the equaliser.

The Byron boys seemed to have a slight edge over Maitland, pressing hard and giving nothing away to their more fancied opponents.

The Rams took the lead 10 minutes into the second half when a tap on from Walker sent Sam Shepherd bursting through the Magpies' back line to drive home a 25-metre screamer and spark a most exuberant goal celebration.

The Rams' jubilation ended quickly three minutes later when a long cross and header gave Maitland the equaliser.

A gritty to-and-fro battle lasted for much of the 30 minutes of extra time until a heartbreaking own goal by the Rams put the Magpies in front with minutes to go and a recovery was just beyond the tired lads of Byron.

Overall, a pretty even match-up with the Rams probably more deserving of a result - if only for their underdog heroics. It was a spectacular whole-team performance from the Rams with outstanding work from keeper Griffin Bambach, Quinn McDonald, Harper Hain, James Tomlinson, Ben Ahern, Aaron Walker and 17-year-old Sam Shepherd.

Weekend win

The Rams returned to their winning ways when they beat Bangalow in the local league last Saturday playing at home.

The 3-0 win has fast-tracked the Rams into second place on the table behind the Richmond Rovers, but they've three games in hand.

Netballers take third place in NSW titles



Strong defence was a hallmark of the Brunswick Byron netball team's performance. Photo Josh Brightman/NNSW

The U/17 Brunswick Byron Netball team finished in 3rd place in division three at the 2017 Netball NSW State Championships, which was hosted by Baulkham Hills Shire Netball Association over the June long weekend.

Their side finished with 15 wins, just falling short of the top two, from their round-robin-style competition, against some of the best netball talent from around NSW.

'These amazing young ladies came third in the state. They did extremely well,' Janine Burger, Brunswick Byron Netball Association secretary said.

'Not only did they come third, they were the team with the fewest goals scored against them and the only team to beat the winning team Glen Innes.

'They played 19 games of netball across three days and some of the players played every game.

'Well done to the girls and their coach Narelle Anderson,' she said.

Over the three days more than 1,000 athletes took to the courts rain, hail or shine to contest the 969 matches with more than 32,884 goals scored, averaging to a total of 33 goals per game.

Junior Beez reach semifinals of NSW Country Championships

Alvin Caoyonan (coach)

Our local U/14 boys Beez representative team travelled to Terrigal last weekend to compete in the NSW Country Championships and made it to the semifinals.

Despite making the trip with only seven players, they took the challenge head on.

In their opening match, they shocked Maitland Mustangs into submission with a convincing win and then followed that up by running over the Illawarra 2 team.

Day two saw them drop a heartbreaking match to Queanbeyan by one point (being down as much as 19 at one stage), losing on free throws at the buzzer.

And a back-to-back loss to powerhouse Newcastle had them at two wins and two losses.

Their final game of the second day had them square off against Canberra, where they had to dig deep for a tough win against a team that wouldn't roll over.

Three wins left them second in their pool and qualifying for the Premier Division semifinal! A huge step for-



Junior Beez teams really made their mark at Newcastle for the Country Championships last weekend. Photo supplied

ward for our representative program.

The semifinal next day was against Illawarra 1 team, which hadn't lost a match all year. But despite trailing most of the match by only five points, the boys just ran out of steam in their sixth match in three days, eventually losing by 18.

The parents and I could not be happier or prouder of what they accomplished. It was always going to be a big ask competing with CPL (Country Premier League) teams, but we showed that we belong at that level and that the goal of winning it all

is definitely on the radar.

Results U/16 Beez

The Byron Beez U/16 boys finished in third place overall. They beat Bathurst 98-52 and were beaten by Maitland 66-62 on day one.

On the Sunday they beat Moss Vale 56-48, Port Macquarie 72-60 and Newcastle 86-53.

On the final day of the tournament in the semifinal they lost to Port Macquarie 83-69.

But Byron Beez were the only team to defeat Moss Vale, the overall winners all weekend.

Local teams ready for league derby

The Mullumbimby and Byron Bay rugby league teams are coming off a string of losses so this weekend's local derby gives them both a good chance to get among the winners and claim local bragging rights.

The Mullumbimby Giants got off to a good start to the season but last weekend's 24-16 loss to the Kyogle Turkeys at home has capped off a serious mid-season lull.

The previous week they had to forfeit and before that endured back-to-back losses including a 52-0 drubbing from the Tweed Coast.

The team has struggled to win with captain/coach Sam Martin off the field owing to injury, but he expects to be back this week.

The Byron Bay league side lost 32-10 to Murwillumbah last week, and their best result in 2017 has been a draw against Ballina a few weeks ago.

But if they play with pride they could surprise a weakened Giants side in front of a loyal home crowd.

Three grades from 12pm at Red Devil Park in Byron Bay this Sunday.

'Night of Fights' for Byron

Accomplished mixed martial arts fighter Isaac Tisdale will make his professional debut in the boxing ring when the Byron Bay Cavanbah Centre hosts its first Night of Fights.

The event has been organised by Kingscliff Boxing Stables to highlight their current crop of fighters according to head trainer Nick Midgley.

'We needed a big venue to pay for quality contestants for our local fighters, including Isaac and Josh Fredericksen,' he said.

The Kingscliff gym has joined with Extreme Mixed Martial Arts to put together Muay Thai bouts, five professional boxing bouts including Isaac's debut, and the finale of one of Mixed Martial Art's (MMA) fasting-growing programs worldwide *Wimp 2 Warrior*.

'It will no doubt be a very rewarding night for all competitors involved as they put their honed skills to the test with laserlike focus, but for Isaac Tisdale he will not only be celebrating his professional boxing debut, he will see a dozen young men and women whom he coached through six months of intense mixed martial arts training put their



Isaac Tisdale is ready for the square ring. Photo supplied

newfound skills to the test as Byron Bay's first season of *Wimp 2 Warrior* concludes,' Nick said.

Wimp 2 Warrior is a human transformation program that puts everyday regular people with no martial arts experience through a six-month training program where they learn all the basics of MMA, condition their bodies and minds and find the warrior inside as they compete in their first amateur MMA bout.

Cavanbah Centre, Saturday July 15. Tickets: start from \$50.

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This week we begin our series of pages about the Byron Writers Festival on page 19. You can read an interview with serial treehugger, American biologist David Haskell, find out more about multitasking Australian artist/writer Kim Mahood and find a workshop to set your creative urge free.

Denunciations of the idiotic 'war on drugs' continued at a Queensland Council for Civil Liberties (QCCL) forum on drug policy last week. Former head of the state corrections service Keith Hamburger reckoned that 'legalising and regulating recreational drug supply, along with "real rehabilitation" and community strengthening programs, would lead to a reduction in prison numbers "instead of this 90 per cent growth every ten years"'. Australia's national rate of incarceration is 208 per 100,000 people, compared to 53 in Sweden and 103 in France. It's a long way from the extraordinary USA rate of 716, but we seem intent on beefing up the prison industry. The article in *The Guardian* has lots more interesting information - <http://bit.ly/drugrethink> - and you can find the QCCL at qccl.org.au.

Another interesting drug-related article is the ABC's 'Medicinal cannabis: Doctors to learn how to prescribe drug at Melbourne course' - <http://bit.ly/medcann> - in which one patient alleges the drug helped dramatically reduce a tumour on his neck. (Beware, there are graphic before-and-after shots towards the end of the article.)



Yes, he can: The Incredible Rubber Man, Captain Frodo, balanced and knotted at Saturday night's Cheeky Cabaret at Brunswick Picture House. Photo Jeff 'Twisted' Dawson

On June 27 at 10.30am, Byron Bay Library is hosting a presentation by environmental activist and filmmaker Jennifer Croes (aka Jungle Jenn) about how consumer choices affect wildlife and ecosystems on a global scale. She'll be sharing footage from her travels to Borneo, Indonesia, South America and other locations. See more about JJ's work at junglejenn.com.

Planned for last Saturday, the Newrybar Public School fireworks and fair was postponed and will now reappear on Saturday August 5. Keep it in mind; it's the school's major fundraiser for the year.

Scammers have been working the area again, claiming to be from the Telstra technical department. They claim there is a problem with your internet connection or computer. Hang up is the advice from SCAMwatch and Telstra. Other scams that have caught people locally include

scammers pretending to be from the Australian Taxation Office calling to say you have an outstanding bill. Callers instruct you to buy gift cards or provide over-the-phone payments to pay your tax bill. Don't.

LAZYBONES 1/2 YEARLY SAMPLE SALE

This Saturday & Sunday 10-5pm

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SOME SWEET BARGAINS!

Clothing, homewares, bedding,
vintage and so much more...

Shop 1/8 Park St,
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Letterwriting Picnic in the Park

Saturday 24th June 10am-1pm
In the Park beside the council chambers corner of
Station and Argyle Street, Mullumbimby

All Materials Provided
Come pick up a pen and tell Queensland Premier Annastacia
Palaszczuk what YOU think about the construction of the
Adani Carmichael Coal Mine. Every letter written makes a
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