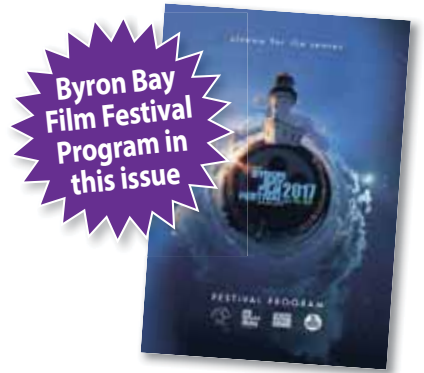




IF ONLY POLITICIANS COMMITTED TO CLIMATE SCIENCE
 LIKE THEY DO VACCINATION SCIENCE



It's camel by committee! Council roundup – p8	Is it really made in Byron? – p10, 11	School holidays! – p24-26	Home & Garden – p21-23	Gig guide – p45	Online in <i>Echo</i>netdaily Public safety put at risk by airport developments www.echo.net.au/public-safety-put-risk-airport-developments
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Bruns paid parking rejected by chamber

The Brunswick Heads Chamber of Commerce has told *The Echo* that parking in Brunswick Heads can be improved, but are strongly against the introduction of paid parking.

It comes after Council's general manager Ken Gainger suggested that, if introduced, it could raise \$900,000 per year for the town.

According to chamber president Zac Tooth 'There are better ways to fix our parking issues that won't destroy our fragile economy or result in job losses for locals.'

'For years the Chamber's position has been to reduce some of the existing parking time limits around Brunswick Heads and increase the turnover of spaces. Specific suggestions include more one-hour zones, 15-minute "hot spot zones" (such as outside the bank), a drop-off area at Torakina beach, additional loading zones, better located disabled-access parking, dedicated motorbike parking and the creation of more parking spaces.'

'The importance of this issue for Brunswick Heads cannot be underestimated,' says Tooth.

Lack of consultation

'We have all worked hard over the past 15 years to revitalise our economy, create jobs and nurture our Simple Pleasures ethos. We do not want to see this destroyed by the introduction of paid parking.'

He says the chamber is 'surprised by the lack of consultation to date.'

'We pride ourselves on working together with Council and other stakeholders on community pro-

jects and to resolve any issues that arise in the village,' says Tooth.

'We don't understand why we have been kept in the dark about paid parking. The chamber was not informed that such an important issue was to be discussed at a Council ordinary meeting on August 24. Therefore, no-one was present to represent Brunswick Heads. In contrast, the Mullumbimby Chamber of Commerce has a voice, as two councillors are associated with their chamber.'

'The meeting was presented with exactly the same recommendations for both Mullumbimby and Brunswick Heads: to consult with the community on a possible implementation of a revised parking layout (with reduced time limits) and a pay parking scheme. However, the final resolutions were different. The possible pay parking scheme was dropped for Mullumbimby but not for Brunswick Heads.'

He says the chamber does not agree that there would be significant benefits to the village.

'Many locals are not impressed with the "sweetener" offer of revenue raised being allocated directly to Brunswick Heads-based projects. Brunswick's income from outdoor dining fees is not quarantined for Brunswick projects, so there isn't a lot of confidence that any paid parking revenue would be either,' says Tooth.

'The chamber looks forward to meeting with Council soon to discuss its concerns and alternative ideas. After all, there should be little disagreement. The Chamber's views, bar **continued on page 2**



Circus feats this weekend!

This weekend is all about the circus at the Mullum Showgrounds, where two big tops will feature acrobats and performers for the Mullum Circus Festival. Director Shien Chee says the industry 'creates one-third of Australian cultural exports and our best are coming to this festival. There will be wildly successful global touring artists performing alongside local faves and young stars on the rise!' For more visit www.mullumcircusfest.com. Pictured are performers Willow Darling and Jai Lee. Photo Jeff Dawson

Pyramid scheme resurfaces

Hans Lovejoy

An international pyramid scheme is duping women from the area, say a number of locals.

The Echo reported the issue in 2013 when a group called Women's Wisdom Circle was operating and cloaking itself in themes of new-age spirituality and women's empowerment.

The latest incarnation is called the Lotus Circle, which *The Echo* understands is run by the same group of women who ran the Women's Wisdom Circle.

Under the *Australian Consumer Act 2010 [Part 3-1 Division 3]*, it is illegal to participate in a pyramid scheme or attempt to induce someone to join one.

Like a pyramid scheme, Lotus Circle women part with a \$5,000 'unconditional gift' to join as a 'seed' and are lured with a promise of an eventual \$40,000 if they ultimately blossom into a 'lotus'.

Recruitment is made generally through social media or face to face.

Additionally a new circle has emerged, called Fractal Circles,

which encourages men to also join.

Local woman Karma Barnes says apart from a strong Byron Shire presence, the Lotus network also includes chapters in New Zealand, Bali, California, Hawaii and Canada.

'I have seen a lot of women being sucked in around Byron Shire and New Zealand,' she says.

'I am really concerned for women, particularly new women to the area, that may be targeted. It's deeply unethical and predatory. Because of the exponential growth, there will always **continued on page 3**

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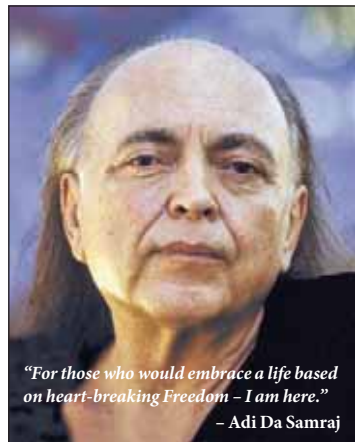
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www.adidam.org

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- Adi Da Samraj

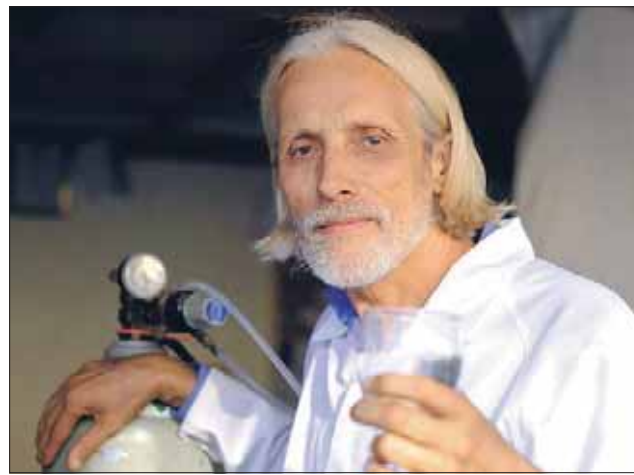
Solar-fuelled hydrogen energy in Sapoty's sights

Local engineer/inventor Sapoty Brook is boldly proposing to push the renewable-energy frontier, with a revolutionary new kind of aircraft he calls a Vaporjet.

On the basis of initial computer simulations, he claims his patented aircraft could hover, and take off and land vertically, and would not have the downward wind experienced under helicopters and quadcopters.

Brook says, 'At first sight this appears to go against the laws of physics, but as explained in my video *Solar Fuelled 'Freakin' Vaporjets*, air is drawn (accelerated) down above the craft and dispersed approximately horizontally off the craft's upper surface. Thus Newton's First Law is obeyed: momentum is conserved.'

He calls the process Vacupulsion, which is powered by fast jets of steam ejected over specially curved surfaces. The vaporjet craft may be able to land in urban ar-



Sell ya lithium stocks! Sapoty Brook believes the hydrogen energy revolution will soon be upon us. Photo Jeff Dawson

reas with little disruption and noise, he says.

Sapoty Brook believes that a solar-fuel revolution is brewing.

'This process involves using renewable electricity from solar and wind, to split water into hydrogen and oxygen in a surprisingly efficient manner. Hydrogen can then potentially be stored in ammonia. Hydrogen provides

lighter and less polluting energy storage than lithium.'

He explains that a recently discovered cheap catalyst is available to split the hydrogen out of ammonia, on demand.

'The hydrogen can then be burnt eg inside a "vaporjet" to instantly generate steam.'

Steam jets

Brook also says that vacupulsion can be used to

propel a vaporjet forward, and simultaneously reduce drag, using steam jets at the front of the vaporjet blasting the air, left and right, out of its way over suitably curved surfaces. 'This way, drag is reduced and the craft is "drawn" forward into a frontal low-pressure zone.'

He says, 'I think it is premature to take this technology into the arena of venture capital. I want to spend 18 months on computer simulation to refine the design and the underlying theoretical data, without commercial demands. That is my main aim in securing crowdfunding at this point in time. Prototyping should be withheld until the energy efficiency is refined by further simulations.'

Sapoty Brook is launching Vacupulsion Pty Ltd and a global crowdfunding campaign on Wednesday September 27 at the Heart Space, Santos, Mullumbimby from 6pm. All welcome.

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We are like butterflies who flutter for a day and think it is forever. - Carl Sagan



Department of Industry

Application for Appointment of Trust Board Members

Mullumbimby Showground Trust

Ever wondered who is responsible for keeping Crown reserves operating?

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We are looking for a good mix of people with a variety of skills, however, sound business and financial management skills and objective decision-making expertise would be a distinct advantage.

Don't let this opportunity to do something for yourself and your community pass you by - contact us today.

The Mullumbimby Showground Trust manages the Reserve No. 540009 at Mullumbimby notified on 29 November 1929 for Showground. The term of appointment will be for a period not exceeding 5 years. The term of appointment will expire on 4 December 2019.

Application forms may be obtained from www.crownland.nsw.gov.au/trusts/join_a_trust or telephoning 1300 886 235.

Applications are required to be lodged before **Tuesday 24 October 2017** by email at cl.reserves@crownland.nsw.gov.au or posted to Department of Industry - Lands and Forestry PO Box 2215, DANGAR NSW 2309. File Reference: 11/08663.

For more information: Contact Joe Edean on (02) 6642 9204.

Pumped-storage hydro potential for Mullum

Local renewable energy group COREM have given an update about the feasibility of recommissioning Mullumbimby's hydro power station at Lavertys Gap.

It comes in the wake of a new ANU study recommending that Pumped Storage Hydro (PSH) could be a key component of a rapid transition to renewable energy for Australia.

COREM's Mullum Mini Hydro project manager Svea Pitman told *The Echo* the hydro power station ran from 1926 till the 1960s and was decommissioned in 1990.

'It was saved from demolition in 2008 by local residents who lodged a Heritage application, which was granted in 2014.'

The original generation

capacity of the hydro was 288KW from two pelton-wheel turbines that are still onsite. Essential Energy manages the power station, which is co-owned by Council. The weir and race are still intact and provide the town water for Mullumbimby.

'The hydro power station is adjacent to Essential Energy's Mullumbimby Substation, which is ideal for grid connection.'

'A major step forward for the Mullum Mini-Hydro occurred with a key stakeholders' meeting and site visit, held on July 27. Those who attended included representatives from Essential Energy, COREM, Byron Shire Council, Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), the Department of Primary Industries

(DPI), Enova, and Nationals MP Ben Franklin, who is the NSW parliamentary secretary for renewable energy.

'The major impediment at this stage to the Mullum Mini Hydro project is access to the water from the weir, as the current ten-year water-sharing plan has no allocation for the hydro, despite the weir being built for this purpose by the community almost 100 years ago.'

'Pumped Storage Hydro is a way around this issue', she continued. 'PSH is a closed system with water returned to the original source, in this case the Lavertys Gap weir.'

'We are aiming for a rapid transition to 100 per cent renewable energy generation in the Byron Shire, and the Mullum Mini-Hydro can

help increase the rate of solar by addressing intermittency issues. Hydro electricity is a rapidly deployed source of renewable energy and can be used to balance the generation from solar PV, which varies of course over a day.

'COREM is very proud to be part of the mobilisation of the Byron Shire Energy Action Tank, and thrilled by the recent support to build 70MW of community-owned solar PV projects in the Byron Shire. As PSH requires electricity to pump the water back to the weir, this large-scale generation will allow COREM to offset the pumping with our own solar generation.'

She says hydro experts Entura Energy are preparing a pre-feasibility study in coming weeks.

Chamber reject staff paid parking proposal

► continued from page 1
minor details, are completely aligned with the 2016 Brunswick Heads Town Centre and Beachside Parking Management Strategy recommendations - to reduce the time limits and increase enforcement and monitor the impact of this, along with tweaks.

The Parking Strategy, completed just over a year ago, does not recommend the introduction of paid parking for Brunswick Heads.

'Contrary to the statement in the council's introduction to the online paid parking

survey, the Parking Strategy recommends the introduction of paid parking be considered for Brunswick Heads only if changes to time limits and enforcement are unsuccessful,' points out Tooth.

'Brunswick Heads is busy most weekends and holidays and, at these times, parking can be hard to find; however, paid parking will not solve this,' says Tooth. 'Our village is often quiet during the week and adding a \$4/hour parking fee to the cost of a relaxing cup of coffee, photocopy or haircut will certainly not help any of

the local businesses. We also have no desire to turn away the visitors who share our Simple Pleasures values,' he says.

'If we can solve the parking pressures by reducing the parking time limits, why take the risk of introducing paid parking? The Chamber says "yes" to more appropriate timed parking and enforcement, but "no" to Council's desire to introduce paid parking anywhere in the village.'

■ Council's general manager Ken Gainger replies to critics of paid parking and more on letters page 14.



Department of Planning and Environment

Public Notice of Determination Cultural Events Site

North Byron Parklands, Tweed Valley Way, Yelgun

Application No	MP 09_0028 MOD 2 (Concept Plan) and MP 09_0028 MOD 4 (Project Approval)
Modification	Modification to extend the trial period for outdoor events of up to 35,000 patrons by a further 20 months to August 2019
Location	North Byron Parklands - Tweed Valley Way and Jones Road, Yelgun
Proponent	Billinudgel Property Pty Ltd
Council Area	Byron
Determination	Approved
Determination Date	12 September 2017
Consent Authority	Planning Assessment Commission, as delegate for the Minister for Planning

The Modifying Instruments of Approval, the Department's Assessment Report and the Planning Assessment Commission's Determination Report are available on the Department's website (www.majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au) or can be viewed electronically during ordinary office hours at a Service NSW Centre located near you (www.service.nsw.gov.au/service-centre/service-nsw).

For more information: 1300 305 695 or www.planning.nsw.gov.au

Girl rescued from Brunswick Heads creek

On Sunday the helicopter was tasked by NSW Ambulance to assist with reports that a three-year-old girl had been found face down in a creek at Brunswick Heads.

Family members recovered the girl and commenced CPR.

She was initially pulled from the water unconscious but regained consciousness after CPR by family members and the local road ambulance crews.

The three-year-old and her mother have since been transported by the rescue helicopter to the Gold Coast University Hospital for further treatment and observation.

Saturday bargain hunt



Second Hand Saturday, the north coast's biggest collective garage sale, saw many old items find new homes last weekend. Pictured are Luka Silverstone and Lilly Aiken. Photo Jeff Dawson

Pyramid scheme resurfaces again

► continued from page 1
be 88 per cent of women who will never get their money back.

'There are many ways for women to help and support each other. There should not be a price tag on this. Also, if people want to give money, there are so many women's charities that could benefit.'

Selling blood, eggs

'A document that promotes the scheme, called *25 Ways To Manifest Your Gift*, suggests options to gain quick cash to enter, including asking for an early inheritance or getting a bank loan. Number 18 on the list suggests 'selling your blood and eggs.'

The Secret philosophy

Another woman Jenna Snow (not her real name) said, 'It's deceptive because they try to trick you into believing it's an unconditional gift.'

'They use language like "abundance vibration, poverty mentality and fear paradigms."

'There's nothing spiritual about funnelling money from

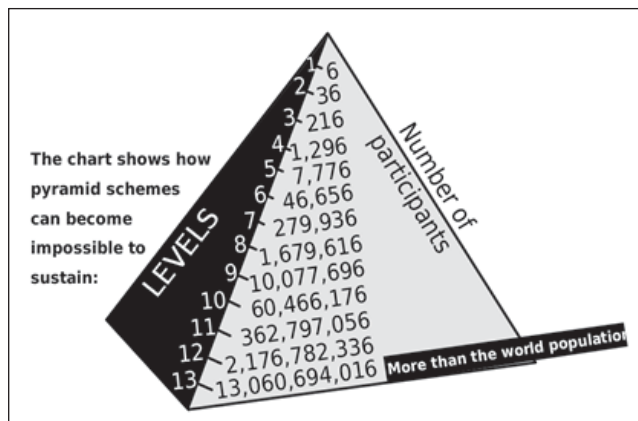


Image: www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pyramid_scheme

the many to the few.

'Those wanting to recruit say things like, "You would pay \$5,000 for a spiritual workshop anyway so think of it like that". You can see why people are drawn in if they are craving a connection in their life. They say the connection is primary and unconditional while the money is secondary.'

'If you suggest the maths doesn't add up, looks unsustainable and is unethical, you get a rave on "abundance theory."

Additionally nine locals, calling themselves the critical thinker's support group, also made a 'community announcement'.

Critical thinking

The group say they chose to remain anonymous and are local teachers, social workers, healers and professionals.

'This scam has conflated the intention of women's circles and appropriated it for selfish gains. It relies on the

pseudo-spiritual philosophy of the *Secret*.

'This is not a product; it's unsustainable and the ultimate capitalistic con.'

'The good news is that because it's illegal, you can get out of the 'gift' contract. The Lotus Circle breaches contract and consumer law. You sign a contract to say it's a gift - but under the law it's illegal to make a contract under false pretences.'

'There are some who have their money back, they say, and lawyers have been involved.'

'There is no shame in trying to get out of this,' they said. 'There are online lotus support groups, including the closed Facebook group, Muddy Lotus.'

Byron Community College brochure is out now!



Find your copy in this week's Echo
02 6684 3374 www.byroncollege.org.au

Body found floating at Cape Byron

The body of a man has been found after he apparently drowned at The Pass, near Cape Byron on Monday.

Police are still trying to establish how the man, who was in his 40s, was wearing all of his clothes, including his shoes, when he was discovered.

He is believed to be a Byron Bay local, but his name has yet to be released.

Police would like to speak to anyone who may have seen the man enter the water.

Anyone with information in relation to this incident please call Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

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Local spellers compete for regional finals

Six far north coast students are in the running to be crowned the state's best speller, after making it through the regional finals of the NSW Premier's Spelling Bee.

The students were rewarded with a place in the prestigious Spelling Bee state final in Sydney in November, where 86 students from across the state will compete for the title.

The local finalists are River from Yamba Public School, Ben from Dunoon Public School, Bradley from Terranora Public School, Che from Palmers Island Public School, Sunny from Bangalow Public School and Amelie from Pottsville Beach Public School.



Sunny from Bangalow Public School will be off to Sydney in November to compete in the the NSW Premier's Spelling Bee. Photo supplied

An education department spokesperson said, 'Winning a spot in the state final is quite an achievement, with around 3,200 students from almost 1,000 public schools across

NSW competing in the regional finals this month (4-15 September) and more than 153,000 students taking part in this year's competition.'

'To make it to the regional finals, the junior finalists had to correctly spell words such as *refugee*, *raucous* and *congregate*. Meanwhile, senior students were challenged with words including *cruciferous*, *boisterous* and *tzatziki*', he added.

'NSW is the top-ranked state in mean spelling scores at all year levels in this year's NAPLAN.

'The Premier's Spelling Bee is just one of the many initiatives that are improving the literacy skills of public school students across NSW.'

Total fire ban as 22 fires burn on

With 22 fires burning between Coffs Harbour and the QLD border, the Rural Fire Service are warning the public to be prepared.

A total fire ban started September 1.

Of continuing concern is a fire that has been burning at Upper Main Arm for a month.

Although now under control, it has burnt out more than 350 hectares of mostly forested land. Meanwhile in Casino, fire crews believe a blaze burning close to homes may have been deliberately lit and are calling in police to investigate.

A fire on the edge of the Bruxner Highway

at Mummulgum burned out more than 1,800 hectares before being brought under control.

A bushfire that started Monday at Rappville has burned out more than 320 hectares and is yet to be brought under control.

110 hectares

Another blaze in the Richmond Valley has burned out 110 hectares at Busbys Flat.

Other fires burning in the region include one in the Kyogle area, which has burned out 30 hectares, and one at Wardell that is currently being brought under control.

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Ballina Shire Council pushes rate increase

Ballina Shire Council have voted to proceed with community consultation over a proposed special rate variation (SRV), above the rate peg set by the NSW government.

The proposed cumulative rate increase of 15.7 per cent would need to be approved by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART).

Ballina Council say that new income would allow for key infrastructure, such as roads, stormwater and playgrounds, to be renewed.

Credit Union to close Ocean Shores branch

Rodney Stevens

The Ocean Shores and Alstonville branches of Summerland Credit Union are set to close their doors next month following a review of its operations.

Affected staff at the Alstonville and Ocean Shores branches have been offered alternative positions within the organisation, say management. In a statement, management said the decision was made after a 'significant reduction in the number of customers utilising these two branches.'

Rescue squad turns 40



Rescue crew: road captain Sue Biggar with Chris Foster, Penny Greenhalgh, Grant Simmons, Kane Ridley, Saxon Ryan and Phill Walsh. They are pictured beside the Squad's newly commissioned quick-response 4wd, which will be soon stationed in Byron Bay. Photo Jeff 'In Need Of Rescue' Dawson

The Brunswick Valley and District Volunteer Rescue Organisation celebrates 40 years of service this year.

It was formed in 1977 as a community-owned and supported road-rescue organisation, following a serious motor vehicle accident on the highway bridge over the Brunswick River. The squad has around 16 highly trained and accredited road-rescue volunteers, who train regularly to the standards required by the NSW State Rescue Board. These members come from all over Byron Shire.

Member Chris Foster told *The Echo* he has

been involved for around 20 years.

'We are always looking for new members,' he says, 'and much of the equipment and vehicles we use has been modernised.'

The rescue squad receives no direct government aid and relies on the generosity of donations. The organisation says it is 'extremely grateful to the Byron Shire Council, all the registered clubs, hotels, businesses and sporting bodies who support all the fundraising activities.'

Its HQ is on Byron Street in Brunswick Heads. For more info visit www.vrbrunz.org or call 6685 1999.

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Annual Federal food film fundraiser October 14

The annual grassroots food film event will be held in Federal Village on Saturday October 14.

Organisers say the fundraiser enables the Federal Films to keep on going and keep on bringing community together through food and film.

Alan Goldstein said that for over 15 years the 'range of movies has been great, but what has remained constant is the community spirit that

fills the hall.'

'Over \$180,000 dollars has been raised for very local groups and that money mostly multiplies out within this community.'

'Apart from the fun social night out, this is the main driving force behind the long standing and successful event still organised by a group of dedicated locals.'

Bookings required: email federalfilmsociety@gmail.com or call Fran 6688 4134.



Some of the locals celebrate the near completion of Elements of Byron resort. Photo Jeff 'That's Too Many Beers For Me' Dawson

One of the biggest developments in the Shire is about to wrap up next month, ending a seven year, \$120 million project.

Elements of Byron is located on Bayshore Drive in Belongil.

Development director Jeremy Holmes said that 180

businesses were employed for the \$95m onsite construction cost, the vast majority from the Byron and surrounding shires.

He said, 'Of these, 83 businesses were directly employed on-site with the remaining firms providing construction related services from building materials, plants and signage

to engineering, lighting and technology.'

'Stage two will create a further forty new hospitality jobs,' he says, 'with a number of these yet to be filled.'

'Across the fifty acre Elements of Byron site the final building footprint is 3.8 per cent, or less than ten per cent

of the developable area.'

Last month, the North Byron Beach Resort team were awarded the Urban Development Institute of Australia award for excellence for development across regional NSW and Canberra, beating every development outside Sydney.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT 'SUSTAINABLE VALLEY' CO-WORKING BYRON BAY

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Saturday 14 Oct - Fermentation Workshop (10am-12.30pm)

Join us at Sustainable Valley with the 'fermentation pro', Anna Surrey from Alive Foods. Learn how to take charge of your gut health, improving immunity, reducing inflammation and enhancing your general wellbeing.

Anna will teach the art of fermentation in a fun and creative way, providing you with your own take-home probiotic-rich sauerkraut of your creation.

Cost: \$40pp

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Friday 20 Oct - CoRelax (5-7pm)

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Cost: free to the community



Urban Recycled Water Connection policy adopted

A new policy adopted by Council last Thursday will allow commercial enterprises, sporting associations or clubs to connect to the recycled water supply line which connects to the West Byron sewerage treatment plant (WBSTP).

The policy only applies to connections that are that are

'in the order of 100m' of the recycled water pipe.

In 2005, pipes were laid from the West Byron Sewerage Treatment Plant (WBSTP) through to Suffolk Park.

Under the Byron Bay Urban Recycled Water Connection Policy, Council will fund up to \$20,000 per connection to the property boundary,

while internal recycled water infrastructure is the responsibility of the property owner.

In the past there have been serious questions raised about the Byron Shire Council's commitment to their water re-use policies that have been slow to be enacted.

'I suggested in 2004 that Council include in future de-

velopment applications (DAs) that developers have to install dual plumbing for reuse to houses etc,' said Alan Dickens from the Council's Water, Waste and Sewer Committee.

This policy relates to the use of water treated at the WBSTP and is only available in Byron Bay not the rest of the Shire.

Mass clearing of natives in Tweed sparks furore

Luis Feliu

Massive logging and road works on a property next to a Crown reserve in the heart of the Tweed Valley has sparked community outrage with legal action by council, a protest outside the state MPs office and a mayoral request to the minister to stop the work.

Campaigners against the unauthorised works say the works over the past few years amounts to 'state-sanctioned destruction of precious remnant forests' with aerial photos identifying 20 hectares of environmental zones, which have been deemed prime koala habitat but deferred by the state, subject to logging or clearing for roads.

Tweed Shire Council last week unanimously resolved to engage lawyers to investigate prosecuting the owner of the Boormans Road property at Limpinwood over the

works on sensitive environmentally protected zones, some within an adjacent crown reserve.

However, council planners say a major contributor to the alleged unauthorised clearing relates to a 'Private Native Forestry Vegetation Plan' issued by the NSW Environment Protection Agency in 2013.

Council has repeatedly raised its concerns with the NSW government, as has Richmond MP Justine Elliot who has written to environment minister Gabrielle Upton calling for the work to be stopped.

Only option left

North East Forestry Alliance (NEFA) spokesman Dailan Pugh said the case demonstrated 'the importance of Environmental Zones as they are the only option left for the community to control land clearing and logging.'

Suicide Prevention

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- 😊 \$\$UR looking like a Million Dollars\$\$ 😊
- 😊 Our community is so much richer 4 U being in it 😊
- 😊 UR on my list of the 20 most wonderful people I've met 😊
- 😊 UR one of the strongest people I know 😊
- 😊 UR work is appreciated by many 😊
- 😊 My life is richer 4U being in it 😊
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Written by sheep farmer Tim Barritt. Barossa Valley, S.A.

Smith v Franklin: who is winning?

Hans Lovejoy

What's up with the competitive nature of our locally based NSW politicians? Why can't they seem to get along?

Welcome to an investigation of where egos clash, point scoring is king and well, you, the dear voter, appear to be treated like an infant who is being fought over by competing foster parents.

Take it as a compliment though, because swing electorates such as this get a lot of attention.

In case you didn't know, there is fierce competition to secure your favour with two opposing political operatives who inhabit state parliament and live locally.

They are sitting Greens MP Tamara Smith (lower house) and Nationals Party MLC Ben Franklin (upper house).

And while Franklin told *The Echo* he has no aspiration to run for the seat of Ballina in 2019, there is no doubt he takes an active and keen interest in brokering deals and making representations on behalf of the area.

Franklin highlights how being 'in the political tent' is the only way to get things done and is happy to rattle off a list of his achievements, such as securing the Mullumbimby hospital site and Suffolk Park Sportfields. But hang on, weren't those community-led campaigns? Who should get the credit here?

He says, she says

Last week another stoush erupted between Smith and Franklin, with Franklin accusing Smith of 'taking credit for something she had nothing to do with' over the fate of the old Byron hospital site.

With the site now the subject of a community campaign to retain it for public use, Smith said in a September 20 statement that she 'gained a commitment from the NSW health minister during Question Time that he will consider keeping the old Byron hospital site in community hands and enable Byron Shire Council to lease the site for a peppercorn rent.'

An angry press release from Franklin ensued, which accused Smith of being disingenuous for pretending that she 'achieved an outcome because she asked one question weeks after that decision was announced.'

Smith said in response that, 'It's important to get any promise a minister makes



National Party MLC Ben Franklin (upper house) appears constantly sparring with local representative Greens MP Tamara Smith (lower house). Apologies to GOT and their fans

'I absolutely don't scorn Tamara for wanting good outcomes... I'm just getting a little fed up that she takes credit for things that I have achieved'

– Ben Franklin, MLC

on the parliamentary record. Ministers can say anything to anyone, but a commitment in parliament cannot be breached as the minister would be guilty of misleading the parliament.'

While I hesitated in giving this war of pointless words oxygen, it does highlight how the exchange of barbs between politicians reveals how they perceive themselves and the community they represent.

Do they consider us a smart bunch or idiots to exploit?

Franklin continued, 'Rather than trying to get cheap headlines on this issue, I shall continue quietly working with the community – as I have been – to secure a positive outcome. Because people's egos shouldn't be important here. This is all about the community. And my only aim is to get a positive outcome for them.'

Egotistical

The Echo asked Franklin, 'How is it not egotistical to scorn an elected MP for trying to do her job as a representative?' He replied, 'I absolutely don't scorn Tamara for wanting good outcomes. That's great and what she should be doing. I'm just getting a little fed up that she takes credit for things that I have achieved – like this first step or the Mullumbimby hospital site or the Suffolk Park land issue.'

He continued, 'I'm always happy to work collaboratively with anyone – I'm sure [Greens mayor] Simon Richardson will attest to that – but there needs to be a bit of good will both ways. For example, if she had said that she realises that the minister had made that commitment previously

(it was in *The Echo* a month ago!), thanked him for that and asked what progress had been made or some such.

'It would have been much more genuine than trying to make it look like she had personally secured it, which she hadn't.

'I will always credit anyone when they do something good; I guess I just would like the same in return.'

Playing politics

Okay, then it's in the open – Franklin's issue with Tamara is she is playing politics while he simultaneously tells us about his role in the recent community wins – quietly and modestly – behind closed doors.

Franklin did clarify his position further when pressed.

'I absolutely think an elected MP's job is to advocate for the community.

'I think Tamara is a genuinely decent person and I think she's trying hard, and that's great for the community. I guess I just felt it wasn't fair that she was trying to take credit for a commitment that I had garnered from the minister weeks ago.

'I totally acknowledge how important the community has been to delivering outcomes on a range of issues (obviously the Bentley [CSG-free blockade] is the best example, but the others are just as valid).

'I guess my point is that that isn't enough in and of itself.

'There needs to be a second step and that is someone advocating for the community in Macquarie Street who can affect an outcome.

'That's what I've tried to do on these issues. So I don't see it as an either/or – I think both aspects are important.'

Smith says that as this is a swing electorate (she holds it by around a 6.5 per cent margin), the Nationals are keen to be seen as achievers for the next election. Don't forget that this seat was held for hundreds of years by Nationals MP Don Page until he retired in 2015 and Smith won.

This was their heartland, disrupted by the pesky Greens.

Smith says, 'The Nats sent Ben Franklin, an upper house MP from Sydney's Potts Point, up here to try to gazump me.'

'There have been numerous community meetings and funding grants that Ben Franklin has organised, right across the street from my Ballina office for example, where I wasn't invited. That includes ministers and the premier, who are forever trying to put his name in press releases congratulating him for this or that.'

Along with swing seats such as Lismore, all regional seats are lavished with attention from the National Party, she says.

'Labor do the same thing wherever they think they have a shot,' she says.

'Safe Nationals seats are not pork barrelled like ours,' she says. 'Other Nationals electorates get nothing, literally.'

Competition good

Smith welcomes the attention, however, saying that the competition gives the region a boost.

'In one instance, I suggested to a community group they complain to Franklin that I wasn't able to provide funding for their project. They were instantly awarded money for their project, and they have thanked me for that,' she says.

And surprisingly Smith says, 'I donate about \$20,000 a year out of my own salary to community groups.'

Values

Whatever your opinions of our local MPs are, the most important thing is to assess how the values of their party align with your own.

For example, the NSW Nationals say on their website, 'We're not a party of big business or of the trade unions,' which is debatable given they benefit from corporate political donations and support Liberal policy.

Likewise, the Greens are known to benefit from union money and are known as the party of opposition.

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WHAT'S NEW

New venue in the heart of the Byron A&I Estate – Studio93

Studio93 is located at 93 Centennial Circuit, Byron Bay. Designed for small concerts and other functions, including weddings, it can seat 50 comfortably. Also dance parties etc can accommodate 100 (more if the carpark is incorporated). Indian and world music events are what the organisers aspire too, but they are open to most events that have a community theme.

There is a large stage that detaches if needed to a smaller stage. Adult masterclasses of music, acting, art, poetry slams etc are what Studio93 wishes to attract, especially during daylight hours. Also a great place to make music videos.

Studio93, 93 Centennial Circuit, Byron Bay
Phone 0409 584 653

Facebook: Studio 93 Byron Bay
Instagram: [studio93byron](https://www.instagram.com/studio93byron)

Studio 93 is an intimate industrial venue for hire. Perfect for corporate or private functions. Music concerts, workshops, yoga and sound healing.

This is new venue in the heart of the Byron Arts and Industry Estate and bound to be a great space for the exploration of culture, music and the arts in the Byron Shire.

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With whip and reigns, the Greens flog the camel of democracy

Hans Lovejoy

It's been just over a year since a fresh batch of councillors took on the policy stewardship of the Shire, led by Greens mayor Simon Richardson.

Yet public morning access at Council's monthly meetings continues to be a cathartic exercise for those dissatisfied with these truly wonderful, energetic and good-looking councillors.

Are you people never satisfied? Anyway, Greens mayor Simon Richardson was absent from last week's meeting – apparently he was in South Korea giving a keynote speech to a conference either on how to resolve tension in the region or a spruiking of the renewable aspirations of this Shire.

Acting mayor Basil Cameron bravely held court, but like other meetings, extended debate felt at times unnecessary and it dragged on way too long.

Anyway, here's just some of what councillors did.

Plastic free

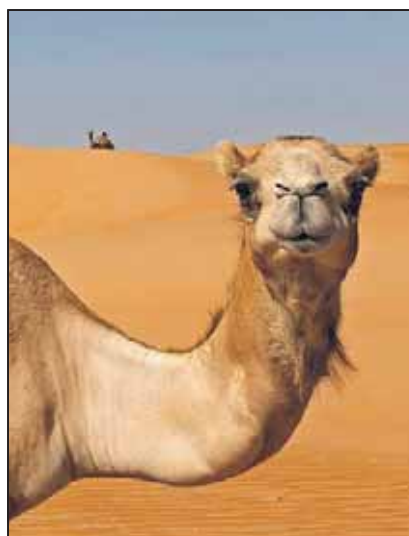
Staff will now be busy trying to implement plans by Greens Cr Sarah Ndiaye to move the Shire away from plastic bag and packaging use. It has support from local groups who promote such things, like Mullum Cares and Positive Change for Marine Life.

The notice of motion passed unanimously and will see staff reporting back over costs and benefits of phasing out plastic packaging, as well as options for incentives to reduce plastic by take-away venues. An education program will be created, events hosted, and staff will work with local groups that are doing the work already. Staff will also consider legal options to ban plastic and will look at funding options to help the process. More water stations will be considered, like the one in Mullum. And all relevant MPs will be soon receiving a letter advocating for the ban.

See – councillors *can* get things done!

Airfield policy

Another issue that appears to be escalating is noise at Tyagarah Airfield, where some neighbours are upset with the increase in flights. A motion from independent councillor Cate Coorey asked for a fly neighbourly advice agreement, which is a standard Council policy to manage such things. But staff told councillors they were not the authority for air traffic control and besides, there



Camels are designed by committee, goes the saying, and a racehorse is the product of tyranny.

Photo Julia Wimmerlin / Pinterest

is already an agreement with Byron Bay Skydiving, who in fact operate around 90 per cent of flights from the air field.

The resulting motion after a debate will bring the authorities such as CASA and stakeholders together within the next three months.

See – councillors *can* get things done!

Wedding venue debate

The proliferation of rural wedding venues had councillors debating the issue after a request for a 'Temporary Function Centre' on Bay Vista Lane, Ewingsdale.

Staff recommended that it be allowed subject to conditions. But Cr Spooner asked for it to be refused owing to neighbour impacts because there is already a strategy currently being formulated.

He said, 'We need a more strategic approach; we have had court cases around this and we are trying to develop [the strategy]. I'm not against the concept or rural weddings...'

But The Greens wouldn't have it and Cr Sarah Ndiaye backed the staff recommendation with restricted helicopter movements. She said, 'The wedding industry is huge and [if rejected] we are saying it's not okay. The restrictions are complex and onerous – fixtures have to be removed, music off by 9.30pm and it's for 14 per year. We need these test cases to see if it will work. The people running it have a long history of running events.'

Cr Ndiaye's forshadowed motion was supported, with Martin, Lyon, Cameron and Hunter in favour. Crs Spooner, Hackett and Coorey were against.

See – councillors *can* get things done!

WWI park v camping

Later in the day, the contentious Brunswick Parks saga again got a rerun. Councillors need to come to an agreement with what appears a recalcitrant government-run commercial enterprise called the North Coast Holiday Parks Trust.

I won't bore the reader with the history, other than to say the Greens majority appear to have accepted/brokered a deal where the three caravan parks in the town will move closer to being approved.

It could end a 20-year battle between Council, residents and the different incarnations of the Trust.

One aspect to this complex drama thrashed out on Thursday was adding a 100-year-old cypress pine memorial park – planted by locals after WWI – to the Terrace Park for 'short term camping.'

Crs Coorey, Hackett and Spooner wanted to explicitly prohibit camping in the park, which appears entirely reasonable. Spooner said, 'We have a responsibility not to trash this history. It's low key and a beautiful area. There's not much of it left.' He added it is not possible to allow camping and protect the area at the same time.

But it was clear the Greens bloc, led in this case by Sarah Ndiaye, were not interested in that level of protection, having previously rejected the idea. They appear instead afraid of legal action, despite staff saying there is no legal threat. Legal advice was also never sought on the topic.

As a new council majority, lots of stakeholder talks were had, they said. Everyone is really, really happy, except maybe one or two people who keep turning up to public access and calling them a sell-out.

The Greens bloc trade-off for the Terrace Reserve will be that 7m setbacks will be supported 'from top of bank to any short-term camp sites'. Cr Ndiaye told the chamber a previous promise of 10m wasn't possible everywhere owing to some trees being in the way.

It was altogether bizarre hearing Cr Ndiaye actually talk up the Trust plans like she was on the board of directors.

Anyway, the plans will forge ahead with the addition that the southern cypress pine park will be acknowledged as a 'place of reflection and remembrance and any areas of Indigenous cultural significance be recognised and protected.'

See – councillors who gain power, no matter what colour they call themselves, *can* make questionable deals that diminish their public standing!

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Is it really 'made in Byron'?

Paul Bibby

Walk into any local supermarket or grocery store and you'll see at least a dozen products proudly emblazoned with the name 'Byron Bay'.

Their colourful labels weave images of rich soil, sun-drenched hillsides, and local producers with authentic, personal connections to the land.

Motivated by a desire to be healthy and to support local, sustainable food production, many of us gravitate towards these products as a matter of course, proudly filling our baskets and trolleys with food and drink bearing the Byron brand.

But just how local are they? An investigation by *The Echo* has revealed that while most products using the Byron name have some local connection, there is a serious lack of clarity about where the ingredients come from and whether the product is actually made in the Shire.

It has also emerged that, under Australia's labelling laws, companies are not required to say how 'local' their products are, and are only likely to face penalties in cases of blatant deception.

'It's a timely reminder that consumers should always read the fine print,' says Stefanie Meyers, a spokesperson from the consumer watchdog *Choice*.

Product	All or mostly local ingredients	Manufactured locally	Local workforce?	Owner's comment
Bun Coffee Byron Bay	No	Yes	Yes	We are one of the few local roasters in the region. If we could source all of our beans locally we would.
BYRON BAY MACADAMIA MUESLI	No*	Yes	Yes	All of our macadamia products are local – the honey, the nuts and the oil.
BYRON BAY CHILLI CO.	No	No	No	We were one of the first food manufacturers in the region and we did the hard work to earn our name.
BYRON BAY GINGER MUESLI	Yes**	Yes	Yes	We pride ourselves on the fact our product is local and we've got good relationships with local suppliers.
BYRON BAY coffee COMPANY	No***	Yes	Yes	All our coffee is roasted here and we use local ingredients for our other products wherever possible.

* Most muesli ingredients are not local macadamia products
** Uses all local ingredients when available
*** Some products in range use local ingredients but not coffee beans

Whether claiming it's grapes from the Barossa Valley or coffee beans from Byron Bay, consumers will always pay a premium for a product which boasts superior credentials.'

'Associating a product to a particular geographical region leads consumers to believe that such products hold a unique benefit when compared to what else is in the market,' she says.

'Whether claiming it's grapes from the Barossa Valley or coffee beans from Byron Bay, consumers will always pay a premium for a product which boasts superior credentials.'

Too big for Byron

A small number of companies using the Byron name no longer grow or make any part of their products locally.

Often the owners of these businesses started local, but eventually decided that, in order to expand, they needed to source their ingredients

from elsewhere and shift their manufacturing operations out of the region.

One example is the Byron Bay Chilli Co whose sauces, salsa and corn chips are on shelves across the region.

Started more than three decades ago by John and Lynne Boland on their property at Goonengerry, the Chilli Co has expanded from a local market stall to a business with products in thousands of stores across the globe.

These days, none of the ingredients used in any the company's products is grown or made in the northern rivers.

The company's Corn Chips are made in New Zealand using Spanish corn flour.

The chillis used in its salsas and sauces are imported from different locations overseas depending on price and availability, with the southern

US and Mexico among the sources.

Some products are manufactured in Australia, but none of this work is done in the Shire by local people.

Nevertheless, John Boland staunchly defends his company's right to use the Byron Bay name.

Began in Byron

'Byron Bay is at the heart of our story,' he says.

'We put in the hard work here from the beginning.

'It just got to the point where we couldn't be competitive and sell our products at a comparable price and we wanted to do that.'

He also argues that the Byron Bay Chilli Co name has transcended its location 'like New York Cheesecake or Old El Paso'.

'They don't come from those places, but people don't expect them to,' he says.

Ingredient issue

While most products using the Byron name maintain a more tangible connection to the region, a number use few or no locally grown ingredients, particularly at certain times of the year.

For example, a number of local coffee brands roast and package their coffee products **continued on next page**

All rainbows for film festival



With preparations underway for the 11th Byron Bay Film Festival (BBFF), director J'aimee Skippon-Volke and Jinesh, Jimmy and Asren took some time out to say a big 'yes' when it came to the marriage equality campaign. For more info on the ten day event, visit www.bbff.com.au or see the festival program insert in this week's *Echo*. Photo Jeff Dawson

New Brighton sand scraping starts in Oct

A beach-scraping program at New Brighton beach will be undertaken by Council between October and December.

Its aim is to 'help protect the dune system against

short- to medium-term erosion and inundation.'

A combination of bulldozers and excavators will be brought in to do the work along approximately 1.3km

of beach north and south of Strand Avenue.

Staff say it's not a long-term solution to coastal erosion, but, 'helps increase the size of dunes and provides a buffer.'

Five-tonne load limit for Main Arm causeways

Two causeways on Main Arm Road near Kohinur Hall remain closed for trucks over five tonnes, as specialist engineers undertake testing.

Council staff say the work is a priority and necessary until a full report on the structural condition of the causeways has been completed by the end of September.

Residents are being asked to make alternative arrangements to secure their water supply, staff say.

'Some residents of Main Arm Road are concerned about access for water carts and unfortunately a fully-laden water tanker can weigh as much as 20 tonnes, so we cannot allow them to cross the causeways.

'Council has traffic counters in place that record this information and these people are not only risking their safety, but their actions could see the causeways closed to all traffic.'

A closer look at food labelling

► continued from page 10 locally but source their beans from interstate and overseas.

Other producers use one or two local ingredients in their products depending on price and availability.

For example, Byron Bay Honey continues to source some of its honey locally, but some comes from further afield.

The statement on the company's website that the nectar used to make the honey is 'reflective of the flora between Mt Warning-Wollumbin in the north and the vast Bundjalung National Park...' does little to clarify things.

Using the Byron brand name

Speaking in general terms about companies using the Byron name, the owner and founder of Zentveld's Coffee, Rebecca Zentveld, says more transparency is needed.

'I think we need to be really clear and answer the question, 'Does that food product contain local ingredients?' she asks.

'We'd like to see the people doing the hard yakka of growing get the recognition of that local name.'

While most products making use of the Byron

brand are manufactured locally, a number take raw local ingredients and then ship them off to other places for production.

It means that they employ few if any local people.

Byron Bay Chopping Blocks, for example, uses wood from local camphor laurel trees which is then trucked out of the region for production elsewhere.

The operation is run from an office in Bondi.

The *Echo* understands that a certain Melbourne-based food company gathers its ingredients in Byron and then prepares and bottles the product in Victoria for sale all over the country.

Labelling laws

So are there any circumstances in which a food producer can't use the Byron Bay name? Michael Schaper, the deputy chair of the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC), says companies are forbidden from using labels that are 'misleading or deceptive'.

'The question is, "What impression does this create in the mind of an ordinary consumer?"' Mr Schaper asks.

'Just giving a product a name that refers to a particular area - when the product

doesn't really come from there - may not be in breach of the law.

'We've actually got to prove in court that the ordinary Australian consumer would assume something from the label that is not true.'

CUB cops \$20k ACCC fine

Such cases are few and far between in the Byron Shire.

The only recent and successful ACCC investigation into a company falsely claiming it was from Byron Bay was in 2014, when beer giant Carlton United (CUB) started selling a 'boutique' beer under the name Byron Bay Pale Lager.

The label included picture of the Byron Lighthouse, a spiel extolling the region's many virtues and a map showing the location of the Byron Bay Brewing Company.

In fact the beer was brewed by 630km away in Warnervale. CUB was forced to pay \$20,400 in fines and to stop selling the product immediately.

Mr Schaper describes Australia's labelling laws as 'a powerful piece of legislation'.

However, they essentially leave consumers in the dark about how 'local' a product

really is because producers are not required to meet specific criteria on their labels.

Transparency

Anne Briggs, the executive officer of the local food producers network Northern Rivers Food, says she would 'love to see' more transparent labelling laws along similar lines to the guidelines her organisation uses.

She says, 'To become a [Northern Rivers Food] member, a company needs to have its headquarters here, [and demonstrate] that they're employing local people and that, where there are local ingredients, it is prioritising those over others.'

'We need to see more authenticity [in labelling].'

She says this will not only help consumers in their choices but also small local producers.

'Smaller producers do need that point of difference, and being able to say that they're local provides that,' she says.

'If just anyone can say they're local then it does undermine brand Byron.'

In the meantime, it's a case of consumers beware.

The product bearing that colourful label may well not be as local as you think.

Byron Council and govt fund koala program

A program to help protect the vulnerable koala population and improve their habitat has been funded by the state government to the tune of \$140,000.

Heading the three-year Byron habitat corridors project is Byron Shire Council, who will also contribute \$114,000.

Biodiversity officer Clare Manning says, 'To be able to allocate \$254,000 directly to koala conservation is a win for our community which places a high value on koalas.'

'Koalas have been recorded over much of the Shire and like populations in other

parts of NSW, their future is precarious because of habitat loss or fragmentation and the threat from road strikes, domestic dogs and bushfire.'

She says koalas are listed as vulnerable and are a protected species under the *NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* and the *Commonwealth Environment Protection and Conservation Act 1999*.

'A koala habitat study in 2012 identified five areas of significant koala activity on the coast at Brunswick Heads, Tyagarah, Myocum, West Mullumbimby and West Byron, as well as populations in

the hinterland around Federal, Goonengerry, Wilsons Creek and Montecollum.'

She says Council's Koala Plan of Management, which was adopted in August 2016, aims to create a minimum of 200ha of koala habitat by 2020. 'These NSW government grants will allow for 10ha of habitat restoration and wildlife corridor enhancement.'

'This land stretches from Shara Boulevard at North Ocean Shores to west Mullumbimby, Tyagarah and Bangalow and an important part of this project will be to encourage private land own-

ers to work with Council to improve koala habitat,' Ms Manning said.

'At Bangalow, we will be working on revegetating land at our sewerage treatment plant which will be a key link in the koala and wildlife corridor,' she said.

'The grant money will also be used for community education programs designed to reduce koala road strike and improve responsible dog ownership.'

A part-time project officer will be employed to work on the Byron Habitats Corridors project, says Manning.

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Volume 32 #16 September 27, 2017

Logic fails over no vote

Why are we not hearing the full-on biblical case against gay marriage?

The strange thing about the No campaign is that their arguments are about everything except the case at hand.

The simple question of why gay persons should not have equal rights is avoided, and instead there is a barrage of propaganda about irrelevancies such as religious freedom, sex education, free speech and the green-left conspiracy to destroy civilisation.

The question is being avoided because it cannot be answered. Either you fudge the issue by inventing far-fetched and imaginary consequences, or you appeal to tradition, the ways things have always been done. This latter approach quickly leads to justification by scripture, which is why it is not being used; the No case fears that appealing to what religion has to say about marriage will not convince any undecided voter.

Hence we are being exposed to the hand-wringing Helen Lovejoys 'thinking about the children' and the certifiable Cory Bernardis thinking about bestiality.

This seems to be a missed opportunity for religious people, so I would be happy to supply the biblical arguments about marriage – if they were clear and ethical.

Unfortunately what is clear is not ethical and what is ethical is not clear.

Deuteronomy chapter 22, for example, is rich in marriage references. There we learn that if you falsely accuse a woman of not being a virgin on her wedding night it will cost you a one hundred shekel fine.

On the other hand if you truly accuse a woman of not being a virgin on her wedding night, she'll be stoned to death at the door of her father's house.

After passing through the related matters of adultery (stoning) and fornication (more stoning) the chapter ends with the words, 'A man shall not take his father's wife, nor discover his father's skirt.'

It is amusing to read pious commentaries on this and other difficult passages in the Bible. The general tone is that such prohibitions were once necessary but we don't need to examine them too curiously now.

It is not surprising that promoters of the No case don't wish to fight their battle on such unpromising ground.

However, with most people returning their ballots long before the deadline of November 7, we will have to endure pointless weeks of TV lies served up in place of honest argument by the so-called Coalition for Marriage.

David Lovejoy

News tips are welcome: editor@echo.net.au

The Byron Shire Echo

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

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Abbott's threats outshine Kim Jong Un

ABC news flashed the headline last Thursday: "Abbott headbutted by SSM supporter."

For a delirious moment I thought that Malcolm Turnbull had finally run out of patience with his sniping, undermining, wrecking tormentor and replied to his latest provocation with a full blown Liverpool kiss.

But alas, it was not to be; the Mad Monk's fat lip was just the result of a drunk Tasmanian anarchist going a little over the top in his quest for freedom of expression. Turnbull was as conciliatory as ever, deploring any such incidents as unfortunate aberrations in the debate, to use the word loosely, that had been thrust upon him.

So Abbott will continue to play the role of the Liberals' Kim Jong Un, escalating his threats in the certain knowledge that Turnbull will not, cannot, respond.

Abbott dominated the start of last week's news cycle with his declaration that he would be ready to lead a band of insurgents to cross the floor of parliament if Turnbull dared to put forward even a modified Clean Energy Target as suggested by the chief scientist, Alan Finkel. 'The party,' thundered the member for Warringah, 'may have to save the government from itself' – a line ominously reminiscent of General William Westmoreland, the US commander in Vietnam who boasted that he had been forced to destroy a village to save it.

It is not at all clear how many in the party share Abbott's conviction: some reports say six, others ten. But they are definitely a relatively small minority, and given very few are prepared to name

themselves (and those are the lunar extremists) it may well be that not all – in fact barely any – would go through with Abbott's ultimatum.

But that does not really matter; even a handful of nutters would be enough to produce a crisis that Turnbull would be lucky to survive.

Abbott knows this, of course: earlier in the year he

– indeed, the more worthwhile it appears, the more brutally it must be bashed down.

Thus Shorten's offer of an olive branch, a negotiated solution that could have the support of substantial majorities in both government and opposition, is utterly off the table. In fact, if Turnbull could come to an arrangement with Shorten, Abbott's rebels would become

exploited by the privatised companies, the excessive retail margins and, most recently, rises in the wholesale price of gas. Turnbull himself claims to champion renewables, especially his beloved Hydro 2.0.

But the facts are irrelevant to Abbott; what matters is the war, even if his determination to pursue it at all costs is utterly irrational – indeed, it is literally MAD: Mutually Assured Destruction. Presumably Abbott still hopes to overthrow his supplanter and resurrect his own interrupted regime. This is clearly delusional, but even if it happened, what would be the consequence?

The melancholy example of Kevin Rudd is there for all to see. When a desperate Labor replaced Julia Gillard with Rudd, they were hoping to save not the government, but the furniture: Rudd, an ostensibly popular figure, achieved a dead cat bounce, and then succumbed. Abbott, generally disliked (and not only by Astro Funknukle Labe) would sink without trace, taking a large chunk of the coalition with him.

Most of his parliamentary colleagues, except the vengeful has-beens of the far right, have come to realise that if there is to be a replacement (and there is no real push for one) it will not be a recycled failure like the former incumbent. And the polling is turning around even further; the demand for Abbott to retire from parliament and politics is steadily growing.

But none of that matters to Abbott, and eventually Turnbull will have to deal with it, to find the guts to tell his predecessor the time is up. In the end, it may be easier – and a lot more useful – to deal with Blackout Bill than with the Abominable Abbott.

Even a handful of [MP] nutters would be enough to produce a crisis that Turnbull would be lucky to survive

by Mungo MacCallum



talked about the gravity of any backbencher crossing the floor against government policy. 'It's obviously a dramatic loss of discipline inside the government and it's a serious attack on the authority of the leadership,' he warned when it appeared possible that some of his colleagues might attempt to bring on a bill to enable same-sex marriage without a plebiscite, or even a postal survey. And he's right, which is precisely the point of his threat.

And there is to be no compromise – not even a hint of subsidies for renewable energy, although coal is, as always, sacrosanct, something to be cosseted, cherished and protected at all costs, especially the cost to the taxpayers. He has no actual plan, and certainly not one that would produce any benefit to consumers in the next few years, but that doesn't matter.

Abbott is not about policy; he is about tactics, the need to ensure that Turnbull is compelled to continue the hyper-partisan attacks on Bill Shorten and indeed anything and everything that Labor might propose, however worthwhile it may be

numerically irrelevant; energy could again become a bipartisan issue in the manner the industry (and just about everyone else) is pleading for it to be.

But the politics make this impossible; if Shorten voted with Turnbull as Abbott voted against him, the shit would really hit the fan. Thus, yet again, Abbott's bluff (if it is a bluff) will not be called; Turnbull will continue to negotiate on his knees before those who are determined to destroy him.

Absurdly, he even said at one point that the party was of one mind, totally united to deliver affordable, reliable and sustainable energy. Well, perhaps, but they have very different ideas of how to go about it, and some, like Abbott, regard this laudable aim only as a means to make Turnbull's life, as Shorten correctly said, hell.

The attack on renewables is, essentially, fraudulent. As Rod Sims of the Competition and Consumer Commission pointed out last week, renewables make up less than one sixth of the increases in power prices. The real culprits are the gold-plating of poles and wires

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Winner takes all

The public walkway will be re-established along Simpsons Creek in Terrace Park in plans endorsed by Council last Thursday.

The proposed new path will be 10m wide alongside the 22 new riverside cabins shrinking to 3m in the permanent section so residents retain their existing sites. It's 7m in the southern area, with 30 camp sites permitted amid the WWI Memorial Park's coastal cypress pine trees.

We were promised a 10m continuous walkway along the riverbank in Terrace Park and Massey Greene Holiday Park during last November's walk-around with Steve Edmonds, CEO of NSW Crown Holiday Park Trust (CHPT). It was mayor Simon Richardson's 'non-negotiable' big ace, used to win over the community and justify the handover of 35,000m² of prime public

land to Crown Trustees for commercial development.

In the Massey Greene plan, we get the same existing walkway – not 10m wide, and not one extra inch along the boat harbour boundary where it is most needed. Proposed new works will intensify development within metres of the harbour and river front – exacerbating access issues – to the park, yacht precinct, boat ramp and public pathway.

At Ferry Reserve the foreshore area will be cut in half; the public gained a few metres but lost 20m of public road reserve – excising 10m off the grassed strip for commercial use.

With the acquisition of the old Pacific Highway site, Ferry Reserve will virtually double in size and profits. Yet our Green councillors refused to protect the integrity of the foreshore strip and rehabilitate the wildlife corridor, or

retain public land for public recreation.

Proposed park plans endorsed by our new Green councillors (and old do-nothing Basil) fail to address community concerns, exacerbate existing amenity and compliance problems and we don't get our 10m continuous walkway along the riverfront.

The only place the 10m setback is implemented is in front of huge new cabins – extending approximately 100–150m in Terrace Park. Council has also left CHPT vandals in charge of the coastal cypress pine trees they've spent ten years brutally pruning and killing off after encroaching onto the Memorial Park.

Crown Lands really hit the jackpot with our new council. By any estimation, Council has negotiated a pretty shit deal for the Brunswick community, in exchange for public

road reserve lands valued at over \$3 million back in 2009.

But we will get our walkway back in Terrace Park 'wherever feasible' one day soon, maybe!

Michele Grant
Foreshore Protection Group

State assistance

Venice: Go to website Venice-Italy accommodation tax. 1. Population of Venice (historic city) is 55,000 (2016) 2. Population of Comune di Venezia (main city) 264,579 (2016) 3. Population of Padua-Treviso Venice metropolitan area 2.6 million 4. Tourists visiting historic city = 41 million. Ratio of population to tourists 1. 55,000 to 41 mill = 1 to 745 2. 264,579 to 41 mill = 1 to 155 3. 2.6 mill to 41 mill = 1 to 15

Accommodation tax for Italy is 3 euro per person per night.

Byron Bay: Tourists up to 2 million. 1. Population of Byron 3,500 2. Population of valley 12,000 3. Population of Shire 31,000. Ratio of population to tourists 1. 3,500 to 2 mill = 1 to 571; 2. 12,000 to 2 mill = 1 to 166; 3. 31,000 to 2 mill = 1 to 64.

Accommodation tax for Byron = \$0. Government funding for local amenities and infrastructure?

PS: Government funding for Sydney infrastructure and amenities?

Bernard Hinchcliffe
Mullumbimby

Flood Mitigation

At the meeting at the Mullumbimby Ex-Services Club on September 19, organised by the Mullumbimby Residents Association and the SES, a recurring theme was the state of our stormwater **continued on next page**

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WOW THIS GAY MARRIAGE THING HAS THE WHOLE COUNTRY IN AN UPROAR, TONY!

WINDOW OF OPPORTUNITY

YES! NO! YES! NO! YES! NO! YES! NO!

EXACTLY! AND NO-ONE'S ASKING ABOUT MY DUAL CITIZENSHIP, HEE HEE!

AMONG OTHER THINGS! HE DID GET THAT HEAD BUTT THOUGH.

► continued from page 13 drains and dismay and frustration that there is no action or intention by Council to keep them clear.

In Mullumbimby we need a regular program of maintenance of this important part of our infrastructure. A cursory inspection shows sections of drains overgrown with grasses, weeds and bamboo. Keeping our waterways,

stormwater drains and pipes in good order is an obvious step to take and will mitigate the impact of flood events. As a result of a dry winter, trees are shedding leaves and a great deal of organic material will find its way into the waterways when the rains arrive.

The time to act is now. The railway line is my other concern. During the March flood the water levels

rose to the level of the railway lines. North of Woolworths, there is clear evidence of large amounts of ballast that has been swept from under the tracks to the eastern side. The culvert under the section of line opposite Mill Street has some time ago been sandbagged, impeding water from flowing under the line to the eastern side of town. Who was responsible for this?

The large open stormwater drain on railway land on the western side and adjacent to the track was designed to divert stormwater north towards the river. At the time of the March flood it was choked with advanced trees, weeds and a huge amount of dumped garbage. The recent flood levels in Station Street and elsewhere in Mullum have been significantly affected by the blocked culvert and the lack of maintenance of the vegetation along the railway corridor.

Geoff Davis
Mullumbimby

Flying foxes

The Management of Flying Foxes survey underway is misnamed. Since flying foxes are able to live their lives within nature, and technocratic humans largely cannot, management involves

management of humans for coexistence with flying foxes.

Those humans who are not in support of flying foxes tend to complain primarily of noise and smell.

A young man complained that the rooster on his rural land was aggravating because it woke him early. I slept at his place and never heard the rooster. An explanation is that my acceptance of the rooster as part of nature meant I could sleep through its call. The young man, however, appeared to be embittered with the rooster. His perception of the rooster may have estranged him from this part of nature. The same might apply to people aggravated by squabbling flying foxes.

The complaint of smell requires a more holistic solution. Industrialised agriculture is unsustainable. This requires all humans gardening the land surrounding their dwelling. People living near flying foxes are able to place grasses or straw under flying foxes for manure collection for their gardens.

Geoff Dawe
Byrill Creek

Whose mountain?

Wouldn't it be lovely if the 40-hectare range, which includes the top of Mt Chincogan and the two other smaller peaks, were a state park, so that everyone could take a stroll up there and enjoy the view and vibe.

Mount Chincogan is such an important landmark for Mullumbimby, not to mention its historical and Aboriginal heritage. Let's hope the community one day can work toward that goal.

Len Bates
Mullumbimby

A matter of defence

I write in response to *Echo* correspondents Sugarman and Anderson (Bucks) and recent musings depicting the Byron Shire general manager (GM) as a benevolent megalomaniac.

Contrary to popular myth being peddled in *The Echo* the primary role of the GM is to implement the decisions of the elected Council. In the matters raised by these correspondents in your most recent edition, namely the proposal to introduce pay parking to Brunswick Heads, and the management of Council's defence of the Land and Environment Court proceedings relative to Councillor Hunter's Pinegroves Road development, the GM was implementing decisions made by the Council.

Pay parking in Brunswick

Heads was a recommendation of parking consultants engaged by direction of the Council to conduct a parking study. The Council voted to take this proposition to the people of Brunswick Heads by resolution at its August 24 meeting and an extensive consultation process is now under way. The GM was not present when this decision was taken. This proposal was not an initiative of the GM as suggested by Sugarman.

With respect to the Hunter court matter, the Council by resolution at its August 3 meeting delegated authority to the GM to instruct Council's Sydney-based lawyers in the matter. Does this mean that the GM was involved in direct negotiations with Cr Hunter's legal team? Of course not. Such delegation is normal practice for councils as Mr Anderson well knows. What is Mr Anderson's alternative proposition? That the mayor and councillors travel to Sydney and put all court requests on hearing day to a vote?

Gentlemen, I am afraid that your prejudice is showing. Your proposition that council GMs have too much power might be good theatre but is misguided and ill-informed. It is also disrespectful to our hard-working councillors who spend many hours working to improve the quality of life of our citizens through considered decision making for little remuneration.

Ken Gainger
Mullumbimby

Hunter's win

With thanks to Fast Bucks for his observations in the recent edition of *The Echo* (September 20), a couple of points could be added:

Firstly – In a conversation with a Sydney lawyer with considerable experience of councils running similar cases in the Land & Environment Court, she observed that a pattern exists of Council, in situations such as this, putting in a somewhat half-hearted effort and, when the verdict is in favour of the proponent of the development, exclaiming 'Oh well, we did everything we could in the circumstances, let's just blame the Court'.

Secondly – with respect to Adam Seaton, Council's lawyer in the case, who appeared to give it his best shot albeit (as Fast Bucks suggests) at some disadvantage in the 'expert witness' department, it seems that, in the weeks before the actual hearing, while conversations were taking place between Councillor Hunter and GM

Gainger on a 'without prejudice' basis, some expectation existed that a negotiated settlement was about to happen – perhaps on some limited, less grandiose development. This, I suspect, blindsided the GM and the council's legal team when their opponents had no intention of compromising on their long-held aspirations.

Thirdly, and most concerning for the future, is the legal fiction relied upon by Commissioner Brown to dismiss, out of hand, the concerns of the residents (aka 'the long-suffering neighbours') as to the Hunters' repeated breaches of consent conditions imposed in the previous development approval for their mini-storage operation. Commissioner Wood accepts precedent from an earlier unrelated case put by the Hunters' lawyer, that: 'it is irrelevant to enquire as to who is the current owner/operator or who might be the future owner/operator, or whether the present owner/operator has in the past acted or used the land unlawfully, or whether the future owner/operator is likely in the future to act or carry out any approved use unlawfully'.

This is the nub of the problem for the 'neighbours' as, over the years, initial unlawful operation of the business has given way to approvals by Council with conditions attached which have been repeatedly flouted by the applicants. Evidence of many of these breaches, reported to Council staff, was tendered to the court by Mr Seaton in his evidence and by residents. Such evidence, now ruled to be irrelevant, clearly produces a legal nonsense – as we all know, past behaviour is invariably a reliable predictor of future performance in most areas of life, and this applicant is likely to be no exception. The problem is compounded, as acknowledged by the commissioner, who says in his judgment: 'I accept that the council enforcement of the conditions of consent may be problematic at times based on the evidence from the residents'.

He's, in effect, acknowledged the evidence tendered of the poor record of the Hunters in this area and, at the same time, handed the problem of monitoring future compliance to the residents and the council staff – a 'hospital pass' if ever there was one.

Graham Mathews
Byron Bay

■ Letters continued on next page

CHES by Ian Rogers

There was only one story in Australian chess this week: 16-year-old Anton Smirnov's ascension to Grandmaster status.

Having been eliminated from the World Cup in the first round by defending World Cup Champion Sergey Karjakin, the Sydney teenager travelled on to a tournament in Anogia, Crete, where, thanks to a last round win, he secured his final 'norm'.

Smirnov is the seventh and youngest Australian Grandmaster, by a margin of five years – though he is four years older than Karjakin, the youngest GM ever, when he took the title. However, Smirnov is one of the youngest to win the title while not full-time on the tournament circuit.

A fortnight ago this column quoted Karjakin: 'I believe we will see [Anton] in super-tournaments.' His prediction is looking good already.

■ This week's game was a final round win which enabled Stephen Solomon to secure victory at the Nell van de Graaff Classic last weekend, the veteran's eighth consecutive tourna-

ment victory since March. However, it was the identity of Solomon's last round opponent that was most remarkable: Sravan Renjith, a prodigious 9-year-old who had been undefeated up to that point of the tournament.

Renjith's family came to Cairns from New Zealand just under two years ago but now, with the family moving to Brisbane, Renjith has had a chance to show his skills against strong opposition and has not disappointed.

Gold Coast 2017
White: 5 Renjith
Black: 5 Solomon
Opening: Larsen's
1.b3 d5 2.Bb2 Bf5 3.e3 Nf6 4.Nf3 e6 5.Be2 Bd6 6.c4 c6 7.d4 Nbd7 8.0-0 h5!? Until now Solomon was following a Renjith-Maguire game from earlier in the tournament, which ended in a draw. Now, instead of Maguire's standard 8...h6, Solomon makes a radical attacking gesture which induces an immediate mistake. **9.Nh4!?** The only move which justifies Solomon's audacity. **9...Bxh2+! 10.Kxh2 Ng4+ 11.Kg3 11.Bxg4 hxg4** is good for Black. **11...Qc7+ 12.f4 Nxe3 13.Qe1?** Faced with such a blitzkrieg, few players would find **13.Qc1! Nxf1+ 14.Bxf1 Bxb1 15.Rxb1 g5 16.Nf3 gxf4 17.Kh2** when White has fought off the first wave of attack. **13...Nxf1+ 14.Qxf1 Bxb1 15.Rxb1 g5! 16.Nf3 Qxf4+ 17.Kf2 g4** The point – Black wins a piece and the game. **18.Qc1 Qxc1 19.Rxc1 gxf3 20.Bxf3 Nf6 21.Re1 Kd7 22.Bc1 Rg8 23.Bf4 Rg6 0-1 (35)**

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Here & Now: My mind and me

Photo & image S Sorrensen

‘Welcome everything that comes up. Welcome everything you feel. Invite all...’

Her voice flies off with a crow, calling faintly from afar, as my body relaxes on a deck overlooking my home valley. My eyes are closed, my body is still, but my mind is a drunk, lurching from one scenario to another.

And I have an itch right at the end of my nose. It’s annoying. I want to scratch it, but my arm is heavy and, really, given the situation, I should just be aware of it. Welcome it, she said.

I’m not an itch

So I welcome the itch on my nose. Hello. I realise, as Krishna once said (between maids), I am not the itch. Good. At least I got that sorted. I’m not an itch. I’m a middle-aged man seaching for a way to negotiate the next stage of my life.

The noisy miner birds are, well, noisy in the tree outside. They squabble. I can even hear the leaves rustle as they hustle about. Further away, I hear the crow and a... bell miner.

Oh no. Those bloody bell miners are in the valley, their bell-like call tolling biological calamity. I have a mate on Old Tweed Road who had bell miners. He’s a blacksmith. Oh, must talk to him about the ironwork for the bookshelves in my bedhouse. I’ve a great design. Simple and elegant. I think I’m turning Japanese. But who reads books any more? His property was infested. All the other birds dis-



appeared, the flooded gums died, and...

Her voice returns: ‘... and let go!’ I feel three thuds through the floorboards I’m lying on. Three thuds for my three fellow participants. Oh dear. I’ve missed something. What should I be doing? I could check out the person beside me, but would that be cheating? Can you cheat at yoga?

Yes, dear reader, I’m doing yoga. Who’d have thought?

Living is the art of changing your life, and I want to keep living. These are desperate times. Age is stalking me like a crazy person. Denial and distraction have been my life tools of trade, but it’s time to dig deeper into the toolbox. This is my type of yoga, though – yoga nidra. Nidra means ‘sleep’ in Sanskrit. Cool. No legs over the shoulder here.

Knew this girl once who could...

The voice flutters

‘Your right leg is filled with sensation. Radiating, pulsing...’ The voice flutters at the edge of my awareness like a butterfly. A big blue butterfly. A Ulysses butterfly darting around the lantana bush of my brain. Don’t see as many Ulysses butterflies around here as I used to. Another species in decline, I suppose. Climate change will...

‘... and let go!’

Damn. I’ve missed something again. My mind is uncontrollable. I have no ability to focus. Sure, give me a screen and a keyboard and the internet and I can multi-focus (read ‘distract myself’) for hours, but leave me alone with my brain and it’s a delinquent stream of consciousness. Like Joyce’s *Ulysses*, except his stream of consciousness has some meaning. Apparently. Some worth. Wish I were him. Always found *Ulysses* too difficult. I don’t like difficult. But when I finish the bookshelves, I’ll...

‘... stretch, waking up the body,’ the blue voice says. I feel movement through the floorboards. I stretch slowly. My body is very relaxed. It’s more relaxed than when I try to sleep at night. Slowly, I roll to one side to get up. (Dodgy knee.) I rise like a bubble from the babble (sorry) of my mind to the quiet of the group.

The blue voice becomes the smiling face of our yoga guide. A crow calls. I scratch my nose. It’s not itchy any more, but it’s unfinished business. Like me.

Paid parking

Five points why:

1. Pure revenue raising. Byron Shire Council (BSC) must spend money to address the lack of timed parking, traffic management and public safety instead of installing money-making machines to hide these failings;

2. It is not about community. Paid parking (PP) as an additional revenue stream is

an easy means to justify BSC’s existence under the Local NSW Govt ‘Fit for the Future’ Reform. PP staves off Council amalgamation, sure, but at the expense of the Shires’ business and employment sectors;

3. PP is premature. We do not have a reliable public transport system offering an alternative to paying to park. The zero-emissions push is

continued on page 16 ►

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► continued from page 15
empty rhetoric without a reliable public transport system;

4. Favours big business. Enforced timed parking naturally provides safe and equitable access to all businesses. PP solely benefits the bigger retailers/other regions where free parking exists for consumers; and

5. Buyer beware. There is no guarantee that the \$55/\$110 fee won't increase each year (like our rates) to sustain Council revenue performance.

Locals and the business sector should demand that Council buckle down, create and enforce a localised on-street parking program that concentrates on time restrictions, increased public safety, and equitable access to local businesses.

Phil Falk
Brunswick Heads

Environmental laws

As noted in *The Echo* on May 3, APEEL has released their vision for 'next generation' environmental law.

The 30-page report can be found online EDO, NSW eBulletin 15/9/17 No.1023: 'Blueprint for the Next Generation of Australian Environmental Law'.

It has 14 key ideas for reform including the forma-

tion of new bodies such as an Environmental Commission and a national EPA.

There can be hope for future generations, if environmental protection laws are strengthened.

Jill Keogh
Federal

Proper china please

Being an ex-latte-sipping property developer from Bondi and now a retired latte-sipping resident of Byron, I sat down to read my last brilliant letter to *The Echo* editor while waiting for my latte and blueberry muffin. I was in a busy, fashionable café in Jonson Street. The coffee arrived in a paper cup with a plastic lid; the muffin in a paper bag. I asked the server for a proper china cup and a plate. We don't have those I was told. I have heard this at several cafes and restaurants now, from high up the hill to down near the beach. A learned friend informed me that these cups are non-recyclable and are lined with plastic anyway. So to continue saving the world [all of my properties are made with bamboo, hemp fibres and lo-mandra thatching], I refuse to accept coffee in a 'paper' cup.

I have to stop writing now as I'm off to meet my crystal-mining mate (he's okay - all

his fracking equipment uses E10 petrol) for breakfast in Byron. I have to pack a picnic hamper with two china mugs, bamboo cutlery and two ceramic plates. It'll probably be heavy so I'll have to use my Mercedes with its pothole-detecting GPS.

But then, it'd be a lot easier if there were an electric train to take me into town.

Raphael Lee Cass
Byron Bay

Love rules

I am far more concerned about 'heterophobes' (those who hate or despise male/female relationships) than 'homophobes' (those who hate or despise same-sex or homosexual relationships).

The former represent the tyranny of the minority. Their intolerance and vindictiveness knows no bounds.

Michael J Gamble
Belmont

Patriarchal flaws

True love and commitment existed before all religions. Millennia of patriarchy turned marriage into the preserve of men. Women and children were 'owned' to varying degrees.

A more enlightened attitude blossomed for 300 years as a result of Jesus's teachings. The Essenes embraced a gen-

der-balanced Christianity, more compassionate towards children, and kinder to different sexual orientation.

Then Emperor Constantine's ruthless political ambitions oversaw the creation of the Catholic Church. In the process many gospels and understandings were destroyed. History was rewritten. The patriarchs were back in full control.

Homosexuals should seek equality, but may not be served by a marriage ceremony with patriarchal flaws.

Animosity has been deliberately injected into the marriage debate. But the instigators did not count on the unexpected open and deep discussion of issues vital for happiness. A sign of the second coming of the age of compassion?

The patriarchal fallback position was the coming straw poll. It will merely indicate relative levels of compassion, fear and apathy. The animosity generated proves this political scene is unworthy and incapable of producing a desirable outcome.

This, the greatest personal issue of love and family, in the lives of humankind, must be revisited with gentleness.

Hayo van der Woude
Mullumbimby

Sandilands tail(ing)

Interesting to see how Phillip Frazer corrected sections of his erroneous article (*Echo* September 13) before my comment could be published (Letters September 20). He now seems to concur with my viewpoint on the primary purpose of sandmining in the Bay (Letters September 20).

I agree that most of the north coast was heavily sand mined. However, the explicit purpose in all of these operations was the extraction of heavy minerals. These heavy mineral mining operations were not exclusive to Byron Bay, as Phillip seems to suggest in his response to my comment.

Furthermore, I cannot recall dredging on the Woolies' site. However, research suggests that this was the site of the processing plant built in 1934-1935.

Mining began on Seven Mile Beach in 1935, so it is improbable that a company would dredge underneath its own processing plant. Concentrates from the various mining sites were certainly trucked or pumped to this plant, where they were separated into individual mineral products before shipment.

Steve Bensley
Bangalow

Dust haze

C'mon Mullumbimby Showgrounds - it's time for tarmac! You must be making a motza-with the farmers market stall fees (\$25,000 pa?), gold coin donations for 'road maintenance' (\$800 pw?) as well as fees from campers, Spaghetti Circus and events.

The showgrounds are becoming a dust bowl and a health hazard. My son visiting from Brisbane remarked 'all the cars are dusty in Mullum'. How much water does it take to fill the Albert Hall?

Deborah Lilly
Mullumbimby

Choices

I addressed Thursdays Byron Council meeting concerning the plight of homeless single mothers and children fleeing domestic violence in the Byron Shire. I requested that the old Mullumbimby hospital be considered for a refuge and potential housing.

The initial object of my presentation was to alert councillors to the great dangers of unconsciously trading the community goodwill and resources with developers, who aided by the collective neo-liberal 'free market' have ascended in monetary status and power within the

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It couldn't have happened to a nicer bloke...

Cameron Bell

The media and other politicians have been quick to condemn the headbutt on Tony Abbott. However, in talking with people in cafes, in the street, at work, I have been met with a very different response. That response has been similar, though often in more colourful terms, to the ABC staffer who, *The Daily Telegraph* reported, responded 'reply all' to an email about the incident with 'Good'.

We are familiar with the phrase 'violence begets violence'. Tony Abbott would be the last person to admit that he is in any way violent. He can hide behind the rhetoric of 'free speech', 'opinion' and 'politics' to express views and implement policies that are, in effect, violent. The conservative right-wing agenda that he stands for is, at its core, based on greed, conflict and division. Mr Abbott's violent oppression of asylum seekers, the promotion of discrimination through his dishonest denunciation of same sex-marriage rights, even his 'shirtfront' diplomacy to Mr Putin, reveals the true character of a man who, we are

told, was not averse to issuing a violent threat as a student politician. Mr Abbott has successfully pursued a career in a profession renowned for bullying, and his form has not dropped off since his removal to the backbenches.

Notably, Mr Abbott immediately seized upon the incident to denounce the 'yes' campaign. Once again, buoyed by media support, he could promote discrimination and denounce a large swathe of society.

I don't condone violence

In my professional role, as a solicitor, I am witness to the debilitating effects of violence on victims, families, perpetrators and communities. I am also witness to the regular bullying within the institutions charged with denouncing and imposing criminal penalties for violence. However, in a professional, legal and social sense, it is vital to seek to understand what motivates violence if we want to address the causes. In his paper 'How could they', published in the online magazine *Aeon*, American academic

Tage Rai summarises findings demonstrating violence stems from 'the exercise of perceived moral rights and obligations... The general pattern we found was that the violence intended to regulate social relationships.'

What derives from Rai's findings is that we live in a culture of violence, where '[t]he purpose of violence is to sustain a moral order'. This occurs at the community and subjective level, and reflects a relativism of moral standards.

This theory accords with my experience as a practitioner in criminal law, and explains why the actual or threatened violence of incarceration is rarely effective. Whereas many of the matters of violence before the courts are justified by individual perpetrators within moral orders informed by significant demographic limitations, such as educational, economic and substance-abuse issues, in a wider social and political sense violence is still perpetrated 'as an acceptable means of making things right'.

Mr Astro Labe, the perpetrator of the headbutt, denied that it had anything to do with the same-sex marriage

campaign. When asked if he would do it again, he replied 'Probably'. He told reporters that '[It] was just a lifelong ambition to headbutt a fascist because I'm a skinhead that likes ska music and hates fascism. He's an evil c---...'

Social regulation

Clearly, Mr Labe's comments indicate he justifies his actions within his subjective morality. Although he states that his actions had nothing to do with the same-sex marriage campaign, it is revealing to see this incident arising at a time where the debate is all about regulating social relationships. Violence does not need to be physical; emotional and psychological violence can leave deep and long-lasting effects. It could be perceived that Mr Abbott's laborious statements on the same-sex marriage debate, and the unjustifiable fear mongering in relation to other matters such as freedom of speech, are an attempt using emotional and psychological violence to regulate social frameworks according to his limited moral perspective.

Mr Abbott is actively campaigning to deny the rights

of 'others' to express and celebrate love in a manner that attributes to them the full social and legal rights and obligations enjoyed by heterosexual couples. This is, directly and indirectly, emotionally and psychologically violent towards members of our society who hold a different perspective. The fact that Mr Abbott does this means that he either justifies the perpetration of violence within his limited moral framework, or fails to comprehend the violence inherent in the perpetration of his views.

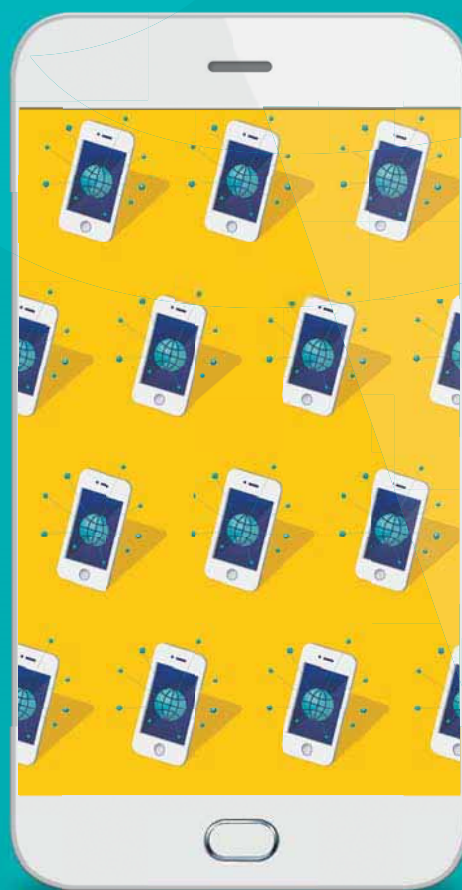
However, from Mr Abbott we now have the claim that he is the innocent victim of an unprecedented attack by opponents opposed to his political opinions. He has bi-partisan support for this. Those who benefit from the political institutions in this country are not prepared to question the culture that thrives on aggression, vilification and narcissism.

Nowhere have I seen this very public act of headbutt and victimisation viewed as an opportunity to reflect on the extent to which we continue to live in a culture of violence, the manner in which

violence is perpetrated and the idea that, to quote Tage Rai, 'Only when violence in any relationship is seen as a violation of every relationship will it diminish'.

Provocation is not a defence. However, it is a mitigating factor. The general public view that I have encountered, more than just being a reflection of political partisanship, indicates an element of provocation from Mr Abbott which, by virtue of his public persona, power and ability to express his views to a large audience, is widespread. However, in his now self-serving role as victim, Mr Abbott and his colleagues avoid the need to reflect on the nature of that provocation and what it says about the mire that is now the state of politics in this country, or the calibre of some of those who enter into it. If he were honest, Mr Abbott should not be surprised that he would be assaulted by a member of the public. If politicians and the media were honest, they would not be surprised that some members of the public could say, with a wry sarcastic grin, 'it couldn't have happened to a nicer bloke'.

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Byron region.

I also pointed out the dangers of 'Illegal Holiday Letting' contributing to this.

I proposed a remedy that already successfully operates in NSW: Women's Community Shelters.

Naturally, presenting critical thinking to Council was bound to over-step the mark but introducing the value of humaneness when considering the consequences of inhumane planning, development and Council's current adherence to neo-liberal eco-

nomonic forces was worth the intellectual challenge.

After the meeting I was attacked by a current Greens councillor who did not like my attitude and the way I presented myself. I always thought that the Greens stood for social justice but on reflection I now realise that this attack confirmed the successful unconscious human conditioning that governs neo-liberal economic thinking and social practice. Sad.

The Neo-liberal economic practitioners constantly orbit

their own moon. The greater tragedy is that uncritical social conditioning by the rest of humanity follows this trajectory. An inability to stop and demand that resources be distributed equally across communities. Uphold and benefit the rights of all persons and future generations, prevent growing violence and social fragmentation.

I do not believe that we should be lobotomised from our common humaneness. We live in dangerous times.

Jo Faith
Newtown

Under scrutiny

The Planning and Assessment Commission (PAC) has granted a 20-month extension to the trial of the North Byron Parklands (Splendour) mega-development. What a surprise!

At the recent PAC's public hearing the submissions presented in support of this development were from 'festival' owners/organisers/managers and employees and representatives of sporting and community groups who've benefited financially from donations.

Eighteen local people, including an ecologist, did speak about the negative impacts of these events on the wildlife, community and the local music industry. Obviously the vested interests and profits of developers and their employees carry much more weight than the concerns of residents. These events make a mockery of any attempt to ensure Byron Shire has zero emissions.

Claims that Parklands donate large sums to local organisations needs to be put into perspective. Local businesses have always been very generous in their support for local groups and charities, sporting etc. One local hotel owner raises thousands of dollars every month to benefit local groups. They are able to do this without loud noise disturbing residents and wildlife for miles around, without creating traffic chaos, or tonnes of rubbish and carbon emissions.

Also, there's no need for 150 extra police to be brought in, at a massive cost to taxpayers.

Just as holiday letting is impacting on the community and house prices, these mega-'festivals' also have a major impact on affordable housing. Why permanently let homes for reasonable rents to local workers when they can make so much more short-term letting?

When placed under scrutiny, the benefits claimed are shown to have little substance and seem to be nothing more than pure spin.

It's been obvious for a very long time that rampant consumerism, developments, unfettered growth, and the idea that bigger is better, is unsustainable. The unrestrained market economy only works

for the wealthy, and has a huge downside for ordinary people, affordable housing, the environment, and our children's future. Capitalism has gone berserk and we need a better, fairer system.

Louise Doran
Ocean Shores

Times don't change

Twenty years ago Byron Shire was famous as the dumping ground for rusted, pollution-belching old camper vans whose occupants forewent traditional clothing and a healthy bath, for the freedom of expression. Dead vehicles littered the highways and byways, their panels and windows adorned with peace stickers and rainbow flags.

Today the new symbols of occupancy are Range Rovers, Porsches and Audi Quattros. All black. All with darkened windows. All belching fumes out into the prestige air. Their occupants still wear feathers and colourful clothing. But now the feather is stuck in the must-have Panama hat and the clothing is billowing white linen shirts with the latest, must-have resort shoes from Zimmermann, Not tie dyed t-shirts and handmade sandals.

But when you delve further the question is do these people really have money? That is, free, disposable income. It appears to generate the same answer. Twenty years ago the answer was no. They lived off love and donations. Today it's still no, but now they have access to a bottomless pit of debt.

So some things in life don't change. Let's hope that love for others also doesn't change.

Hugh Downie
Federal



The Australian Marriage Law Postal Survey 2017 is now open.

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The way it should be



Film makes the link between the reservation and rock'n'roll

Kick out the jams

Sometimes in life it's important to kick out the jams. Byron Bay understands this, which is why it is home to some of Australia's rocking-est music festivals.

BBFF likes to let its hair down too – it's a key feature of the independent nature of the festival, and the region.

And what better sound to start the party than the dirty, distorted guitar riff made up on the spot during a 1958 concert by Link Wray, the prototype rock'n'roll animal?

Wray's shredding set the blood pumping through the loins of a million buttoned-down teenagers, and set the tone for a revolution in popular music that took the world by storm.

And, as The Band's frontman Robbie Robertson exclaims early on in *Rumble: The Indians Who Rocked the World*, he was an Indian! Or, more correctly, a Native American.

A Shawnee, Wray 'made an indelible mark on the whole evolution of where rock'n'roll was going to go', says Robertson.

Despite its being an instrumental, *Rumble* was widely banned from the radio because of fears it might incite gang violence, but Wray's power chords continue to echo down through the generations.

He wasn't the only Indian in the rock'n'roll village, however. Charley Patton had Cherokee heritage and his growing up in the Mississippi Delta had a profound impact on the development of the blues. Mildred Bailey, known as 'the queen of swing', grew up on a reservation.

Rumble shows how these



Fuck Everything



Rumble (Link Wray)



Amplify Her



Westwind: Djalul's Legacy

talented Native American musicians helped shape the soundtracks of our lives. Bearing witness to the indigenous influence are Buffy Sainte-Marie, Jimi Hendrix, Jesse Ed Davis and Redbone, with commentary from an enthusiastic Steve van Zandt, Buddy Guy, Quincy Jones, and Taj Mahal.

The rebel spirit was strong in Jello Biafra, and it drives the anarchic action in the feature drama *An American in Texas*, in which he appears.

The legendary singer of rock band the Dead Kennedys plays the mayor in a small town in Texas, where a group of friends unite over their love of punk and

counterculture instincts.

The film draws heavily from Anthony Pedone's experiences growing up in Victoria, Texas, in the early 90s, at a time when the US was about to invade Iraq and the air was thick with nationalism and calls for war.

The lads form a rock group, Surgeon General's Warning, which they see as their only way out of the small town.

Pedone says music has been a vital influence in his life, and it is in the lives of his characters. Growing up, he listened to punk and metal bands, such as Stormtroopers of Death, Angkor Wat, the Dead Kennedys and Circle Jerks.

Along with Jello Biafra, Zander Schloss, of the Circle Jerks, will act and provide original music for the film. Sam Dillon (*Boyhood*) plays the lead.

An American in Texas is having its world premiere at Byron Bay Film Festival and Anthony Pedone, the film's producers, and Dillon will be present to talk about the film.

Search for direction

The search for direction – escape – is a compelling theme in another world premiere, the aptly titled *Amplify Her*, in which three troubled young women find their groove in the world of electronic dance music.

The film is a cross-platform project encompassing the feature documentary film, a graphic novel, and an animated motion comic series.

The three women battle demons from their pasts, weaving animated motion comic characters into their colourful worlds of emerging female artists. They become Blondtron, Applecat and Lux Moderna to overcome isolation, illness and gender bias.

In 2009, co-director Ian MacKenzie attended his first Burning Man festival in the desert of Nevada, where, 'with thousands of costumed dancers writhing around me, I felt transplanted to the cave of Zion in the Matrix trilogy'.

He says he finally understood 'on a visceral level: electronic music is about tapping into the ecstatic experience below the analytical mind – syncing into a collective field, dissolving the physical boundaries that so often keep us apart...'

For female electronic music artists – both DJs and original producers – the burden of navigating a male-dominated landscape and the persistent challenges of a patriarchal society can include expectations to 'look sexy' on top of their performance, MacKenzie says.

This led to a hesitation to infuse any sensuality into their performances, which has unwittingly prevented the deeper aspects of the feminine from emerging.

Amplify Her explores another possibility: what if particular women artists are, consciously or not, ushering in a new era of 'the feminine'?

'I believe women hold the key to transcending our destructive culture into one that balances the archetypal polarities of the masculine and feminine once again – an evolution our world needs desperately right now.'

Co-director and DJ Nicole Sorochan will be present for the world premiere.

Balance

Balance of another kind underpins *Westwind: Djalul's Legacy*, in which Yolngu warrior, shaman and father

Djalul Gurruwiwi seeks to bring two worlds together to save his culture, with some help from global pop star Gotye.

Djalul Gurruwiwi is a master yidaki (didgeridoo) player and custodian of his people's ancient songlines, which have stored his clan's knowledge, culture and country since time immemorial.

But Djalul is running out of time to pass on these songlines. His sons and community, struggling to come to terms with the consequences of colonisation, are lost. When Djalul breaks with tradition in an effort to save the songlines, Gotye becomes an unexpected family member and helps amplify the songs to the world.

Director Ben Strunin spent more than five years documenting Djalul's journey, which ultimately manifests as one of his oldest creation stories – the Witi Songline that tells of two different serpents speaking together to maintain balance in the cycle of life.

The film showcases this meeting of two worlds, where western pop and Indigenous sacred songs become a common language used to transcend barriers.

The music

Music in several forms makes itself heard throughout the festival, in many other films, including *The Go-Betweens: Right Here*, and an hilariously in-your-face message of transcendence from Kai Smythe called *Fuck Everything*.

There's live music at both the Opening and Closing Gala parties, and on a Music Video Award Night at the Brewery. It's a party, there's rock'n'roll. Let's dance!

• Byron Bay Film Festival runs over October 6–15. Tickets are on sale now at www.bbff.com.au.

cinema for the senses

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Red Ned's secondhand and recycled building materials in Tweed Heads is the biggest recycled and used building-materials yard on the Gold Coast, with more than 8,000sqm of stock to choose from. It is a family-operated business committed to recycling.

Red Ned's Salvage has a huge range of secondhand kitchens and vanities, and also offers architectural pieces and unique items. It also stocks hardwoods, doors, lighting, kitchens and bathrooms.

The business buys and sells six days a week and often posts pictures of new stock on its Facebook page: www.facebook.com/rednedssecondhand. Pre-renovation and demolition strip-outs are Red Ned's specialities.

To enquire about a quote on your pre-demolition, renovation or surplus building materials, phone 07 5524 4244.

Byron Designworks

Being well into spring, new season stock is arriving all the time at Byron Designworks. A great range of cushions is available in different prints, colours and textures. Beautiful bright green, which has been missing for a while, is also available.

For those who enjoy bamboo our range of bamboo bowls, platters, cups etc is now



larger than ever. Great for picnics and barbecues. Daybeds and tables are coming in and going out and with a new container due soon we can help you with your refurbishment needs.

If we do not have just what you want we can often source for you from our many suppliers or get furniture made to measure. **LOOKING FORWARD TO SUMMER.**

6685 5714

BYRONDESIGNWORKS

This Season Fashionable Green at BDW

a: 3 Ti-Tree Place, Arts & Industry Estate
t: 66855714 www.byrondesignworks.com.au

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110 Teven Road, Ballina | Find us on Facebook

Ph **6686 7911** Fax **6686 9047**

RED NED'S Salvage & Secondhand

BUILDING, DEMOLISHING, RENOVATING?

Give us a ring before you get the wreckers in.
We pay cash for everything.

We are the biggest recycling yard on the coast with over 2 acres of stock to choose from including:

- Huge range of hardwood
- Architectural features and unique one off items
- Doors • Lighting • Kitchens • Bathrooms



BUYING & SELLING, FROM BALLINA TO BEENLEIGH 6 DAYS A WEEK

RED NED'S SALVAGE & SECONDHAND
46 MACHINERY DRIVE TWEED HEADS SOUTH

☎ **07 5524 4244**

MON-FRI 8.30am TO 4.30pm
SAT 8.30am TO 1.30pm

HOME & GARDEN

FROM PAGE 21



Stella & Knox

Vintage, Re-used & Re-designed Homewares & Gardens
10/70 Centennial Cct
0414 314 339

Stella & Knox

Discover an array of funky one-off pieces for your home and garden. Tara re-uses and re-designs furniture and homewares looking after the environment and your wallet too! Tara has gorgeous plants and offers services including furniture restoration, upholstery, and garden design. Why not join in a workshop to 'Customise Your Own Piece of Furniture'? Four-week Saturday workshop starts 14 October.

Call Tara 0414 314 339 – 10/70 Centennial Circuit, Byron Bay

Drought-tolerant plants

Mullum Creek Nursery is bursting with beautiful top-quality native plants that, once established, are drought tolerant. Plants such as bottlebrushes, grevilleas, tea trees, banksias, kangaroo paw, lomandra, plus a large range of local hardy shrubs and trees. New in this week, a lilli pilli that is perfect for very narrow sites. It's called Straight and Narrow! What a plant! Great for narrow paths and walkways, sun or semi-shade; bushy, very hardy and fast growing to 3-5m. Heaps of food plants such as citrus and grafted avocados in stock. Planting natives for the environment and growing your own food is awesome!

Open Wednesday-Friday 10am-4pm and Sat 9am-1pm.

110 Yankee Creek Rd, via Wilsons Creek, Mullumbimby | 6684 1703



Summerland Garden Centre
At the Summerland Antiques Site

Rare & special plants
Discover something different for your garden
Flora for fauna
Specialist plant selection & sourcing
NEW POTS HAVE ARRIVED

Phone: 6686 8885 | Smith Drive, West Ballina
1km south of the Big Prawn



Summerland Garden Centre

For gardeners who are collectors: lush tropicals and fragrant plants, beautiful natives for habitat gardens, frogs, birds and butterflies. Beautiful waterbowls, pots and urns. Plant sourcing and qualified horticultural advice to help create desirable outdoor spaces and gardens.

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Smith Drive, West Ballina, 1km south of the Big Prawn



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0438 470 484
www.tipeasy.com.au



Mullum Creek Native Nursery



THE LARGEST RANGE OF NATIVE PLANTS IN THE BYRON SHIRE

Drought-tolerant Plants

Mullum Creek Nursery has a huge range of beautiful, flowering, hardy, drought-tolerant plants. These include Bottlebrush, Grevillea, Kangaroo Paw, Banksia, and Tea Trees plus a large range of local native shrubs and trees. We also have heaps of great food plants such as citrus and avocado.



Linda and Michele

Open Wednesday, Thursday & Friday
10am-4pm
Saturday 9am - 1pm

NEW LILLI PILLI STRAIGHT & NARROW
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Cash, cheque, Eftpos & creditcard

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Sow beans, beetroot, broccoli, cabbage, capsicum, carrot, chicory, Chinese cabbage, cucumber, eggplant, lettuce, melons, mustard, onion, parsnip, potato, pumpkin, radish, rosella, silver beet, squash, sweet corn, sweet potato, tomato and watermelon.

For more on seasonal planting in Australia, including Planting Guides visit www.aboutthegarden.com.au





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Call today for your FREE quote from your local fully insured specialist

Call Nick Hart 0427 347 380.



The Pesties In Blue love a lawn rescue

With gardens and lawns parched and brown after weeks of no rain, all manner of six- and eight-legged creatures will be lying in wait for the first decent spring showers.

Funnel ants will emerge from underground tunnels, piling soil over yards and footpaths. These annoying mounds are bad news for lawn stability and mower blades. They also pose a real risk for ankle injuries and cause many bicycle and skateboard accidents each year.

'Off-the-shelf products aren't powerful enough to control funnel ant infestation,' advises Pesties in Blue expert, Jim Burgess. 'In this instance, you are much wiser to call on professional help. Our treatment is effective within 24 hours and can last up to five years, which represents great value. There is another common pest that can swiftly destroy your lawn. If you notice greyish-brown moths hovering over your grass or increased bird activity, your yard may be suffering an infestation of 'lawn grubs'.

'Last season was the worst for lawn grub attack for many years,' says Jim. 'Unfortunately, they will attack a healthy lawn and treating them only once will not eradicate them long term.'

We love to help conquer these persistent pest problems with environmentally smart solutions and friendly service.

Call 6686 8607 now to book a visit from the Pesties in Blue – or contact us at activepest.com.au.



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www.dreamdome.com.au
Ph 6680 5500

Outdoor entertaining made stylish at Vast Ballina

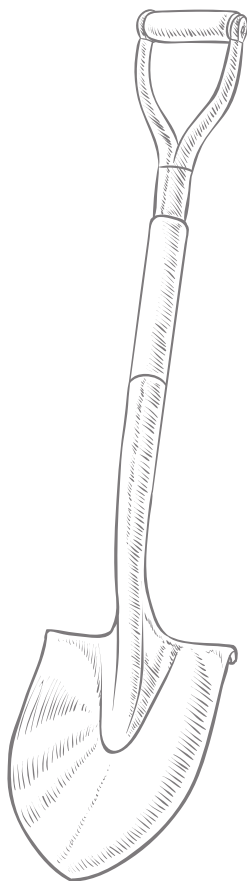
Maximise your outdoor space and entertain in style with our stunning new outdoor furniture range. Innovative designs, strong aluminium framework and weather-resistant resin wicker combine to create the perfect patio settings for our coastal lifestyle. Environmentally friendly, our resin wicker offers the same beauty and comfort as traditional wicker furniture but with some distinct advantages. Unlike natural wicker products, our resin wicker is coated in a durable UV resistant and colourfast coating that is much stronger and more durable, allowing your new furniture to withstand our harsh outdoor elements so much better.

We have travelled the world to source you this gorgeous and high-quality outdoor range, which is exclusive to Vast Ballina on the northern rivers.

Wait until you see the Eyecatcher Pod Daybed – it's a real show stopper!

To find out more, visit us at facebook.com/vastinteriorballina, or on Instagram @vastinteriorballina.

Or alternatively, pop in to view it all up close at 15 Sheather Street, Ballina. We are open seven days. North Coast news daily: www.echonetdaily.net.au



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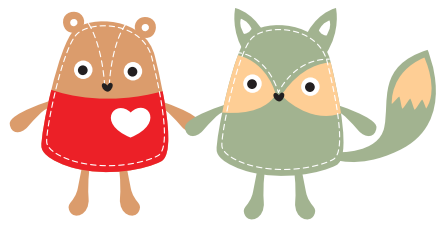
See our new battery range

MATES RATES

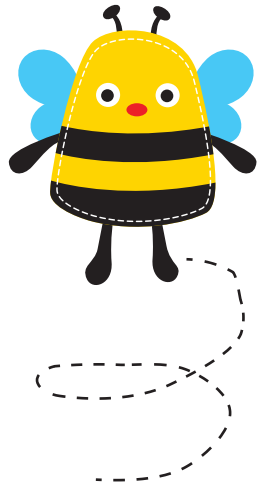


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school holidays



bricks 4 kidz REMOTE CONTROL WORKSHOP
 CAVANBAH CENTRE BYRON BAY
 3 Oct, 2017 For kids aged 6-12 years

we learn, we build, we play with LEGO® Bricks

They'll Think it's Cool, You'll Know it's Educational

Remote Control Mania!

Bookings Essential - Limited Spaces!
www.bricks4kidz.com.au/currumbin
 Or call Georgina Rice 0420 300 698



Holiday Workshops With LEGO Bricks

BRICKS 4 KIDZ Holiday Workshops are a fun and educational way to spend these holidays. Our fun-filled model plans are designed for us by architects and engineers! These holidays we are bringing our 'AWESOME' Remote Control Mania workshop to Byron! Making it move is the name of the game at this exciting workshop! Kids will love to see their creations in motion using LEGO® wireless remote controls. To be held at Cavanbah Centre 3 October – Bookings Essential! Limited Spaces.

Book online at:
www.bricks4kidz.com.au/currumbin
 or call 0420 300 698.

Macas

The intention is for people who like camping and like really good hot showers to have a really good camping experience. Tents, campervans, trailers, and caravans are all welcome. Campfires are permitted and encouraged where legal. The property may be explored on foot including areas of interaction between rainforest and old macadamia farming practices. There are two great dams and some fantastic places to explore or just relax while at Macas. Shady campsites, lots of birdlife, lots of variety, camp kitchen, laundry. Friendly dogs welcome, some rules apply. Intending to be a wildlife-friendly experience. Drive very slowly please to conserve the life and nerves of campers, wildlife, chooks and ducks.

6684 5211 or 6684 5058
www.macascampingground.com

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Advanced Level 2



Stephen Gort

ATPCA Registration No:
MM09022004

Mobile 0412 731 814
stevegortennis@gmail.com
Group & Private Lessons
Squads

Tweed Regional Gallery & MOAC

Book the kids in for a workshop while you enjoy the exhibitions and Café.

Les Peterkin Portrait Prize for Children now showing. Brett Whiteley: other places (somewhere else) from Friday 29 September.

SAVE \$3 per child when booking two or more children or workshops.

Thursday 28 September: workshops with Carleen Joy

Treading Lightly: 5-8yrs. Following a garden walk, create an artwork about where your feet have travelled. 10-11.30am, cost \$18 / \$15.

Field of Flowers: 7-13yrs. Work collaboratively using oil pastels and paint. 12.30-3pm, cost \$27 / \$24.

Friday 6 October: for high-school age, explore Monochrome Portraits with Sharon Muir. Create a convincing likeness of a person or animal, learning the basics of painting tonally. 10am-3pm, cost \$50 / \$47.

Full details: <http://artgallery.tweed.nsw.gov.au/NewsEventsEducation/ProgramsAndWorkshops>.

Bookings Essential 02 6670 2790 / tweedart@tweed.nsw.gov.au



Steve Gort Tennis healthy fun & fitness

Tennis lessons held at Mullumbimby Tennis Club – see mullumbimbytennisclub.com/coaching for more details. Lessons are also held at Ocean Shores Tennis Courts in Waterlily Park.

Steve Gort offers a Hot Shots program for young players aged from four years and up, with red, orange and green low-compression balls available to make learning easier. First lesson free for newcomers.

Cardio training for adults, and adult and junior comps every week.
Contact Steve on 0412 731 814.

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- Natural Bush Setting
- Campfires Allowed
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macascampingground@gmail.com
www.macascampingground.com

TWEED REGIONAL GALLERY
 & MARGARET OLLEY ART CENTRE | MURWILLUMBAH

Free admission
 Gallery open Wed-Sun
 10am - 5pm
 2 Mistral Rd, Murwillumbah NSW

Creative holiday workshops for children

Thursday 28 September
 Inspiring workshops with Carleen Joy
 10am- 11.30am | Treading Lightly | ages 5-8 years | \$18 (\$15*)
 12.30pm- 3pm | Field of Flowers | ages 7-13 years | \$27 (\$24*)

Friday 6 October
 Monochrome Portraits with Sharon Muir
 10am- 3pm | \$50 (47*)
 Complete beginners to some experience | High School age
 *Save \$3 per child when booking two or more workshops

Wed-Sun 10am - 5pm Free Drop In Activities for Families

Bookings
 (02) 6670 2790 | tweedart@tweed.nsw.gov.au
 More information artgallery.tweed.nsw.gov.au



SCHOOL HOLIDAYS



Horse Riding

Explore the northern rivers on horseback. Live your dream ride along Lennox Head's pristine and isolated Seven Mile Beach. Sit back, relax and take in the views as dolphins play and eagles soar. Or explore the Byron hinterland, soak up the beauty of Byron Creek, and have your cameras ready for some breathtaking views of the Bangalow valley.

Family operated with more than 30 years' experience in the industry, we are highly efficient in working with all riding abilities.

Offering one-on-one coaching, group lessons, private and group trails and, of course, pony rides for the kids.

Call us today – Jam pack your Byron Bay holiday full of horsey fun!

For more info and bookings please call 6687 1446 or visit www.pegasuspark.com.au.



Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary

These school holidays join in the fun of being in a live studio audience at Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary and see Blinky Bill in his new Studio Adventure Show! Mums and dads, and kids of all ages, will become part of the action as Blinky Bill, the star of the show, and our trusted Wildlife Host, rehearse and film scenes from their next television episode.

Blinky Bill's Studio Adventure show is a fun, interactive, fast-paced musical show that will have the audience singing and dancing, and send imaginations soaring.

Blinky Bill's Studio Adventure – where adventure comes to life!

currumbinsanctuary.com.au

The Byron Bay Equestrian Centre

has lots of horsey fun for the kids these school holidays! Kids can come for the day 10am–3pm – Tues/Wed/Thurs 3, 4 & 5 October and learn all aspects of horse care, riding and the fantastic sport of vaulting (gymnastics on horseback).

Add into the mix some fun games, treasure hunts, horsey movies and crafts,

all under the careful watch of our qualified and experienced instructors. Private rides and lessons are also available, along with pony parties for birthdays and special occasions.

For bookings and enquiries please call 0468 41 HORSE (4677) or email manager@byronbayequestriancentre.com



Horse Riding School Holiday Program!

Come along for heaps of horsey fun, including: horse riding, learn how to care for a horse & experience the fun team sport of Vaulting (gymnastics on horseback).

Tues/Weds/Thurs 3rd, 4th & 5th October

Starting from 10am to 3pm. Cost \$90 per child 1st day, \$80 per child additional days.

- Refreshments and lunch provided
- Fully supervised and indoor riding arena so runs in wet weather!
- Options for all levels of riders!

Book Now Online!

T 0468 41 HORSE W byronbayequestriancentre.com
E manager@byronbayequestriancentre.com



PEGASUS PARK Equestrian Centre

HORSE RIDING

Daily Beach and Hinterland tours.

Nervous adults and small children our speciality. We cater for all standards and even offer pony rides for children as young as two and up.

Also, beach rides on one of Byron's most secluded beaches – Seven Mile Beach at Lennox Head.

GIFT VOUCHERS AVAILABLE



We offer daily rides, lessons. Come and stay in our rooms at our ranch and receive 10% discount on all rides.

Established 23 years "Go with the legal Operators"

Book now 02 6687 1446 Check out pegasuspark.com.au



NEW SHOW!

Introducing Blinky Bill's Studio Adventure

Come to Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary and see Blinky Bill in his new Studio Adventure Show!

There's music and dancing, and fun for all ages! Catch the new show daily - these school holidays.



Become a National Trust of Australia (Queensland) Kid's member, for as little as \$59 visit currumbinsanctuary.com.au



...from prev page

School holidays



BANG!

BANG! Academy of Performing Arts is excited to announce the formation of a new acting ensemble for young people.

A workshop/audition will be held these school holidays in preparation for Term 4. BANG! is privileged to engage Frauke Huhn to facilitate this project. Frauke has trained and worked in theatre across the globe for more than 20 years. She holds MAs in Science and Education, is a certified Applied Theatre Teacher, an accredited NSW Secondary Teacher, and has sat on the board of Drama NSW. She is founder of CICADE (Centre for Innovative Coaching and Applied Drama Education) and Director of Education for Public Act Theatre. Frauke is excited to share her extensive experience and assist in shaping BANG!'s Youth Ensemble.

www.bangacademyofperformingarts.com

Looking for somewhere to have fun over the school holidays?

Come to the Cavanbah Centre at Byron Bay to play basketball, futsal, volleyball, netball, badminton.

Or maybe you want to rehearse your end of year dance in our premier dance studio. The courts and function rooms are also available for hire for children's birthday parties. The Cavanbah Centre is a great place to get fit and have fun with family and friends!

For more information ph: 6685 5911

Web: www.byron.nsw.gov.au/cavanbah

Fb: www.facebook.com/cavanbahcentre



ACTORS WANTED
13-18 years old for
2-DAY WORKSHOP/AUDITION
TUES 3 - WED 4 OCT 10AM - 2PM

to form an ENSEMBLE and create a SELF-DEvised work to be performed on TUES DEC 12 at the BANGALOW A&I HALL.

A commitment to WEEKLY REHEARSALS held in Bangalow on TUESDAYS 4:15 - 5:45PM during TERM 4 is ESSENTIAL

NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY

COST of workshop is \$220 and includes 10 weeks of tuition

For more information or to register interest, email us at hello@bangacademyofperformingarts.com

WHAT'S ON
Kids & Family
Holiday Entertainment

KidzKlub Spring School Holiday Program
presented by KidzKlub Australia & Byron Com Centre
Mon 25th - Wed 27th Sept & Mon 2nd - Wed 4th October
1:30pm - 4:00pm
\$25 | Ages 4½ - 12 years

Children's African Drum, Dance and Storytelling Workshop
presented by Gabriel Otu
Mon 25th & Wed 27th Sept & Mon 2nd & Wed 4th October
10:30am - 12:00pm
Single \$20 | Group of 20 \$18 ea. | Group of 4+ \$15 ea. | Ages 2+

Chores
Family Circus Show
presented by Cluster Arts & Hoopla Clique
Thursday 28th & Friday 29th September 10:00am
Single \$15 | Family of 4 \$50

Trash Test Dummies
Family Circus Show
presented by Byron Theatre
Tuesday 3rd October 11:00am
Full \$20 | Byron Theatre Club \$15 | Family of 4 \$60

Bright Lights Holiday Workshop Show
presented by Bright Lights Performance School
Thursday 5th October 6:00pm
Single \$5 | Family \$20

11th Annual Byron Bay Film Festival
Family Friendly Shorts
presented by BBFF 2017
Saturday 7th October 11:15am
Single \$10 | Family Pass \$35

Byron Theatre & Community Centre
69 Jonson Street, Byron Bay 2481
www.byroncentre.com.au | Tel. 6685 6807

School Holiday FUN at Byron Theatre

Thursday 28th and Friday 29th, 10am, the hilarious circus show *Chores* will wow you with zany antics and high-energy acrobatics.

Monday and Wednesday, 10.30am, Gabriel Otu's fun-filled hands-on African Drumming and Dancing Workshops give everyone the chance to participate and share their unique rhythm.

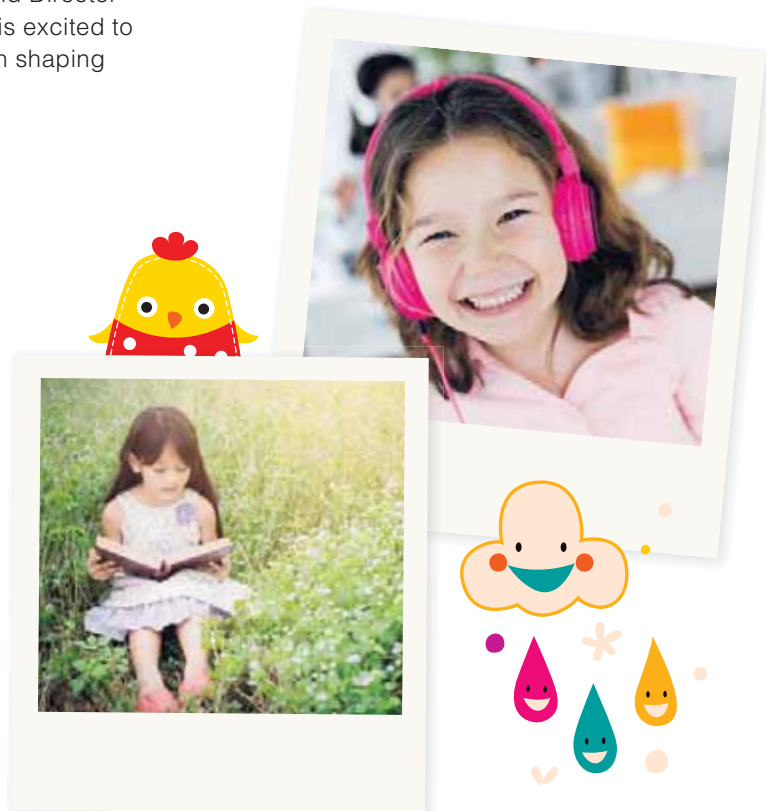
KidzKlub's fantastic Holiday Workshops on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons have creative art and craft activities for 4-12-year-olds.

Tuesday 3rd, 11am, the award-winning Trash Test Dummies and their household wheeie bins take fun to new heights with riotous stunts, acrobatics, slapstick and juggling.

Thursday 5 October, 6pm, Bright Lights Holiday Workshop Show celebrates singing, musical theatre, dance and drama.

Saturday, 7 October, 11.15am, BBFF's Family-Friendly Shorts are must-see movies for kids of all ages.

Tix avail online: www.byroncentre.com.au



Byron Bay Ninja Play

TAKE A SNEAK PEEK AT BYRON'S MOST EXCITING, FUN, FUNCTIONAL MOVEMENT SPACE.

Ninja Play Academy Byron Bay is a purpose-built space to work on natural fundamental movement methods and a place to train on obstacles that are similar to those in Ninja Warrior, Spartan & Tough mudder.

For the opening period of eight weeks, the following ninja sessions will be available (see website).

T: 0429 878 902

W: ninjaplayacademybyronbay.com.au
12 Wollongbar St, Byron Bay



Want to have fun these school holidays?

Come to the Cavanbah Centre

You can play basketball, futsal, badminton, volleyball or dance.

Adult: \$5.50 per hour
Child: \$4.50 per hour

Or book a whole court or dance studio.



Call the Centre on (02) 6685 5911 or check our facebook page for availability



TOGETHER WE OVERCOME OBSTACLES.

Ninja Play Academy Byron Bay will be a purpose built space to work on natural fundamental movement methods and a place to train on obstacles which are similar to those in Ninja Warrior, Spartan and Tough mudder.

It will be a space to learn and develop strength and stamina in body and mind to overcome obstacles and challenges which will help individuals grow and believe in themselves. A place to play and have fun and be surrounded by awesome likeminded positive individuals.

We will be offering training, workshops, events, corporate team building, education and competitions.

Keep up to date on the build on our social links below:

f /NINJAPLAYBYRONBAY @NINJAPLAYBYRONBAY

12 WOLLONGBAR ST, BYRON BAY, NSW, 2481

Happy Birthday New Brighton Farmers Market

By Sandra Haslam

The New Brighton Farmers Market turns 10 this week and there is much to celebrate! The farmers markets are the best shopping experience anyone could have. The lighting is natural, the air is fresh and breezy, the shelves are stalls which are largely beautiful artful arrangements, you are served by actual people, and the produce is super fresh and locally grown or made. As well as the quality produce and artisanal food products, another, almost better, feature is the stories you can come home with. The stallholders are mostly the growers themselves and might offer an anecdote about the food: that it was just pickled at night by the family, or that this is the first batch, or how they kept the possums off, or what is ripening to be ready for next week.

They are quite passionate about their food and can offer great preparation and cooking tips. Other customers have been known to join in giving encouragement and information on how to get the most delicious results. It makes you eager to run home and try the new tips.

Advice can go both ways. I have heard a young stallholder listening to advice about love from a more senior customer;



the conversation ended with chuckles! Love is in the air at the farmers market; one mature stallholder is always charming and the women leave his stall sweetened by his attentions – it makes them happy and I'm sure that happiness spreads beyond just them. The conversations can continue over a fine range of coffee or smoothies and breakfast or snacks, sitting down, taking in the relaxed, visual feast and listening to music

– live music, not the wallpaper music you have to bear in supermarkets. As well as fresh organic and conventional produce, you can pick up artisanal products – everything from bread and pastries, pickles, soaps, candles, flowers, plants and more. One mum says that, as well as the shopping, she always gets a weekly treat for the family and finds the markets a good place to pick up flowers or a simple gift when the occasion arises.

Having stallholders who are genuine people serve customers brings humanity back into the shopping experience, they might throw a couple of free things your way or round down your total out of the blue or just wish you a lovely day. There's a benevolent conspiracy underlying the whole farmers market phenomenon; you always come out better than when you entered. Whether you duck in briefly or

lay back there for a while, observe the goings on or join in the conversation, the farmers markets are a wonderful immersion in produce and people.

More info: River Street, New Brighton. Tuesdays 8–11am.
www.newbrightonfarmersmarket.org.au

Market culture

The New Brighton Farmers Market was established in 2007 and takes place every Tuesday at a beautiful riverside location just metres from New Brighton's pristine surfing beaches.

The market is a meeting place for the area's arts-loving community, who come to shop, socialise, chat with the growers and soak up the laidback north coast lifestyle.

The New Brighton market has reached its capacity: 30 farmers and food producers who offer the region's best and freshest produce: seasonal fruit and vegetables, sourdough bread, chicken, fish, seafood, eggs, milk, cheeses, tempeh, macadamias, olives, spices, coffee, honey and more.

The market is a not-for-profit organisation, with the funds going to support farmers, community gardens, the local community such as the Brunswick Life Saving Club, sustainability and local fundraisers.

A major focus is school kitchen gardens. In one program, 'Grow your own lunchbox', schools are encouraged to use their own garden plots, and then create a healthy lunch primarily from their own produce.

Market manager Allie Godfrey says it was fun to visit local schools and see them educating children about the growing and cooking of food. 'Wilson's Creek School had a glut of carrots when I visited. They were making all kinds of carrot-related food in their kitchen, including carrot jam and fermented carrots,' she said. 'Ocean Shores School comes and buy food from the market, take it back and cook it.'

The market did not have an easy start, with Kate Thompson from Organic Avocados saying that it seemed to rain almost every Tuesday in the first six months, but customers still supported them. The enduring popularity suggests that people 'get' the idea of buying food that is produced as locally as possible.

The early people who established the markets have certainly created a legacy that is of great benefit to the community. 'A special mention and thank you must be made to market founders Ian Cameron who passed away in 2015 and Judy MacDonald our founding market manager,' said Allie.



Big Celebration Day this Tuesday

This Tuesday 3 October is a special celebration day at New Brighton Market.

If you are thinking, is this really a suitable thing for my kids to attend, the answer is YES. The markets are great for families, and this Tuesday will be an extra special one.

From 8am till 11am there will be:

- Aboriginal didgeridoo and storytelling
- Bollywood dancing
- Live music with maybe some dance-related surprises
- Craft van to make your own tenth birthday hats
- Circus people on stilts and performing chair balancing and juggling
- Face painting
- Young magicians – you won't believe how talented these young kids are
- A yummy homemade birthday cake.

See you there, River Street, New Brighton.

Different markets

New Brighton's sister market the Mullumbimby Farmers Market takes place on Friday morning in Mullumbimby. These two markets are run by a separate body from Byron Farmers Market (Thursdays) and Bangalow Farmers Market (Saturday).

THE

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Yotam Ottolenghi recognition for local chef Belinda Jeffery

Local Mullum chef Belinda Jeffery is getting further well-deserved recognition on the international stage at the moment.

Two of Belinda's recipes from her book *Mix & Bake* have been adapted by Yotam Ottolenghi and Helen Goh and appear in their new book 'Sweet' with the appropriate and admiring acknowledgement to Belinda, who was of course very pleased to receive this



sort of recognition.

Belinda is a Mullumbimby-based cookbook author, teacher and former TV personality and is the award-winning author of seven cookbooks of her own.

The two recipes featured were Hazelnut Crumble Cake with Gianduja (or Nutella) icing, and Belinda's flourless coconut and chocolate cake.

More info:
www.belindajeffery.com.au













JUNE 25 - JULY 4, 2018

ALL INFO AT WWW.100NOTOUT.COM

Giant pig now smaller



By Simon Haslam

A few weeks ago we 'reported' on the giant pigs at The Farm, pointing out quite sensibly that giant pigs were big enough to eat children on school excursions and probably would do so again given half a chance.

Those of you in tune with the natural cycles of nature like this author will be pleased to know that the giant pig has now been replaced with a slightly smaller pig and lots of piglets. Much cuter (and far safer) we say.

We pointed out to readers that you could view the bucolic landscape while drinking a cocktail at The Farm's excellent Three Blue Ducks, but that was not enough for one city person posting on The Farm's FB page, who was mightily disappointed that actual farming does not take place right next to the alfresco dining area.

For those more sensible readers wanting to keep the poo, mud and large machinery a little farther from their Kinkawooka mussels, might we suggest The Farm school holiday tours that are on now? Better to leave the life education of your children to trained professionals while you investigate whether Oat Straw and Rose Root in tea really do give the claimed energy boost for the truly lazy.

**More info: The Farm and school holiday tours: thefarmbyronbay.com.au
 Restaurant: threeblueducks.com/byron/restaurant**

Luckily not light years away

By Vivienne Pearson

It is hidden but not light years away. Light Years is an Asian restaurant that has taken the place of Lemongrass, tucked in at the end of Lawson Arcade.

The transition was an amicable one. Hung Van Nguyen, the owner of Lemongrass, was ready to retire and was happy to see another Asian eatery take over the space. No promises, but after well-deserved travels he may even pop in to do some guest cooking at Light Years!

The main cuisine of Light Years is Vietnamese but the non-Vietnam-specific name fits with the plan to draw inspiration from different cuisines of Asia. The French influence on Vietnamese culture is particularly strong in the space, including a light-filled outdoor patio area, renovated with light colours, florals and greenery.

The owner is Kim Stephen, a graphic designer and photographer who has moved from Melbourne for this venture. 'I have travelled in Vietnam and love Asian food – I eat it all the time,' says Kim.

Head chef is Robbie Oijvall, who has moved from Sydney. Robbie previously worked at China Diner, a well-known Asian eatery in Bondi, coincidentally where Kim chose to eat when he drove through Sydney as part of his move north.

Their ideas for food were in sync and the result is a tasty and varied menu, with each item based in traditional Asian cuisine with an added Light Years twist. I tried the Kingfish Ceviche – a zingy combination of raw kingfish, coconut, kaffir lime and coriander – and Vietnamese Spiced Cured Beef Tartare, which was totally flavoursome and fun to eat by spooning the beef onto perfectly cooked prawn crackers.

Other dishes include wontons, pho, ricepaper rolls, vermicelli salads and Banh Mi. Banh Mi are French-influenced Vietnamese baguettes, served with non-traditional options such as smoked tofu, barbecued broccolini, lime-poached chicken or pork belly.

Though new in town, Kim is actively sourcing ingredients locally and happened across an ideal connection to help him realise his plans for having Banh Mi on the menu – his landlord is Jose



Raez, from Almond Road bakery, who relished the challenge of perfecting the crunchy-topped-yet-cloud-light-inside baguettes needed for this dish!

Open for only a few weeks, Light Years are happy to already have their liquor licence, so the Banh Mi bar now transforms into a cocktail bar for evenings.

With everything, including sauces and broths, made onsite, lots of vegan and gluten-free options and only two dishes priced over \$15, don't wait for aeons before you check out Light Years.



Robbie and Kim pictured above.

Pork belly with sticky caramel, peanuts, Thai basil, kaffir lime – pictured top left

Banh Mi – pictured left. Photos supplied.

**Lightyears: Wed-Sun 11am-3pm and 5pm-close.
 3/17 Lawson Street (at the end of Lawson Arcade, also accessible from Bay Lane). 0405 686 671,
hello@lightyearsbyron.com, FB/Insta: @lightyearsbyronbay**

Old School Roast

By Vivienne Pearson

What could be a better new addition to an old-school restaurant than a good ol' Sunday Carvery?

That's what's on offer at Old School Restaurant, located in the Mullumbimby Ex-Services Club. For only \$16.50 you have a choice of three meats (pork, chicken and lamb) as well as a dinner roll, sweets and tea and coffee. Yes, there are veges too – usually four options (just to make it even better than an old-school 'meat and three veg' meal).

The sweets change every week but the couple of options available each Sunday will include old-school beauties such as apple strudel, chocolate mousse and cake.

Your roast will be carved and served by Terry Dryden, who carries his love of old-school cooking into his restaurant. 'There are enough new-wave restaurants serving up tiny portions,' he says. 'We serve a decent old-style roast for a great price.'

The carvery is not the only new addition to Old School. \$10 pizzas – including Greek lamb, meat lovers and pumpkin and pesto – are part of the new lunch menu, which also offers a choice of \$9 specials each day – anything from a pot pie to lambs fry to quiches.

A new dinner menu is also about to arrive. 'There'll always be Chicken Parmigiana and Steak – that's what I have everywhere I go,' says Terry. 'But if you come regularly the specials will ensure you'll be able to have something different each time.'

What isn't new is the Wednesday \$10 schnitzel night. 'It's been going for a year and counting. It's still going strong,' says Terry. You too can go strong into your Sunday afternoon after enjoying a Sunday Lunch Carvery at Old School.

Old School Restaurant, Mullumbimby RSL Dining Rooms, 58 Dalley Street. Ph: 6684 2533. Sunday lunch 11.30am-2pm.

Terry Dryden and Judy Cupitt have sharpened their knives, and look ready to give you an old-school welcome at Old School Restaurant in the Mullumbimby Ex-Services Club.





New look for bigger Byron Farmers Market

Byron Farmers Market has been growing the growers! And to accommodate their new stallholders, they have a new-look market layout – with a bend at the end.

Recent additions to the market include The Bay Smokehouse (smoked local wild-caught fish goods), Brooklet Spring Farm (pasture-raised fresh chickens, eggs, mayo and bone broth), Church Farm (mixed fresh produce and amazing homemade sauces), Byron Spice Palace (locally made dips, dukkahs and other delicious delights), Terania Creek Passionfruit (two juicy varieties of locally grown passionfruit) and Taste Byron Bay (gourmet ready-to-eat menu starring Byron Farmers Market stallholder produce).

But don't go round the bend if you can't find your regular stallholders; they might have gone round the bend.

Some longstanding farmers have relocated to 'the bend' at the northern end of the market – including The Gourmet Salad Hut, Cecil Farms, Kennedys Lane Organics, Rancho Relaxo, Fossil Farm, and Sugar Cane Juice.

'A little bit of organic growth is good for everyone – both our customers and stallholders,' said Tom Carey, manager of Byron Farmers Market.

'This region is well known for its incredible fresh produce and has become a real foodie hub. We are lucky to have such a diverse range of locally grown produce available so it's great to



be able to extend our offering at the market and to support more local farmers and producers. Growing the growers and keeping local small farms viable is just as important as growing fresh local food.'

So next time you're at Byron Farmers Market, don't forget to turn the corner so you don't miss out!

More info: Byron Farmers Market is held every Thursday from 8am till 11am in Butler Street Reserve.



Billi's Indian Restaurant presents...

Sounds of India

An evening of Indian Classical and Folk Music
Vinod Prasanna and Rodney Wright
 Friday 29 September 6pm

Vinod captures the hearts of his audience with emotive melodies, exquisite improvised rhythms and sound. A show not to be missed.
 Rodney is a local Tabla player who will accompany Vinod on bansuri flute.

TO ENSURE A PLACE, PLEASE PRE-BOOK
 Address: 8 Wilfred St, Billinudgel
 Phone: (02) 6680 3352

Billi's Indian

Good Taste



Eating Out Guide

echo.net.au/good-taste

BALLINA



Ballina RSL Club

River St, Ballina
6681 9500
www.ballinarls.com.au
 Open 7 Days
 Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner and Snacks

New Menu Out Now!

Some of our new dishes include...
 Charred miso and soy duck breast
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 Smoked Argentinian sticky pork ribs
 Prawn poki bowl
 Zucchini, pea, mint and feta fritters

BRUNSWICK HEADS



Bernardi's Gelato & Espresso Bar

Open 7 days 9am-5pm
 Salad bar closes 3pm
 Juice bar closes from 4pm
 22 Fingal St, Brunswick Heads
6685 1988

New Salad Bar offering custom made fresh sandwiches/rolls/wraps.

Mouthwatering Jaffle Menu.

Free-range meats, gluten free options.

Extensive Juice & smoothie Menu

Traditional Italian Gelato made in house.

BYRON BAY



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Open Mon-Fri 6.30am-4pm
 Sat-Sun 7am-4pm
 Corner of Fletcher St & Bay Lane, Byron Bay

Cafe:

Specialty Coffee with Egyptian-inspired all-day breakfast, brunch & lunch

Restaurant:

Traditional Egyptian shared-style dining
NOW OPEN for dinner from Thursday to Sunday



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Open 7 days 11am till 8pm
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02 6685 8156
 Take away available

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• High-quality diced raw fish, vegetables, sauces & spices
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Any Poke Bowls \$15.95 | Tuna Poke Bowl \$17.95

www.finnpoke.com.au

FB Finnpokebyron IG @finnpoke_



Happy Chilli Garden

Open 7 days 12pm till late
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P 6680 9191
F 6676 4869
M 0403 516 793
happychilligarden@hotmail.com

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Fully licensed

Dine In / Takeaway / Home Delivery Available

BYRON BAY continued



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targabyronbay.com
targabyronbay@gmail.com

Breakfast & Lunch: 7 Days
Afternoon Share Food: from 2.30pm Tues to Sat
Dinner: from 5.30pm Tues to Sat

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 \$12 Cocktails, \$7 beers, \$8 wines
 4-6pm Tuesday-Saturday
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Live Jazz. Sunday 1st October 12:30pm
Open Sunday Dinner 1st October



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Open Wed to Mon from 5:30pm
 Closed on Tuesdays
 See menu, book a table, or order takeaway at www.basiloco.com
 30 Lawson St, Byron Bay
6680 8818

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Famous for seafood, meats and pasta dishes.

We do special events functions.



The Rocks @ Aquarius

Breakfast/Lunch
 7 days from 7am
 16 Lawson St, Byron Bay
 Reservations **6685 7663**
therocksbyronbay.com.au

The Rocks @ Aquarius has been beautifully renovated, and boasts a wide array of locally sourced brekky dishes, Byron Bay Coffee and fresh juices and smoothies to enliven the senses and prepare you for the day ahead. Late riser? Join us for lunch 12-2pm, when you can grab a selection of burgers, salads, fresh rolls.

Here at *The Rocks*, we are a fully licensed cafe, which means you can enjoy an ice-cold beer, a sumptuous wine or a hand-crafted cocktail with your meal!



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6680 7632

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6680 7798
www.facebook.com/pages/Success-Thai-Food/237359826303469

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Good Taste

Eating Out Guide

BYRON BAY continued

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111 Jonson St, Byron Bay
6685 6754

IG - @Jonsonsrestaurantbar
FB - Jonsonsrestaurantbar

Pasta Tuesdays \$25 inc bevy. Book now!
Join us and experience one of our diverse spaces Streetside, hidden garden, plush indoor hub or our window bar
Mouthwatering modern Italian food & creative cocktails

BREAKFAST - LUNCH - DINNER
Hours: 6.30am - late, 7 days
(Dinner: Tuesday - Saturday)


Slo-mo Joes



Open every day
From 11am till late
Corner of Fletcher St and Bay Lane, Byron Bay
6685 7502
IG - @slomojoes

DAILY HAPPY HOUR FROM 3 TILL 5 PM
Slow down & chill out!
Immerse yourself in Slo-mo Joes relaxing vibes while you enjoy live music & delicious flavours inspired from around the world.
There's something for everyone; from slow-cooked meats to mouth-watering burgers and nutritious salads.
Guaranteed to leave you wanting more!

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6680 8832

Gourmet burgers created by chefs
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Group bookings available, please email
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BYO & RSVP
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- Great coffee

www.lusciousfoods.com.au

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Extensive Menu Includes Tapas, Mains, Desserts and Famous Woodfired Pizzas.
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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.
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treehouseonbelongil.com


The Italian Byron Bay



Open 7 days from 6pm
Sunday Lunch from midday.
Next to the Beach Hotel Bay Street
6680 7055
italianatthepacific.com.au

The Italian Byron Bay provides a bustling atmospheric restaurant, dishing up contemporary inspired Italian cuisine and some of Byron's finest cocktails and wines.

Succulent Café



Shop 3, 8 Byron Street, Byron Bay next to Byron Quarter Apartments
P 6685 5711
FB: succulentcafe
Instagram: byronbaysucculentcafe
Fully licensed. Takeaway and group booking available. available.

Summer Hours of Operation
Breakfast and Lunch: Mon-Sat: 7am-2.30pm, Sun: 7-11.45am
Japanese Ramen: Fri & Sat: 5-9pm, Sunday: 12pm-3pm
At Succulent Café, we aim to provide a range of healthy food choices by incorporating a food menu that strongly supports the local businesses in the surrounding communities. To keep up with the upbeat and healthy lifestyle of Byron, the café chooses to restrict the use of Monosodium Glutamate (MSG), while advocating different eating choices, such as Vegetarian (Vegan), Gluten free, non-GMO, Dairy free and Organic wherever possible.

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.

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Sun. Closed Tuesdays.
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Tapas, mains and heavenly desserts all house made and gluten free.
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Dine in/Takeaway/Catering/Functions

BYRON BAY continued

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.

Legend Pizza



Open 7 days
9am till after midnight
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6685 5700
www.legendpizza.com.au

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6684 2306

Mullumbimby's iconic Empire Cafe serves up an exciting menu with something for everyone. From delicious and healthy superfoods like acai bowls and buddha bowls, to decadent treats like burgers and buffalo wings, and heaps heaps more. Come in and satisfy your cravings.

EMPIRE NIGHTS ARE BACK! Open Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings with a selection of shareable plates, delicious meals, cocktails and great vibes.

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Harvest



18-22 Old Pacific Highway
Newrybar NSW 2479
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www.harvestnewrybar.com.au
@harvestnewrybar

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Lunch 7 days from 12pm
Dinner 5 nights from 6pm
Breakfast weekends from 8am

Harvest Deli open from 8am with weekday breakfast available - Deli takeaway coffee from 7am.
Harvest is available for events, weddings and catering.

SUFFOLK PARK

Tullys



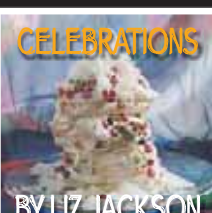
shop 12a, lot 3, Clifford St,
Suffolk Park shopping centre
0438 933 148
tullysplace.suffolkpark@gmail.com

Hidden away in the heart of the Suffolk shops, with indoor/outdoor seating and a tropical outlook, Tullys has a relaxed and casual vibe
Serving up 5-star breakfast, lunch and takeaway options

Open 7 days 7am-1pm
Dinner - Friday-Sunday 5.30pm-10pm
INSTAGRAM @tullys_place

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P: 0414 895 441

Property Insider

Email us: propertyinsider@echo.net.au

Byron Bay First National demonstrates community spirit

Starting from 1 October Byron Bay First National will be donating \$100 from every sale to Liberation Larder.

Business owners have a choice when it comes to community involvement. They can sit at the edge of their community or they can become deeply embedded within their community.

At Byron Bay First National they have always thought themselves privileged and blessed to be able to live and work in this beautiful region.

They also believe that sharing and giving back to the community is an integral part of living here. Over many years they have supported many community groups and are pleased to be able to offer this assistance to Liberation Larder.

For those of you who don't know the history of Liberation Larder: In May 2009 Liberation Larder Inc, Byron Shire's food rescue / food lifeline service opened for business. The operation was the vision of Buddhist nun The Venerable Honu Dawson. Honu invited people and businesses from the community who had any excess food to bring it to Byron Community Centre and each Thursday at 4pm she invited local people who needed food to come and take what they needed, no



questions asked, and a small donation if they could afford it.

Today, eight years later the problems of food insecurity and food waste are still a challenge in our community. Liberation Larder has 60+ volunteers who are always on the move growing, sourcing, collecting, cooking and distributing food to those in need. They each take on different roles including food pickup drivers, collectors, kitchen crew, home bakers, home deliveries, gardeners, fundraisers, social media and coordinators.

In the past year volunteers have provided more than 500 meals, 100 bags of fresh produce and 20 home-delivered boxes every week to people in our community. Liberation Larder has extended its service to four days a week, two in Byron Bay and two in Brunswick Heads. If you would like to donate so the good work of Liberation Larder can continue, go here:

www.liberationlarder.org/donate

Attention landholders and beekeepers



Gather By, an Australian medicinal Manuka honey organisation, is keen to partner with northern rivers landholders to produce highly sought-after medicinal Manuka honey.

Worldwide demand for medical Manuka honey far outweighs supply, and research has shown that the plants that contribute to making the most potent Manuka thrive in your region.

According to Gather By, local landholders, beekeepers, declining bee populations, and the environment all stand to benefit under their innovative agribusiness model.

Next month Gather By will hold **two information sessions** for landholders and beekeepers to learn more about this exciting opportunity:

- Newrybar Town Hall, October 4, 6pm
 - Lismore Workers Club, October 5, 6pm
- Please phone Milly on 0422 832 815 for more details and to register your interest.

Mullumbimby market still strong

The sale at auction of a 1501sqm property at Cudgerie Court last weekend for \$165,000 over reserve showed the continued strength of the Mullumbimby market, said agent Tara Torkkola of Byron Bay First National. 'We attracted good interest with a strong marketing campaign including online marketing and print advertising in the *Byron Echo*, and attracted five registered bidders,' she said. The final purchaser was from a local family. One of the highlights of the auction was a coffee 'van' consisting of a pretty cool old truck courtesy of Johnson County Events.



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- Huge backyard with entertainers deck, firepit and nth-east aspect
- Stroll to beaches, town centre and schools, metres to Top Shop cafe

5 | 3 | 2

showcasing family life & entertaining on a grand scale

Open: Thursday, 5 October 4.00 – 4.30pm
Saturday, 7 October 10.00 – 10.30am

Price: \$3,000,000 to \$3,300,000

Enquiries: Tara Torkkola 0423 519 698, Su Reynolds 0428 888 660



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- Established, private and easy to maintain one acre rural block
- High raked ceilings, bamboo floors, beautifully appointed kitchen
- Large living and dining room with wood fired heater
- Huge covered outdoor living space to enjoy the spectacular sunsets
- Double bay shed plus lock up garage/shed + a 20ft storage container
- Short drive to Bangalow and Federal, only 30 minutes to the beach

3 | 2 | 4

modern home with rural views and pool

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Enquiries: Su Reynolds 0428 888 660, Luke Elwin 6685 8466

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120 KENNEDYS LANE, EWINGSDALE

- Beautiful, elevated 5 acres on exclusive Kennedys Lane
- Stunning and extremely spacious home + pool & entertainers deck
- Views of Cape Byron Lighthouse and across rolling hinterland hills
- Town water, 30m x 10m shed + great outbuilding for guests
- Established trees, rich soil, level paddocks, riding area, north aspect
- Minutes' drive from Byron Bay, Mullumbimby and Bangalow

5 🛏 | 3 🍳 | 6 🏠

forthcoming auction - the quintessential country lifestyle

Open: Saturday, 30 September 12.00 - 12.30pm

Enquiries: James Young 0419 856 840

Tara Torkkola 0423 519 698



256 MIDGEN FLAT ROAD, NEWRYBAR

- Pristine 100 acre farm known as 'Piccadilly Cottage'
- Beautifully restored main home plus cottage
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8 🛏 | 6 🍳 | 6 🏠

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Helen Huntly Barratt 6685 8466

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



Property

Just Over 1 Acre

229 Rosebank Road, Rosebank

🏠 3 🌳 2

Auction 19 Oct



Sitting on just over one easy care acre with views to the Nightcap National Park, this timber home with separate studio & workshop epitomises what country living is all about.



Achieving big views from the back deck, this spacious western red cedar house features high ceilings & timber floors throughout with a good size living room, wood fire combustion heating & a country style kitchen and dining area. Three bedrooms, main with en-suite, plus large sun-room being a perfect second living space. Good size undercover timber decks are located on 3 sides of the house giving suitable covered spaces for any weather conditions. The surrounding gardens can be seen from every window & includes a vegetable garden, citrus trees, three large avocado trees, several large native rainforest trees & a chook pen. A separate studio includes a living space, kitchen, bathroom & sunny verandah which takes in the beautiful garden views. This home has loads of potential to further improve to reach its full potential. Auction guide \$800,000.

Open: Thu & Sat 11-11.30am

Contact: Duncan Lorimer 0400 844 412
Elders Bangalow

Pinnacle of luxury

27 Pinnacle Row, Lennox Head

🏠 4 🌳 4 🚗 4

Sale: Contact Agent



A unique benchmark home in which every square metre has been meticulously crafted to the highest quality to showcase the very best in contemporary luxury in one of the most exclusive beachfront locations in Australia. The inspirational design takes you on a journey of unapparelled world class opulence with dramatic and expansive ocean views from every room. The home boasts soaring ceilings and palatial open plan living and dining areas infused in voluminous natural light. Embodying the exclusivity of this premier position is a spectacular 20m infinity edge lap pool to relax in while checking out the famous surf breaks. Located just a few minutes to private and public schools (both primary and secondary) and amazing shops, restaurants and cafes. Ballina regional airport is only a 15 minute drive away and when you're ready for your next overseas adventure the Gold Coast International Airport is 60 minutes straight up the freeway.



Open: By Appointment

Contact: Paul Prior 0418 324 297
Byron Bay First National

Bangalow central with two titles

23 Leslie Street, Bangalow

🏠 5 🌳 2 🚗 3

14th October 2017 at 11am



A rare and lucrative opportunity for investors, this 948sqm corner property with two existing dwellings on site and approval to build a three-bedroom dwelling on the adjacent block. The original timber cottage showcases lovingly restored interiors, complemented by shaded outdoor entertaining areas and low maintenance gardens. Situated at the rear of the cottage is a new two-bedroom self-contained dwelling presenting an excellent opportunity for home businesses in a central locale. Well-equipped gas kitchens are fitted into both dwellings along with ideally proportioned bedrooms and contemporary full bathrooms, also boasting polished timber floors, ceiling fans, skylight and high ceilings. Its handy location is a stone's throw to village amenities, playing fields and Bangalow's cafes.



Open: Wednesday 27th September 5.00 - 5.30pm
Saturday 30th September 12.00 - 12.30pm

Contact: Greg Price 0412 871 500
McGrath Byron Bay



Katrina Beohm

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DUNOON

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\$800,000 - \$850,000

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Agent: Katrina Beohm 0467 001 122

0467 000 222

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Motivated sellers!

3/77 Frasers Road, Mullumbimby

🏠 1 🌳 1 🚗 2

\$899,000



Fantastic location; views & privacy! Excellent value and lovingly presented is this two acres of freehold land in a 102 acre holding. Environmentally sound with sealed roads and privatised internal power grid. The common land consists of 80 acres including areas of high conservation rain forest. The property is home to several endangered plant species and includes 600 meters of restored creek frontage.



The property has a north east aspect with expansive rural vistas, ocean glimpses and views of Byron lighthouse and Mt Chincogan.

The main house consists of a living room, kitchen with bamboo bench tops, dining room and bathroom. There is a carport and spacious covered verandahs on three sides to enjoy the views. A separate bedroom features a walk in robe/child's room and a covered deck with magnificent views to the lighthouse and Cape Byron headland. Within 3 mins drive to Shearwater Steiner School.

Inspect: By Appointment
Contact: Ruth Russell 0402 855 929
Professionals & Mark Cochrane

Elegant beach house

135 Broken Head Reserve Road, Broken Head

🏠 3 🌳 3 🚗 2

\$2,500,000



Privately located among the pavilions of Barefoot, Broken Head is this quality masterbuilt modern beach house. Only metres to the surf of Broken Head, just minutes to relaxed Byron Bay and a short drive from Ballina and Gold Coast airports.



Light and airy throughout capturing the gentle sea breezes. Modern open-plan living with tiled and timber floors and high ceilings throughout. Spacious master bedroom, privately located with an ensuite. Second bedroom with access to second bathroom. Third bedroom with access to third bathroom. Lounge, dining and kitchen each open with bifolding doors to a covered and screened deck. Accommodation for two cars with automatic doors. Private fenced backyard with outside hot and cold showers to wash down with after a day in the saltwater waves. Enjoy beautiful rainforest walks, protected headlands and the sun, sand and surf of the beautiful Broken Head beach, patrolled during holiday season. Enjoy drives through the Byron Bay hinterland. Agent declares interest.

Contact: Katrina Beohm 0467 001 122
Katrina Beohm Real Estate.

Spring Special

11/30-32 Byron Street, Lennox Head

🏠 3 🌳 1 🚗 1

\$509,000 to \$559,000



Enjoy the holiday lifestyle all year round in one of Australia's most picturesque coastal villages at this rare entry price level. Leave the car at home and walk the four or five minutes to beachside shops, restaurants, cafes, pub and the many other attractions of Lennox Head, including its renowned surf breaks. Located in the 'Byron Court' complex, this neat and tidy unit provides cosy and comfortable living, and features a spacious courtyard and lock-up garage with internal access. Lennox Head Primary School is just across the road. Purchase now and you will be able to move in before summer, or buy as an investment and take advantage of good rental returns.



Open: Thursday 2-2.30pm
Saturday 11-11.30am
Contact: Helen Huntly-Barratt 6685 8466
Andrew Nieuwenhof 0468 740 019
Byron Bay First National

eldersbangalow.com.au

6687 1500



OPEN HOME
WED & SAT
10AM-10.30AM

10 DINJERRA PLACE, MULLUMBIMBY

Short stroll to Brunswick River!

3 🏠 1 🌳 1 🚗

- Elevated light filled, quality home
- Entertain on your spacious timber deck
- Open plan modern kitchen/dining with fireplace
- Stunning bamboo flooring throughout
- Generous sized bedrooms with 2 of the 3 having direct access onto the timber deck
- 613sqm block in a quiet street
- Moments to school, tennis courts, parks & farmers market

AUCTION 19 October
If not sold prior

Dominic Spreckley
m: 0422 274 646
e. dominic@eldersbangalow.com.au



OPEN HOME
SATURDAY
12PM-12.30PM

111 COORABELL ROAD,

Quintessential Country Escape

6 🏠 4 🌳 3 🚗

- Beautiful Queenslander style home
- Highly sought after location
- Long river frontage, spring-fed dam
- 49 clean useable acres
- Two spacious living areas
- Covered wraparound timber deck
- Hinterland views, rural lifestyle
- Easy drive to shops, cafes, beaches

AUCTION 14 October
Onsite 10.30am

Duncan Lorimer
m: 0400 844 412
e. duncan@eldersbangalow.com.au

The Heart of the Hinterland



Rural Retreat in Lennox

4 2 2

- 11 Stoneyhurst Drive, Lennox Head**
- ✓ Unique residence on sprawling 2 acre block with elevated hinterland views
 - ✓ Stacker doors on 2 walls open up, creating a large indoor/outdoor living space
 - ✓ Exposed brick walls and timber lends to a rustic feel throughout home
 - ✓ Expansive timber deck & pool area with outlook – perfect for entertaining
 - ✓ 1 bed spacious, self-contained studio perfect for extended families or Airbnb

- ✓ Extensive lush gardens + large shed is suitable for workshop/granny flat (*STCA)
- ✓ Rural living only moments from Lennox village & beaches

AUCTION On Site 21 October, 10am
 Inspect Saturday 1–1.30pm
 Contact: Lois Buckett 0428 877 399

Lois Buckett



On the Water

4 2.5 2

136 Balemo Drive, Ocean Shores

- ✓ Light open plan living/dining/kitchen onto covered deck
- ✓ Large granny flat
- ✓ Fenced beautifully landscaped garden
- ✓ Rumpus room, separate laundry and sun room

- ✓ Canoe all the way to Brunswick from your jetty

Offers from \$789,000

Contact: David 0466 826 790
 oripash@gmail.com
 No agents please



Easy & Affordable Living in Ballina

2 1 1

- 105/126 Tamarind Drive, Ballina**
- ✓ Neat & tidy 2 bedroom Norfolk home with NE aspect in quiet street
 - ✓ Open-plan living/dining area; kitchen has ample storage plus bench space
 - ✓ Good-sized bathroom with generous shower area
 - ✓ Separate laundry with access to carport and undercover drying lines
 - ✓ Front covered deck area – perfect for morning cuppa in the sunshine

- ✓ Close to reserve & pathway – perfect for bikes and scooters
- ✓ Moments to all of Ballina shops, services & beaches

Price: \$185,000
 Inspect by appointment
 Contact: Lois Buckett 0428 877 399

Lois Buckett



Stunning Rural Views to Mt Chincogan

3 2

12 Garden Avenue, Mullumbimby

- ✓ Light and spacious family home
- ✓ Separate teen retreat with kitchen, bathroom and laundry
- ✓ Fenced backyard
- ✓ Close to town and schools
- ✓ Separate large study or 4th bedroom

- ✓ Close to river for a swim
- ✓ Established orchard and vege garden
- ✓ Wood-fire pizza oven and barbecue
- ✓ Amazing birdlife

Contact: Ash 0407 758 094
 asherella10@gmail.com
 No agents please

BYRON BEACH REALTY BYRON BAY

- 13/591 Broken Head Road, Broken Head. Sat 30 Sept 11–11.30am

ELDERS BANGALOW

- 10 Dinjerra Place, Mullumbimby. Wed & Sat 10–10.30am
- 229 Rosebank Road, Rosebank. Thu & Sat 11–11.30am
- 111 Coorabell Rd, Federal. Sat 12–12.30pm

FIRST NATIONAL BYRON BAY

- 17/13–23 Pinnacle Row, Lennox Head. Thurs 10–10.30am
- 136 Stuart Street, Mullumbimby. Thu 10–10.30am
- 4/17 Mahogany Drive, Byron Bay. Thu 12–12.30pm
- 11/30–32 Byron Street, Lennox Head. Thu 2–2.30pm
- 6A–D/155–159 Broken Head Road, Suffolk Park. Fri 9–9.30am
- 17/13–23 Pinnacle Row, Lennox Head. Fri 10–10.30am
- 534 Main Arm Road, Main Arm. Fri 11–11.30am
- 1635–1651 Coolamon Scenic Drive, Mullumbimby. Fri 12–12.30pm
- 14/64 Broken Head Road, Byron Bay. Fri 2.30–3pm
- 17/13–23 Pinnacle Row, Lennox Head. Sat 9–10am
- 534 Main Arm Road, Main Arm. Sat 11–11.30am
- 11/30–32 Byron Street, Lennox Head. Sat 11–11.30am
- 10 Coachwood Court, Federal. Sat 11.30am–12pm
- 136 Stuart Street, Mullumbimby. Sat 12–12.30pm
- 14/64 Broken Head Road, Byron Bay. Sat 12–12.30pm
- 18 Blackwood Crescent, Bangalow. Sat 12–12.30pm
- 120 Kennedys Lane, Ewingsdale. Sat 12.30–1pm
- 1 Richmond Street, Wardell. Sat 1–1.30pm
- 13 Helen Street, South Golden Beach. Sat 1–1.30pm
- 4/17 Mahogany Drive, Byron Bay. Sat 2–2.30pm

LJ HOOKER BRUNSWICK HEADS

- 1/79 Rajah Road, Ocean Shores. Fri 11–11.30am
- 26 Argyle Street, Mullumbimby. Fri 12–12.30pm
- 1/79 Rajah Road, Ocean Shores. Sat 11–11.30am
- 54 Balemo Drive, Ocean Shores. Sat 11–11.30am
- 26 Argyle Street, Mullumbimby. Sat 12–12.30pm
- 96 Balemo Drive, Ocean Shores. Sat 12–12.30pm

LOIS BUCKETT REAL ESTATE

- 406 River Drive, Empire Vale. Sat 10–10.30am
- 3/12 Shelly Beach Road, East Ballina. Sat 10–10.30am
- 3 Kell Mather Drive, Lennox Head. Sat 11–11.30am
- 16 Chilcott Circuit, Ballina. Sat 12–12.30pm
- 11 Stoneyhurst Drive, Lennox Head. Sat 1–1.30pm

MCGRATH BYRON BAY

- 23 Leslie Street, Bangalow. Wed 5–5.30pm
- 133 Foresters Way, Tintenbar. Sat 10–10.30am



AUCTION

54 Robyns Rd, Mullumbimby



Stunning Elevated Residence

4 3 3

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- 226 Fowlers Lane, Bangalow. Sat 10–10.30am
- 4/113 Broken Head Road, Byron Bay. Sat 10–10.30am
- 174 Fowlers Lane, Bangalow. Sat 11–11.30am
- 10 Wollumbin Street, Byron Bay. Sat 11.30–12pm
- 23 Leslie Street, Bangalow. Sat 12–12.30pm
- 30 Ryces Drive, Clunes Sat 1–1.30pm
- 11 Lomandra Lane, Mullumbimby. Sat 1–1.30pm
- 'Clover Hill Stage 2' Ballina Road, Bangalow. Sat 2–3pm

PROFESSIONALS & MARK COCHRANE

- 54 Robinsons Rd, Mullumbimby. Thurs 5–5.45pm & Sat 11–11.45am

SCOTT HARVEY

- 16 Main Street, Clunes. Sat 10–10.30am
- 2/7 Oceanside Place, Suffolk Park. Sat 12.30pm–1pm

Auctions

ELDERS BANGALOW

- 111 Coorabell Rd, Federal. Sat 14 Oct 10.30am onsite
- 229 Rosebank Road, Rosebank. Thu 19 Oct 6pm at Heritage House
- 10 Dinjerra Place, Mullumbimby. Thu 19 Oct 6pm at Heritage House
- 111 Fowlers Lane, Possum Ck. Sun 5 Nov onsite

FIRST NATIONAL BYRON BAY

- 17/13-23 Pinnacle Row, Lennox Head. Sat 30 Sep 10am

LOIS BUCKETT REAL ESTATE

- 11 Stoneyhurst Drive, Lennox Head. 21 Oct 10am on site
- 56/11–19 Cooper Street, Byron Bay. 21 Oct 12noon on site

MCGRATH BYRON BAY

- 3/174 Fowlers Lane, Bangalow. Sat 14 Oct 9.30am
- 23 Leslie Street, Bangalow. Sat 14 Oct 11am
- 226 Fowlers Lane, Bangalow. Sat 21 Oct 10am

PROFESSIONALS & MARK COCHRANE

- 54 Robinsons Rd, Mullumbimby. Thu 12 Oct 5.30pm

New Listings

BYRON BEACH REALTY BYRON BAY

- 6 Walker Street, Byron Bay \$1,695,000

ELDERS BANGALOW

- 111 Fowlers Lane 'Sunsets of Bangalow', Possum Creek

LOIS BUCKETT REAL ESTATE

- 18 Lakefield Avenue, Lennox Head. Contact Agent
- 3/12 Shelly Beach Road, East Ballina. Guide \$320,000 to \$350,000
- 56/11–19 Cooper Street, Byron Bay. Auction

MCGRATH BYRON BAY

- 4/113 Broken Head Road, Byron Bay
- 'Clove Hill Stage 2' Ballina Road, Bangalow

PROFESSIONALS & MARK COCHRANE

- 2163 Coolamon Scenic Road, Mullumbimby. \$600,000
- Unit 4/121 Dalley Street, Mullumbimby. \$359,000

RAINE & HORNE OCEAN SHORES

- 5 Gibingbell Close, Ocean Shores
- 15A Weeronga Way, Ocean Shores
- 49/73-101 Darlington Drive, Banora Point
- 12 Pottsville Road, Mooball
- 474 Tweed Valley Way, Murwillumbah
- 1 Ray Street, Murwillumbah

Rentals – Open House

FIRST NATIONAL BYRON BAY

- 6/18 Sunrise Blvd, Byron Bay. Sat 10am.
- 1 Ann St, Mullumbimby. Sat 11am.
- 72 New City Rd, Mullumbimby. Sat 11.30am
- 20B Taylors Lane, Ewingsdale. Sat 1.30pm
- 6 Driftwood Ave, Byron Bay. Sat 2.30pm
- 2/14 Keats St, Byron Bay. Sat 3pm

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\$1,000
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Spring

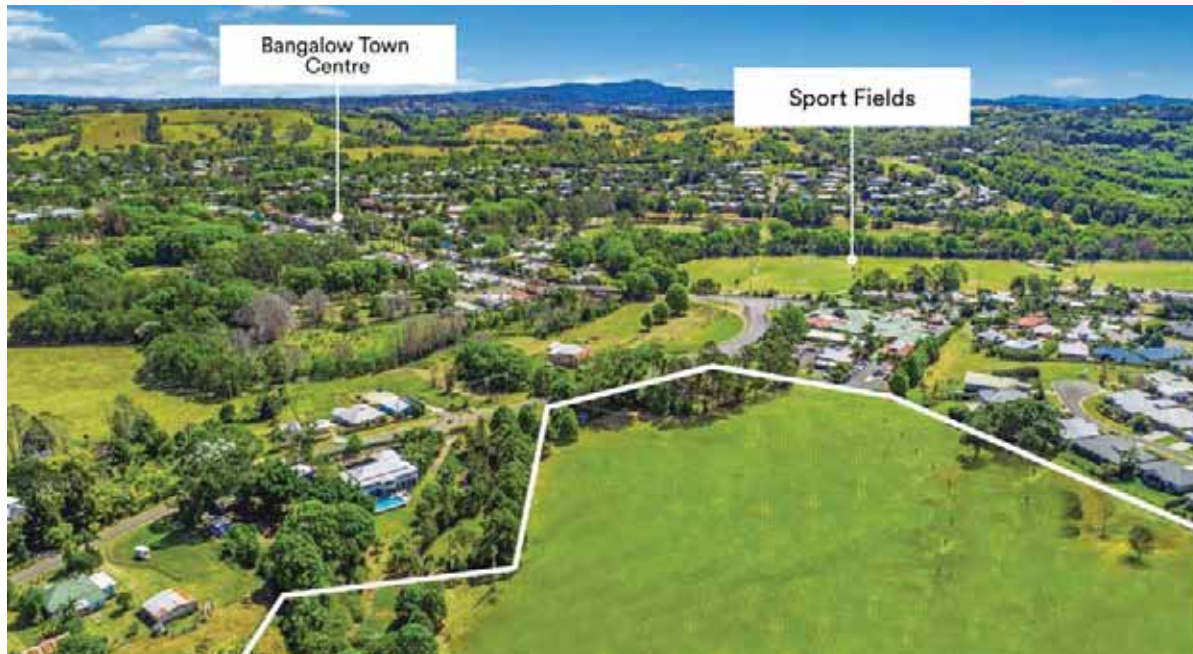
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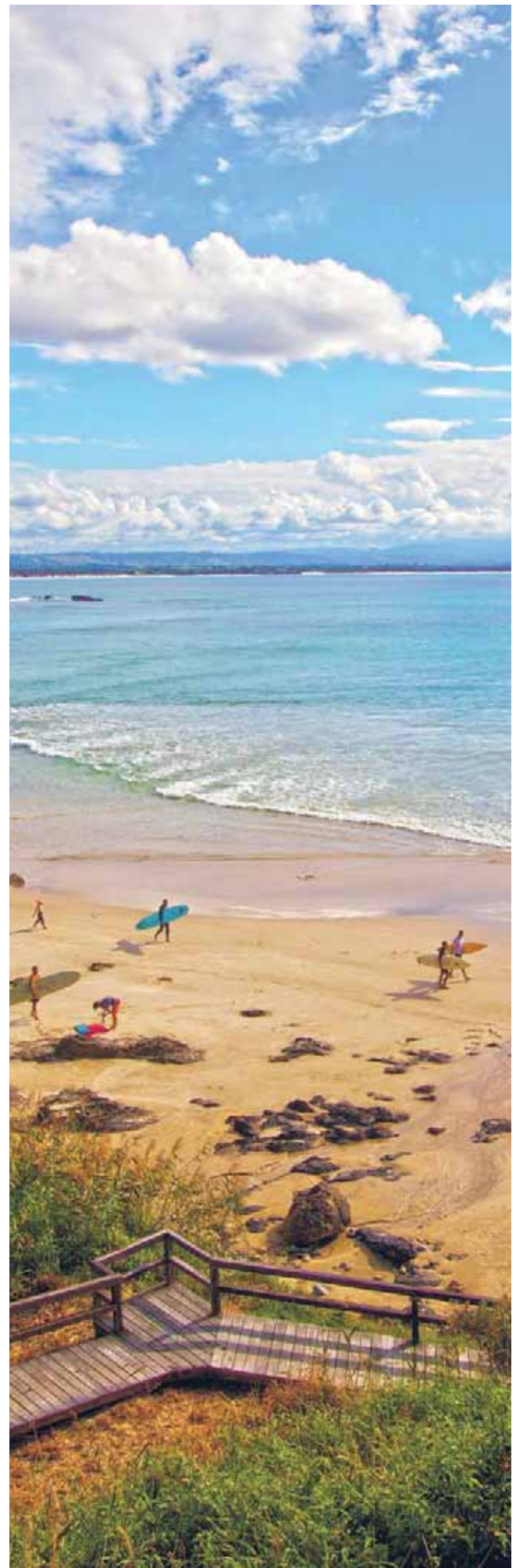
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FICTION, SELFIE CULTURE, TRUTH AND YOU: RICHARD FLANAGAN TALKS ABOUT *FIRST PERSON*

MAN BOOKER PRIZEWINNER RICHARD FLANAGAN HAS WRITTEN ONE OF THE MOST EXTRAORDINARY CLEVER AND INSIGHTFUL BOOKS I'VE READ IN YEARS.

First Person is his defence of fiction and the role of 'truth' in the ballooning memoir genre. In his novel he tells the story of struggling writer Kif Kehlmann, who is hired to ghost write the autobiography of a con man - German/Australian Ziggy Heidl. Back in the 90s Flanagan himself had the same \$10,000 offer to ghost write a memoir for John Friedrich, an infamous Australian corporate fraudster. This is where the book posits itself, inside the process of writing a book, a fabricated memoir for someone who refuses to tell their story, or at least a version that could be equated with anything considered 'truth'.

There are immense themes in this book as Flanagan draws lines between his own experience and his fiction, a feeling that there is something almost mythic in this complex Rubic's cube of lies. Or is it truth?

'I think literary memoir has become the literary equivalent of a selfie,' says Flanagan from his hotel room in Sydney. 'I think all the changes we are suddenly seeing in society - the growing inequality, the powerlessness are greased with this solecism we see in social media. In America in particular you see this profound distrust of fiction, so the only literature that has merit, according to that mindset, is that which can be verifiable as reality.'

Flanagan believes that the many truths we impart are more powerful than this sense that there is just one inherent truth - one meaning.

'Perhaps the truths we need now are those contained in fiction,' says Flanagan. 'We are in an age where we are told that reality, in the form of climate change, and told grotesque

fiction as a truth, the more implausible the lie, the more we are willing to believe it... at the same time coupled to that, there is a great push on to accept that we are only one thing. Mark Zuckerberg said that privacy is no longer an acceptable social norm, under Facebook no-one can have a separate identity in their private life and working life. To me that seems that to be the goal of totalitarian regimes.

Gabriel Garcia Marquez said we have three lives: a public life, a private life and a secret life, and in the private and secret lives are aspects of ourselves; they remind us that we aren't just one thing and that we are capable of being many things. The power of literature is to remind us of that.'

In his fiction about the writing of a memoir, ironically the writer really has sold his soul to the devil. Kif is a successful reality TV producer and writer looking back at the defining moment when he 'fell'.

Flanagan has a very interesting take on reality.

'Reality,' he says 'is the most unrealistic way of explaining what the world.'

He believes our obsession with selfies as the creation of a cultural narrative about who we are has fed the epidemics of loneliness and sadness and powerlessness because 'we forget that we are fundamentally connected to each other'.

'In a world where privacy is so much under attack, writing and reading books seems like a more subversive act than its ever been - it's like books are the new counter culture,' laughs Flanagan. 'I saw an actress at the Emmys saying she doesn't have a TV and she prefers to read books - and she was slammed for it. I thought how extraordinary; in a world where there seem to be no taboos, reading has become the new taboo. That is what is giving books a renewed power, and why there is a renewed interest in books.'

For Flanagan *First Person* was a book about freedom.



'The question we are all confronting in this strange new world is whether or not we wish to be free. We have to decide that, whether we wish to be free, we have to act, and that is a profound dilemma for each of us.'

The book isn't just about the multiplicity of truths we access through fiction; it's very much about the process of writing.

'I wanted to write a book about the process of writing and the strange union that happens when life and work and subject and soul all become one and the one all expresses itself as words; there's not much writing about the act of writing...' says Flanagan.

In *First Person* Flanagan manages to articulate that which we can't articulate: those fleeting moments of pure serenity where, in our sea of confusion, overwhelm and routine in a tiny moment the truth of the universe seems to reveal itself. And then go.

'What I wanted to capture was that sense we all share that sometimes in a very most ordinary moments of life we are suddenly open to the universe and we live in those few moments; we live in the universe. We have these profound moments and we're lost to it; it's like trying to remember a cloud, and we can't describe it. I wanted to convey that remarkable feeling we can't - that glimpse about what the world and life actually are. I like to remind readers these moments are for all of us; they aren't the province of just artists.'

But as a writer Flanagan admits to being a bit of a storm chaser of these moments.

'You try to achieve a kind of transparency between your soul and your words,' he says. 'Where most of life demands that you put a shield between your life and your actions, the writer has to try to find a way into their soul each morning and you fail... but then you try again.'

One of the bigger themes is about good and evil and where the lines blur.

'Evil is intoxicating for people. I think everyone wants to dance with the devil a little bit, and Kif has the arrogance of thinking he is a good man and thinks he has the wit and the character to dance with the devil and not become him. Milton, I think, has Satan say: 'Hell is wherever I am'. I think that is an aphorism of our age; we are fascinated by darkness, and don't realise we have become it.'

Flanagan's fiction is littered with insights and remembered quotes from great writers. He finishes our conversation by referring to Kafka, who best explains his view on what fiction should be.

'A book must be the axe for the frozen sea within us.'

This book is not just an axe, it's a chainsaw.

The **Byron Writers Festival** present a very special In Conversation event with **Kerry O'Brien** chatting with **Richard Flanagan** at **Elements of Byron** on **Tuesday 10 October** 6-7pm. Tickets \$20 /25 and are available from the website byronwritersfestival.com.

the northern

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- THU 28 FRIEND ZONE
- FRI 29 RIG CITY, GOLD MEMBER, THE SQUIDLICKERS
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- MON 2 DAN CLARK
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- 28 OCT HALLOWEEN

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TALL STORY

Most of my adult life I have endured being stared at. It's unnerving. People really have a good look at me in public. I am so used to it now I barely notice, but when I was a teenager it was a constant source of anxiety. It made me feel like a freak.

When travelling with Ellen doing our show *Women Like Us*, she observed the phenomenon with some shock: 'Are you aware how much people stare at you?' It was freaking her out a bit, but I guess I am kind of used to it. Worn down by years of people having a good look. I try to not notice people noticing me. It's the tall thing. It still shocks people if you are a tall woman. They like to get an extra long look because I don't blend in very well. I pretend people look at me because I'm gorgeous, but I know it's because they think I'm a bit freaky. Or I look a lot like Elle McPherson. Which I do inside my mind photographs that I keep of myself to boost my self-esteem. I sometimes wonder if these pervy strangers think I'm a super model who's let herself go and they're staring hard to work out which one. 'Claudia?' 'Definitely not Twiggy'. It happened again the other day. I was queuing at the airport waiting to get through my gate when a businessman walked past. I saw him have a good hard look at me. I don't make eye contact because that will just invite him in. I put up the wall. I know he's looking because he does that thing people do when they forget to hide that they are looking: he stops right in front of me and actually looks me up and down, raises his eyebrows, nods his head and then walks past me. Fucking Weirdo. And it's a really bad suit. Like something he's been wearing since the 80s.

Then he comes back. I think Oh No he's going to talk to me. Bad-for-business suit parks himself bang in front of me and asks 'How Tall are you?' Nice opener, mate. Does he also go up to fat people and ask how much they weigh? Ask cripples how disabled they are? It's a really stupid question. It's not worth talking about.

Especially to a strange man in a bad suit. I want to say 5 foot 2 but that might mean he talks to me for longer. So I say '6 foot'. He's impressed. It's like I'm a fish. A really really big fish. Then he says, 'I know this Chinese girl who is 6 foot 3'. What am I supposed to do with that random bit of information? I say 'Oh. That's tall'. Does he think I might know her? That tall girls meet up at a secret club once a month and measure each other? That we drink champagne and tell tall stories? (Mainly about stupid short men who ask dumb questions.) I see nothing interesting whatsoever in a person's height.

Especially about what a freak I am in comparison to 'normally' sized women. They would say they don't mean that, but it happens so much, people are so shocked, so interested, so obliged to stop and remark a fact I have known since I was 13 that I can only come to the conclusion that they find my height aberrant and not in line with what women are supposed to be. I am tall. It's just one very small detail about who I am. I didn't go on a diet to get tall. I didn't decide. It's my DNA. It just happened. It is not a conversation. I still don't understand why so much unsolicited chat has to revolve around something so inconsequential and so absolutely out of my control.

My being tall is about as interesting as my going up to someone and saying 'you have brown eyes'. I have secretly marvelled at the size of a person's rotund arse but never for a minute considered going up and sparking up a conversation with 'how big is your arse exactly?' 'Hmm, wow, I know someone with an arse twice as big as yours!' Why do they always want to tell you they have a tall friend? Is that like a homophobe saying they have a gay friend or a white supremacist saying they have a black one? Does it make their height-based transgression permissible?

Then dickhead asks: 'How tall is your husband?' Now he's assuming I'm married and a heterosexual. I say 'Three foot five - she's a dwarf. But she's got a massive intellect.'

GETTING FLAMENCO WRIGHT

ARIA nominated flamenco guitarist **Damian Wright** (Bandaluzia) appears in a special SOLO flamenco guitar concert tour that stops in at the Bangalow Catholic Hall. Celebrating influences from the flamenco guitar's historical origins to the most contemporary and personal interpretations of this incredible artform. Witness the world of the flamenco guitar in all its virtuosity, depth and imagination by one of Australia's most respected musicians.

In 2014 Damian was invited to perform as a solo artist at The Rajasthan International Folk Festival, India, and in 2016 performed at The Shanghai Fringe Festival, China. Damian was invited this year to perform at the biannual Adelaide International Guitar Festival curated by Slava Grigoryan. Show on **Friday 6 October** at the **Bangalow Catholic Hall** at 8pm for \$20. Wright also presents a workshop on Saturday 7 October 11am-12.30pm. For info email bandaluzia@live.com.



BUENA VISTA MEETS SLY & ROBBIE

Havana Meets Kingston brings together established and emerging Cuban and Jamaican musicians in an album of mostly original songs, as well as covers of classic Cuban material. The main recording sessions took place over 10 days in June 2015 at the famous Egrem Studio in Havana, Cuba. The project was masterminded by Byron local Jake Savona (aka Mista Savona), Australia's leading reggae-dancehall producer. Savona brought Jamaican legends Sly & Robbie, Boopee and Bongo Herman to Havana, where they joined Buena Vista Social Club musicians Barbarito Torres and Rolando Luna, alongside Cuba's most influential percussionist Changuito (Los Van Van) and so many more.

The Havana Meets Kingston Sound System show featuring Randy Valentine (JA) and Solis (CU) will hit Australian shores to bring this ultimate fusion to life. Solis will be flying direct from Cuba to join Savona and Valentine onstage and it's the first time key tracks from the forthcoming album will be performed as a live outfit. It's going to be a unique and very exciting show! Miles Cleret will be getting the place jumping from 7.30pm.

MIKE McCLELLAN
NO INTERMISSION THE TOUR

BYRON THEATRE
BYRON BAY

Saturday
21 October
7.30pm

BOOK NOW Ph: 6685 6807
www.byroncentre.com.au

Miles is a world authority on Caribbean music of all genres and label boss of Soundway Records - Gilles Peterson's label of the year in 2016. Get your tickets while you still can - this show will sell out! Miss Brown's Caribbean Kitchen will be serving dinner from 6.30pm. **Friday 27 October** at **Bangalow A&I hall**. Tickets \$35 presale or \$40 on the door.

UKE 66



Calling occupants of interplanetary craft... Miss Amber and Stukulele's Uke Night presents two sets of tunes so eclectic they're out of this world! Special guest vocalist lounge lizard Phil Frea will take you for a trip down Route 66... then rising star ukuleleist and bass player extraordinaire Max Foggon is poised to light up the sky... there's some Elvis, Britney Spears, Michael Jackson, Sia... err did someone say Iggy Azalea? Turn off the tele and get on down to **Ukelectica UKE NIGHT** this **Thursday** from 6.30pm at **Club Mullum** - Adults \$12.50, Kids under 16 \$2.50. Join the mailing list for the link to the monthly songbook.

TYSON ON THE RIGHT TRAIN

Byron Bay-based songwriter **Steve Tyson** does darkness very well with regret-tinged songs of missed chances and jealous-rage murder tales, but he balances these with songs with a twinkle in the eye or tongue in cheek.

Even when he's writing about imminent climate catastrophe - see *Theatre*, one of the key tracks here - he never gets preachy or heavy. Tyson has not had the same profile as other chroniclers of the Australian experience such as Shane Howard or John Schumann, but the tracks on this third solo set reveal a master song craftsman with a nuanced lyrical touch and strong melodies. He is best known for his work with Brisbane folk-rock band Rough Red, but has released two critically acclaimed solo albums prior to this new release, both scoring 4-star reviews in the national music press. On this record, his gruff voice and superb guitar work - he plays every note on this album - suit his songwriting style well.

Tyson sets off on an east coast tour to launch the record later this month, with the local launch at Club Mullum on Sunday 8 October (3pm).



He will be joined by his touring band The Train Rex, comprised of his longtime bassist John Barr and Sydney-based drummer Andy Kirkcaldie, plus Brisbane guitarist Ian Shawsmith. Ash Bell will be special guest opening the show, and no doubt jumping onstage to sing the duet with Steve. Launching his album *Wrong Train Right Station* at **Club Mullum** at the **Mullum Ex-Services** on **Sunday 8 October**.

MUSIC WITH KOOLII

Musicians go to **Koolii** gigs just to listen. Individually gifted, some might say virtuoso-like, they bond musically, in a rare phenomenon where there is no ego. The music is about subconscious performance, cosmic interpretations of the moment and ultimately attracting and engaging the crowd to move with them. The crowd is so important to Koolii that lead singer/trumpet melody-maker Peter Hunt is sacrificing profit from the gig to build a makeshift stage on the floor of the Civic Centre citing that 'We want the ground-level stage so that we're not so high and are more connected with the crowd. The connection and sound is everything. We have Ada Biggs on sound. He's awesome.' **Mullum Civic Hall** on **Saturday** at 7.30pm.

NUDDING A MEAL

This October's long weekend Nudge Nudge Wink Wink is raising money for local not-for-profit Mullumbimby & District Neighbourhood Centre's (MDNC) More Than a Meal program, which is at risk and in dire need of support. The DJs providing the amazing tunes for this October are our residents Lord Sut and Dale Stephen, Byron Bay-based beloved house DJ Al Royale, and returning for his second Nudge, DJ James Scott, all playing free to support the MDNC's Meals program. **Sunday** at the **Billinudgel Hotel**. Go online to get your tix - <http://www.cunningstunts.com.au/subscribe/>.

MCTAVISH LONG LONG WEEKEND

Wayfaring folk, dirty blues and a shed collection of surfboards by Bob and Ben McTavish. Come enjoy a wonderful curation of classic surfboards, complemented by a seductive collection of vintage guitars by Surf City Guitars. Featuring live performances by Riki Eketone, Matthew Armitage and The James Street Preachers. Blues, single fins and good coffee, this **Saturday** from 8am at **McTavish Surfboards** at 91 Centennial Circuit, Byron Bay Arts and Industrial Park.

ARIA NOMINATED FLAMENCO GUITARIST FROM BANDALUZIA,
FLAMENCO GUITAR CONCERT & WORKSHOP IN BANGALOW

Damian Wright

CONCERT FRIDAY OCTOBER 6TH
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TIX AVAILABLE at www.trybooking.com/RXXA
or at the door subject to availability.

WORKSHOP SATURDAY OCTOBER 7TH
11am - 12:30pm
TIX AVAILABLE at www.trybooking.com/RXXC
RSVP essential.

BANGALOW CATHOLIC HALL FOR MORE INFO: [BANDALUZIA@LIVE.COM](mailto:bandaluzia@live.com)



PLAYING BOWIE ON A UKE

Can you play Bowie on a ukulele? Is it possible to reduce such complex and at times strange songs to just four little strings and still get maximum Bowie impact?

Yes you can.

Michael Dwyer is a mad Bowie fan and it was his idea to create The Thin White Ukes.

'I am the Bowie Nutter,' he confesses. 'Betty (France) came through acting and Rob (Stephens) is a folk musician but we were all at one time members of the Melbourne Ukulele Collective.'

'Bowie's material lends itself to being played on uke because it's so complicated and clever. At its core it's very beautiful and it can be stripped down.'

'There is a perverse pride in reducing this incredible artist with no parameters whatsoever to 12 little strings and three voices!' laughs Dwyer.

'We actually have songs from six decades. We do novelty songs from the 60s, such as *The Laughing Gnome*; we do *Fame*, and *Golden Years*, and *Heroes*, *Boys Keep Swinging* right through to now with *Black Star*...'

But it's not just the hits. I mean, a proper Bowie show has to have a few surprises.

'We sneak in quite a few obscurities because we love them. Everyone loves the hits of course, but there are so many songs!'

'One statistic we heard is that he wrote upwards of 700 songs. What made him unique was that the music was a discipline he applied himself to. He did paint, act, dance, he was a video and internet pioneer; it was all grist to his mill.'

One thing Bowie never did was repeat himself. He was the master of reinvention, of staying a few moves ahead of popular culture.

'It's what makes him unique,' says Dwyer.

'It amazes me. I was talking to Paul Dempsey from Something for Kate asking how Bowie could be so different on every album yet still be David Bowie. He had a theory that it came from the melodic sensibility.'

Thin White Ukes was born from the 2014 Melbourne exhibition that featured Bowie's incredible costumes, his notes, his possessions.

The performance also features some costume.

'You can't play Bowie in jeans and t-shirt,' laughs Michael.

'He committed every fashion crime available to humanity and got away with it.' Actually he looked amazing.

I think it was the people who tried to emulate him that ended up committing the crime!

The Thin White Ukes will present a workshop on Thursday 28 September. To register go to thethinwhiteukes.com and look under 'gigs'.

They perform their uke tribute to Bowie on **Friday** at the **Brunswick Picture House** at 7pm.

THE ALKEMY OF ISLAND VIBE

ISLAND VIBE IS MORE THAN JUST A MUSIC FESTIVAL.

Through its strong cultural program the festival invites community groups from around Australia and the Pacific to engage in a cultural exchange with the Quandamooka people of Stradbroke Island.

With an extensive program this is an immersive festival dedicated in bringing you the finest reggae, soul, and bass music in the Pacific region and beyond. One such performer is Vanessa Fields aka Alkemia.

She describes her performance as 'An interactive female performance containing a DJ, MCs, dancers, live art and crowd roving. For the performers festivals offer a unique opportunity to see their colleagues in full swing, Vanessa is super excited about seeing 'Eva Lazarus, a full power woman with a fantastic voice and great musical style. And of course Havana meets Kingston, the first collaboration from these two musically influential islands and The Mash Up Master, Jstar.' Vanessa has been part of building Island Vibe, expanding existing programs and making them more innovative. 'Lately I have been working hard on Island Elements Festival. It's an intimate, yoga and dance event the weekend after Island Vibe Festival.'

We felt the people coming to the North Stradbroke Island would appreciate a reason to stay longer and drop into a deeper experience. So we created a little sister event that feels more like a retreat.'

For Fields, it's all about engaging the audience 'in ways we know how, with heavy bass rhythms, live Mcs, dancers, interactive art and even dosing the crowd with Love Potion No 9, all in hand made costumes.'

She invites patrons to find their way to the Bamboo Bass on Friday at 8pm to experience a waste of something really refreshingly unique at her Alkemia show.

Island Vibe Festival, 26 – 29 October. For program and tickets go to islandvibe.com.au.



RIDE THE ROAD TO GLORY

WE CAME TO KNOW HARRY JAMES ANGUS AS THE EXUBERANT TRUMPET-PLAYING FRONTMAN FROM THE CAT EMPIRE.

His energy and talent seemed boundless, and what made that band work was his passion for playing both with his band and his ability to create unforgettable musical experiences for his audience.

That's what he does best. Stepping away from the big-band show that is the Cat Empire, Harry James Angus takes the same enthusiasm for musical uniqueness to his other projects, be they wild collaborative jazz expeditions or quiet solo shows with just Harry and a guitar. Harry James Angus is a generous performer. It's what makes his shows so engaging.

He's definitely one of my favourite performers to watch live – you never get the feeling there's another show Harry would rather be at. When he's onstage Angus uses his technical skill and his ability to improvise to craft bespoke shows. I doubt any two would ever be the same. Harry James Angus has just embarked on his Parlour tour to launch his new album *Struggle With Glory*. This isn't a big stage show; these are small intimate gatherings in houses, paddocks and backyards around the country. This is a man who's performed to thousands in stadiums and festivals around the world!

'I love the idea of playing in someone's living room,' says Harry. 'It's a whole different style of performing – me and a small band. It's a really nice thing to do. People from all over the country put their hand up. These are some of the best gigs, the regional house concerts; you go there and end up meeting the whole community.'

Playing a small gig can be more confronting for an artist than playing to thousands.

'There are some basic skills you lose as a professional performer. Some basic interpersonal skills. So it's good to keep things simple. You don't want to lose touch with the reason you are there in the first place.'

Although he's traversed the globe, Harry still admits to moments of self-doubt before a show.

'I still feel like every gig I do in the days leading up to that I am not prepared and then I find it an addictive feeling. There are probably a lot of musicians who are better organised than I – but I am good at taking risks musically and that is what I enjoy.'

Harry's new album *Struggle With Glory* not only takes a different path in its tour; it's also a unique concept for an album.

'This is a whole new set of original songs inspired by gospel music and Greek mythology,' says Harry. It was the epic themes of Greek mythology that drew him in. 'I was reading them to my son Louis, who was six, as bedtime stories – *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey* and *The Minotaur*. I had been thinking for a long time how much I loved gospel music but how it feels contrived and disrespectful to yell out 'Jesus' as it feels like a parody of it somehow. It's sad because so many people love gospel and want to play it. I thought I could right songs that sound like gospel but they could be about Zeus.'

Harry has had a long love affair with Mullum Music Festival. He was the patron in 2014 and 2015 and programmed one of the best festival venues to date – The Village Vanguard, featuring his band The Jazz Party. Mullum Festival is the premiere of *Struggle With Glory*, being played with a full 9-piece band.

'It's a mixed bag of people I went to high school with and we have been playing with for years, and a few people I had been playing with but haven't for years. There is a fair crossover with my band and the Jazz Party but it's a whole new set of original songs and it's inspired by gospel music inspired by Greek mythology!'

Harry James Angus's *Struggle With Glory* is sure to be one of the major highlights of Mullum Music Festival this year.

For tickets and program info for this 16–19 November, go to mullummusicfestival.com.



VEGAS COMES TO BALLINA

HOT ON THE HEELS OF HIS KINGS OF VEGAS LOUNGE SESSIONS TOUR, WHICH HAS BEEN INUNDATING REGIONAL TOWN CENTRES AND CAPITAL CITIES ACROSS THE COUNTRY, WINNER OF VOICE AUSTRALIA 2013 HARRISON CRAIG BRINGS HIS NEW SHOW TO THE BALLINA RSL.

His new two-hour concert showcases the songs from Kings of Vegas while at the same time pays homage to Nat King Cole, Sinatra's Rat Pack, Elvis Presley, Tom Jones, Mel Torme and Frankie Hall.

It was singing in Vegas that seeded Harrison's latest creative endeavour. A town that Harrison describes as 'a crazy town. Nowadays it's more plastic than it was back in the day. It was very real and tangible back then; now tourism and globalism have changed it a tad, but it still has that feeling when you walk through the streets. You think to a degree that maybe this was what it was like to live that life in that town...'

By 'that life' Harrison is talking of – the golden era of Vegas during the 50s and 60s, something that happened way before he was born – but with a nostalgia so infectious he's been hooked since he could walk.

'My mum loved Nat King Cole so I was raised listening to that and I just love it. I used to croon along with it!'

Harrison believes that this music has lasted because it is timeless.

'The way the songs were written, directed and orchestrated... Nothing was done in a small way. I came back from Vegas extremely inspired. I knew exactly what kind of record I wanted to make.'

Every artist who sings these songs has to leave something of themselves in the song while paying homage to the genre. It's some-



thing Harrison has developed and was why he won the 2013 reality TV singing competition.

'When you hear a standard such as *Come Fly with Me*, you know the kind of rise and flow, and it's totally up to you how to interpret it; it really depends what you want to go for. I try to put my own tone into the tune, my own spin on it to a certain degree, so if I performed *The Lady is a Tramp*, you try to put your own spin on it so they think that's your version of the song. You want your version to be fantastic, to create a new memory for your audience.'

This show isn't about the big-band experience; it's about Harrison and a piano.

To experience a unique and personal show come check out **Harrison Craig** at the **Ballina RSL** on **Saturday**. Tickets from www.ballinarsl.com.au or (02) 6686 2544.



FROM THE OFFICE TO THE OPERA HOUSE TO BYRON BAY!

Direct from his headline performance at the Sydney Opera House for Montreal Just For Laugh's Showcase UK comedian **Greg Burns** makes his way to the northern rivers for one show only at the Byron Services Club. Currently in Australia as guest host on NOVA broadcasting out of Sydney, Burns is one of London's most well-known and accomplished broadcasters. With support from one of the rising stars of Indigenous comedy Matt Ford (NITV & Melbourne International Comedy Fest Roadshow) and hosted by much-loved local funny woman Mandy Nolan, this is sure to be a night of world-class laughs.

Byron Services Club on Saturday 21 October at 8pm. Doors 7pm. Tickets \$25/30 online at mandynolan.com.au, at the club or book on 6619 0529.

FIRST TUESDAY FUNNIES

The word on the street is that the first Tuesday of the month is the night to find yourself at the Ocean Shores Country Club for Country Club Comedy! Comedian **Mark McConville** is the latest headline for Ocean Shores. Mark brings to the table more than 16 years of performing experience coupled with a genuine interest in

helping build and unite the comedy industry in the pursuit of helping to reduce societal stress, depression and suicides. Having headlined and emceed all of the major comedy clubs around the country as well as regular corporate engagements and cruise-ship bookings, Mark has comfortably become known as 'One of the most reliable comedians in the business'. As a storyteller Mark can keep an audience enthralled as he peppers them with punchline after punchline littered throughout with real-life true stories from his life.

Presented by MC Mandy Nolan and supported by Paul McMahon. Find yourself at the **Ocean Shores Country Club** this **Tuesday** for the best free action you'll get on the coast! 7pm.

ART CLUB FOR KIDS

Following numerous requests from parents of aspiring young artists, **Byron School of Art** are launching weekly after-school classes commencing next term for young people who love art. **Afternoon Art Club** invites school-aged artists to the BSA studios in Mullumbimby for creative afternoons, exploring art materials and techniques under the guidance of artist and qualified art teacher Jacqueline Smith. Byron School of Art is offering two after-school classes commencing in October (Term 4); one for 9–12-year-olds on Wednesdays at 3.45pm till 5.30pm, and another for 12–15-year-olds on Thursday afternoons at 4.45pm till 6.30pm.

All classes will take place in Byron School of Art studios in Mullumbimby. Bookings are essential. For more info visit byronschoolofart.com.

NOT GOING GENTLE

Do Not Go Gentle, the award-winning play by Patricia Cornelius, with title borrowed from Welsh poet Dylan Thomas sets the tone for collaboration. Collaboration not only between the Welsh-Australian writers within the actual title, but 'across the boards' when it comes to actors 'plying their trade' between countries.

Mullumbimby Drill Hall Theatre, in collaboration with The Everyman Theatre, Cardiff, are stretching their wings and taking flight, landing in both countries (not at the same time!) to perform this Australian play, with a season opening in Cardiff earlier this month and then returning to Mullumbimby for six performances from 13 October. The play employs the metaphor of Robert Falcon Scott's long and ultimately fatal trek to reach the South Pole in 1912, with the reality of the ageing process, ultimately our own fatal trek Patricia Cornelius's gentle heroes are elderly characters who inhabit the polar explorers' expeditions, even taking their names. Scott, Bowers, Wilson, Oates and Evans grapple with life's big questions, pitting their wits against the dying of the light as they trudge across an alien landscape... questions emerge... about the nature of their fragile world and who they really are.

Michael Borenstein, president of The **Drill Hall Theatre Company**, explains: 'This coproduction between two amateur companies from different hemispheres is an amazing achievement. We never imagined that the Drill Hall would become an international touring theatre company.' The Drill Hall is committed to producing works from the canon of Australian plays. Performances – **Fridays-Saturdays 13–22 October**. Tickets \$25 & \$22 at the bookshop Mullumbimby or online www.drillhalltheatre.org.au.

NORMAL SCHMORMAL

Hosted by the Ethical Advisors Coop, *Normal is Over* is a compelling and visually rich film directed by award-winning investigative TV journalist Renée Scheltema. Her film chronicles the way humans have inadvertently imperilled our planet: species extinction, climate change, the depletion of critical natural resources, and industrial control of our food production. Ticket proceeds will go to Zero Emissions' Byron Project. Screening followed by Q&A and door prizes – three copies of Tim Flannery's book *Sunlight and Seaweed*.

Brunswick Picture House, Thursday 5 October, 7pm.

MISS AMBER & STUKULELE'S

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by Patricia Cornelius

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check website for performance dates & times

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Now an Australian resident to get some time out from the throngs of his crazed fans across UK, Europe and Asia – his standup comedy background is impressive: A solo West End season and three full-length UK TV comedy specials. Jeff is also a best-selling author selling more than 300,000 copies of his books and is a well-regarded presenter and comedian on UK radio and TV; his BBC Radio 2 comedy series *The Green Guide To Life* attracted audience averages of more than three million radio listeners. His recent UK TV appearances include *Celebrity Masterchef* (twice), Michael McIntyre's *Comedy Roadshow* (both BBC1) and as team captain on Bill Bailey's *Birdwatching Bonanza* (Sky 1). Don't miss this rare opportunity to see one of the current great international standup talents cherry pick from his endless list of hilarious takes on life love and all things ridiculous, with decades of experience in the international comedy industry. Supported by Aaron Pratt, hailing from across the ditch in NZ, with Mandy Nolan heading it up as MC. **Thursday, 8pm at Ballina RSL. Free.**



MAKING CIRCUS A FAMILY AFFAIR

BEESWAX AND BOTTLECAPS ARE THE COLLECTIVE MINDS OF MONICA TRAPAN, GEORGE LE COUTURE AND LIL TULLOCH.

Together they present a unique variety performance and vaudeville show being presented at the Mullum Circus Festival this weekend. *The Echo* spoke with Lil Tulloch on the road with baby, mother, husband and brother.

Tell me about the concept for *The Boy Who was Born with a Moustache...*

My fiancé George and I always wanted to write a family show that saluted old vaudeville and slapstick while trying to whisk the mind away. Once my mother Monica and my younger brother Atticus got involved we started writing a children's book of the same name. It evolved into a hair-raising story of mishap evolving into moustache success. It is a hair-raising adventure of furry ancestors, quirky circus and a good whack of slapstick.

How did you work the show up from page to stage?

We began writing the story with a show in mind. We would all brainstorm ideas and, as the show is in Suesian metre, we would get the giggles creating rhymes of cowgirls with armpit hair, grandads with fabulous ear hair. A lot of our circus stage acts we have been developing for the last five years so it is nice to find a home for them. This has always been a family affair as we have built backdrops, sewn costumes and rehearsed together.

What are the key themes that you work with?

I have always loved my exuberant, if rather odd, family. It has always been wonderfully inclusive regardless of your persuasions, quirks or oddities. I like to encourage this in all the children I meet.

This show is about overcoming your supposed foibles as well as embracing the unconventional family.

Everyone loves your mum from *Playschool...* was that a blessing or a burden growing up?

My mother has a wondrously infectious personality.

The enthusiasm you saw on screen was what I have always grown up with (a healthy dose of added cheekiness).

It was tricky having a very hard-working, touring mum who was always recognised on the street but, in the long run, I wouldn't swap it for anything. She is the other half of my brain; we have built and created so many projects together that it is always a hoot.

What are the lessons in life that she's passed on to you along the way? Performing is certainly in the family!

I actually ran away to become a circus teacher, but the circus dragged me back. I have definitely picked up her work ethic and, for that reason, can't remember my last day off! But I think the best advice has been that there isn't any problem that can't be nussed out over a delicious meal and good conversation.

What is it do you think that is so timeless about circus and vaudeville and the whole sideshow thing?

I hope it's timeless! Unlike many artforms, vaudeville, circus and sideshow were built with entertainment in mind first. For the masses to suspend the woes of reality and be amazed, or to laugh or be shocked in wonder. In its purest form it should be accessible to everyone. All three styles of entertainment have to continue to morph to survive but the richness of history continues to be a wealth of information to draw from.

What should we expect from your show at the Circus Festival? Audience interaction? Spills?

Chaos is probably the best word – and a lot of hair! We hope that we get kids of all ages (and adults) giggling.

Mullum Circus Festival, this Friday, Saturday and Sunday. For program and tickets go to mullumcircusfest.com.

COMEDY STARS ON THE RISE

Just last month comedian Hannah Gadsby won Best Show at Edinburgh Festival. This is an extremely prestigious award coveted by every comedian on the globe. And guess what, she started out as one of Mandy Nolan's comedy students. The world recognised Hannah Gadsby as she did her first gig at the Byron Services Club after an adult community education course. For teacher Mandy Nolan this was an amazing result. 'You always want people you have taught to do well,' says Nolan, 'but Hannah's accomplishments are off the charts.'

While Nolan believes Gadsby always had what it takes to be a standup comedian, if she hadn't done the course perhaps she would never have known. 'I often think of Hannah and wonder whether she would have even done comedy if she hadn't had access to a comedy course. The whole group thing makes doing something as scary as comedy feel a lot more accessible and less intimidating, as you share the fear!' says Nolan. 'And I teach the fundamentals that can take a long time to work out on the circuit if you are trying to do it without instruction.' Nolan's latest course features a whole new crop of potential world stars. 'We even have a guy who paints portraits of people with his penis,' says Nolan. 'Nolan's latest crop of comedians also includes a retired investment banker, a trauma therapist, a tradie, a macadamia farmer and a whole lot more. The 6-week comedy course ends with a live performance aptly titled *The Virgin Sacrifice*. Headed up with Nolan as MC, these nights have become something of a cult event with local community packing in to see their friends or family, or perhaps an unknown stranger, do their first comedy performance.'

Monday at the Byron Ex-Services Club. Tix are \$10/15 at the door or can be booked on 6619 0529 or by emailing mandy@mandynolan.com.au.

INTERNATIONAL COMEDY FOR BIG GIG!

Mandy Nolan is at it again! More than 10 years and still getting better!

This month Mandy has pulled out all the stops and has been pulling the strings and cashing in favours to bring to you at the Ballina RSL a real-life international comedy star. Mandy has secured for this month's **Big Gig** at the Ballina RSL none other than the multi-award-winning British comedian Jeff Green, who first graced our golden shores back in 1996 with a widely acclaimed one-man show at the Melbourne Comedy Festival. Since then he has notched up a wide and diverse list of credits alongside his name, from *Spicks and Specks* to *Good News Week*, numerous appearances on the *Melbourne Comedy Festival Gala* (Ten) and more recently Jeff's own comedy show: *Jeff Green – Up West* and *Back from the Bewilderness* were shown on consecutive primetime across Australia on ABC.

THAT'S NOT ME

Polly has a problem: She's an actor with big aspirations, but it's her identical twin Amy who is scoring all the good roles and screen time in the career they have in common. It's humiliating and it hurts, being 'the other one', mistaken for a rising-star sibling and rejected when her true identity is revealed. Polly's parents, her agent, even lovers make their preference clear, in not so subtle ways. Alice Foulcher does a brilliant comic job as the fall girl in *That's Not Me*, one of the comedies screening at the Byron Bay International Film Festival in October.

When Polly decides to make the most of her sister's celebrity, and seize some of the perks of fame for herself – free clothes, booze, casual sex – she's headed for trouble.

Then, against all good advice and realistic hope, she flies to Hollywood. Foulcher and husband Gregory Erdstein – Victorian College of the Arts alumni – collaborated on this, their first feature, which has been called 'a deceptively sophisticated character study about a person coming to terms with their dreams'. It's hilarious and heartrending at once; economical, astute, and with a nice line in satire on the shallowness of 'the industry'. Featured is an Australian actor who really is 'making it' in Hollywood – Isabel Lucas (*Home and Away*) and *Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen*, who plays Polly's glamorous LA-based actor friend Zoe. *That's Not Me* screens at the 11th Annual **Byron Film Festival 6-15 October**. Tickets are on sale now via www.bbff.com.au.

TRASH TEST DUMMIES

Looking for something to do with the kids? Catch the acrobatic mayhem of **The Trash Test Dummies**, about as much fun as you can have in a wheelie bin. Full of creative daring and physical feats of insane upside-down strength, this is fun for the whole family. A favourite on the national festival circuit and at the **Byron Theatre**, at the Community Centre on **Tuesday** at 11am. Tickets available at byroncentre.com.au.

NAMATIJJIRA – THE STORY WE ALL SHOULD KNOW

From the remote Australian desert to the opulence of Buckingham Palace catch *Namatijira*, the story of the iconic Namatijira family, tracing their quest to regain the copyright to their grandfather's artwork. Albert Namatijira was the first Indigenous person to be made a citizen by the Australian government. However, Namatijira was caught between cultures – paraded as a great Australian, and at the same time treated with contempt. He was wrongfully imprisoned and in 1959 he died a broken man. In 1983 the government sold his copyright to an art dealer. Today his family fight for survival, justice and to regain their grandfather's copyright. At **Brunswick Heads Picture House on October 11** at 7pm. The screening will be followed by a Q&A – get your tickets now.

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seven STARS

WITH LILITH

THE VERNAL EQUINOX, WHEN NIGHT AND DAY ARE EQUAL LENGTH, USHERS THE SUN INTO LIBRA, BEAUTY-LOVING SIGN OF BALANCE AND THE ARTS OF EVERYDAY LIVING...

♈ ARIES: Yes, small things are important, but not enough to fall out with others over. If anyone's going to be a grumpy, argumentative fussbudget this week, make sure it's not you. Let the gracious, agreeable, Venusian vibes of Libra, your opposite number on the astro-wheel, moderate your impatient soul.

♉ TAURUS: As one window of opportunity closes, a whole sliding wall of possibilities opens, and what initially look like annoying obstacles, when approached with practical Tauran planning, could turn out even better than what you originally had in mind. This week's sweet spot? Smooth, cruisy interludes with affectionate friends and family.

♊ GEMINI: This week, two significant planetary triggers – a Jupiter/Uranus opposition and Mercury/Saturn square – have unsettling elements, but also offer an opening to reinvent yourself through some sort of transformative expansion. A stroke of inspiration or imagination brings an unusual opportunity to earn more by doing what you love.

♋ CANCER: As recent revelations continue to integrate, this week's good news is that yes, prayers are answered. What you might be less keen to hear is that sometimes the answer's no. In which case it's simply another Rocky Horror moment Doing The Crabwalk Again: as in stepping sideways into a more workable slipstream.

♌ LEO: While it's not always easy for Leonine natures, this week strongly advocates humble restraint – taking a back seat, downplaying difficulties, not blowing things out of proportion. But don't fret – there's astral assistance galore from Venusian/Mercurian influences currently contributing a sense of perspective, balance, improved communication and fun-loving social buzz.

♍ VIRGO: This week's assorted astral grab bag includes lucky finds, lively encounters, successful shopping for durable products, the enhanced ability for methodical, next-step thinking and a healing cascade of simple, natural pleasures. All spiced up with chatty Mercury, industrious Mars and perfectionist Venus flirting together in your earthy domain.

♎ LIBRA: Welcome to your month in the sun, beautiful Venusians, as this week bathes you in its rosy glow and magical flow of loving company. Balance edgy trends with good vibes, cold shoulders with warm charm, and remember that your leading lady in the sign of do-it-right can get a tad, well let's say, exacting...

♏ SCORPIO: With Pluto and Jupiter boosting you with the astral equivalent of rocket fuel, this is prime time to clear your internal environment of old grudges and grievances, ancient chains and habits so you can restart afresh. Perhaps even consider a ritual to mark the passage of farewell, the changing of the guard...

♐ SAGITTARIUS: Adventure beckons you freedom seekers this week. The joker's wild, just how you like it, and anything's possible: quantum shifts, life leaps, the breakthrough conversation you've been waiting for – plus your ruler Jupiter in the sign of balance to keep that tendency to cock-eyed optimism on an even keel.

♑ CAPRICORN: Pluto retro in your sign has been working off past karma so you can step into a brave new future and the next cycle of evolutionary growth. Rely on your practical instincts till late-week Capricorn moon conjunct Pluto heading direct moves your goaty hooves to solid and reassuring turf.

♒ AQUARIUS: This week's whip-crack, lightning-strike excitement could bring a sudden opportunity out of the blue that has you wanting to carpe diem – seize the day – come what may. Someone unusual or something unexpected gives you the chance to show off a new you, or present yourself in a revised light.

♓ PISCES: With Neptune oppositions blurring boundaries and fogging the mirror of understanding, discrimination can be difficult. If this week feels fussy and finicky, nitpicking and critical, then self-care's your best option: a refreshing holiday, revitalising day spa, relaxing massage or favourite liquid therapy to renew body, mind and spirit.

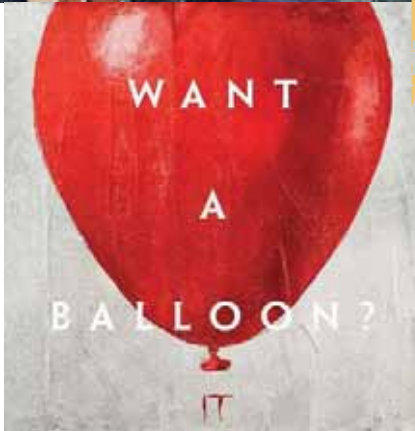


KINGSMAN: THE GOLDEN CIRCLE

A ski lift is careering down a mountainside. Inside it are two of our heroes. They are yelling and screaming as they bounce around like pinballs. The lift's trajectory will have it smash into a crowded cafe. At the last second, with only metres to spare, it comes to a halt and disaster is averted. At which point a geriatric diner delivers to his old buddy one of the funniest lines I have heard all year. Whether or not it is worth the price of admission to hear it is debatable, because this is one of those movies that buries a reasonably interesting and, in its way, subtly subversive story beneath a ton of cacophonous CGI.

The noise from the 'action' and accompanying orchestral overdrive is so overwhelmingly ear-splitting that when there is the briefest cessation – lasting about ten seconds – you feel like somebody has stopped pounding your head against a brick wall. The villain of the piece is Poppy (Julianne Moore) who, from her hideaway somewhere in a South American jungle, is on a mission to sell drugs to the world and overthrow the hegemony of alcohol, tobacco, sugar etc. It's a goal that's not without its merits, but she is up against the combined forces of London's Kingsman, a quasi-governmental outfit of Flemingsque troubleshooters, led by Eggsy (Taron Egerton), and, from Kentucky, the good ol' boys of Statesman, its US equivalent. Saville Row manners meet

American brashness in the form of cigar-munching Jeff Bridges, Channing Tatum in a ten-gallon hat and a character with an electric lasso who looks uncannily like Burt Reynolds. Throw in Mark Strong singing 'Take me home, country roads', Colin Firth as a half-looney lepidopterist with a patch over his left eye, and Halle Barry doing little more than looking gorgeous, and you already have a rolled-gold cast that has a hoot acting the goat. When Elton John, playing himself, gets involved in kicking-ass, things move from the ridiculous to the surreal. But there IS that old bloke's fab one-liner.



IT

The trouble with this schlock/horror flick (and it's an observation that might be made of all cinema aimed at younger audiences these days) is that there is no climax. It is more or less full-throttle from the word go, with no real sense of tension, no 'unknowing' leading to the reveal followed by gasps of relief. We should never compare apples with oranges, but the famous shower scene in *Psycho* does not come until twenty minutes into the film, and even then it is merely pivotal rather than climactic. But instant gratification rules, so we should get over subtlety's decline and stop carping. For otherwise, this is a pretty decent scary movie. A little boy, sailing his paper boat down the flooded gutter one night, encounters a clown in the drain. He disappears, leaving behind only a pool of blood.

His grieving, stuttering older brother, Bill (Jaeden Liebeherr) and his mates, including the pretty Beverly (Sophia Lillis), another new-age girl who puts the boys to shame, set about solving the mystery (this genre precludes any police involvement).

Stephen King, on whose novel the screenplay is based, has a great talent for writing about kids and small-town America, so it doesn't surprise that there are heavy echoes of the melancholy *Stand By Me* (1986) in director Andy Muschietti's adaptation – the characters are almost carbon copies.

All of the children are coping with their own problems, including bullying at school, sexual abuse, parental over-protection and just not fitting in. When they discover that their town of Derry (in King's Maine) has the highest rate of unresolved disappearances in the country, with disasters unaccountably occurring every 27 years, their curiosity leads them to an abandoned haunted house – and you can imagine the consequences.

The clown would be more frightening if it weren't over-exposed, but the Modigliani portrait that comes to life, because we see less of it, is a dead-set terror. The savagery at the end is made up for by tender partings and, naturally, the promise that 'it' will be back.

ENTERTAINMENT

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BY JOHN CAMPBELL

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THURSDAY 28TH SEPTEMBER TO WEDNESDAY 4TH OCTOBER

BATTLE OF THE SEXES THUR 28TH TO WED 4TH 1.15PM 7.05PM 9.15PM PG	KINGSMAN: THE GOLDEN CIRCLE THUR 28TH TO WED 4TH 1.50PM 6.30PM 8.50PM MA 15+	THE LEGO NINJAGO MOVIE THUR 28TH TO WED 4TH 9.55AM 12.55PM 2.50PM PG
CAPTAIN UNDERPANTS THUR 28TH TO WED 4TH 9.35AM 11.30AM 3.30PM G	THE EMOJI MOVIE THUR 28TH TO WED 4TH 9.45AM 11.15AM 5.10PM G	VICTORIA & ABDUL THUR 28TH TO WED 4TH 4.40PM 9.05PM 6.50PM PG

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BYRON BAY LOUNGE CINEMA

Wednesday Sept 27 A Monster Calls 11:15am Cars 3 1:30pm Madame 3:45pm Ali's Wedding 5:45pm American Made 8:00pm	Sunday Oct 1 Cars 3 11:30am Maudie 1:30pm Madame 3:45pm Hitman's Bodyguard 5:45pm American Made 8:00pm
Thursday Sept 28 - NEW Cars 3 11:15am Ali's Wedding 1:20pm A Monster Calls 3:35pm Maudie 5:45pm Hitman's Bodyguard 8:00pm	Monday Oct 2 - Tix\$11 Ali's Wedding (Final) 11:30am Cars 3 1:45pm Madame 3:50pm Maudie 5:45pm Hitman's Bodyguard 8:00pm
Friday Sept 29 - Fundraiser Maudie 11:15am PLASTIC FREE BOY 1:30pm A Monster Calls 3:05pm Ali's Wedding 5:15pm Madame 7:30pm Hitman's Bodyguard 9:30pm	Tuesday Oct 3 - Final Cars 3 11:15am A Monster Calls 1:20pm Maudie 3:30pm Hitman's Bodyguard 5:45pm American Made 8:00pm
Saturday Sept 30 A Monster Calls 11:30am Cars 3 1:40pm Maudie 3:45pm Madame 6:00pm Hitman's Bodyguard 8:00pm	Wednesday Oct 4 - Final A Monster Calls 12:20pm Cars 3 2:30pm Madame 4:40pm Maudie 6:30pm Hitman's Bodyguard 8:45pm

Next Week: HITMAN'S BODYGUARD, MAUDIE, CARS 3, A MONSTER CALLS, IT, TOMMY'S HONOUR.

THURSDAY 28

- GREAT NORTHERN HOTEL, BYRON **FRIEND ZONE**
- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON 7PM **OOZ**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 8.30PM **MACY GRAY & GUESTS**
- BALCONY BAR, BYRON 6PM **LEELI**
- BYRON BAY BREWERY 6PM **DAY OF THE DEAD WITH KALLIDAD, BLACK RABBIT GEORGE, DONI RAVEN & THE COLLECTIVE INSANITY, WILD MARMALADE**
- BYRON COMMUNITY CENTRE 10AM **CHORES CIRCUS SHOW**
- WOODY'S SURF SHACK, BYRON 8PM **CHEF DE PARTY & FRIENDS**
- TREEHOUSE, BELONGIL 7.30PM **BENNY FOWLER**
- BANGALOW BOWLING CLUB 6PM **SALSA 7PM BLUES CLUB WITH FBI BAND**
- BRUNSWICK PICTURE HOUSE 2PM **MR SPIN 7PM A QUEST TO HEAL**
- MULLUMBIMBY CIVIC HALL 6.30PM **NORTH COAST COMMUNITY HOUSING THE RAILCARD LAUNCH**
- CLUB MULLUM 6.30PM **UKELECTICA UKE NIGHT WITH MAX FOGGON, PHIL FREA, N.R.U.O, MISS AMBER & STUKULELE**
- POINCIANA, MULLUMBIMBY 7PM **LIVE GYPSY JAZZ**
- BALLINA RSL 8PM **BIG GIG COMEDY WITH MANDY NOLAN, JEFF GREEN, AARON PRATT**
- COOLANGATTA BEACH 6.30PM **AIDA**

FRIDAY 29

- GREAT NORTHERN HOTEL, BYRON **RIG CITY, GOLD MEMBER, THE SQUIDLICKERS**
- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON 7PM **PINK ZINC**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 5PM **LEIGH JAMES 9.30PM CARAVANA SUN & GUESTS**
- BYRON BAY BREWERY 7.30PM **THOR PHILLIPS**
- BYRON COMMUNITY CENTRE 10AM **CHORES CIRCUS SHOW**
- STICKY WICKET, BYRON 9PM **DJ KYLE WALKER 9.30PM RAY RED**
- WOODY'S SURF SHACK, BYRON 9PM **SQUEAK LEMAIRE**
- TREEHOUSE, BELONGIL 7.30PM **CHRISTIAN PATEY**
- LUSCIOUS FOODS, BYRON A&I 6PM **YOYO TUKI**
- SUN BISTRO, SUNRISE 6PM **MATT ARMITAGE**
- ELEMENTS OF BYRON, SUNRISE 5PM **MATTY ROGERS**
- PIZZA PARADISO, SUFFOLK PARK 6.30PM **GARY EDGAR**
- BANGALOW HOTEL 7PM **JEZ MEAD**
- BRUNSWICK HOTEL 7PM **FOZZY BEAR**
- BRUNSWICK PICTURE HOUSE 2PM **MR SPIN 7PM THIN WHITE UKES WITH THE LOVEYS**
- MULLUMBIMBY SHOWGROUNDS **MULLUM CIRCUS FESTIVAL**
- POINCIANA, MULLUMBIMBY 5PM **LOUNGE SESSIONS WITH RESIDENT DJ**
- ST MARTIN'S, MULLUMBIMBY 7PM **HOUSE OF BLISS KIRTAN**
- BILLINUDGEL HOTEL 8PM **SHYBABY**
- LENNOX HOTEL 10PM **DAN CLARK BAND**
- BALLINA RSL 7.30PM **OILS, ANGELS, DIVINYLS TRIBUTE SHOW**
- BALLINA RSL BOARDWALK 4.30PM **DYLAN CURNOW 8PM FRIENDLY ENEMIES**
- ELTHAM HOTEL 6PM **CHRIS ARONSTEN**
- SALTBAR, KINGSCLIFF 8.30PM **FAT ALBERT**
- CABARITA SPORTS CLUB **RAKU ONE O'GAIA**
- CONDONG BOWLING CLUB 6PM **TWEED VALLEY JAZZ CLUB WITH THE EARLY BIRDS, COL ATKINSON QUARTET**
- TWIN TOWNS JUNIORS, TWEED HEADS 5PM **BILL JACOBI**
- YAMBA GOLF CLUB 7PM **ADAM BROWN**
- COOLANGATTA BEACH 6.30PM **AIDA**
- CURRUMBIN PUB 8PM **LARSEN, BEING JANE LANE, RA RA RUBY, SYRUP GO ON**

- CURRUMBIN RSL 5PM **ACOUSTIC SESSIONS**
- SOUNDLOUNGE, CURRUMBIN **JULIA ROSE & MY NIGHTINGALE**

SATURDAY 30

- GREAT NORTHERN HOTEL, BYRON **PRIVATE FUNCTION, FEELING DAVE, THE VIOLENT MONKS**
- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON 7PM **THE PROPELLERS**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 9PM **NINJA HOUSE**
- BYRON BAY BREWERY 7.30PM **INO PIO**
- STICKY WICKET, BYRON 8PM **APOTEKA 9.30PM JAMES SCOTT**
- WOODY'S SURF SHACK, BYRON 9PM **DJ NERY**
- TREEHOUSE, BELONGIL 7.30PM **NICOLE BROPHY**
- MCTAVISH SURFBOARDS, BYRON A&I 9AM **MATTHEW ARMITAGE, RIKI EKETONE, JAMES STREET PREACHERS**
- SUN BISTRO, SUNRISE 3PM **JESSE MORRIS BAND**
- PIZZA PARADISO 6.30PM **PHIL & TILLEY**
- BANGALOW HOTEL 7PM **JOCK BANES**
- BRUNSWICK HOTEL 7PM **PARKER ROSE**
- BRUNSWICK PICTURE HOUSE 7PM **BRUNS GOES BOLLYWOOD FEATURING THE BOLLYWOOD SISTERS**
- SOUNDHELL, BRUNSWICK HEADS 10PM **DESIGNATED SAFE SPACE FOR TONY ABBOTT, ANDREW BOLT & MARK LATHAM, WHERE THEY SIMULTANEOUSLY MANSPLAIN THEIR VICTIMHOOD AND PRIVILEGE**
- LULU'S, MULLUMBIMBY 11AM **MARK RIDOUT**
- MULLUMBIMBY SHOWGROUNDS **MULLUM CIRCUS FESTIVAL**
- POINCIANA, MULLUMBIMBY 5PM **LOUNGE SESSIONS WITH RESIDENT DJ**
- MULLUMBIMBY CIVIC HALL 7.30PM **PETER HUNT & KOOL**
- PARK LANE THEATRE, LENNOX HEAD 7.30PM **WOMEN LIKE US WITH MANDY NOLAN & ELLEN BRIGGS**
- BALLINA RSL 7.30PM **HARRISON CRAIG**
- BALLINA RSL BOARDWALK 6PM **DYLAN PINKERTON 9PM SMOOTH GROOVES**
- BALLINA RSL BOWLING CLUB 6PM **BOB WALTON**
- SHEOAK SHACK, FINGAL HEAD 2PM **MEJU 7PM INO PIO & BAPTISTE**
- KINGSCLIFF HOTEL 7PM **LEIGH JAMES**
- SALTBAR, KINGSCLIFF 8.30PM **DJ JAKE**
- CHINDERAH TAVERN 7PM **GREGG PETERSON**
- MARY G'S, LISMORE **ROCHELLE LEES BAND**
- CABARITA SPORTS CLUB **MARSHALL O'KELL DUO**
- COOLANGATTA BEACH 6.30PM **AIDA**
- CURRUMBIN RSL 4PM **ACOUSTIC SESSIONS**

SUNDAY 1

- GREAT NORTHERN HOTEL, BYRON **FERGO**
- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON 7PM **THE QUICK & THE DEAD**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 4.30PM **GOODRICH 8PM DJ FONZAIUS & DJ LONGTIME**
- BYRON COMMUNITY MARKET 9AM **SHAI SHRIKI BAND, PAT TIERNEY, DIGERA, JAMIE ASHFORTH**
- BYRON GOLF CLUB 2PM **LIVE MUSIC**
- BYRON BAY BREWERY 3PM **SUNDAY SAFARI WITH MOTEZ, BENI, SUNROSE & MORE**
- BYRON THEATRE 1PM **ANGELS IN AMERICA PART TWO**
- TARGA BYRON 12.30PM **MICK'S SASHIMI BAND**
- TREEHOUSE, BELONGIL 12PM **DJ EVA J & DJ HISEAS**
- SUN BISTRO, SUNRISE 5PM **RAY RED**
- PARADISE ONE, COORABELL 7PM **COAST TO COAST AFROBEAT**
- BANGALOW ANGLICAN CHURCH 7PM **MOVING PATHS**
- BRUNSWICK HOTEL 4PM **DAN HANNAFORD BAND**
- BRUNSWICK PICTURE HOUSE 9AM **HOMEMADE JAM**

MONDAY 2

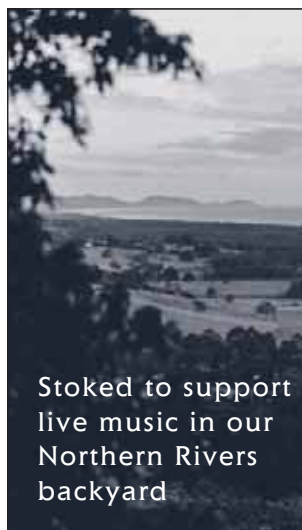
- GREAT NORTHERN HOTEL, BYRON **DAN CLARK**
- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON 7PM **CRAIG ATKINS**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 8.30PM **4'20' REGGAE WITH JESSE MORRIS BAND**
- BYRON COMMUNITY CENTRE 10.30AM **DRUMMING, DANCING, STORYTELLING 1.30PM KIDZKLUB**
- BYRON SERVICES CLUB 8PM **VIRGIN SACRIFICE COMEDY WITH MANDY NOLAN**
- WOODY'S SURF SHACK, BYRON 9PM **REGGAE AFTERPARTY**
- B-SPACE, BALLINA 5PM **JAM**
- TATTS HOTEL, LISMORE 7.30PM **OPEN MIC WITH CHRIS FISHER**

TUESDAY 3

- GREAT NORTHERN HOTEL, BYRON **MARSHALL O'KELL**
- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON 7PM **TIM EASTON**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 8PM **OPEN MIC**
- BYRON COMMUNITY CENTRE 11AM **TRASH TEST DUMMIES 1.30PM KIDZKLUB**

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- BANGALOW HOTEL 7PM **OPEN MIC**
- MIDDLE PUB, MULLUMBIMBY 7PM **TRIVIA**
- OCEAN SHORES COUNTRY CLUB 7PM **COUNTRY CLUB COMEDY WITH MARK MCCONVILLE, PAUL MCMAHON & MANDY NOLAN**

WEDNESDAY 4

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON 7PM **BLUE CHILD COLLECTIVE**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 8.30PM **JON J BRADLEY**
- BYRON BAY BREWERY 7.30PM **OPEN MIC WITH ALAIN DE CARNE**
- BYRON COMMUNITY CENTRE 10.30AM **DRUMMING, DANCING, STORYTELLING 1.30PM KIDZKLUB**
- STICKY WICKET, BYRON 8PM **COMEDY NIGHT 10PM OOOZ**
- WOODY'S SURF SHACK, BYRON 9PM **DJ JAMIE**
- BANGALOW BOWLO 6.30PM **SWING**
- BALLINA RSL 7PM **SOCIAL BALLROOM DANCE**
- ELTHAM HOTEL 6.30PM **NOT QUITE FOLK JAM**

WHAT'S ON

CHILDREN'S AFRICAN DRUM, DANCE & STORYTELLING WORKSHOP WITH GABRIEL OTU Wed 27 Sept, Mon 2, Wed 4 Oct, 10.30am-12pm Single \$20 Group 2/3 \$18 ea Group 4+ \$15 ea Ages 2+	
KIDZKLUB SPRING SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM Wed 27 Sept & Mon 2 - Wed 4 Oct, 1.30-4pm \$25 child Ages 4½-12 years	
CHORES PRESENTED BY CLUSTER ARTS & HOOPLA CLIQUE Thursday 28 & Friday 29 September, 10am Full \$15 Family of 4 (2 + 2 or 1A + 3C) \$50	
ROSENCRANTZ & GUILDENSTERN ARE DEAD BY TOM STOPPARD - NT LIVE ENCORE SCREENING Sat 30 Sept, 1pm Full \$25 Conc \$23 Student U18 \$10 Group 10+ \$15 Age 15+	
ANGELS IN AMERICA - PART TWO: PERESTROIKA - NT LIVE SCREENING Sunday 1 October, 1pm Full \$25 Conc \$23 Student U18 \$10 Group 10+ \$15 Age 15+	

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 The Echo office will be closed Labour Day Monday 2/10/17 but you can still email us:
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Tiani takes silver at NSW championships



Tiani, deputy principal Cameron Johnson (L) and head teacher of PDHPE Lachlan Mckenzie. Photo supplied

Mullumbimby High School student Tiani Hogan came second running the 800 metres in the NSW Combined High Schools State Athletics championships held in Sydney earlier this month.

Tiani ran in the 12-years competition and earned her silver medal in a time of 2:29:2.

The state championships were held at Sydney's Olym-

pic Park over three days from September 6.

Hannah Sigley and Remi Lewis-Clarke were the other Mullumbimby High students who competed at the event.

'Mullumbimby High School has a proud tradition of sporting excellence and wishes to congratulate all its athletes,' Mullumbimby deputy principal Cameron Johnson said.

Hogan wins Mullum bowls super series



A big finish by Mark Hogan earned him a chunk of the cash prizes last weekend. Photo supplied

Michael Burke

Mark Hogan took out the Mullumbimby Hot Bread Super Series that concluded on Saturday at the Mullumbimby Bowling Club.

The event offered \$1,100 in prize money and was played over four weeks and contested by club bowlers under a handicap system.

The final featured Ben Leeson and last year's runner-up, Mark Hogan.

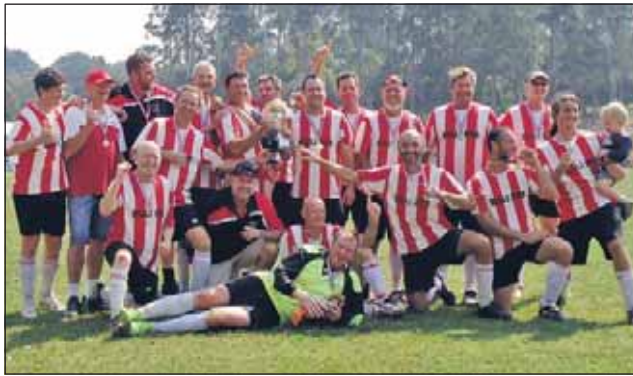
The game was a tight affair with Leeson in front after eleven ends. Hogan then edged ahead and took a maximum 10 points on the final end to take out an

exciting match by 105 to 83.

Placings

The first eight placegetters took home prize money, with Hogan and Leeson being followed by Scott Hogan, Terry Fenwick, Bob Rose, Mark Holton, Ilona Pettendy, Shane Knight, Sean Doherty, Larry Henry, Richie Northcott, Michael Burke, Mike Nicholls, Michael Lardi, Ross Graham, Geoff Flick, Clint Marsh, Adam McKenzie, Trent Foreman, Ian Weir, Phill Brassington, Troy Creighton, Allan Bartlett, Bernie O'Hearn, Jamie Ewin, Andrew Moroney, George McKenzie and Rose Wainwright.

Best-ever season for Shores United



The success of the Shores United seventh division side was a real highlight for the club. Photo Simone Prendergast.

Marc Patten

Three grandfinals and an Anzac Cup final appearance, highlighted a fantastic season for Shores United Soccer Club.

The new field at Shara Boulevard helped attract the highest number of players to the club this season, with four senior men's teams nominated.

The First division Brown Snakes had a top year finishing a solid third, then knocking off second placed Ballina away, twice, to storm into the grandfinal.

The Snakes were only narrowly beaten by Premier League bound South Lismore.

The forth-division Redbacks were very exciting to watch all season and finished an impressive second, only

beaten by promoted Mullumbimby in the grandfinal.

The sixth division young guys improved all year with limited numbers; in the end they won five games and a heap of respect.

But it was the old boys in seventh division who stole the show.

Losing just a single match all year the Shores boys slayed all before them, including arch-rivals Mullumbimby on three separate occasions.

Many of them are over 50 years old and in the twilight of their careers, but they ran away with the minor premiership and, when the final whistle blew at Dunoon last weekend, the old warriors hoisted the grandfinal trophy too.

We can't wait for 2018. Well done, everyone.

Go Shores!

Left Bank win 20th Shand Memorial Cricket cup

After a season of great deeds on and off the field the grass-stained gladiators of the Nick Shand Memorial cricket series brought their best one last time for the staging of the 20th grandfinal last Sunday.

The Suffolk Swingers paddled in from the back break at Broken Head to bring their groovy brand of cricket up against the clannish hill-dwelling country folk of the Left Bank and Lomath Oval

glowed through the heat haze as Wortho of the Swingers called correctly at the toss and chose to bat.

Owen (36no) and Hughsey (37) had the Swingers rocking early, seeing off the new ball then pushing out boundaries like artificial islands in the South China Sea.

Staring down a wicketless first session Bankers skipper Scruff (1-4) brought on himself and the talented Russell (4-9) whose nippy inswingers caused havoc as stumps were flattened like dodgy buildings in Mexico City.

The Bankers strangled the Swingers' middle order, chasing balls down like Myanmar Muslims heading for a border crossing. A hyped up Levi (23) worked the scorer hard but when Bruce took his wicket resistance crumbled as the Bankers foreclosed the Swingers' innings for a mod-

erate 140 with wickets to Scotty, Rob and Sean.

Faced with running through the endless Bankers' batting lineup to take the trophy the Swingers started well, Chi's (2/12) fearless looping leggies hitting paydirt and Levi (2/12) showing he was still well in the zone.

But the Bankers just seemed to keep coming no matter how many of them were shot down and Sean (35no) and Rob (21) hung in to produce a match-winning partnership, leaving Deano (28no) and Bruce to biff up the winning runs and take the trophy to the hoots of delight from the rustic Bankers fans.

Saffron Shand was on hand to lead the toast to his father Nick and rivalries were soon forgotten as all went about the serious business of exaggerating their prowess and planning next year's campaign.

The Snakebite 'Queensland coverdrive' honour for best batsman of the series went to Owen of the Swingers, who scored 30 or better in every one of his innings for the year.

The Witchdoctor's bowling prize went to Suffolk all-rounder Hughsey with nine wickets and all agreed that after 20 years the Shand is still the series that puts the root in grassroots cricket.

Top surfers take on artificial wave

Crystal Cylinders

The surfing world just changed forever as the potential of artificial waves was fully realised at the Kelly Slater Wave Ranch in Lenmore, California, where some of the world's best competed in an invitation competition.

They surfed waves created by a state-of-the-art machine that produces the perfect surfing wave each and every time on a 700-metre pond.

Byron Bay's Matt Wilkinson was blown away with the quality of the wave.

'It's an unbelievable wave,' he said. 'It's crazy high. The regularity of the wave is appealing. It's helpful to know when a wave is coming. It's your turn. It takes out the guesswork. It'll be nice getting a couple of them built in Australia.'

'I love it,' said surfer Stephanie Gilmore of Australia, a six-time world champion on the women's tour. 'I can't stop



Matt Wilkinson gets tight at the Kelly Slater Wave Ranch. Photo Rowland/WSL

wiping the smile off my face. It's the future.'

Events in wave pools are not new as the first pro-rated event was held in 1985 at Allentown, Pennsylvania as part of the 1985 World Tour, and was won by Tom Carroll.

Mikey in Japan

Lennox Head's Mikey McDonagh got off to a great start with a heat win at the 2017 World Junior Surfing Cham-

ampionship in Japan.

McDonagh is a member of the Woolworths Australian Junior Surfing Team who have hopes of going one better than last year's Silver Medal at the superb break of Okuragahama beach in Hyuga City on the southern island of Kyushu.

The event gathers the top 18-and-under surfers to represent their nations.

The twelve-strong Wool-

worths Australian Junior Surfing Team includes four female surfers and eight males.

Mikey is in the U/16 division and is rated as one of the favourites in a very strong field.

Conditions look very similar to a small day at his home surf break at Lennox Head, where he recently mastered with a win at the Skullcandy Oz Grom Open.

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Most suspected the marriage equality debate would get ugly and it did. The ugliest part would have to be Murdoch minion Andrew Bolt and weirdo Mark Latham mansplaining that they – yes them and their ilk – are the real victims of bullying over the issue and need a safe space.

And the cause of this ugliness is because the Liberal/National coalition wanted to spend \$122m on a non-binding survey instead of doing their job and voting. If you haven't received your letter from the ABS, visit www.marriagesurvey.abs.gov.au to request one.

While the Tassie anarchist who popped Abbott's lip was instantly condemned, he said he did it because of Abbott's appalling human rights record, not because of his marriage equality stance. And on the other side, Kevin Rudd's godson sustained head injuries from an alleged 'no' campaigner last week. Why is an act of isolated violence condemned, yet when a government's military kills vast numbers, it's collateral damage? Local solicitor Cameron Bell explores on page 17 the subtle violence politicians wield against the public.

What's the Byron brand worth? A lot it seems, with local – and some not so local – businesses keen to capitalise on the most easterly golden egg. See new *Echo* investigative reporter Paul Bibby's investigation pages 10 and 11.

The latest Newspoll suggests the Turnbull government is yet to live up to the public's expectations, with another



It's an end of an era for the the famed poinciana at the Poinciana Cafe in Mullum. It was removed owing to its age and safety concerns. Photo Jeff 'Tree Hugging Since 1986' Dawson

awful result that puts them even further behind Labor. Turnbull's entire reason for rolling then PM Abbott in 2015 was 30 consecutive poor Newspoll results. We are now at number 20 under Turnbull.

Scientists have discovered Octantis! Professor David Scheel told *The Guardian* last week that on an artificial reef off Jervis Bay, octopodes have been observed to 'congregate, communicate and even evict one another.' Not only but also, they are aquatic architects, having 'constructed walls from clam and scallop shells – the remains of their former meals.' Their intelligence is said to be that of a three-year-old child.

The Nude Olympics have declared they are officially coming to Tyagarah Beach, Byron Bay on October 7. The long-held Noosa event is heading down the coast, says co-organsier Greg Serow, 'because of the stupid

laws in QLD.' He says there was a 'lack of support from the Noosa Council and the QLD police, whereas here the

police and Council are helping us.' How the times are a changing – for more visit www.ausnatural.org.au.

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