



LOCAL & INDEPENDENT



Rally once linked to Gold Coast development

Luis Feliu

As voices grow louder against the controversial rally, the event's chief has admitted the rally on the Tweed was originally part of a grandiose \$650 million development plan for a motorsport complex north of the Gold Coast yet to get off the ground.

The project, by a secretive consortium called i-METT (Integrated Motorsport Education Tourism and Technology) involved building an 'epicentre' for motor sport in the southern hemisphere at a 400-hectare cane farm site near Norwell, between the Gold Coast and Brisbane.

The grand plan was touted by some backers as the future headquarters for a revived Rally Australia (RA) and the consortium two years ago had reportedly snared its first big event, the Australian leg of the world rally championship, which was supposed to kick off from the Gold Coast site last year, with the Tweed now known to have been part of that plan.

'Fantasy' project

Project heads at the time said the world-class complex, complete with a nighttime state-of-the-art F1 racing circuit and industry precinct, would inject millions into the Queensland economy but motorsport journalists rubbished the idea and the rally link with the development, calling it a 'fantasy'.

The consortium eventually pulled the pin on the rally, requesting a postponement from the Australian motoring governing body CAMS (Confederation of Australian Motor-

sport), which viewed it as 'extremely disappointing'.

With the plans for the rally to be run in Queensland in disarray, motoring industry writers said the future of rallying in Australia was then 'murkier than ever' and an alternative site had to be found fast to keep face with world motorsport's governing body, FIA.

Backing from govt

So a stand-alone subsidiary of CAMS, Repco Rally Australia (RRA), then filled the void as official promoter/sponsor of the rally after finding financial backing from the NSW government.

But organising committee chairman Garry Connolly told *The Echo* this week that 'it was always intended for the Tweed/Kyogle region to be part of the Australian round of the WRC (world rally championships)'.

'However, when the NSW government agreed to fund the event it was a requirement to run all three days in the region. Under the i-METT proposal, there were to be two days in Tweed and one in southeast Queensland,' he said.

In a national motorsport magazine report in April 2007 entitled 'Who's fooling who, and for how long?' by respected motoring writer Geoffrey Harris, the links between the rally and the Gold Coast development came under fire.

The article, in *Motorsport* magazine, said the news about the links with marquee motoring events 'have been served up with more spin than

continued on page 2

It's all downhill from here



In contrast to high-speed rallies, a family-oriented billycart grand prix is the way to go for some, including Tweed Valley College students Brent Whittaker (at the wheel), Erin Duffy (left) and Tess Browne trying out their billycars with a little help from their classmates in preparation for the college's annual event to be held by the school next Sunday. Photo Jeff 'Going Downhill Fast' Dawson

The second annual Tweed Billy Cart Grand Prix which rolls off in Murwillumbah next Sunday, May 31, is set to draw a record number of entries.

At the inaugural event held by Tweed Valley College (TVC) last year, 80 entrants competed with around 400 spectators, but already this year the number of entrants exceed that.

The community event proved a popular family event with local police attending and 'clocking' some of the billycars at speeds up to 30kph. There were all types of carts, a coffin on wheels, mini SES rescue cart as well as a mini fire engine with flashing lights and horns and water squirting hose.

Last Sunday, Bangalow's annual billycart derby drew hundreds of people to its main street. With the staging

of the Tweed event so close to that one, interest in billycars on the North Coast is set for a big revival.

According to organiser Colin Louwen from TVC, there has been increased interest by businesses wanting to compete, as well as more schools wishing to be part of the action.

Teams from Years 1 and 2 through to high school students, businesses and community groups will participate in the various events, which include Best Dressed and Best Cart, the White Dove Sprint and Central Engineering Grand Prix.

The idea of the event, according to Colin, is for 'families and friends to join forces and work together on a project. The design, the scrounging of parts, the manufacture and then finally a chance to test it out on the track is

what makes this day so special.'

As well as the race there will be merry-go-rounds, food stalls, jumping castles and slides, so the day offers entertainment for the whole family.

Profits will go to the Murwillumbah Hospital emergency department. Hospital spokesperson Deborah Dawes said the emergency department was often overlooked by the community when it came to gifts.

'So this gesture from the community will be well received. At this stage the monies raised will be going to purchase a LCD screen for tracking, which will make the doctors' and nurses' job a little more pleasant,' she said.

Registration forms are available at Tweed Valley College, phone 02 6672 2922 or email colin@tweedmoney.com.au.

Budding Hairdresser

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Burringbar: Real estate agent and service station

Byron Bay: Echo office, Community Centre, newsagent, Visitors Centre

Cabarita Beach: Beach Bar, SLSC and cafe, newsagent, bottleshop

Casuarina/Salt: IGA, Salt Bar, bottleshop

Chillingham: Store

Chinderah: Art Gallery, pub, newsagent

Coolagatta: 7-11 Supermarket, Astral Trading, Border Sub News, Coolangatta Hotel, Coolangatta Senior Citizens Club, Surf Club, Twin Towns, Zenergy Health Foods, **Condong:** Store

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Hastings Point: General store, service station

Kingscliff: Bowls Club, Library/Community Centre, two newsagents, Rings Realty, Echo stand in shopping mall

Mooball: Pub and petrol station

Mount Burrell: Store

Mullumbimby: Echo office

Murwillumbah: Echo office, Bulk Whole Foods, Escape Gallery, Caldera Environment Centre, Sunnyside Mall stand

Pottsville: Supermarket, bottleshop, newsagent, fruit market

South Tweed Industrial Estate: 5-Star Machinery Drive, Casa Del Cafe, East Coast Bulk Food, Eat Me Cafe

South Tweed: Dry Dock Road convenience store, South Tweed Bowls Club and Sports Club, Tweed/Coolangatta Golf Club, Tweed City - Echo stand, Tweed Tavern

Stokers Siding: Store

Terranora: Supermarket

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Tweed Heads - Wharf Street: Bakery, Community Centre/Library, Hospital main foyer, Ivory Tavern, newsagent, Tweed Heads Bowls Club, Twin Towns

Tyalgum: Store

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West Tweed: Seagulls, Cellarbrations, Broadwater Village Retirement Park, Spar Supermarket, Panorama Newsagent

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Try croquet for fun and skill



Croquet is a game that calls for more brain than brawn and if a lot more people realised how strategy played such a major role in the game, more people would take part.

That's the view of Murwillumbah Croquet Club which is offering an 'open house' to let people 'come and try' this weekend (May 23-24) at its historic clubhouse and lawns behind the Brisbane Street tennis courts at Murwillumbah's Knox Park, from 1pm-3pm.

Club spokesperson Marjorie Kersey urged interested people to 'come alone or bring along

Phyl Behrens in the club house. Photo Jeff Dawson

a friend on either Saturday or Sunday and test your skills in a mallet sport then join us in a sausage sizzle.

'We supply equipment for new members, soft soled shoes are a must. It's a very strategic game and not just about hitting a ball through a hoop, it's about

what goes on before, it's an absolutely wonderful game, if you start young you'll be playing into your 90s.

'We're always looking for more members and any age can play.'

For info call club secretary Laurel Mann on 6672 3155.

Seniors Expo postponed

The Tweed Seniors Expo planned for today (May 21) in Murwillumbah has been postponed due to predicted wet and windy weather.

The expo will now be held later in the year on a date to be confirmed.

For more info call expo organisers on 02 6670 2442.

It happens to us all...

Palliative Care Australia (PCA) is launching a public-awareness campaign next week to help people faced with dying, death and loss.

The National Community Education Initiative will be launched during National Palliative Care Week from May 24-30, with a theme of 'If only I knew - finding answers to questions that help us live and die the best we can'.

Talking about dying and death is not something that comes naturally to Australians, according to Professor Margaret O'Connor, PCA president.

'Chances are, at some stage you will know someone who is dying or have a friend in that situation. Chances are, you won't know what to say or do to help them.

'Unfortunately, not knowing all too often results in poor access to available services and poorer outcomes for the patient, their families and carers.

'National Palliative Care Week is an opportunity for everyone in our community to learn about important issues, issues like what is palliative care, where can I go for help, what can I say and do when someone I know is dying, or, what does normal grief look like.'

For further information on the initiative, see www.palliativecare.org.au.

Rally once linked to development (from page 1)

Shane Warne ever conjured.'

It quoted a Brisbane *Courier Mail* report proclaiming the controversial project's first big event, the WRC leg, had already been sealed with Rally Australia for September 2009 and that 'there was a compelling case for Formula One (F1) championships to be lured away from Melbourne's Albert Park circuit, which costs the Victorian Government tens of millions of dollars each year.'

The report quoted project bosses saying the complex has been designed so that major events do not have to be underwritten by the state.

'Rally Australia was staged in Perth from the late 1980s until last year, however, it is believed the event cost the WA Government more than \$8 million a year to underwrite. It is understood the Beattie Government will not be burdened with the cost of hosting the world rally championship,' the report said.

It quoted i-METT managing director Ron Brown denying the project needed government money or big events such as F1 or the rally to be viable.

But several motorsport journalists disagreed, saying such a venue needed a drawcard world-class event to survive. Australian racing legend Dick Johnson said at the time the project 'is what we have needed

for a long time, we need something more than just club venues. Queensland is starved for motor racing, and this will be a world-class facility that is not just about motor-racing events but about the whole business around it.'

The *Gold Coast Bulletin* at the time reported the plan had little chance of being approved by the then Beattie government, which had deemed the land rural, and quoted the premier saying he would not be 'ambushed' by the project's promoters, West Australian interests operating under the i-METT name.

'We choose lungs'

Mr Beattie said development on the site would be a major change to the state's current planning and, 'If it is a choice between the F1 (Formula One) and lungs for the southeast corner, we will choose the lungs.'

In March 2007, CAMS said it signed a five-year agreement with two five-year options with i-METT to organise Australia's WRC round and since that time, officials had prepared for a September 2008 event.

'In addition to promoting the WRC round, i-METT also proposes to develop a large tourism precinct in southeast Queensland, comprising an international standard mo-

tor racing circuit, theme park, hotels, automotive technology park and education facilities,' CAMS president Colin Osbourne said.

'The WRC project is closely linked to the construction and completion of the overall i-METT project, which in turn is dependent upon various government approvals that are being progressed but have not yet been granted.

'CAMS believes that the request by i-METT to postpone the first Queensland event until 2009 is in the best interests of the WRC, Australia's standing in the eyes of the world's motor sport community and the long-term future of rallying in Australia.

'CAMS will continue to work with all parties to retain Australia's place in the WRC calendar and to support the development of a world class motor sport precinct.'

But the motoring magazine said that as a result, instead of a two-year gap between the last Rally Australia in WA and a first in Queensland it was to be at least three years for the rally to be run in Australia 'and there will be plenty who will doubt that Australia will ever host a WRC round again.'

■ See also Behind the Rally on pp4-5, editorial p8 and letters pp10-11.

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Harbour plans flounder without funds

Ken Sapwell

Plans for a major overhaul of the Jack Evans Boat Harbour are in disarray after Tweed Shire Council missed out on a crucial \$10.6 million federal grant.

Richmond MP Justine Elliot announced in a press release this week that the council's submission for a share of the Rudd government's infrastructure splurge failed to meet all of the criteria.

The shock disclosure has sparked widespread disappointment and anger, particularly among the business community who were hoping the long-awaited harbour spruce-up would help revitalise the ailing Tweed Heads CBD.

Stage one still on

But despite the funding setback, the council's chief engineer, Patrick Knight, said work on stage one of the \$14.35 million project would still go ahead as scheduled in September with \$3.4 million that had already been allocated from council coffers.

'It should be enough to do

drainage, earthworks and some harbour edgeworks, but the bulk of the beautification works will have to wait,' he said.

Mr Knight said it may be possible to access more money in upcoming budget reviews, including \$2 million in banked developer contributions, but that would be up to councillors.

Ms Elliot, who also holds the Ageing portfolio, declined to be interviewed about why the project failed to meet the criteria or answer criticism that she failed to use her ministerial position to lobby hard enough.

Councillors and senior staff will attend an urgent meeting with Ms Elliot tomorrow (Friday) for a 'please explain'.

It has stunned councillors and senior staff, with general manager Mike Rayner saying at the launch of the project last month he was confident of getting the money because the application ticked all the boxes.

It has also disappointed Mayor Joan van Lieshout who said the project was shovel ready with the potential of revitalising Tweed Heads once-thriving central business district

and creating scores of jobs.

'It's at the gateway to the Tweed and Richmond valleys and fits the bill for an infrastructure grant perfectly,' she said.

'It's very disappointing to say we're not getting any money but when the Budget came down I was afraid that the Tweed was going to miss out because I didn't hear one mention of the area in the Treasurer's speech.'

Short-changed

She said she was concerned the Tweed had also missed out on money to explore rail corridors even though NOROC put in a strong submission and that it could also be short-changed on the Sexton Hill upgrade.

'It bothers me that we seem to be missing out big-time,' said Cr van Lieshout. 'Regardless of politics I have yet to see any strong movement from our federal member acting on our behalf in these areas, I would like to see her being a bit more proactive.'

Ms Elliot pointed out in her press release that other projects in her electorate had 'successfully fulfilled the cri-

teria to gain funding', including Byron council with an \$8 million grant for a sport and cultural complex and Ballina council which got \$2 million for a similar project.

'I encourage the Tweed Shire Council to continue to look for opportunities to apply for funding in the future,' she concluded.

An overhaul of the pot-holed park has remained a council priority since the popular Border caravan park was closed in 1994 amid community uproar, but earlier plans were thwarted by funding difficulties and a protracted land claim.



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Big support for koala protection

Koala activist Jenny Hayes has thanked the hundreds of people who took the time to write submissions supporting protection of the shire's dwindling koala colonies from development which could wipe them out altogether.

The Murwillumbah born and bred resident paid for a large framed sign which was recently displayed prominently in the larger shopping malls across the Tweed, thanking the 1,500 people who lobbied the state government earlier this year over the threat on koala habitat of the proposed Kings Forest subdivision.

'I've had a mammoth amount of support from the community and most councillors, if nothing has been created from all of this, it showed there is a real interest out there in preserving our precious few remaining koalas,' she told *The Echo*.

'They've gone from Chinderah, they used to be everywhere around the Tweed in the 80s, I saw many of them growing up here, as kids we used to play "spot the koala" when we drove over the (Burringbar) range or around south Tweed.

'Now they're just retracting and surviving in small pockets.'

She said research had shown that the koala population for the Tweed Coast was between 65 to 130 individuals.

She fears habitat loss and fragmentation from the 4,500-lot subdivision as well as the introduction of cats and dogs will spell disaster for local colonies. Road kills would also increase

www.tweedecho.com.au



Jenny Hayes with one of her charges. Photo Jeff Dawson

under plans for a four-lane access road to be built across an important wildlife corridor.

She is also urging for the new township to be modelled on the award-winning Koala Beach residential development at Pottsville which has a ban on cats and dogs, better fencing and larger house blocks to encourage the growth of food trees.

Koala conference

Meanwhile, Victorian koala carer and activist, Colleen Wood, who has had her hands full since February's bushfires in that state, will officially open the Koala Conservation Conference being held by Friends of the Koala in Lismore tomorrow, May 22.

Ms Wood's team at the Southern Ash Wildlife Shelter in Rawson, Gippsland, worked day and night to deal with over 100 fire-damaged koalas. Three months on, 57 animals are still in care at the centre.

The Koala Conservation Conference will be held at the Whitebrook Theatre, Southern Cross University (Lismore Campus), starting at 9am.

It aims to bring together koala and other wildlife carers, environmental activists, veterinarians, MPs, government agencies, academics and researchers, planners and other practitioners, as well as interested members of the public.

For info on the conference call 02 6629 8388.



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Full route released

Five unsealed residential-rural roads in the Tweed Valley and 10 in the Kyogle area further south have been earmarked for the 'competitive special stages' of the controversial rally planned to be run September 3-6.

The preferred routes were finally made known in the first of a series of drip-fed announcements last week by the rally organisers, which included socio-economic and environmental impact reports.

The reports precede lodgment of the eagerly-awaited development application (DA) with Tweed Shire Council, which is expected next Thursday, May 28.

The route will cover around 340 kilometres of sealed and unsealed roads in the Tweed and Kyogle Shires. The five main Tweed roads to be used are at Round Mountain, Cudgera, Urliup, Mooball and Byrrill Creek.

The racing teams are set to be based at Kingscliff (pit area at Marine Parade) and Salt (for teams' home base) where they will return up to twice a day for service before setting back for the stages in the areas around Kingscliff (Friday, September 4), Murwillumbah (Saturday) and Kyogle (Sunday). The rally also plans to run some 'super' stages through the streets of Murwillumbah over three

nights as part of a piggy-back arrangement with the local Speed on Tweed event.

One of the Tweed routes goes through Mooball National Park along the Burringbar Range, for which a draft plan of management to protect its fragile environment was released just three months ago. The park, it said, provides high quality sub-coastal habitat for vulnerable mammals such as koalas as well as threatened bird species.

Organisers say they finalised the rally route once they'd received a preliminary ecological assessment on May 4 which 'essentially approved the route from the viewpoint of ecological impact'.

The route still requires Tweed and Kyogle council approval but organising committee chairman Garry Connelly said releasing details last week allowed authorities such as police, ambulance, RTA, fire and others to plan ahead.

'The consultations have included contact with the majority of people who live along the route, whose views we understand. We have held public meetings, visited almost 400 homes along the route and spoken to the residents of those homes who were present at the time, or left messages for those who were not home asking them to contact us,' he said.

Former rally champ fears for wildlife

Luis Feliu

Car rallies and wildlife just don't mix and roadkill from the controversial rally will be high, according to former French rally championship driver Carolyn Boniface from Stokers Siding, who has participated in several European world championship rallies.

The natural therapist, who used to race rally and circuit cars in Europe and France for around 10 years, is adamant the controversial rally should not go ahead in this area.

Carolyn, who is now a craniosacral therapist, wrote to local media outlets this week to express her concerns, giving her expert opinion on the impacts the planned rally would have on the Tweed's wildlife, including the dwindling colonies of koalas.

That same day, rally organisers released their ecological report giving the event the all clear but Carolyn is unconvinced and has spoken out against it, saying roadkill is inevitable.

She said organisers 'see things from one perspective but not from pure, first-hand, on the terrain experience of the rally driver competitor'.

She says rally drivers will conduct day and night-time practice runs a month before the event often at high



speed, to familiarise themselves with each stage of the route, which would impact on native creatures becoming active in early spring.

'When I drove in the Corsican rally, which has been a national event in France since the 1950s, even big animals such as cows and donkeys were killed.

'In this culture people are not exposed to that and don't realise the full impact of the rally, it will be devastating.'

Carolyn, who drove professionally from 1984 till the early 90s, won a number of women's division titles as an official driver and as part of the manufacturer's team for car makers such as BMW, Porsche and Alfa Romeo.

She said it won't be just drivers, but teams and support crews using local roads for days beforehand.

'Drivers are not considerate of anything else when they're driving, the pressure is on them to be the fastest and they have to worry about their sponsors and

all the money spent on them.

'This event just doesn't go with the zen environment we have here and it will undeniably affect the lives of those in the area and those living on stages especially. Because I'm probably the only local with experience knowing what rally drivers are going to do, I'm willing to step out and tell the public of my experience and what I think people can expect.'

She said professional drivers had a sixth sense which generally keeps them out of trouble with other road users, 'but a sixth sense won't save the unpredictable nature of wildlife'.

In Europe, residents living along affected roads became very upset at the intrusion and she expected much the same to happen on the Tweed.

'As a former rally driver, I wouldn't like to be living on a stage.'

But Ms Boniface's claims of the high-speed practice runs at night a month before have been rejected by organisers.

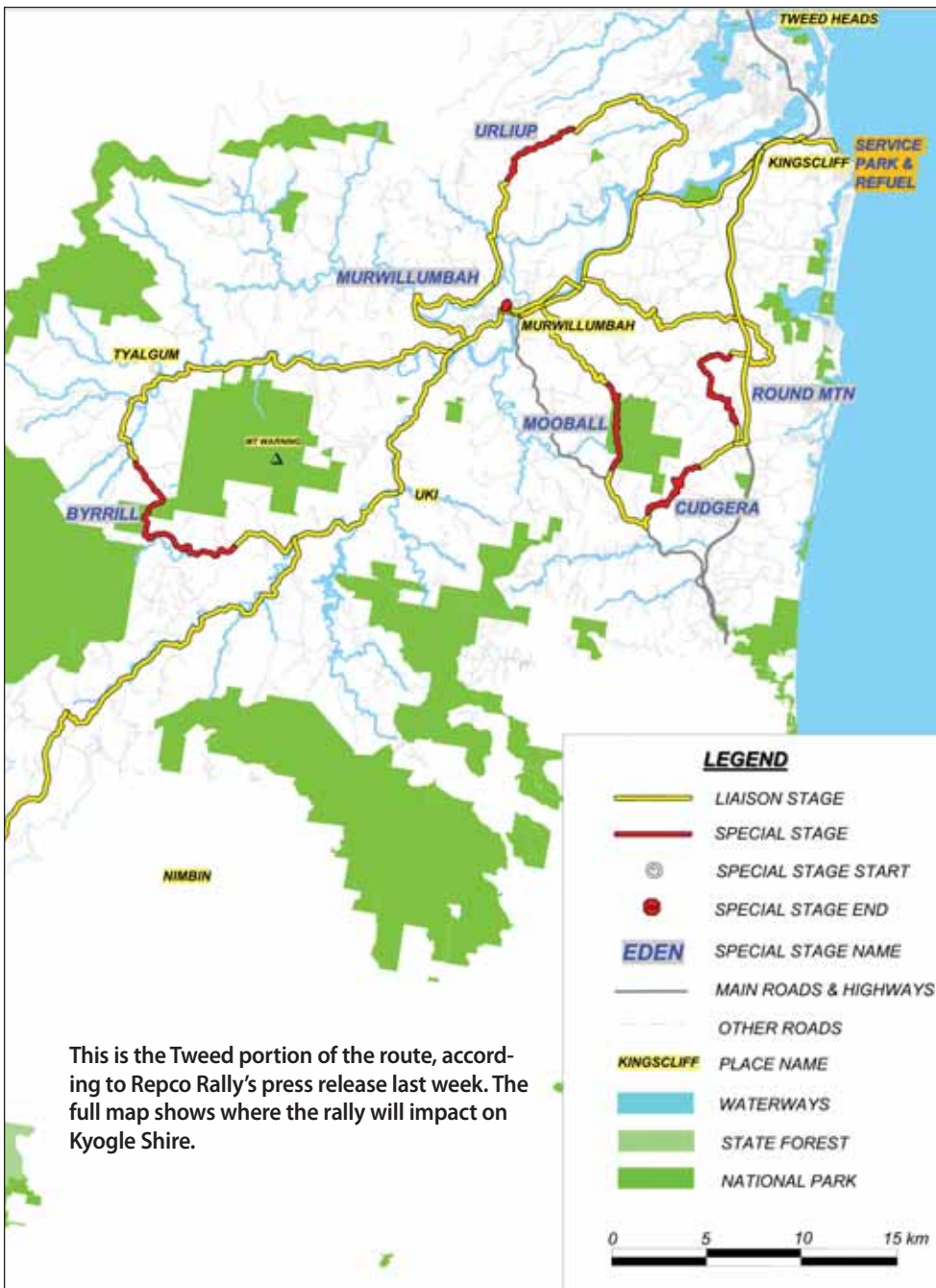
In a press release this week, they dismissed the claim reported widely as 'totally wrong and alarmist'.

Rally Australia's clerk of course Michelle Gatton said the activities suggested by Ms Boniface in a newspaper report on Monday were known by all competitors to be a breach of international rally rules and subject to substantial penalties including exclusion and large fines.

Dr Gatton said practice on the course was expressly prohibited and 'simply does not happen'. 'If a potential competitor was caught on a proposed rally stage even now, more than three months before the event, they know they would be excluded and fined heavily.'

'Any suggestion that WRC rally competitors would be tearing around the course at night, at speed, in contravention of rally and normal road rules is misinformed, alarmist and out of touch.'

■ See letters, page 10



Residents grow warier by the day

The petition by Tweed Valley residents opposed to the running of the world rally here in September (and every year for at least 10 years) is growing by the day with over 1,000 people expressing their opposition.

The more locals find out about it, the more the opposition grows, according to an anti-rally residents' group urging residents to join a colourful protest next Thursday, May 28, at 2pm, starting from Knox Park and marching to the council chambers where the development application (DA) is expected to be lodged.

No Rally Group (NRG) was formed by locals to fight the proposed rally and protect the Tweed Valley from inappropriate development. It is working closely with residents of Kyogle to stop the rally and has launched a website to spread the word.

NRG spokesperson Michael McNamara says the informa-

tion provided by rally organisers to gain support from the state government, Tweed Shire Council and local businesspeople is flawed.

'They claim great economic benefit will flow to the local community from the rally. This flies in the face of the Western Australian experience. The Australian leg of the World Rally Championships was con-

ducted in Western Australia, with support from the state government, until 2005. The WA government withdrew its support in 2006 citing lack of economic returns and lack of tourism promotion as the major causes.

'Despite this we see the same failed arguments being trotted out to justify running the rally in Tweed and Kyogle.'

Alarm bells ring for MP

Greens' North Coast MLC Ian Cohen has warned state parliamentarians that the confident promotion by rally organisers of the event as a done deal should ring alarm bells for them.

The MP called on the government to reconsider its support for the controversial event in a strong address against the rally in parliament earlier this month.

Mr Cohen said the heavy

pre-promotion of the controversial event before a development application had been lodged or assessed and other issues surrounding the whole affair had surprised him.

He criticised among other issues, the role of Tweed Shire Council's general manager Mike Rayner on the board of the rally company as a major non-pecuniary conflict of interest and waste of, and secret use of, taxpayers money.



Organisers blitz media with a series of reports on impacts

Ken Sapwell

Repco Rally Australia has released a series of wide-ranging reports and a map of the final route in a bid to defuse criticism of its plans to stage a round of the world championships on Tweed and Kyogle roads in September.

The seven reports, which Repco will use to support its delayed development application, examine the potential environmental and economic impacts of the three-day event to be staged over 270 kms of rural roads.

In laying their cards on the

table, race committee organiser Garry Connelly says he's hoping it will ease what he sees as 'genuine concerns' and rebut some of the criticism which he insists comes from a 'tiny minority'.

He is also hoping two of the reports will prove to be trump cards, one by respected koala expert Stephen Phillips giving the rally the green light and another which forecasts an economic bonanza.

Dr Phillips, in two ecological reports comprising almost 400 pages, indicates that koalas and other wildlife would probably be safer during the day-time

only event than at any other time of the year, if recommended steps are taken.

'I can see no reason, on ecological grounds, why this event should not proceed,' he concludes after noting Repco had undertaken to implement a koala management plan and other steps to eliminate or minimise impacts on flora and fauna.

Dr Phillips said he gave the all clear after a painstaking 450 hours walking the entire route to inspect both sides of the road at intervals of 250 metres in 'exacting detail'.

A socio-economic impact

report prepared by Conics consultants also gives the event a big tick, saying it could generate an estimated \$31 million in revenue for Tweed and Kyogle businesses.

It forecast it would create up to 2,000 jobs during the event and an extra 92,000 visitor nights, mostly in the region.

'This event has potential to not only provide the region with a spectacular and exciting motor sport event, but also to generate significant economic benefits to the region,' the consultants say.

Other reports released on the company's website this week

address cultural heritage and noise impacts, detail waste and dust management plans and a 'carbon off-setting policy'.

In releasing the reports, Mr Connelly said staff had visited 460-odd homes en route, making contact with 290 owners and continuing with efforts to contact the rest.

'Eighty five per cent of the people spoken to are supportive or very supportive of the rally,' he told a media conference at Salt where the event's 60-odd competitors and support crews will be staying.

'It's time this region got positive about this event. We know

there is fantastic support and people should support a special and exciting motor event - it will promote many opportunities and we don't want to see them wasted.

'There will always be small groups who are philosophically opposed and no number of reports will keep them happy.'

Mr Connelly declared he was limiting ticket sales to 25,000 over the three days of the event which he said would be televised internationally and free-to-air in Australia, creating a fillip for the local tourist industry which also supported the event.

Ecostudy fatally flawed: ex park chief

A former Tweed area manager for the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) has joined the growing chorus of resistance against the rally, describing an environmental impact study on the event as 'fatally flawed'.

Nigel Greenup (pictured), Murwillumbah-based manager for seven years of his 18-year career with NPWS, says the study by respected environmental scientist Dr Stephen Phillips, commissioned by rally organisers, failed to adequately address some major environmental issues.

Mr Greenup said he had a great deal of respect for Dr Phillips and had worked with him in the past, but raised concerns with some aspects of the study. 'I know where he (Dr Phillip) is coming from, in trying to inject some ethics into the study and providing it with his local expertise, but it doesn't matter how much you dress the rally up as a white knight, it's still a dragon.'

He said that 'when you look at all the environmental and social issues involved with the event,' it was 'the wrong time and the wrong place' for it. The information being provided by the rally organisers



was a itypical greenwashi Mr Greenup said.

'World Heritage, Aboriginal cultural heritage and general social values are not being considered here. At the end of the day it's a totally irrelevant activity which will have impacts that have not been adequately addressed.'

He said Dr Phillips's survey was done at the wrong time of the year and did not take into account breeding season in September when the rally is to be run.

'As well as that, the focus of the study is on the road kill impact, and ignores the impacts

of the so-called 'protection' techniques (such as low flying helicopters and hand held sirens) that are intended to be used to frighten wildlife. It's a fatal flaw in the study.'

He said Dr Phillips 'has really addressed this activity as a one off event, ignoring the cumulative impacts which need to be accurately measured and considered.'

'Perhaps you can say that, as a one-off event, there will be no significant impact on threatened species but we really don't know its cumulative impact on the same threatened species,' he said.

Mr Greenup has diplomas in Horticulture and Park Management, an Applied Science degree and is currently studying toward his Masters in Environmental and Business Management.

'With all the environmental issues we face these days, it's obvious that the days of motor sport on public land have been and gone,' he said.

If council gives it the green light, it's not the end of the story but the beginning of another stage. It's also a bit of a shame National Parks has not taken a strong position against it, even before the DA has been lodged.

'Just today the NSW Roads Minister was making statements about the increasing high-level of speeding on our roads yet here we have a separate arm of the same government providing funds to promote this sort of activity. It's a mixed message.'

'One of the biggest issues I had to deal with working in national parks around the Tweed was unregistered trail bikes and their rampant high speeding on park roads. 'This rally will certainly encourage that sort of behaviour, it's just quite bizarre.'

■ See letters pages 10

Cultural report kept secret from public

A report on the impact that the Repco Rally will have on Githabul cultural and heritage sites will not be released to the public. Rally organisers say the report gives the all clear to the event, stating it will not impact on Aboriginal cultural heritage values.

The rally is set to go through land within the Githabul native title claim area (covering the Kyogle shire stages) and organisers say the Githabul People had agreed to give the rally the green light.

However, they said that due to cultural considerations, it would not be published but applications to view it would be considered. Rally chairman Garry Connelly said it would be held back due to its cultural sensitivity.

Residents urged to report sneak runs

Rally organisers want residents on the 270km route to report any competitors who may try to sneak an illegal advantage by testing out the route prior to the three-day event.

Any competitors found driving the route outside two officially sanctioned reconnaissance drives will be dis-

qualified, says an organising committee spokesman, Chris Nixon.

The warning comes following the release this week of details of the final route and claims by a former champion rally driver (see page 4) that serious competitors will arrive up to a month before the event to practise driving the route at high speed, mostly at nights to avoid local traffic.

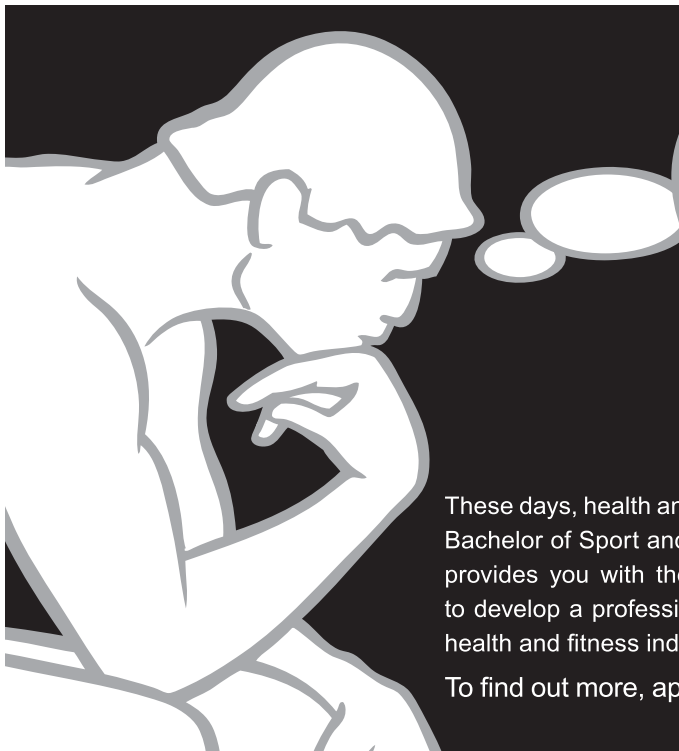
Mr Nixon said the tradition had long been outlawed and was also considered against the spirit and code of conduct for the event.

Could classic car event stall?

It's both the rally and Speed on Tweed together, or none at all. Murwillumbah's historic car racing event won't go ahead unless the world rally gets the green light, rally organisers say.

Earlier this month rally organisers announced they would revive the local motor racing event.

This week, a rally spokesman told *The Echo* the two events were 'intertwined', agreeing the local one depended on the rally going ahead, saying that 'sharing the significant cost of infrastructure' with the rally would make Speed on Tweed 'less expensive' to stage.



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A new way to think

Kingscliff residents group reshuffles the top jobs

Ken Sapwell

The 32-year-old Kingscliff Ratepayers' Association has undergone a rare changing of the guard with another long-time resident taking the helm.

Newly retired Centrelink worker Kim Holdom steps into worm-catcher Pete Gladwin's shoes as the association's fourth president.

Mr Holdom says he delayed accepting the role until he spoke with his wife, Tweed councillor Dot Holdom, to find a way of ensuring it didn't interfere with her own role in

making decisions about the town's future.

'I believe I'm okay on the condition that if there's a controversial DA I will absent myself from the vote,' said Mr Holdom, whose association is already objecting to the town's hosting of the Repco car rally.

'Otherwise it'll be business as usual trying to stop over-development, maintaining Kingscliff's village character and pushing for improved street lighting and foot paths.'

Mr Gladwin, who has been president for the past 15 years, said he had decided to stand

down to make way for new blood, but would remain active in the association as a vice president.

The former Builders Labourers' Federation shop steward has been at the forefront of some big battles as Kingscliff expanded from a sleepy village to embrace a new suburb at Casuarina built on a former sandmining site south of Cudgen Creek.

He also helped initiate the main street beautification program which helped the town evolve from a handful of shops and hairdressers to a popular tourist spot featuring dozens of outdoor cafes and restaurants.

The association also pioneered new height controls, limiting buildings in the town to three-storeys and initiating



Pete Gladwin and Kim Holdom

a commission of inquiry in 1982 which capped heights in Tweed Heads in a bid to stop the march of Gold Coast-style highrise at the border.

'If anything the association has made developers aware

that the people living here really care for the area and that they will have a fight on their hands if they try to circumvent planning laws,' he said.

'New people and developers are welcome in the town as

long as they stick to the planning guidelines and we are now finding that most developers are willing to do this, whereas before most would really try to push the envelope.'

He said issues irking the association included the government's decision to take control of some of the bigger developments and consulting the community at the end of the process rather than the start.

It was also concerned that development control plans for the towns were lagging behind and that the council now seemed set on increasing building heights in the town under its new land release strategy.

'The council will be in for a big fight if they try to increase heights in Kingscliff,' he warned.



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Chinese input celebrated with book and expo

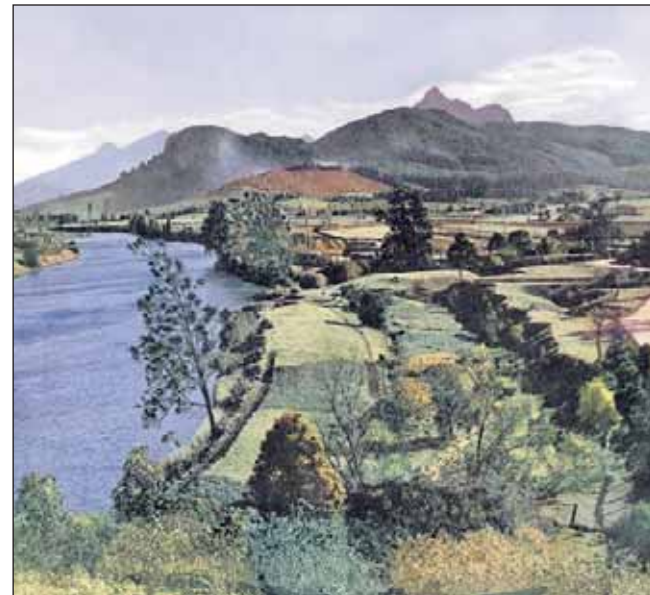
The Chinese community's contribution to the Tweed is celebrated in a new book and exhibition to be launched next Saturday, May 30, in Murwillumbah.

The book *Families of Fortune - Chinese People in the Tweed* documents their presence and contribution in Tweed from the 19th century to the present. Since 2005, Tweed River Regional Muse-

um staff and volunteers have been working on a vital social-history project called *Migration to the Tweed* to collect and preserve information about the many people who have come to the shire over the years and added to the rich and diverse community now around us.

Part of that project includes the award-winning book *The Other Side of the World*, published in 2007, which documented aspects of post-war international migration to the Tweed during the 1940s and 1950s in photographs, oral history, objects and personal stories.

The public is invited to the official exhibition opening on at 10am at the Coolamon Cultural Centre in Tumbulgum Road, Murwillumbah, but bookings are essential, call 22 6670 2493 or email kandrew@tweed.nsw.gov.au.



Recognise this view? The photo was taken in the 1920s and shows the Chinese market gardens on the terraced area at Bray Park, Murwillumbah, between the (then unsealed) Kyogle Road and the river. It's a stark contrast to the monoculture (sugar cane) and grazing which dominates the land today. It is one of the photos in the new book on the Chinese community in the Tweed.

Noticeboard

Day View Club

Murwillumbah Day View Club next meeting will be May 25 at Murwillumbah Bowls Club. National councillor Gwynne Glendenning will be present. Don't forget our trading table. Donations for winter appeal May and June. A local outing is being planned for June 1. Members are asked to have apologies in 6pm Friday. For info call Shirley 6679 1324 or Mary 6672 1840.

Food giveaway

Bread giveaway for pensioners is on again this Wednesday at 12.30pm at Chris Cunningham Park, Tweed Heads. Grocery donations needed, if you can help call Terri on 0414 376057.

Men's Shed

The Murwillumbah Men's Shed group is on track to get a shed and we would like to tell you all about it at our next meeting at Murwillumbah Services Club on Wednesday, May 27,

from 6.30pm. For info call Phil on 02 6679 1259.

Coast Guard

Kingscliff Volunteer Coast Guard is looking for new members to join our progressive flotilla. We need radio operators, boat crew and fundraising people. We train you to Australian standards. For further info call John on 02 6676 6079.

View Club

Coolangatta/Tweed View Club, which raises money for the Smith Family, meets every third Thursday of each month (Feb to Dec). For info call 07 5590 9119.

Cancer fundraiser

Biggest 'afternoon tea' cancer fundraiser at Kirramisu Cafe, 74 Musgrave St, Kirra, today, Thursday, May 28, 2pm-5pm in aid of Qld Cancer Council. Raffle prizes. For info call Carmel 07 5536 5023.

Bowl for cancer

Burringbar and District Sports

Club is holding a bowls day (including barefoot bowls) for Relay for Life on Sunday, May 31, from 1pm. Raffles and giveaways. Relay for Life spokesman Leo Kelly said more people in the district were being touched by cancer and as a community, the bowls day was a great way to help and have fun. For info call the club on 6677 1188.

Old and Gold

Brunswick Heads Public School has stall sites available for the Old and Gold festival on Saturday, June 6. \$15 per site, some undercover. Call 02 6685 1204 for info.

Learn computer

Computer Association Tweed Seniors meets at 10.30am (NSW time) on the third Wednesday of each month at Seagulls. Learn computer skills from other seniors. Joining days are on the second Thursday of each month at Seagulls. Call June on 02 6676 3131 (Mon-Fri 9-5) All welcome.

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Janelle inspires students to give blood

Luis Feliu

When Murwillumbah businesswoman and mum Janelle Boyle was diagnosed with leukemia in January this year, the deputy principal of her daughter's school asked her what they could do to help.

Janelle told Karen Smith, the Tweed Valley College (TVC) deputy, that she would 'just like you to give blood because we have a shortage at the hospital'.

Karen thought that was a great idea and decided to get two other schools at which Janelle's two other children attended and organised a group blood donation to the Red Cross Blood Service.

Janelle's eldest daughter Simone attends TVC, her son Aidan is at Wollumbin High while youngest daughter Tanae attends Mt St Patrick College. On Tuesday, around 60 senior students and several staff from the three schools rolled up to give their blood for Janelle and others in need.

TVC principal David McClintock said the selfless act on students' part was their way of showing support for Janelle 'but we also hope to show people how easy it is to give blood and continue to do so'.

Janelle agreed, saying she also hoped some of the kids



Janelle Boyle with school representatives and blood donors Jonathan Harvey, captain at Wollumbin High, Chloe Brees from Tweed Valley College (left) and Amber Fenwick from Mt St Patrick College. Photo Jeff Dawson

could become regular donors. Chloe Brees, of TVC, said she decided to give blood for the first time because 'if I needed blood I'd much hope someone to do it for me'.

Janelle and her husband Neville bought and operated the bakery on Wollumbin Street for about two years and, before that, the Wollumbin

Motor Inn for six years.

'When I was diagnosed I was told at 12 o'clock and I was in Gold Coast Hospital getting ready for chemo at 2.30pm on the same day,' she said.

'I'm in remission and have had two lots of chemotherapy but I'm also looking at alternative therapy.' Janelle says alternative therapies can help

cancer victims better than mainstream medicine.

'I saw a woman with a huge tumor who was treating it with alternative therapies, that tumour is now gone, it poured out like a pimple, so I guess seeing is believing'.

To donate blood, call the Red Cross Blood Service on 131495.

Advice from the Chief Product Tester



Dear Product Tester

I've been thinking about meeting someone on a dating service. What do ya think of the profile I sent you?

Johnnie

Well Johnnie,

The first thing is – don't use the photo you sent me – in fact don't use any photos! And you might have to alter a couple of things (slightly). For instance, instead of saying you've got a receding hairline, ponytail and beer gut, change it so you're virile, creative (the ponytail) and cuddly. As for your interests – it's best to say you're an occasional social drinker, like equestrian events and you're involved in sport – instead of saying the pub, TAB and watching footy.

Perhaps your clothing of thongs, stubbies and singlet for the warmer months and Ugg boots and track pants for winter can be improved. Come in and see us (and bring your wallet) and we'll turn you into a 'rugged outdoors man'. There's a few tricks to give you a new look – sunnies and broad rimmed hats to cover your face, travel jackets to make you look thinner, and rugged boots to give the impression you're an outdoors kind of guy.

But when you meet someone, be sure to wear all those clothes and meet at the back of a café where the lighting's low. That should do the trick.

Your mate...Tony.

PS. Let me know how you go.

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A rose by any other name

Victoria Cosford

It seems inconceivable that beauty could be seen in a cane toad, but a local artist has managed precisely that.

Burringbar-based Linelle Stepto (pictured), a visual arts teacher at Murwillumbah TAFE, has for the past three years created works of art out of the skins of this pest, transforming them into floral displays of waratahs, roses and banksias.

More than works of art, the pieces are metaphors and cautionary tales: skin as a metaphor for national identity, for example, which we run the risk of losing by introducing species not natural to our environment and, on a broader scale, submitting to globalisation.

'There is also the notion that within everything, even a thing as vilified as a cane toad, is the possibility of beauty or redemption,' Linelle said.

It is 'the loss of the local' and 'the things that make us uniquely Australian', Linelle explains, which impel her environmentally-conscious artworks. In the early stages she taught herself the squeamish technique of skinning road-kill, including cane toads. Now she orders them from a Cairns-based website.

'I've done my apprenticeship!', she laughs.



'I'm recycling pests, communicating an idea but at the same time using up a pest,' she said. She was introduced to skinning by a fellow teacher about four years ago.

The former wildlife carer said cane toad skins also produced 'quite beautiful leather'. She also works in other skins as well, including feral cat.

'It can take more than 40 skins to create one floral display, and a month to design and complete.'

Linelle has been selected

as a finalist in the Textile Art Festival, held in Brisbane from May 29 to 31, as part of 'The Art of Recycling' competition. In addition some of her pieces have been chosen for inclusion in the 2009 Churchie National Emerging Art Award, whose criterion for selection is notoriously tough.

Anyone curious to view these ingenious works can see some examples at the FEHVA arts festival in Bangalow beginning this weekend and continuing all next week.

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Volume 1 #37

May 21, 2009

Doomed road to take

In this issue we are proud to present our supplement of positive news and solutions to problems of unsustainability (see page 15). It is therefore ironic that this week we also have to devote much space to the question of the World Rally, which organisers wish to foist on to communities and creatures great and small across the Tweed and Kyogle shires. We do so because it is obvious that the volume of opposition against such a large-scale motor sport event is much louder than anticipated. People are slowly but surely waking up to what it will really mean, not just this September but every second year for the next ten years, if the rally is allowed to go ahead.

Despite what organisers and their supporters say about its value to the economy (and that's really their only argument), there is more weighing against it. Many in the community, including motor sport loving people, are saying the Tweed is not the place for such a rally. They are saying it's way too much of an intrusion and a risk, and are doubtful of its longterm value. This region was recently recognised by the federal government as significant to the nation and world for its environmental value. This value resides not just in its natural beauty but in its nature-based tourism potential.

So, what are we supposed to be? What's the message we want to send out to people near and far? Are we truly a nature wonder world, or hoon heaven? Do we really want to be known for, and attract, a manic motoring mentality? Is the disruption to people, let alone wildlife which will pay a price in blood, really worth it?

In a time of peak oil, when we need to rethink whether motor sports have had their day, should governments subsidise them? If promoters want their sport, firstly they should put in their own money and effort, like some regional music festivals which give back to the communities from the profits they make (real benefits instead of untested promises). Secondly, they should not expect our well-developed culture of volunteerism to save them the trouble of costing their project properly; the people behind the rally will make money while most of their helpers are expected to work for nothing. Thirdly, and most importantly, the rally should be held in a more appropriate location, where it impacts less on both human and animal life. This was done in Western Australia for almost 20 years, until the doubts about the return on public funding became too great.

These are just a few of the issues seriously bothering people, not just those living close to the breakneck speedtrack that their local road will shortly become, and not just for this year.

What about the taxpayers' money that's been thrown at this? It's rumoured to be in the millions (the NSW government won't reveal the figure). Think of local hospitals, starving for funds, it's silly, isn't it? And ratepayers, already tied to a rack of future rate increases, will have to cough up \$120,000 a year for it, plus the free twenty-four hour access and service of the stretched emergency services for the event. Then of course there's the copycat element and the danger posed by mostly younger drivers, who think if it's okay for adults to promote these kinds of thrills then it's okay to indulge in them; after all they've been emulating adults since they were born.

The fact is that every human activity has its fanatical adherents, but unlike say, stamp collectors or cat-fanciers, those who wish to stage a motor race through the Tweed Valley are thrusting their favourite activity aggressively in the faces of residents and, despite claims to the contrary, inflicting various types of damage on the living environment.

Sure, some people love their motor sport, some businesses could make money, but why risk so much for so little? The picture is much bigger than that and people are beginning to see it.

The health system they could not kill

Seldom has so much been said in a single throwaway line. 'In an ideal world,' Malcolm Turnbull mused last week, 'every Australian would have private health insurance.'

Of course he immediately denied that he meant Medicare should be abolished; good heavens no, that was verballing him. He and his party were absolutely committed to Medicare. What he meant... well, let's move right along. No one wants to abolish Medicare. And certainly no one will admit to wanting to; the public has made it clear that Medicare is one institution that it regards as sacrosanct.

But that has never prevented conservative governments from trying to squeeze it out of existence. Malcolm Fraser was the first: after his eight year regime Gough Whitlam's Medibank survived in name, but was so debilitated that Bob Hawke had to resurrect it as Medicare. And over the years John Howard tried, rather less successfully, to strangle the new socialist interloper into his privatised world.

Medicare proved a more resilient opponent; it had had twelve years to establish itself as an institution in its own right and to gain popular support. So instead of taking the challenger head on, Howard tried a more devious approach.

As well as doing what he could to undermine the public system, he subverted vast amounts of taxpayer funds to build up its private competitors. The public was bullied, bribed, cajoled and threatened into taking insurance with the private firms; the 30 per cent rebate was just the most blatant and extravagant of a raft of measures.

This was all done in the name of choice; the punters should be able to make up their own minds whether they wanted to stay public or go private. But in

fact the aim was to deny them the choice: the public sector was to made so comparatively unattractive that they would be driven into the arms of Howard's ideological allies and financial benefactors in the private sector.

Exactly the same ploy was followed with the schools system: private education was progressively built up at the expense of the public alterna-

deficit may well register with those portions of the electorate which tend to overlook the fact that by mortgaging themselves to the very limit of their means or in some cases beyond it, they have condemned their own families to a lifetime or more of repayments.

Debts and deficits are as much part of the Australian ethos as pies and beer, and in any case, as the calmer com-

the pension rises were very generous. There were good reasons for going ahead with both, moral as well as political, but there will be a price to be paid and those who pay it will not be happy.

As part of its budget commentary Treasury has finally admitted that the Howard-Costello years were simply unsustainable; not only were the profits of the boom years squandered, but in their last five years the profligate pair actually spent more money than was coming in; by 2007 the budget was in structural deficit. And of course most of the loot went in handouts to the swinging voters; middle class welfare. Rudd and Swan have made a tentative start to unscrambling the eggs, but much remains to be done. If you think this budget was a bit tough and unpopular, wait for it. You ain't seen nothing yet.

In the good old days the Canberra Press Gallery presented an award for the most outrageous beatup of the most worthless story of the week. It was, appropriately, a battered eggbeater.

Last week it should have gone without dispute to Greg Sheridan for his breathless revelation that everything Kevin Rudd does is guided not by his role as Prime Minister of Australia, but in the hope of becoming Secretary-General of the United Nations. But then John Stone, former Treasury head and failed candidate for the Joh-for-PM campaign, wrote an indignant letter claiming that Sheridan had actually pinched the idea from one of his articles.

A golden Mixmaster to each of the them, the most imaginative pair of fabulists since the brothers Grimm.

For the Liberals choice, if it means anything, means deciding which private facility the customer can best afford: MBF or HCF, Grammar or Kings.

by Mungo MacCallum



tive. It got to the stage where concerned parents in the outer suburbs were made to feel that they were guilty of child abuse if they left their kids in state schools. Interviewees frequently said that they had no choice: the only option for them was the local private school. And Malcolm Turnbull no doubt believes that in an ideal world, every Australian child would go to a private school. For the Liberals choice, if it means anything, means deciding which private facility the customer can best afford: MBF or HCF, Grammar or Kings. The public system is just not an option.

Apart from that, as they say, Turnbull did pretty well in budget week; that is, he didn't say anything else really silly and the only one of his colleagues who bagged him was Bronwyn Bishop, who doesn't count.

His defence of the private health insurance rebate was, of course, unconscionable, but popular among his own troops, which was the major point of the exercise. And his thunderous denunciations of debt and

mentators have acknowledged, by international standards Kevin Rudd and Wayne Swan have been positively restrained. The United States and Britain, not to mention the rest of Europe, are in it up to their necks. Australia has barely had to roll its trousers up.

But this does not mean that the next couple of years are going to be easy; in fact the toboggan has barely started down the long slope. Even on the most optimistic estimates we are in for another full year of recession with mounting unemployment and failing markets, and if Rudd sticks to his promise to hold spending growth to two per cent – surely the most heroic of all the assumptions in the budget – we are in for some very lean years. The green shoots some optimists claim to discern are probably no more than patches of moss taking hold as the body starts to decay.

In some ways the budget did not help; the tax cuts should at least have been modified and in the circumstances



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See more info of the tour and clips at www.shamansoftheamazon.com/journey1.htm or contact Dean on 6684 0290 deanjefferys@gmail.com

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

© 2009 Echo Publications Pty Ltd
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Printer: Horton Media Australia Ltd

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Deadline: Noon, Tuesday
Letters longer than 200 words may be cut and pseudonyms are not acceptable. Please include your full name, address and phone number.

Backing Dot

In reference to Edward Hopkins's letter (*The Echo*, May 14). Abusing Cr Dot Holdom clearly hurts but be assured it will never be productive.

I endorse Cr Holdom because for her, commitment to the broad community is a core value, for her the honest and effective discharge of her councillor responsibilities is an obsession, for her the corrupting of decisions by internal Council politics is abhorrent.

You vastly underestimate Cr Holdom if you believe my endorsement of her would result in any special influence. Tea and scones would be the best I could hope for.

Ron Cooper
Kingscliff

Crossing Dot

If the rumours about Dot Holdom selling out to get the top job are true, may she enjoy it while she can. I do not know one person who would vote for her again.

Like many I felt that she was the only 'good apple' from the previous council and that she would do her utmost to protect this beautiful area we are all so lucky to live in. What a mistake to make, shame Dot, shame!

Wendy Boyle
Banora Point

Pottsville prices have gone through the roof

I stand corrected. An ad in a property magazine last Thursday offered a million-dollar-plus property: 'Pottsville, absolute beachfront \$1.8 million'. I had to laugh. What a difference half a kilometre makes.

Alan Davis
Pottsville

Public misses out

While the Federal Government is to be congratulated on properly funding the ABC for a new digital children's TV channel and more Australian drama, it is a great shame that it has neglected SBS in its recent budget.

Already we have seen obtrusive commercial advertising detracting from the high quality of SBS programs.

We only have to look at the local Prime television station to see how the commercial imperative ruins a good program.

Each Wednesday evening Prime has a program called *Criminal Minds* advertised between 8.30pm and 9.30pm.

The program often does not begin until 8.38 pm due to program over-runs and ads. In the programmed hour, one only gets 36 minutes of *Crimi-*

nal Minds jammed between 24 minutes of advertisements, promotions and news.

The government should adequately fund both SBS and the ABC to give us access to quality programs without the tyranny of commercialism.

Neville Jennings
President, Northern Rivers
Friends of the ABC

Bay Street

The sorry saga of Bay Street continues. In *The Echo's* May 14 front page story, 'Bay Street plans under cloud'. Laurie Ganter makes the point that it is still unclear who is the driving force behind this contentious 1995 proposal. Perhaps there is a person who stands to personally gain some type of benefit, if this deal goes ahead. There is certainly no benefit to the community from this proposal.

In the latest twist, our mayor supports the redevelopment proposal after seeing a presentation last month. If the plans were good enough to present to Council, why are Walker Corp. stalling in releasing these plans to the public, stating, 'It will be a while before we can piece together the information to a presentable stage'?

If the information is so incomplete, how can our mayor support the proposal?

I believe it's time that Tweed residents start demanding a public enquiry into the Bay Street fiasco, to uncover the truth as to who resurrected this proposal from the archives and why.

Stephanie Deane
JEBH Committee

Having a laugh

Mungo's article (*The Echo*, May 14) made me laugh. If the Rudd government was serious about climate change he would not have allowed it to languish. It would have been his priority. After all, doesn't it involve the survival of the human race?

'They actually want to do something about it' ha ha.

And as for 'excessive hand-outs of the Howard years', what do you think has just happened with the Rudd Government in the last few months?

At least Howard made sure Australia could afford his handouts with a bank account full of money.

Karen Chadwick
Banora Point

■ Please ensure that your name, address and phone number are given with your letter or email. Letters about the rally are on pages 10 and 11 overleaf.

Pollies won't even support light rail

■ TOOT's proposal is for a light rail on the existing Casino-Murwillumbah line, and the line to be extended to Coolangatta, where the QLD rail line will end in about five years.

1. It's not expensive. The NSW Govt has consistently overstated the cost of the rail line. They have never given detailed figures. By contrast, the only publicly available report from Price Waterhouse Coopers in 2004 said \$30m was needed. Even if that figure has doubled, it is still cheap in comparison to some of the other current projects. Another way of comparing costs: about 1.5 km worth of the most recent highway upgrade would be sufficient to cover the costs of the 132 km C-M rail line.

2. People will use it. The 2007 SCU survey found that 2,875 people per day would use the service. Youth and low-income people have repeatedly called for public transport options. People without cars are forced to hitch as there are no other options.

3. Good for tourism. The rail journey is very varied and would itself be an attraction. Additionally some of Byron Bay's 3m+ tourists per annum could explore the hinterland. Both Lismore and Murwillumbah have current campaigns to attract people to their towns, and both are on the rail line.

4. It will reduce carbon emissions and protect us from peak oil. Transport contributes a third of our green house emissions. Rail is up to 10 times more efficient than a rubber tyre on a bitumen road. For a serious, long-term transport system, people can take their bikes on the train.

5. Train lines do get reopened. Example 1: Bairnsdale, Victoria, roughly 250km from Melbourne, had a gap of almost 11 years between trains. In 2004 services were reestablished; currently there are six trains daily. Example 2: Just north of the border we see millions being spent on extending the line from Brisbane that currently stops at Robina. Currently the Qld government is building the line down to the next station at Reedy Creek, and the line will reach the Gold Coast airport. While this is a new line, there used to be a line from Brisbane all the way into Tweed (Bay Street). There were also stations at Southport, Kirra and Coolangatta. In 1961 the last train ran the Southport to Tweed section. At the time it was noted in the *Courier Mail* that there was a road running parallel to the rail. Today that road, though greatly widened, is struggling to cope with demand and once again there is investment in rail.

The rail line is a vital asset for residents and visitors alike. The best way to protect it is to use it. Talk is cheap, we need action.

Karin Kolbe
President, TOOT

■ Re your editorial last week, I squeezed a comment from Justine Elliot's office a couple of weeks ago on the rail link. They advised her 'stand' would be 'guided by the community's wishes'.

What a copout, as this followed on from her first comment that it was up to the sitting National member for NSW. Words fail me.

Robert Thomson
Bilambil Heights

■ Advocates for reinstating the Murwillumbah-Casino rail line have shifted ground recently, finally acknowledging that running great big old fashioned diesel trains back and forth every hour would be impractical. Now the call is for new light weight diesels, built exclusively for this service. So the new plan requires not just a new railway line but a brand new fleet of rolling stock that's unusable on the rest of the NSW system. According to a spokesperson, this would give a much needed boost to local tourism because on a wet day, bored tourists could take a fun ride from Byron Bay to Murwillumbah and back!

Local National Party MPs give these dubious ideas oxygen for their own cynical reasons, knowing full well they have about the same financial and environmental plausibility as 'Clean Coal Technology'. Even if such trains existed elsewhere, they'd run within compact cities of a half million or more, not between towns of less than 10,000 people. And they'd be electrified.

There are only two means of truly sustainable human transport, walking and cycling, and converting the disused rail line to a tourist rail trail could serve both. We already have one of the best recreational cycling

experiences in Australia and a thriving cycle sport calendar as well, both of which can naturally complement cycle tourism.

Could one responsible community representative in the region actually find the courage to speak up for these transport modes? While the ardent pursuit of an affordable train and an eco-insulting three-day Repco Rally goes on and on, the wonderful opportunity for a new year-round sustainable tourism rail-trail simply languishes.

D L McAllister
Kingscliff

■ Sunday, May 17, marked the fifth 'anniversary' of the sudden closure of the north coast's rail line by the NSW Labor government. This same state government continues to refuse to reopen our rail line, and failed to put it forward for any federal funding.

The Northern Rivers Greens wrote to Ms Saffin and Ms Elliot last year, requesting federal intervention and funding for the Casino to Murwillumbah line, but have been ignored, while the Gold Coast gets \$365 million for light rail. It's interesting, if Labor think they can win Richmond and Page at the next election without support from the Greens in the way of

preferences, they have got a surprise in store, which could potentially cost Labor government at the federal level.

Of course the Greens would not particularly welcome the return of a federal Coalition government, but we are deadly serious about this issue. Public transport has been identified by all local councils as the No.1 priority for the region, and with good reason. We live in a region where hitchhiking is the most reliable method of transport if you do not have a car or driver's licence, or cannot afford either.

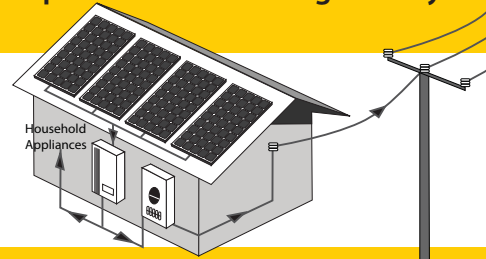
It is somewhat ironic that the Greens and the Nationals should happen to agree on this particular issue. Admittedly, one issue alone, however important, is ultimately not enough to determine what decisions the Greens might make, come an election announcement.

But the intransigence of the Labor Party, almost across the board, to take any action on this key issue for the region makes it difficult to see any possibility of the Northern Rivers Greens offering preferences to any Labor candidates that are not prepared to make core promises to fund rail services on the north coast.

Andy Gough
Billen Cliffs

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We have received so many letters on the rally that we have given most of them a separate section here. If you *support* the event, why not drop us a line with your reasons?

A driver's experience

I'm aware of the controversy surrounding the up coming world rally event and thought I'd offer a perspective to add to the debate. I used to race cars professionally for about 10 years in France during the 1980s and for several of those years I drove exclusively in rallies, including some World Championship events (Corsica Rally, San Remo Rally, Monte Carlo Rally).

There are two points that I'd like to make. The first is, I think it is fair and necessary that the people living on the rally stages be aware of what they're in for. The impact of the rally will not just be on the day the stage is driven, but they will have competitors driving those stages for up to a month before the event. Rally drivers need to learn the stage and in the reconnaissance (road learning) phase, the serious ones will pass in each stage several times (seven to ten times would not be uncommon).

The first few passages will be slow as accurate notes are taken but gradually the passages will get faster and faster and most drivers with the means will pass through each of those stages at night, several times, at fairly high speeds (and very bright lights) to test the accuracy of their notes. This will be regardless of whether it is a day or night stage on the day of the race. Unless the rally culture has drastically changed since my day, which is highly unlikely, this is an inevitable fact as really it is the only means drivers have to get a feel for the road so they can drive as fast as possible on

the day of the race and avoid unexpected surprises.

Do not think for a moment the police can control this. There are way too many kilometres that would require a fairly constant presence. When you consider that most rallies will have well over 100 drivers participating, you get an idea of what the folks living on those stages will be exposed to, day and night. I think the people living on the stages, especially with homes close to the road should know what they're in for.

The second point and one that I feel both concerned and alarmed about is that this rally is scheduled to take place in Spring, when wildlife will abound with their young. One must be aware that fast rally cars, on the many, many days preceding the event and during the event itself, with all the additional traffic generated (including team maintenance vans that will also be driving well above the speed limit. Trust me, they will) will wreak absolute havoc on wildlife.

I think it is most unfortunate that this event is being considered during Spring, in particular. Rallies and wildlife conservation do not work well together and the roadkill is going to be high. Have the organisers taken this into consideration? It is my opinion, having lived many rallies from the competitors point of view, that this beautiful environment is not the most suitable for a rally of this magnitude and certainly not in Spring.

Carolyn Boniface
Stokers Siding

The reports are unconvincing...

I have had a quick look at the reports for the Tweed stage of the rally, and although the science behind the reports appears pretty good (I would expect no less from Stephen Phillips) there are a couple of issues that need to be considered:

The surveys were conducted only over a short period of time (January-April?) and *not* during the time when the rally would be held. There is some seasonal variation in species distribution and behaviour that needs to be looked at for the exact time of year that the rally is proposed to be held (September).

This has not happened, therefore the findings regarding species movements/frequency have not been verified and therefore actions based on those findings are suspect.

The impacts on fauna focus almost entirely on the risk of vehicle strike/road kill. There does not appear to be any assessment made of the proposed

disturbance methods to be used on fauna to scare animals away from the area and thereby allegedly minimise harm. These techniques include: low level helicopter passes (three times before each event); sirens used by volunteers prior to each stage; the noise associated with the rally vehicles themselves under race conditions.

There needs to be some assessment made of these actions, and there is none. Instead of claiming that these activities are going to protect protected (and threatened) species, it must be realised that these impacts will have an impact on the breeding/feeding pattern of native fauna.

It should be pointed out that it is an offence under Section 98 of the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act to 'harm' protected fauna. The definition of 'harm' under the legislation includes, hunt, snare, pursue trap or injure (among other things). The NP&W Act ap-

plies to all lands in NSW, not just National Parks.

The environmental assessment looks at this event in isolation, and therefore makes an assessment that any animals killed will not pose a threat to any population of threatened species.

This is a flawed approach. The assessment needs to look at the cumulative impacts of the event (ie. held every two years over the next 10 years). To do otherwise will allow the cumulative impacts to go unassessed (death by a thousand cuts).

The Social Impact Assessment makes a vague reference to the Githabul people being consulted, but does not show how the event has adequately dealt with the issues of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage, and does not show how the NSW Govt has fully considered this aspect.

Under the provisions of the Commonwealth Native Title

Act, all parties are required to fully consider the impacts of any future acts (such as the rally) on the cultural interests of the Native Title claimants, and must fully consult on those issues. I cannot see any evidence of this. To fail to do so is an offence under the Native Title Act. The NSW Govt is a signatory to the Native Title Agreement with the Githabul people.

The Social Impact Statement does not provide any evidence that there has been any consideration of the impacts of the event on the World Heritage values of the Central Eastern Rainforest Reserves of Australia (CERRA) World Heritage property.

Unfortunately these few gaps in the 'science' of the reports makes them far from acceptable, and they do not adequately assess the impacts of the event.

Nigel Greenup
Murwillumbah

...and so say all of us

■ Repco Rally Australia (RRA) sought the services of consultants because that was a prerequisite. Slight amendments have been made, yet many endangered species remain on the proposed route.

Mr Connolly (rally chairman) states 'The rally will be safer for animals than at any other time of the year in regards to roadkill' (because?), and suggests there won't be 'an increase in roadkill from the competing cars than there would be at any other weekend'.

How so? An average weekend witnesses nothing like the volume of traffic expected from this event, nor does weekend traffic travel in a manner whereby 'The cars are regularly airborne, lose traction and slide around corners at speeds that mere mortal drivers could never contemplate. Always on the edge, always in the race against the clock' - from RallyAustralia's site!

Financial benefit? Once again, Mark McGowan, WA's then Minister for Tourism, stated, unequivocally, that 'A return of \$1.60 on every \$1 spent is the worst return by a country mile for an event sponsored by a government'. Nothing ambiguous there!

The so-called 'Social Impact Survey', carried out by Conics on behalf of RRA, is ludicrous, given the number of residents interviewed. Statistics purportedly representing the residents of this area must be viewed with scepticism. Despite making personal contact with Conics, I was disallowed, as were an ever-increasing number of people who are los-

ing sleep, experiencing various stress-related symptoms, even putting their home on the market, all as a result of this unconscionable event.

Linnie Lambrechtson
Cawongla

■ So the rally development application (DA) is to be submitted with promises of jobs and rivers of gold flowing into the Tweed. At what cost? Who came up with the figures being bandied around and what are they based on?

It's interesting that any destructive activity is always 'sold' to gullible decision makers based on the number of jobs it will create and the amount of money that will flow in, the arguments are always the same, and the promises never play out in reality, it's all part of the political game called let's pull the wool over as many eyes as possible.

Where are the studies which show how much a human life is worth? How much is an endangered animal worth? How much is the 'peaceful enjoyment of our own homes worth? How much is the inevitable environmental damage worth? How much is the testosterone that will flow through the veins of young people across the Tweed who will see this not only as an imprimatur for copycat driving and a multitude of forms of violence, worth? Apparently nothing.

As I write this, people are playing Russian roulette with their lives by trying to cross Tweed Coast Road in the face of speeding cement trucks, and it's a weekend! One only has to visit the Tweed and

Gold Coast hospitals the day after a 'big' bucks party to see the damage done to individuals. Last week the Gold Coast osteo wards were so full they had to put smashed up young men into the women's wards! They were as regretful as Matthew Johns about their behaviour! Or even try for a picnic in a park at Uki or Hastings Point to see hoonos speeding past at more than double the speed limits, oh yes, we must let the young people have their fun!

Watching people kill themselves and damage others worked for the gladiators in Rome. Our modern equivalent is football, car racing and development!

The damage must be costed, not just the so-called 'benefits'. If this rally is to go ahead, and everything is pointing to the fact that the deal has already been done, then the Tweed Shire Council needs to slap a bond of \$31 million on the rally organisers as a condition of DA approval from which will be deducted road damage, resident comfort and damages costs, the cost of anyone killed or maimed, the cost of any animal killed or maimed, and any other miscellaneous costs attributable to this madness.

It's time we put a stop to human stupidity and our hell-bent race to self-destruction, but I guess I'm just dreamin'.

Julie Boyd
Hastings Point

■ Well, good folks of Tweed and Kyogle shires, it has finally happened. The long-awaited Repco Rally Australia's Koala 'plan of management' is on their website for our scruti-

ny. It makes very interesting reading with much mention of what the rally organisers will do to manage our marsupials but little mention of how they propose to do it.

In the koala plan of management for the proposed world championship rally in parts of Kyogle LGA, part 2 management aims and objectives focuses on the minimisation of risk of koalas being killed or injured by competition vehicles (racing cars travelling at dangerous speeds).

This sounds good, so far. So how is rally management going to achieve it, other than by not running the event? In part 3 'Driver Awareness' we are told drivers and navigators of competition vehicles must be made aware that there may be koalas about, and in the event of seeing one of these threatened marsupials, they must... Hang on a minute, there's no mention of what the competitors must do!

Oh, the navigators will be provided with maps showing locations of 'core koala habitats'. Bearing in mind these competitors will be travelling at very high speeds (possibly in excess of 190kph), it is highly unlikely that competitors would be able to follow maps or see any koalas, or any other wildlife on the road, in time to take evasive action.


Nothing in the report says: in order to minimise the risk of death or injury to our koalas and other wildlife, drivers will travel at no more than 40 kph through all 'core koala areas'. So what does this briefing include? Perhaps the organisers will inform competitors

continued opposite page


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continued from opposite page

that the grey blur they may see ahead of them is a koala that is about to be squashed!

In part 3.3 of 'Driver Awareness' we are informed that for both reconnaissance and rally activity signage will be erected at the beginning and ending of 'core koala habitats'. This sounds all very well and good but it does not tell us how competitors are to act differently in their driving behaviours, between the signs. Unless drivers slow down to around 60kph, to make sure they avoid any wildlife in their path, these so-called safety measures, to be put into place by rally management, are abysmally inadequate.

In part 5, 'Rally activity through areas identified as Core Koala Habitat', Koala food trees are to be inspected each day for signs of koalas. I love this next bit. Where koalas are detected in close proximity to a road, a 'Guardian' must be there to stop the koala climbing down and crossing the road.

This all sounds very caring but just how is somebody standing near the tree going to keep koalas up in the trees while the horrendous noise of rally cars and low flying helicopters are freaking the creatures out? Plus the fact, as this is the koala breeding season, they will be on the move to find mates.

Will these guardians be taught how to communicate with our favourite marsupials? Perhaps the rally organisers, who seem to have all the answers, will send the koalas on a training course to learn English. Maybe if the guardians carry signs telling the koalas it's not safe to follow their natural reproductive urges until after the rally is over, the creatures will get the message.

Pressure from Govt

After pressure from the state government, our Tweed councillors have decided that the Nightcap 'ecovillage', out past Kunghur, and its extra 4,000 residents is a good idea and gave it the go-ahead.

It seems, too, that the Repco Rally racers are gearing up to speed along our curvy, narrow, gravel roads bringing many more motoring enthusiasts to our lovely 'Green Cauldron' and all the potential copycat drivers and crashes in our local area, plus more strain on our hospitals.

And I see too, that our Tweed and Murwillumbah hospitals are still being starved of the needed funds to service the population already here.

Tweed Heads Hospital's 30 new beds 'remain in limbo' because the hospital has not been able to attract the necessary nursing staff. Murwillumbah hospital is operating at 87 per cent capacity because the health service downgraded it.

It seems that Repco Rally Australia, which is of course the most important event in the world, not only wants to control the local Tweed and Kyogle Shire Councils and their citizens but also its wildlife.

For sanity sake, please say no to a rally in this valley! Write a submission to council and have your voice heard.

Chris Degenhardt
Nobbys Creek

■ Rally organisers, posing as persons of grand position, are claiming that the event will amass \$31 million in hard cash for the Tweed/Kyogle Shires. Their Social and Economic Impact Statement claims that, over this one week of speeding cars, \$13.06 million will be spent on accommodation, \$16.74 million on meals, \$593,750 on admissions and parking, \$1.5 million on administration and, by crikey, \$10.96 million from resulting investment and corresponding employment.

What a lot of money for a car race! Where do they find these figures? No one seems to be able to explain how or who does the sums but it sounds pretty good. For sure a few local restaurateurs and real estate agents will be dazzled by the size of those beads. And they add, 'hosting a speed rally will attract a certain clientele'. No one seems to be explaining what exactly that means either.

The estimated costs over in Western Australia to taxpayers outlaying \$6.3million brought a return of a little over \$3 million. Suddenly in our current social and economic blackhole we are going to witness a miracle right here in Tweed.

Or is that a warning?

Trish Mann
Burringbar

I am concerned that there may be a fair bit of short-sightedness in the decision-making on these matters at all governmental levels. Our health infrastructure is not strong enough to handle more and more and more people into our shire whether they are new residents, speeding rally drivers or tourists.

I pity the new Nightcap village's pregnant women who opt to have their babies in hospital and the long drive they will have to endure to get the appropriate medical care. God forbid it be an emergency.

It is one thing for the state government to pressure our councillors to make a decision, but they, too, must do their bit and increase the funding and restore the services to our hospitals to equate with the population growth of the shire and the increased number of tourists.

Barbara Goodrich
Tyalgum

Volunteer groups challenge the spin

■ A little bit of mathematics: \$6 millions taxpayers' money paid by NSW govt to the Repco Rally minus \$17,000 for the volunteer organisation Land Care to plant trees to compensate for environmental damage (which is completely avoidable) = \$ 5,983,000 ripped off. \$17K is a pittance, less than 0.28 per cent of the money we are paying up front.

Why don't we give more of our tax money directly to paid land carers (it would help with unemployment) and not to a useless, obsolete event such as a car rally? We need to save the planet, not to add more of the same destruction of the environment. Our habits have to change if we want to have an earth for our children.

And who in their right mind is going to be swayed or fooled by this golden bullidust? Who are the bullies forcing this event on our beautiful and green Caldera?

We don't have to tolerate this abuse. Speak out, support resistance to the bullies. Bullying is outmoded, and so is the idea of driving cars at high speed for fun.

Daniele Voinot
Kingscliff

■ Yet again Repco Rally Australia have decided that another local environmental

■ I was surprised to read in another local paper, that Gary Connelly (rally chairman) wants the local residents to 'Get positive' about the Repco World Rally.

What a relief! This is the first bit of news indicating that Mr Connelly has actually heard what the residents have been saying. So, while we have his attention, let us say again we don't want the rally in the valley!

Mr Connelly and Mr Upson (RRA chief) have been often quoted as saying we at the No Rally Group give out false information. Now, apparently, he recognises that there is a very large public voice in the Tweed saying 'No we don't want it'. Will he go to the official Repco Rally website and other media and correct the spin doctoring that says the people of the Tweed and Kyogle Shires have welcomed them with open arms, or words to that effect?

If the information we have been given is incorrect, then the Repco organisers only have themselves, the local council and Events NSW to blame. This whole fiasco was done without public consultation, until it was too late, and since that time the public have been treated like mushrooms.

You can bring out all the reports you like Mr Connelly, and it still won't make it right, or reasonable to race cars through a fragile landscape

volunteer group can be used to clean up their mess.

First was the news that Tweed Valley Wildlife Carers would follow in their wake to deal with the animals rally cars hit. No contact was ever made with the TVWC prior to this announcement, and the volunteers say they will do the task if they have to, but would rather the race never went ahead in the first place. This is incredibly unfair for a committed group of people with an already overstretched workload.

Repco Rally should be paying for their own crew of professional animal carers and vets to do this grim job.

And so now we have the announcement in another local publication that Garry Upson wants to offset the carbon footprint of his car race locally. Apparently who better to help them get 'more bang for their buck' than the volunteers of our local Tweed Landcare groups?

They plan to offset just the racing cars and support vehicles by planting 50,000 trees in the Tweed. However, they seem to have only \$17,000 to pay for this, which works out at a very sad 34 cents per tree.

Even with bulk purchases, they will have barely enough like the one here in the Tweed Valley.

We don't need you, or your ilk to come here and destroy the best dollar making business we have. Thankfully, for people like you, we have a local council hell bent on destroying the place for you. Your services are not required.

Oh, and the best part of the rally for me will be when I see your tail lights heading out of town, with Gary Upson sitting beside you, and Mike Rayner on the back seat.

Julie McNamara
Banora Point

■ Remember the phrase 'a social smoker'? A complete oxymoron these days, as smokers are forced further and further from public places.

We used to think it was OK to pump untreated sewage straight out on to our beaches. Ever heard of Bondi Cigars? (No slur on the blues band.)

Further back it was fine sport to hunt down wild animals (the rarer, the better), take a few small trophies for the mantelpiece and leave the rest to rot. Now, we know better.

We used to think car racing was fine sport, and that running a high speed car rally through ecologically precious wildlife havens and peaceful rural residential areas was a good idea.

Now, we know better.

Melissa Carey
Uki

for the seedlings, tree guards, site prep and fertiliser. On top of this is the longterm care required; it is never a case of plant and forget with tree plantings. Time consuming and expensive weed control is needed or trees just won't survive, a point any Landcare group they had discussions with would have told them.

That is of course if they actually spoke to any of us about this proposal. Is it the plan of the Repco Rally for Landcare volunteers to not only plant the trees but also maintain and manage the sites? Do they think volunteers can find time in between restoring the beautiful natural areas they love so much, to help a business planning to trash our natural areas feel a little bit greener?

If they spoke to any of us in Landcare or the Wildlife Carers prior to using our organisations for their spin, they would have been told that very few, if any of our members support this car race and do not want to have any association with it. Instead Repco Rally decided to trade on our name without permission in our local media, making highly inappropriate statements that imply we have some sort of business arrangement with them.

So far I am yet to find if any member of Tweed Landcare

has had their group or themselves consulted on this issue. Those I have spoken to do not want to be part of this offer or have yet to reply to my enquiries.

These sorts of tree plantings to offset carbon must be carried out by professionals not volunteers. They have to be part of long term strategies to reduce the actual carbon imprint being created by the business. Trees need to be indigenous species that maximise carbon intake and must be managed correctly to ensure survival rates for a very long time.

Adam Heggie
Pumpenbil Creek Landcare

■ Tweed Landcare Inc. has not been approached or consulted by Repco Rally about any carbon offset scheme associated with the proposed event.

We have no knowledge of any landcarers involved in such a scheme.

Tweed Landcare Inc. does not support the proposed Repco Rally.

Our organisation has grave concerns about direct and cumulative negative impacts to Tweed biodiversity (both flora and fauna) from such an event.

Claire Masters
Tweed Landcare Inc.

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Back to School for Australia's biggest celebration of public education



Well-known Australians, including Lisa Wilkinson, Adam Cooney and Matthew Mitcham, will be among hundreds of people taking part in Back to School 2009 – a nationwide campaign throughout May, which celebrates the incredible role public schools play in Australia's success.

People from all walks of life will go back to school to tell their stories and provide students with positive role models. Now in its eighth year, Back to School is a campaign by Education Foundation,

a division of The Foundation for Young Australians. Many people instrumental to Australia's success were educated in public schools, including the Prime Minister, Kevin Rudd, and the Minister for Education, Julia Gillard. Today, public

schools educate nearly 66% of young people in Australia and make up around 70% of all schools.

Adam Smith, CEO at The Foundation for Young Australians, says, 'Great public schools are vital to building Australia's future prosperity and productivity. They teach and care for all young people and are at the heart of our communities. Students and teachers love hearing from people who went to their school and role models can help young people gain insight into their own purpose, passion and pathway in life.'

In support of Back to School 2009, a diverse group of recognised Australians along with Coles employees across the country will return to their former public schools in May to take part in a variety of events, workshops and presentations. Back to School 2009 role models include Lisa Wilkinson in NSW, co-host of the Nine Network's TODAY Show.

Back to School is supported by education departments in all Australian states and territories and coincides with State Education Weeks. For more information on Back to School or to request a free school's pack visit: www.backtoschool.org.au

Byron Region Community College

If you want to get qualified locally in your own friendly and professional vocational education college look no further than Byron Region Community College. You can study Media, Massage, Community Services, Aged Care, Children's Services and much more.

Classes are starting soon with places still available in some certificate courses. The teachers are experts in their field, the College staff are friendly and ready to help and the classrooms are located in the Byron Bay and Mullumbimby CBD.

Free Government Funding is available for some courses, so don't miss out, ring the College now for further information. Byron College will also be taking discounted Early Bird Enrolments for 2010 from October this year. In 2010 you will be able to do nationally recognized Certificates in Financial Services, Business Management, Massage, Visual Arts, Fitness, Aged Care, Children's Services (right through to the Diploma), Tourism, Information Technology and Horticulture.

To find out more about courses starting soon or next year ring the College now on 6684 3374

What Crystal Creek Values Most

Anyone and everyone who has an interest in the future of Crystal Creek students attended a meeting at the school to discuss and vote on a set of 'core values' for Crystal Creek School.

'It was amazing to see students, teachers, parents, grandparents, scripture teachers, community members, cleaners and bus drivers all working together to decide what is most valued at our school' – Louise Dunn (Teacher)

Children and adults wrote down their ideas on posters then everyone got to vote on their favourite core values. What was truly wonderful was the fact that all votes had equal value, including votes from the children.

The outcome was a set of 'Core Values' for Crystal Creek School: The environment, healthy and active lifestyle, respect, self-belief, doing your best, honesty and trustworthiness, understanding, friendship and kindness, embracing technology, learning, family and community, happiness and fun. (In the words of Nat King Cole, 'What a Wonderful World')

'The commitment to the future of our school was evident and the ideas were flowing. I was especially impressed and proud of the students and the wonderful vision they have for the school and their own education. From this point on we will be referring to the 'Crystal Creek Core Values' for developing policies, learning programs, rewarding children, whole school projects and all other school activities. **The whole school community can now embrace these values with a fantastic sense of ownership.**' – Brad Davis (principal)

MAP TRAINING FREE TRAINING

Available to eligible job seekers in :

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Regular training courses available in

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- Forklift • Scaffolding • Dogging & Rigging
- Plant Operator • HR Truck • Confined Spaces
- Senior First Aid • Safe Working at Heights
- National Track Safety Awareness • EWP

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www.mp.com.au

6652 9946

SATHYA SAI PRIMARY SCHOOL

'Education for Life' with Human Values Program
To our Teachers Each Child is Special

- New Buildings • Interactive Whiteboards • Board of Studies • Academic Curriculum • Information and Computer Technologies • Co-operative Learning • Personal & Interpersonal Skills • Reading Enhancement Program • School Choir • Swimming Program

"The Sathya Sai School is a non-denominational co-educational Primary School catering for students from K—6. We use the NSW Board of Studies Curriculum. The whole school environment based on the Human Values of Love, Peace, Truth, Right Conduct and Non-violence. The focus of the school is on the development of character and academic potential."

ENQUIRIES WELCOME

Contact: Mr. Robert Molloy—Principal
Phone 02 6672 8972
Sathya Sai Primary School
9 Nullum St Murwillumbah NSW 2484



Crystal Creek Public School

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- Certificate IV in Training and Assessment

For further
information call the
College on 6684 3374



**Byron Region
Community College**

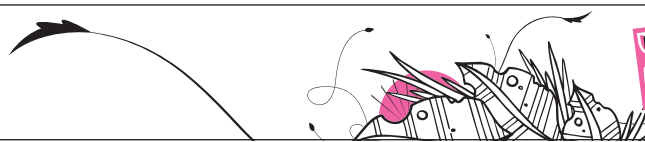
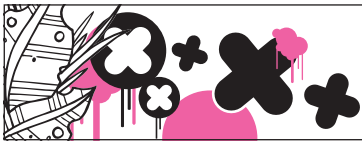


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Phone Map Training on 6652 9946 or visit www.mp.com.au

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Our classes are held 3 times a week in a friendly and supportive environment. You can come once (\$45) or purchase multi-passes for more visits! And if you become addicted to the rush, we have term trapeze classes at great discounts. **www.circusarts.com.au for all info or call us on 6685 6566**
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Kong For Kids Swim School is unique in its ability to train kids to swim in both the ocean and the pool. After a lifetime in the ocean surfing at world champion level, Gary Elkerton (Kong) is now using his expertise in the water to teach children to swim. The school runs small classes geared towards your children learning quickly, effectively and enjoyably.

Ph: 6680 1614

Students Supporting each other at Bilambil Public School

The students at Bilambil Public School are the school's best advertisement. Through their social skills training, Rock & Water Program and leadership activities Bilambil students are visibly supporting each other in many different ways. Students in Year 6 have just been trained as leaders in the

Peer Support Program. Year 6 leaders facilitate student learning sessions with multi-age groups from K-5. This is a peer led, skills based, experiential learning program which is integrated into curricula. It provides students with a supportive environment in which to develop the skills, understandings, attitudes and strategies to make healthy life decisions and it enhances peer relationships throughout the school.

Senior students are also trained as playground helpers. Wearing bright green vests they are rostered onto playground duty with teachers to provide friendly support to a lonely child or to mediate in minor disputes. Younger students are also given an 'older' buddy who not only can assist with class activities at times, but can also be a 'big' friend in the playground. **These positive interactions provide an atmosphere of optimism and happiness in the school.**

Sathya Sai Primary School

'Education for Life' with Human, Values, Program

To our Teachers Each Child is Special

New Buildings • Interactive Whiteboards • Board of Studies Academic Curriculum • Information and Computer Technologies • Co-operative Learning • Personal & Interpersonal Skills • Reading Enhancement Program • School Choir Swimming Program

'The Sathya Sai School is a non-denominational co-educational Primary School catering for students from K-6. We use the NSW Board of Studies Curriculum. The whole school environment is based on the Human Values of Love, Peace, Truth, Right Conduct and Non-violence. The focus of the school is on the development of character and academic potential'.

Enquiries Welcome

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Phone: 02 6672 8972

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At Bilambil Public School:

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- we believe quality education is based on quality teaching
- we have modern air conditioned buildings on large semi rural grounds creating a peaceful learning environment
- we focus on explicit teaching of English and maths which is complemented by strong sporting and creative arts activities including school band, choirs and dance program
- student's personal development programs focus on safety, fairness, responsibility and leadership
- parents, staff and students work together to create a great nurturing school

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Lindisfarne's principal, Chris Duncan, says that 'this is a first hand experience that allows students to get a very strong feel for the school and gives parents confidence that they have made a good decision for their child.'

07 5590 5099

Uki Public School

Nestled in the heart of the village of Uki, in the foothills of Mount Warning, you will find the most amazing little school. Uki Public School is a very special place where students are valued and are happy.

We offer our children: • Beautiful school surrounds • Sustainable School initiatives • Uki Kid's Club OOSH after school care • Exciting playground • Open fields and playing areas • Specialist art teacher • Specialist music teacher • Band and choir program • Competitive sports initiatives • Healthy canteen • Comprehensive daily fitness programs • Access to cutting edge technology • Academic excellence • Outstanding public speaking and debating programs • Leadership initiatives • Large open classrooms.

So come and see why we think Uki Public School is such an amazing place. We are pretty sure that you will agree with us! Call in for a look around our beautiful school. For more information, please contact the school principal, Jeff Robinson, during school hours on 02 6679 5128.

EDUCATION WEEK OPEN DAY

Friday 29th May, 2009

We would like to invite community members to attend our Education Week Open Day, next Friday 29th May. Come in and participate in some or all of the listed activities above, commencing at 9.00am with a fitness program. The concert will feature singing items from students throughout the school and performances from the school Concert Band, and in their first public debut, the Bunyip Band. Come in and spend the morning with us here at Uki Public School.

Australian College of Kahuna Sciences

New School in Town

What's all this new activity in the Mullum Village Way? The Australian College of Kahuna Sciences is setting up a new training centre and clinic opposite the Echo office! The expansion of the Gold Coast College is thanks to the number of local students in Kahuna Bodywork training. The college is the only registered school in Australia to teach the resurgent ancient art of Kahuna Bodywork (Romi Taparere), with teachers trained by the source over many years. Come in and enquire about how you can achieve one of the nationally accredited massage and bodywork qualifications. The college is Ab/Austudy approved. You can study at home or attend classes.

Call us locally at 6684 4883 or via the national office: 07 5575 7336. www.kahunasciences.edu.au

Australian College of Kahuna Sciences

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Call us locally at 6684 4883 or via the national office: 07 5575 7336. www.kahunasciences.edu.au

Future Focused Education with Students at the Centre

St Joseph's College was founded as a place for authentic learning by the parental community of the local Catholic parish of St Joseph. It expresses the desire of the parents for excellence in educational standards with individualised learning that allows each student to find and develop their strengths. Quality College and family partnerships allow parents to contribute to College directions, and these relationships allow parents and teachers to work together to support students in their learning. A strong sense of community, service and care is evident at the College, with an emphasis on students growing as responsible and self directed learners who are acquiring the skills needed to equip them for their futures.

A broad range of subjects is offered to students, with high but achievable goals set for each student. Students have access to sporting pathways, excellence in the performing and creative arts programs, careers counseling, taught in state of the art facilities and a rich ICT environment. The College programs of study make connections with related life contexts, including many excursions and opportunities for students to link their learning outward beyond the classroom walls through industry, tourism and university links.

Thinking now about a 21st century future, the College is currently in a process of 're-imagining education'. The College is taking on the challenge of how to teach students who take personal responsibility for their learning, who are confident risk takers, who can be entrepreneurs, who can create job opportunities for themselves, who can build business opportunities and who have a strong sense of moral purpose in living their lives ethically and at the service of others, these are but some of the future focused planning happening at the moment. With a plan for professional learning for its staff, the College is well underway to engage students in their futures.

An invitation is extended to families to visit the College with its 'On Show' afternoon and evening. Activities commence at 3.45pm with tours of the College, a meal break concluding with a variety of performances by the students. Come, taste and see!



Australian College of Kahuna Sciences New campus/clinic in Mullumbimby!

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www.kahunasciences.edu.au • www.kahunasource.com




UKI PUBLIC SCHOOL

A very special place where students are valued & happy

EDUCATION WEEK OPEN DAY

9.00am Friday May 29
all welcome

PHONE: 02 6679 5128
WEB: www.uki-p.schools.nsw.edu.au




St Joseph's College Banora Point

ON SHOW! Friday May 22



Experience the College in action

- 3:45 — 5:00 pm open facilities tours
- 5:00 — 6:00 pm sausage sizzle
- 6:00 — 8:30 pm Talent Quest – a performing arts spectacular

**Enrolments to be received by
Tuesday, June 9, 2009**

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Banora Point NSW 2486
PHONE Mrs Bissell, Enrolment Secretary
(07) 5524 9002



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OFFER ENDS JUNE 8TH 2009!**

Towards sustainability

Your Sustainable Community
An Echo supplement

In these interesting times, it is obvious that individuals, families and their local communities need to work towards resilience in order to not only withstand the impact of financial crisis and climate change but also to, hopefully, prosper and flourish. The road ahead is not necessarily easy and in the following pages we offer many views on how the sustainable community could be created or improved upon. I hope you will find the articles informative and entertaining, and in some cases challenging and controversial. It would be impossible within 20 pages to cover all the facets of sustainability but there is plenty here to be going on with.

What is 'sustainable'? According to my computer dictionary it's 'Ecology (esp. of development, exploitation, or agriculture) conserving an ecological balance by avoiding depletion of natural resources.' As biologist Mary Gardner points out on page 18, many human practices dubbed 'sustainable' by no means conserve an ecological balance, let alone a just society. 'Sustainable' is a buzzword which needs to be torn from the hands of spin doctors and given its rightful meaning again by local communities. This can happen through a commitment to using resources wisely, buying local, low-impact products where possible, and sharing knowledge, among other things.



As slow as they are to move, Australian governments are beginning to understand the importance of sustainability. No doubt the pace of ecological and economic change will prompt further understanding. The consequence for local communities will be further funding for projects aimed at fostering sustainability, many of which are looked at in this supplement. The north coast of NSW is an ideal position to embrace these new initiatives.

Under pressure of change there is a temptation to embrace ways of doing things and make them dogma. However the last thing we need is a new cult of sustainability wowsers keeping us in line. Flexibility is part of maintaining an ecological balance. You and I may move to the beat of a different drum, so appreciating that is part of keeping a community sustainable.

— Michael McDonald, editor

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Client Liaison: Amanda Bennett

Design & Production: Ziggi Browning

Front cover photo: Eve Jeffery. Thanks to models, from first person in blue top left Paula Humphries, clockwise to Margo Sutton, Jessica Gooch, Dayle and Jaden Thackray, and Brahmani Manning.

Contributors: Lou Beaumont, Nina Bishop, Victoria Cosford, Giovanni Ebono, Mary Gardner, Eve Jeffery, Hans Lovejoy, Mungo MacCallum, Roxanne Millar, Steve Payne, Lani Summers, and Kali Wendorf.

Photographers: Lou Beaumont, Jeff Dawson, Eve Jeffery, and Dom O'Brien.

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From generation to generation



Story & photo Lou Beaumont

When considering the very definition of sustainability, conserving an ecological balance by avoiding depletion of natural resources, it is clear that as inhabitants of this planet we are doing anything but living sustainably. Our ecological systems are imbalanced and close to collapse and we continue to use our natural resources as if they were inexhaustible. For some, living sustainably comes more naturally than others, having been brought up to see the value of frugality and resourcefulness. One such person is Jerry Coleby-Williams, presenter on ABC TV's *Gardening Australia*, who was raised by his family of gardeners in war time England.

Jerry Coleby-Williams spoke at the launch of Byron Shire Council's Public Land for Food Launch on April 4. He compared the time he was brought up, a time of war where England was forced to rethink where its food came from, with the present day, where resources are again threateningly low. He spoke not only of the importance of living sustainably but of the need for those with sustainable living knowledge to impart such wisdom with others, in particular, the next generation.

'The biggest change in the gardening demographic is school gardeners. We are now seeing an increase in school solar and kitchen garden projects. Adults tend to dumb down the predicament of the planet for kids but they know exactly what is going on. Children are concerned, they are getting anxious and depressed about these things and they want to be able to change things. School projects give them an opportunity to learn and change things for themselves.

They are not just involved in a pleasant exercise, they are learning life skills. Anyone who can grow food can look after their family, and their friends and neighbours, no matter what the economic situation.'

Raised in Colchester, Britain's oldest city, Coleby-Williams comes from four generations of farmers and gardeners. For the most part, his forefathers had no deep thoughts about organic gardening practices because they were organic by circumstance – pesticides and chemical fertilisers were expensive. So the era of industrial agricultural chemicals began in 1842 with the patent of superphosphate, but it was in hard times, such as the World Wars, when many gardeners and farmers went organic by default, that is, out of the need to tighten their belts.

'By around 1940 Britain was importing 60% of its fresh food

and vegetables. At the outbreak of World War II Britain had 18 months to avert starvation, due largely to the fact that German submarines were doing a good job stopping fresh food making it to English shores. The British government came up with the 'Dig for Victory' campaign. Politicians and businessmen of WWII Britain put their heads together and systematically worked out how to get every acre of land brought into cultivation. Public information was made available to allow people to grow food.

'Rules change in a crisis and life very quickly changes with them. Barriers dissolve really quickly when necessary.

'English school children of the WWII era learnt so much about food production that any child then knew more than the average Australian adult does today. Anyone who can

grow food will have a good life. Friends, family, neighbours never need suffer, that is how communities are built. And the communities of WWII England went from food dependent to food secure in 18 months. Britain was sustained by the 'Dig for Victory' campaign because ordinary people learned how to grow food at home. Back then, the government rolled out bomb shelters, providing families with what was necessary to survive. Now, that should be rainwater tanks and solar panels etc. We often talk about surviving, where we could be thriving. As economic resources change we have to change our relationship with food and each other.'

■ You can read more about Jerry Coleby-Williams and the various projects he is involved with on his blog, www.bellis.info.

Organic farming booms

The first official Australian organic data in four years has been launched by Biological Farmers of Australia, revealing that the organic industry is potentially as resilient in drought as its products claim to be healthy for consumers.

Researched by the University of New England's Organic Research Group, and commissioned by the Biological Farmers of Australia (BFA), the Australian Organic Market Report (AOMR) is based on industry-wide survey data and builds upon research published by the Federal Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) in 2004. Among the key findings of the research are:

Retail value (incorporating imports and adjusting for exports) was estimated for the first time above \$0.5B. Retail value reached over \$600million

with reports of between 10 and 30%+ growth per annum for some sectors since the last report in 2004. (See the AOMR for specific sector values)

2007 farm gate values were estimated to be in excess of \$231,000,000 – an 80% increase on the 2004 DAFF research findings.

With 11,988,044 hectares, Australia accounts for the largest amount of certified organic farmland in the world, the majority of which is used for extensive grazing.

Major retailers now carry in excess of 500 different organic lines in fresh and grocery categories.

The number of certified organic operators has increased by an annual 5.2% average net over the last five years, during a time of ongoing decrease in overall farmer numbers in

Australia. In 2007 the total number of certified organic operators was 2,750 – made up of farmers, processors and marketers. Almost three quarters of all operators are producers, representing 1.5% -1.8% of all growers in Australia.

The average age of an organic producer in Australia is lower than a non-organic producer. The organic industry is consolidating and the average size of organic farms has increased, highlighting a trend towards professional farming at a larger scale, and farm area expansion by operators experiencing long-term success in utilising organic systems.

Horticulture remains a major stay of the industry. Some two thirds of organic farmers make up this sector which represents almost half of the total organic farm gate value in Australia.

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The origins of love and peace

Kali Wendorf

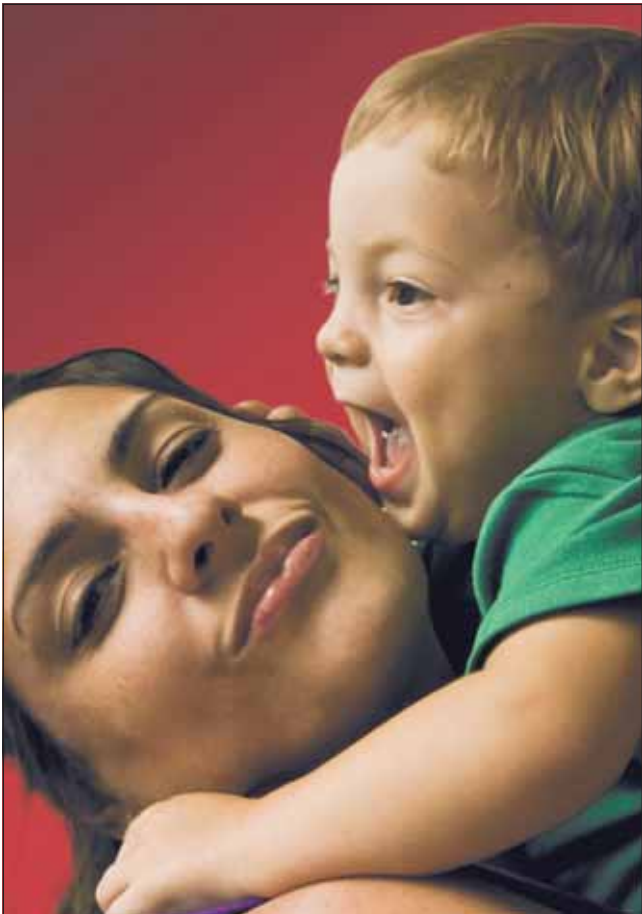
In our commitment to saving the planet, we are often put at odds with our own species. Ecological destruction seems inevitable as long as humanity is present. How can we be the cure, rather than the disease? Most sustainability initiatives focus on adult-centred change, but what is overlooked are the forging elements that shape a planet-loving, or planet-destroying adult.

Is it in our nature to be violent, fearful and greedy? Or can we nurture humanity towards a different outcome? The answer: a large body of groundbreaking research across a range of disciplines – neuroscience, genetics, psychology and biology – has ended the nurture verses nature debate. Indeed how we are nurtured determines the kind of people we will grow up to be. Even more importantly, we are biologically ‘predispositioned’ towards love, empathy and connection.

The research reveals how these virtues are hard-wired into an infant’s brain by certain sensory inputs such as touch, smell, taste, movement and vision. Specifically these inputs are intimate in nature – breast-feeding, holding, skin-to-skin contact, eye gazing, emotional nurturing, co-sleeping and the movement experienced while being held in the arms of walking carers. Such practices positively alter the developing brain and translate into important developmental advantages: improved relationships and social skills, keen self-management skills and healthy interdependence, a well-functioning nervous system and overall psychological strength and wellbeing.

In addition, there is a neurological ‘expectation’ that these intimate inputs be provided by those who the infant first experienced (through sound and rhythm) in the womb – the mother and father. After that period, the biological need for connection continues, but with the circles expanding to extended family members, a caring community and, very importantly, time in nature – the other mother.

So if we’re hardwired for love, what has gone wrong? Unfortunately, modern western culture is increasingly at odds with this kind of nurturing. Rather than encouraging physical and emotional closeness to children, our culture discourages it. The dissolution of family life and community, and the resultant ‘outsourcing’ of parenting and over-reliance on television-as-babysitter interferes with this fragile and critical process of connection. Ours is a society of disconnect: births are unnecessarily medicalised, interfering in the primary bonding process of



mother and infant; babies and toddlers are fed with bottles, sleep alone in their own cot, in their own room and spend an inordinate amount of time in prams, playpens, car seats and day care, away from the physical contact and closeness of their mother and father. And as they grow older, the disconnection expands, with increased time in front of television and computer screens, and little time in nature.

Without a foundation of bonding and connection, children grow up exhibiting a plethora of stress signals that indicate such connections have not been made: depression, attentional issues, aggression, suicide, failure to participate in relationships, and substance abuse. Their ability to look after themselves, another or the

planet is highly compromised. And so, in a vicious circle, our disconnected culture raises children who will grow to perpetuate the same disconnection with their children, their neighbours, their earth.

It’s important to look at this research from a civilisational perspective, rather than just a personal one. Many people who read such material often retort with comments such as, ‘Well I was spanked and I am fine’ or ‘My child wasn’t breast-fed and she is happy.’

But imagine, if you will, the impact to our planet of generations of western children being raised collectively without the neurobiological imperatives of connection. We’ve heard lately of the looming ‘credit tsunami’; well, this is what I call the looming ‘disconnection tsunami’.

And it is heading right for us.

Robin Grille, psychologist and author, is a passionate advocate of uncovering the psychological roots of social and environmental ills. In his groundbreaking book *Parenting for a Peaceful World* he writes, ‘The suffering of children ends up producing human rights abuses anywhere in the world. Every war, every genocide, has been a direct consequence of society’s war against children.’

Our sustainability initiatives will be frightfully short-sighted until our society realises that how babies are born and raised determines the kind of society that is forged. We can save a forest today, but if children are not brought up feeling love, connection and empathy, then that same forest will be cut down tomorrow.

The good news is that for the first time in human history, we have an evidence-based model for how to raise a peaceful society. Until now, parenting methods have been shaped by culture and enforced by societal norms, having little or nothing to do with meeting the emotional, psychological and spiritual needs of humanity. Now science confirms what a mother always knew deep within.

For the first time in human history, we can now take an active and deliberate role in forging a better society and reaching our evolutionary potential to live in harmony with nature and with each other. It will require mothers, fathers and an entire child-loving community.

■ Kali Wendorf is a social entrepreneur, writer, lecturer and founding editor of *Kindred* magazine www.kindredmagazine.com.au.

The people care weak spot

Lani Summers

Around the time that personnel departments became human resource departments, there had emerged an economic rationalist understanding that employees have a measurable value. Later, another concept began to emerge, the triple bottom line, people planet and profit. Successful business woman and a Triple Bottom Line pioneer, Judy Wicks, captured the essence of this progressive paradigm when she said ‘Business is beautiful when it’s a vehicle for serving the common good.’

Here we are in the Byron Shire, hub of progressive practice and conscious community, yet I see a thread loose in our societal weave. I look around at our businesses and institutions. In most of the places I have involved myself in, the profit,

planet and people concept are all visibly accounted for in policy. The problems occur in the practical application, juggling all three, and most regularly the ball that is dropped is the people component. Most of my friends and colleagues are directly or indirectly affected by a people care weak spot in the workplace, even those who are self employed!

Staff discounts are caring, but conflict resolution is critical. We are socio-biological relational beings. Yet the recent era of cheap available energy has made us very individualistic and self serving. We can all afford our own cars, lawnmowers and phones, we don’t have to share and we don’t need to collaborate. Yet these are vital skills, and at the beginning of the descent of cheap available energy and subsequently the economy, it is an imperative

that we rekindle these crucial skills.

Massages and bonuses, while lovely, do not alone penetrate the symptoms of conflict and stress that require mediation and arbitration, and a head in the sand approach is a false economy.

When people are on their deathbeds, the amnesia of values that has held them as slaves to this economy leaves. They remember clearly and dearly their most splendid moments, and these treasured moments are usually with people and nature.

As our old economy is nearing its deathbed perhaps the spell will finally be broken and our values will consciously sit in the driver’s seat of our motivations well before our own final breaths.

And happiness will measure our success.

Taking resilience to the streets



Sharon Gibson, right, with Tanya Langlois and Mike Clarke, all winners of the Sustainable Streets Eco-home makeover, check out some beans in the vegetable garden. Photo Lou Beaumont.

We talked to Sharon Gibson, winner of the Sustainable Streets Eco-home makeover in Mullumbimby.

What was it like for you & your family when you found out you had won?

I've been passionate about living sustainably for years, to think that I could be supported to go in the direction I wanted to go was fantastic. We're all delighted and happy that it is a local North Coast Climate Action Group initiative, sponsored largely by local businesses.

When I told my friends and neighbours of our win, the usual response was 'Yeah, that's no surprise.' They were happy for me, they want to learn and be involved. More people stop me to ask questions about sustainability, whether it be in my front yard's veggie patch or in town.

What was the first step?

I was given an ACE Green Me Up course, we were shown how to calculate our ecological footprint. If everyone lived like

our family we would need two planets, that's good and bad, because the Australian average is over three planets. Green Me Up helped us to hone in on the necessary changes to reduce our footprint and feel confident about continuing other aspects of our lifestyle. It's not all bad news! Ecological footprint has been a good way to communicate to my kids, how effort and little things we do make a real and measurable difference.

What have been the easiest of changes?

The installation of our solar hot water system. We have a manual set up for the electrical booster and we haven't had to use it yet. It has reduced our electricity consumption by 54%. I was surprised, I've checked the math and it's correct. It's surprising how often people don't know about the government rebates available and what a difference it can make.

The hardest?

Working out ways to reduce

the use of my car. It would help if public transport was better but I appreciate the limitations in country areas. My dream is to have an electric bike with a mini trailer. Safety is an issue though, I'm really looking forward to more bike tracks.

We also interviewed Nina Bishop the project manager.

This project starts with ecological footprint calculations, why is this?

It's not an exact science, but ecological footprint is an effective tool measuring environmental impact of countries, products, communities and individuals. It removes a lot of guesswork and lessens judgement between individuals since scientists have done the sums for us over many years of research. Once a person has their EF, it's harder for them to complain about another driving a large 4WD if they remain a frequent flyer! The onus is more on the individual.

How do you hope the project will benefit our

community?

It's better that our community works at becoming more sustainable now, therefore more resilient before we must later. Slow and steady now or catching up later! Research has shown that lasting change usually happens when habits are developed slowly over time. Families, friends and community, all things that make life worth living, all thrive on time. If we rush, people are less likely to get their needs met, they become stressed. Sustainability is a lot about symbiosis, people taking care of people locally, in a mutually beneficial way.

We have affordable workshops planned, at the eco-homes in process, throughout the year. They're designed to inspire and offer practical sustainable choices that are particularly relevant to our local neighbourhoods.

■ Go to NCCAG's website www.nccag.org and click on Sustainable Streets Events enquiries and bookings or ring 6684 1263.



Victoria Cosford

There persists much confusion surrounding food companies and their policies on using genetically engineered ingredients. Shopping ethically is one way that we as consumers can make a difference – but in order to shop ethically, it is important for us to know which food brands are free of GE ingredients. With the first harvest of Australian-grown GE canola now underway, the imperative is even greater to be informed – particularly in the light of the fact that under current laws, most of the products containing canola, such as margarine and vegetable oil and ice cream, are not required to include it in the labelling.

The Greenpeace True Food Guide rates companies according to their policies on using GE ingredients. Over 170 food companies and 400 products are classified in three categories:

- Green for companies that have given written assurance that they are not using GE ingredients anywhere in the food chain;
- Orange for companies committed to removing GE ingredients and are in the process of doing so;
- Red for companies that have no policy to remove GE-derived ingredients, including those from animals fed GE feed, as well as those companies that did not respond adequately to enquiries.

Copies are available from Greenpeace by calling 1800 815 151, or can be downloaded from www.greenpeace.org.au/truefood.

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Green Power to the People

Nina Bishop

It's a burning issue – about 92% of Australia's greenhouse gas (ghg) emissions come from burning fossil fuels. Fortunately, the demand for cleaner energy is growing with accredited GreenPower in NSW growing by 17% in the last 12 months. We, the people, are sending a clear message to investors in the energy industry.

In 2001, even the Howard government recognised that Australia needed to develop its renewable energy supply sector and introduced the Mandatory Renewable Energy Target scheme. MRET puts an obligation on electricity retailers to purchase a specified amount of their electricity from renewable energy sources.

Prior to this in 1997, state governments (not including Tasmania and the Northern Territory) formed a voluntary program called GreenPower, which provides accreditation for new renewable energy, giving consumers some surety on their choice of green electricity. Each accredited retailer's sales and purchases are audited annually to ensure purchasers get

what they pay for.

GreenPower uptake indicates consumer demand and relies on voluntary participation, while MRET is mandatory for liable parties such as Origin and Country Energy. Both programs have been introduced to encourage development of the renewable energy supply industry. According to the NSW Dept of Water and Energy, since the start of GreenPower accreditation, there has been an eightfold increase in the number of solar generators under their program in Australia.

Renewable energy is derived from sources that cannot be depleted or energy that can be replaced, such as solar, wind, biomass (waste), wave or hydro. According to GreenPower, renewable sources don't produce greenhouse gas pollution; generators have no 'net' impact, which excludes pollution created from building the facility. When you switch to accredited GreenPower, you're instructing your electricity supplier to purchase power from eligible renewable sources, rather than coal fired power stations. This can sometimes be direct input to the grid



but more often through the purchase of RECs.

Renewable Energy Certificates were created by the government as a tool for measuring renewable energy generation. RECs are issued by the Office of the Renewable Energy Regulator (ORER). Each REC represents the equivalent of 1 MWh of electricity genera-

tion from an eligible renewable energy source. RECs serve as a measure and currency – and like any currency, it can be traded and sometimes misused.

A scenario – Ms Sunshine puts a small 1kW PV system on her roof. ORER deems that system will produce 21 MWh during its life and will issue 21 RECs. These RECs can be sold

on the REC market as a form of rebate to help finance her renewable energy investment. Companies can now buy these REC's through an agent to help meet their mandatory renewable energy target. If they don't meet their yearly target they pay a fine.

The legitimate complaint from the Greens and many

environmental organisations is that voluntary carbon reduction actions such as Ms Sunshine's are counted in the Kyoto Carbon Cap and therefore diminish the responsibility for energy companies and polluting industries for carbon reduction. That is, the more that is done by households, the less that industry needs to do.

The Total Environment Centre, joined by 17 businesses, is calling on the government to make voluntary carbon projects and GreenPower additional to Australia's mandatory target under Kyoto and the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme. They are asking the Federal Government to recognise the importance of a healthy voluntary market in expanding investment toward a cleaner environment.

Rules for GreenPower Accreditation

Energy generators and retailers who apply for GreenPower accreditation are successful if they meet certain (they say stringent) environmental criteria. A priority of the program is

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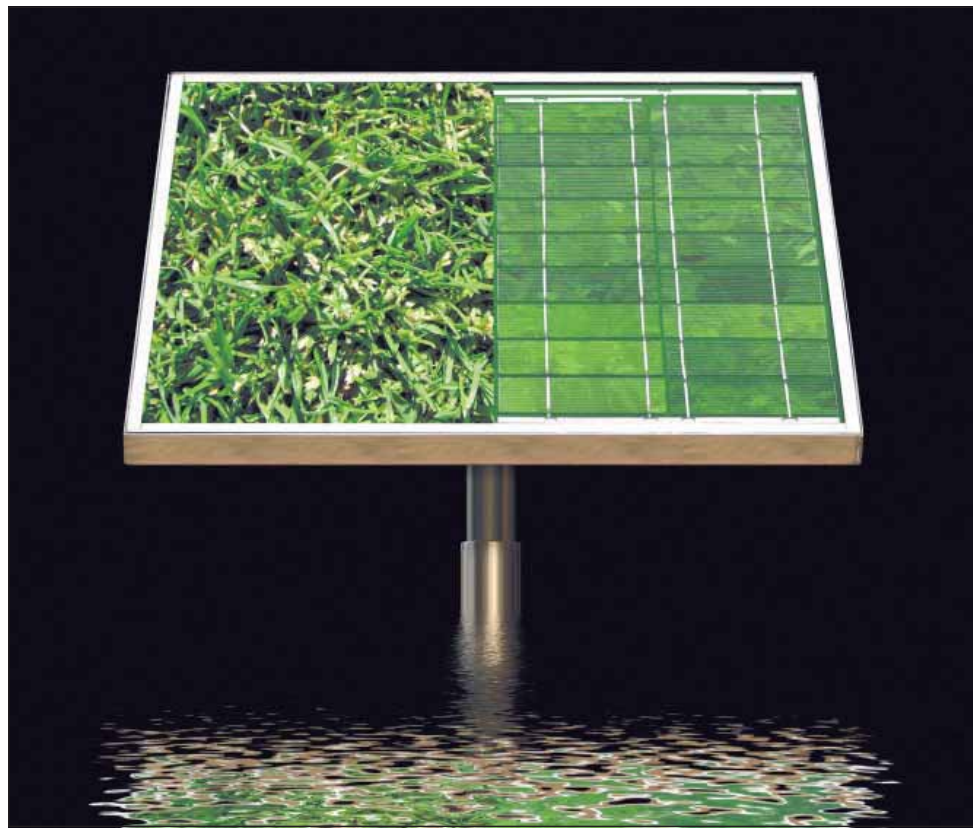


Green Power to the People

to create 'new' renewable energy generation, so only facilities that have been built since 1997 need apply. Other criteria have to do with biomass, which remains controversial among many environmental conservationists, and has been debated often in *The Echo's* letters to the editor.

Biomass describes energy that is generated from organically based sources such as landfill gas, sewage gas and bagasse. GreenPower doesn't accept wood waste. Energy is either 'captured' or generated from burning biomass, probably just one step up from burning fossil fuels. Energy from burning bagasse may support the sugar industry but does little to boost new generation, for example, of geothermal energy or wave and tidal power. These are the sources mostly likely to help with base load power in the future.

The good news is that some of the retailers offer customers a choice of the type of GreenPower. You can choose whether your power comes from solar or wind and ignore biomass altogether. Total Environment Centre, WWF and



the Australian Conservation Foundation (ACF) have joined forces to help consumers make informed decisions via their website Green Electricity Watch. Most, if not all, the questions you might like to ask your energy company in order

to choosing a credible product have been asked by GEW.

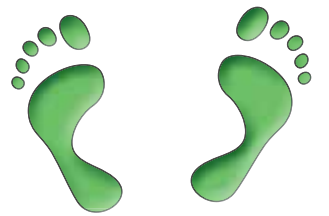
Energy companies, for example, who are in the best position to actively support the growth of renewable energy industry and who promote their product clearly rate higher on

the GEW list. Penalties apply to companies who estimate consumption via the 'block' system, which is based on a percentage of the average Australian household consumption. Country Energy has such a system offering GreenPower at

10%, 20%, 50%, or 100%, of this average. The problem is that an average can be incredibly inaccurate. 100% is 17.7 kWh per day therefore 10% is equivalent to 1.7 kWh per day.

Under the block system, people may be paying more than necessary to cover their usage, or too little – having negligible effect on renewable energy supply industry. If your loyalty gene has you staying with Country Energy – buy the percentage that fits your average consumption, which is easy to work out if you have your last four quarterly bills in front of you. The variable 'per unit' system offered by companies who also offer a choice on the source of renewable energy gets GEW's top ratings.

Like the government's mandatory system, the voluntary GreenPower program isn't perfect. Reducing consumption is the first logical step. If you have a sunny north roof – becoming a micro generator, and or buying enough GreenPower to cover your electricity use, is a good step in the right direction. Thanks to the Green Electricity Watch our step can be a little more sure-footed.



www.greenlivingpedia.org/green_facts

www.greenlivingpedia.org/carbon_rationing

www.abc.net.au/greenatwork/FactsFigures

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Sweet surprises from the home garden

Steve Payne

My family are still talking about the amazing harvest of carrots I hauled onto the kitchen bench last year. Despite years of writing about permaculture and organics, I'm ashamed to say it was my first attempt at carrots. I'd heard they were tricky to get going and I wasn't sure my fragile gardening confidence was up to the task. Turns out I was right.

As the family gathered around to see what their 'provider' had produced, they all broke into laughter.

Some of the carrots were ugly, pebble-sized malformations, while others were perfectly formed, but alas in a class of their own – something between embryonic and pre-embryonic, pencil-thin and about 4cm long. It was a failure I felt sure might shed light on the collapse of the Mayan civilisation.

Despite the ridicule, I dutifully washed the miserable specimens and handed one to my two-year-old daughter Billie, while nibbling my own (I chose a skinny model).

They were sweet and delicious, a truly wondrous snack. They proved to me once again that gardening can be a pretty good reflection of life – filled with successes, humiliating



The author sets up the bamboo and wire bean trellis. Photo Dom O'Brien.

failures and heart-warming surprises.

Of course there was an explanation for my carrots' pathetic condition. I'd failed to water them adequately, only occasionally given them a feed of liquid fertiliser, and grown them in too shady a spot. In short I'd stuck them in and hoped for the best. But in other areas of my 6 x 4 metre organic vegie patch I'd done better.

My daughter Nina (7) and

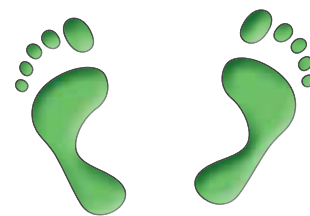
son Ollie (9) helped plant some climbing beans below a bamboo trellis I rigged up. I did keep a close eye on the beans, giving them a decent feed and water, and we ended up with a wall of green and harvest after harvest. Just when we thought they were finishing, we'd pull back some leaves and reveal another glut. Each night we got a good handful, more than enough to go with a meal. I was proud.

rattle off. Recent successes include: beans, capsicums, cherry tomatoes, cucumber (well, I did get six before they succumbed to mildew), rocket, lettuce, spring onions, chives, eggplant, corn, basil, coriander, war-rigal greens (it's taking over), oregano, rosemary, Chinese greens and chillies. I've also planted a lemon, avocado, fig and mulberry (for the fruit and to feed Ollie's silk worms).

Having established the garden in the only good sunny spot – out the front exposed to public view – I also put in a some marigolds and petunias. The latter providing seemingly endless mauve and purple blooms.

I have to say I do get despondent when crops fail, or when I've been busy and neglected the garden, but as a relative novice, I'm amazed at what can be produced from such a small area. And I'm not alone, there's a resurgence in 'grow your own food' that is only just kicking off. I reckon everyone should give it a go – it's the best thing you can do for the planet and your body.

■ Steve Payne is editor of the ABC's *Organic Gardener* magazine and lives in The Channon. He was formerly editor of the *Permaculture International Journal*.



TIPS FOR STARTING OUT

- Plant crops you know you'll eat. Get a seasonal planting guide.
- Start small – don't dig up the whole lawn in one go. Rather, create something manageable.
- Locate the garden in a good sunny spot (six hours of sun a day is best), and as close to the house as possible.
- Raised beds are great, giving good drainage in our wet climate.
- Seek advice. If you don't know where to start, read up, go to a farmer's market and chat with growers or seek out experienced gardeners who can encourage you.
- And go organic. There's no need to use toxic pesticides.

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Helping hands in Murwillumbah Street

Roxanne Millar

It is 9.30am on a Saturday morning in Murwillumbah and residents are schlepping their home grown fruits and vegetables across their front yards to a table beneath a jacaranda tree.

A couple of older women sit in chairs that have magically appeared from someone's verandah, glancing proudly at the fresh eggs, tomatoes, lettuce, carrot and pumpkins nestled atop the table.

Any minute now the residents of Murwillumbah Street will commence their monthly market – the highlight event for this Sustainability Street – where residents will swap their produce in an effort to be environmentally friendly.

Murwillumbah Street became the Tweed Shire's first ever Sustainability Street when it was formed 12 months ago by residents wishing to collectively lower the carbon footprint of their street.

Environmentally-minded neighbours Lisa Blackwell and Diana Eriksen heard about Melbourne community action group Vox Bandicoot's efforts to engender a local response to the global problem of climate change by setting up Sustainability Street villages.

Since the concept was launched by Vox Bandicoot



Good neighbours gather in a sustainable Murwillumbah Street. Photo Jeff Dawson.

in 2002, with a trial run in the Melbourne suburb of Moreland, more than 200 Sustainability Streets have been established across Australia.

Using people power, residents in these streets have been able to reduce their waste, water and energy consumption by up to 30 per cent and have developed lasting friendships with their neighbours.

Murwillumbah Street is well on track to similar success – it

certainly has the lasting friendships bit down.

'It has brought the street a lot closer,' says resident Kirsty McInerney. 'We know all of our neighbours and you can't walk down the street without saying hello to someone and stopping for a chat.'

Apart from their monthly market day, at which Diana's pumpkins are always a hit, the group also hold street parties and host informational talks by sustainability experts on topics

such as water consumption and organics.

Acting on this type of advice, many residents have installed solar panels – Lisa has spearheaded a bulk buy scheme across the Tweed to get more people to switch on to solar – and they have also implemented waste reduction systems and put in solar hot water systems.

They say their bills have fallen over the past 12 months while their happiness has soared.

'We don't live in each other's pockets but we do help each other out,' says Pam Wilcox.

'If you need a hand with anything, it is great to know there are a group of neighbours who will happily help.'

The Tweed Shire Council has started monitoring the water and energy consumption of Murwillumbah Street to see how a community shift to sustainability impacts on statistics.

The council's sustainability officer Dan Walton said he hoped to use the hard data to convince other neighbourhoods to follow in the footsteps of Murwillumbah Street.

'Sustainability Street is about neighbours building a better relationship with each other and building a better relationship with the environment,' he said.

'When Murwillumbah Street told me they wanted to become sustainable, I thought: you beauty – I had been waiting for a street to say this. We couldn't force it.

'The thing is, Sustainability Street is a community driven movement. It does not work with a top-down approach. It really comes from people wanting to do something themselves.'

Lisa and Diana say that launching Sustainability Street

wasn't hard. They simply did a letterbox drop inviting residents to take part and researched the concept on the internet. Vox Bandicoot has a range of informational literature to inspire and assist residents in setting up their own Sustainability Streets.

With the support of the council, they were given access to various strategies to start reducing their carbon footprint.

'We found we had a group of very like-minded neighbours, so it was quite easy. At the first meeting we had 30 people,' said Lisa.

'I think it will evolve even further over time,' says senior Freya Dundee, who is sad she is moving out of the street shortly. 'I'd like to see it as really living together – sharing a car and car pooling, maybe making our footprint that little bit lighter.'

By the early evening the aroma of various curries, stir fries and roasts mingle in Murwillumbah Street as its residents use their neighbours' home grown goodies in their own special recipe.

'If we ever need an egg, it is good to know you don't have to go far,' smiles Lisa.

■ For more information go to www.sustainabilitystreet.org.au.

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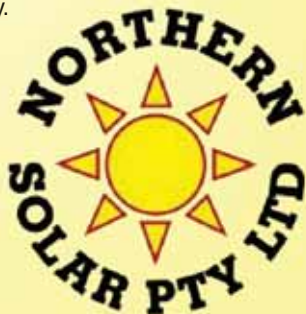
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The benefits of slow food in fast times

Victoria Cosford

The Slow Food Movement has become much more than being about food. It could even be – and occasionally is – described as a social movement, encompassing as it does concerns other than culinary to slow life down and step back from the relentless progression of globalisation and capitalism.

Its origins, however, were to do with food – with, specifically, the advent of a McDonald's restaurant in Rome's famous Piazza di Spagna in 1986. Italian author Carlo Petrini's response to this was to establish a movement both ecologically-minded and concerned with sustainability, enabling consumers to see that indeed they still had choices over fast food and large supermarkets. With the preservation of taste at the forefront,

he sought to support and protect small growers and artisanal producers, support and protect the physical environment, and promote biodiversity. In 1989 the Movement went international, and today it has almost 100,000 members in 132 countries, constituting the current leader in food philosophy.

It is based on sustainability of indigenous food sources. And sustainability is the ability of the environment to be preserved while human needs are being met – or, more broadly, the ability of an ecosystem to maintain ecological processes, function, biodiversity and productivity into the future. For humans to live sustainably, the Earth's resources must be used at a rate at which they can be replenished. Within the context of the Slow Food Movement, this involves caring for the land



and protecting biodiversity for today's communities and future generations as well as supporting artisans who grow, market, prepare and serve wholesome food.

It means shopping at local farmers' and growers' markets; buying food in season and sourced locally; protecting small purveyors of food from industrial standardisation; ensuring the survival of animal breeds, cooking techniques, cheeses and plant-life threatened by extinction. It includes ethical treatment of animals and awareness of waste, and the preservation of regional food traditions.

The Slow Food Movement's slogan is 'good, clean and fair' – the 'good' referring to taste, freshness, seasonality; the 'clean' to food production which jeopardises neither the earth's resources nor human health; the 'fair' to respect for social justice exemplified by fair pay and decent workplace conditions for everyone involved in the supply chain. The proponents of the Movement are indeed passionate about food and wine but

also about saving the world's agro-diversity. For them, eating is both biological necessity and convivial pleasure; it requires, above all, a form of responsible consumption which exerts a direct effect on the market, and hence on food production.

Slow Food is based in Bra, Italy. In every country the Movement is divided up into branches, or convivia; Slow Food Australia has a total of 38.

Because this is a not-for-profit organisation, all activities are coordinated by volunteers. Each convivium has its own distinctive character and conducts events throughout the year for its members – a visit to a farm or a winery; food fairs; cooking classes; themed dinners. Some of the literature on Slow Food has criticised the Movement for being elitist due to its focus on often costly artisan techniques

or exotic foods which only appeal to 'foodies'; those who can afford to be preoccupied by food novelty, quality and taste. What it is more concerned about, however, is the changing nature of the consumer culture, in particular the notion of ethical consumption. And ethical consumption is the consumption of food produced without exploitation of either human beings or the environment. Good food should never be an upmarket thing – everybody should have the right to enjoy good, clean and fair food in everyday living. 'Good, clean and fair food', says Carlo Petrini, 'is only possible with knowledge: the knowledge of those who bring food to the table and the knowledge of those who eat it. Understanding more about our food, how it tastes and where it comes from makes the act of eating all the more pleasurable.'

■ Anyone interested in joining the Byron Bay convivium of the Slow Food Movement should contact acting leader Rose-Marie Toynbee on 6687 0597 or email byronbear@ozemail.com.au.

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'Fresh foods are the cheaper option'

Preparing and eating fresh fruit and vegetables is a convenient, cheaper and healthier option than eating fast foods, according to health experts.

The 'Real Cost of Healthy Food report card', released recently as part of the 'Go for 2 & 5 campaign' shows preparing and eating healthy food is indeed the cheaper and healthier option.

The report card reveals that despite a serious drought and recent floods, fruit and vegetables and other healthy foods were less than one third the

price of junk food alternatives.

According to Jillian Adams, from the North Coast Health Promotion, the current third phase the 'Go for 2&5' campaign aims to dispel the myth that healthy food is costly and time consuming.

'A lot of us tend to think that we live such a fast lifestyle where we cannot afford to eat healthily without spending too much money! We often resort to snacks and fast foods that tend to be higher in fat and sugar and contain fewer nutrients. When you combine this

food habit with our inactive lifestyles, your body will pay the price,' Ms Adams explained.

The Go for 2&5 campaign provides a range of practical and innovative solutions such as tips, recipes to help people incorporate more fruit and vegetables into their diet while making sensible savings along the way. When comparing a healthy daily menu with a less healthy menu, the savings can add up to \$851 per person each year.

See more at www.gofor2and5.com.au.

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The drive for better private transport

Hans Lovejoy

The collapse of the auto industries – especially in America – is partly due to the slow response to consumer demand. That demand is cheaper fuel, and the symbiotic relationship between auto and oil results in the reluctance to promote alternative options.

Partnerships between the big autos and electric battery technology were only established officially in 1996, a year before the Prius was launched. According to www.japantimes.co.jp, 'Toyota formed a separate battery venture with Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., now Panasonic Corp., back in 1996, while Nissan Motor Co. partnered with NEC Corp. in 2007.'

If you want hybrid electric/petrol technology now in Australia, the Prius and Honda's Civic compete in a largely empty playing field. Other car giants scramble for catchup with imminent release dates, and we will no doubt see more in the way of diesel, which has been largely ignored in Australia.

Electric cars

Holden plans to release the EV (electric vehicle) Volt in 2012. It's already for sale in America, and Holden's parent company Chevy claims the Volt can do 40 miles on a lithium



ion electric battery charge before switching to a small petrol powered engine. Despite Chevy's estimation that most commuters don't travel more than 40 miles a day, the limitations and seemingly disinterested promotion and research for anything but improved petrol efficiency continues to be a wasted opportunity. In other words oil companies can't centrally control electricity prices and distribution.

Expect other major companies, such as Subaru and

Mitsubishi, to start rolling out electric vehicles in the next few years. The prototypes are already being tested. For the really keen, there's DIY EV using the body of a conventional light vehicle. There's a good conversion of a Toyota Echo at www.electric-echo.com and you can also find out more at Zero Emission Vehicles Australia www.zeva.com.au.

It's not just the fuel, but the entire life cycle of the vehicle and the recyclability of the materials used that can contribute to less waste and emissions.

BMW claims to be the first car maker in the world to start establishing a network of recycling, while Volvo, among others, claim to be 85% recyclable. No doubt the car industry will continue to try to improve its image as a responsible citizen that cares for the environment. Given the amount of oil related industries, professions and trades associated with keeping the combustion engine running, it will require the most persuasive PR in the business. Real sustainable change will only come about when collec-

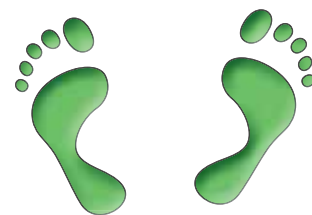
tive consumer pressure forces the auto and oil companies to sell the car that runs on non-oil based fuels such as electricity, hydrogen and magnetics. Don't forget car pooling!

Motorised bicycles

Locally, there's intelligent entrepreneurs providing petrol-driven and electric bicycles. While the bicycles don't have a large range they provide plenty of pleasure and take the puff out of hills. Used as a 'second car' for running around town, they cut a family's carbon emissions considerably.

Remember that in 1898 the bicycle with inflated rubber tyres was state of the art, invented by an Irish veterinarian called Dunlop. It gave the working man a cheap way to get around and helped introduce comfortable clothing for women. In the 1890s American civil rights leader Susan B Anthony said that the bicycle 'has done more for the emancipation of women than anything else in the world'.

Like the bicycle, new forms of energy offer the human race – and the planet – emancipation from the oil trap. If we insist on improved forms of transport, as we're beginning to do with other energy in the switch to solar power, then the appropriate vehicles will follow, powered by consumer demand.



'Can I recharge the Prius by plugging it into the cigarette lighter of my Hummer?' – Stephen Colbert

Who killed the electric car: www.whokilledtheelectriccar.com

'Henry Ford recognised the utility of the hemp plant. He constructed a car of resin stiffened hemp fiber, and even ran the car on ethanol made from hemp.' www.cryptogon.com

'Through the early period of the automotive industry until about 1920, electric automobiles were competitive with petroleum-fueled cars particularly as luxury cars for urban use and as trucks for deliveries at closely related points.' www.britannica.com

Tesla Motors' new Model S sedan has an anticipated base price of US\$49,900, has a 300 mile range and 45 minute charge capability. Tesla expects to start Model S production in late 2011. www.teslamotors.com

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Recycling is just rubbish

Giovanni Ebono

Event organisers, resort owners and corporations regularly tout their green credentials with phrases like 'we enthusiastically recycle cardboard, glass and plastic'. Google it and giggle. The image of happy, shiny workers in freshly laundered khaki sorting piles of rubbish into brightly coloured bins fails to convince me that these companies will lead us to a sustainable future.

By definition, a sustainable human activity can be carried out by nine billion people for ever. Keeping chooks is sustainable, they eat our scraps, provide us with eggs and fertilise our gardens while they are at it. They happily live wherever we live. Farming salmon by feeding it fish caught off the South American coast then crushed, dried and dragged across the world, is not. It relies on a never ending supply of feed fish and cheap transport fuel.

The difference is the closed cycle of the human-chook food chain, compared to the linear process of 'extract, consume and dispose' that characterises salmon farming.

Given that distinction, recycling sounds lovely. Instead of digging up new resources every time we want something,

we simply extract it from our old rubbish. For example, it takes twenty times as much energy to manufacture a kilogram of aluminium from raw bauxite, as it does to convert used aluminium cans into shiny new ingots. Recycling an aluminium can, then, saves about 880 kilojoules of energy compared to making a new one. Surely a resounding blow for sustainability?

But wait. There's more.

Re-use is many times more efficient than recycling. Glass containers were traditionally used fifty times before being recycled. The 120 kilojoules required to recycle each aluminium can can transport and wash a glass bottle many times over.

The real challenge is to use energy and resources only when they add real value. On average, every Australian disposes of more than 150 aluminium cans a year, consuming between 18 and 150 Megajoules of energy in the process. 60 Megajoules of energy feeds, clothes, houses and transports the average Indian for a day. Globally, your recycling is very expensive.

Waste is big business. Australians spend over \$2 billion each year on disposing of around 30 million tonnes of waste. Over

1,700 companies operate in the waste disposal sector employing about 10,000 people. The waste management industry is bigger than sugar or cotton and only marginally smaller than Australia's annual export of grapes.

Big business it may be, but that two billion dollars produces nothing and, while it adds to the published GDP, adds no value to the economy. The cost of processing each tonne of waste is rising at the same time as the amount of waste is increasing. In an attempt to reduce the rising costs of landfill governments actively promote recycling.

Despite widespread cynicism about whether waste companies actually do recycle the goods they pick up, the amount of recycled material is growing steadily. Most construction steel and concrete is already recycled and about 27 per cent of all glass is recycled, despite the fact that it is made from a readily available raw material, sand.

The problem is that all of this recycling barely impacts on our overall consumption of raw materials or the energy used to convert them into goods. Recycling is the answer to the wrong question. The question is not, 'How can we better man-

age our waste?'; but 'How can we waste less?'

Fundamentally, the recycling bin is still a rubbish bin. It requires transportation and handling, the stuff in there has to be scrubbed and rendered back to its basic materials then reformed into a useful object. You should not be comparing recycling to extraction, you should be comparing it to re-use.

If you cannot re-use a container or packaging at least once, you should not purchase it.

Ideally, you should be able to re-use it many times before it requires replacing. Certainly bottles, baskets and sturdy bags fit this criteria and you will see many people in this shire out shopping with such containers at hand. They are not quaint, retro-shopping hippies, they are the vanguard of your sustainable future. Ask them where they got their gear and shop a while in their shoes. Future generations will thank you.

■ Giovanni Ebono is the author of *Giovanni's Guide to Saving the Planet* and founder of popular Bay FM radio show, *The Generator*. You can find out more about his work at www.ebono.org and www.thegenerator.com.au.

Big impact on you, less impact on the environment.

CIVIC HYBRID



A decade ago, if you had mentioned buying a hybrid car, you would have been laughed right out the door of that Point Break premiere. But thankfully it seems that the human race has done a lot of growing up since then and not a moment too soon.

As a car company, we at Honda have a responsibility to consistently create and re-create greener, cleaner cars to help secure our – and our children's – future. That is our dream at Honda, and the environmentally aware petrol-electric Civic Hybrid is one great, big step towards that dream.

Now before we delve into all the technical and environmental engineering info that goes on beneath the bonnet (don't worry it's coming), let's talk style and performance.

Because let's be honest, there are not a lot of us out there who would be willing to buy an ultra low emission car, if it's going to make us look daggy. Which is exactly why the Civic Hybrid has been given its distinctive one sweep design, its sporty snub nose

and a low front grille. But the Civic Hybrid not only has the look, it loves the road too.

It has Macpherson strut front suspension, which makes cornering a breeze, and the precise power-assisted steering makes for effortless parking. All this has been done to make sure that those who are making an effort to be good to the environment, are not just feeling good while they're doing it, but looking good too.

Now it's time for the techie, environmental engineering information. Just a heads up, there will be a lot of buzz words flying around, but there's no need to worry, if you're looking at buying a Civic Hybrid you're probably switched on, and know what we are talking about already.

The Civic Hybrid is our Ultra Low Emission Vehicle (ULEV) and it's powered by Honda's Integrated Motor Assist (IMA) system, which combines our i-VTEC petrol engine with an electric motor. The IMA system is designed to boost performance, slash

emissions and cut fuel consumption, or as we like to say, it drives every drop.

The Civic Hybrid engine draws on an ultra-thin electric motor for supplementary power when needed – such as during acceleration. And that amazing electric motor has the ability to generate and recharge its own batteries while cruising, decelerating and braking.

During acceleration, the engine, working in tandem with the electric motor, propels the vehicle. When the car is cruising, the petrol engine or the electric motor can propel the vehicle, depending on conditions. Then as the car brakes, the petrol engine deactivates and the electric motor acts as a generator to replenish the battery pack.

Now things get even more impressive. The latest generation of the Civic Hybrid's petrol engine is now both lighter and more powerful than the previous generation Civic Hybrid. With the electric engine, the car produces a combined 85kW @ 6000rpm. And

even more surprisingly, while the power is up, the fuel consumption actually comes down, with the latest generation Hybrid going through just 4.6 litres per 100km.

Now without sounding like one of those BUY NOW! Impulse Purchase ads that are always trying to give you free steak knives; there is more. The Civic Hybrid also comes with Continuously Variable Transmission (CVT) as standard equipment. This snazzy little transmission helps the engine stay in its most efficient Revolutions Per Minute (RPM), which means even greater fuel economy for you. And astoundingly, under certain conditions the Civic Hybrid can run on electric power alone at speeds under 40 km/h, sometimes creating no emissions at all.

Just to get into the nitty-gritty for a moment, you should also know that Honda provides an 8-year warranty on the Nickel Metal Hydride (Ni-MH) Battery module in the Civic Hybrid. But that's really just for reassurance; hopefully you'll never need to use it.



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Damn the utopia, give me flexibility

Mungo MacCallum

When politicians talk about sustainability, they usually mean a commitment which will hold up until the next election. The idea of a system which can endure indefinitely is not only contrary to normal political practice; it is actually antithetical to political theory.

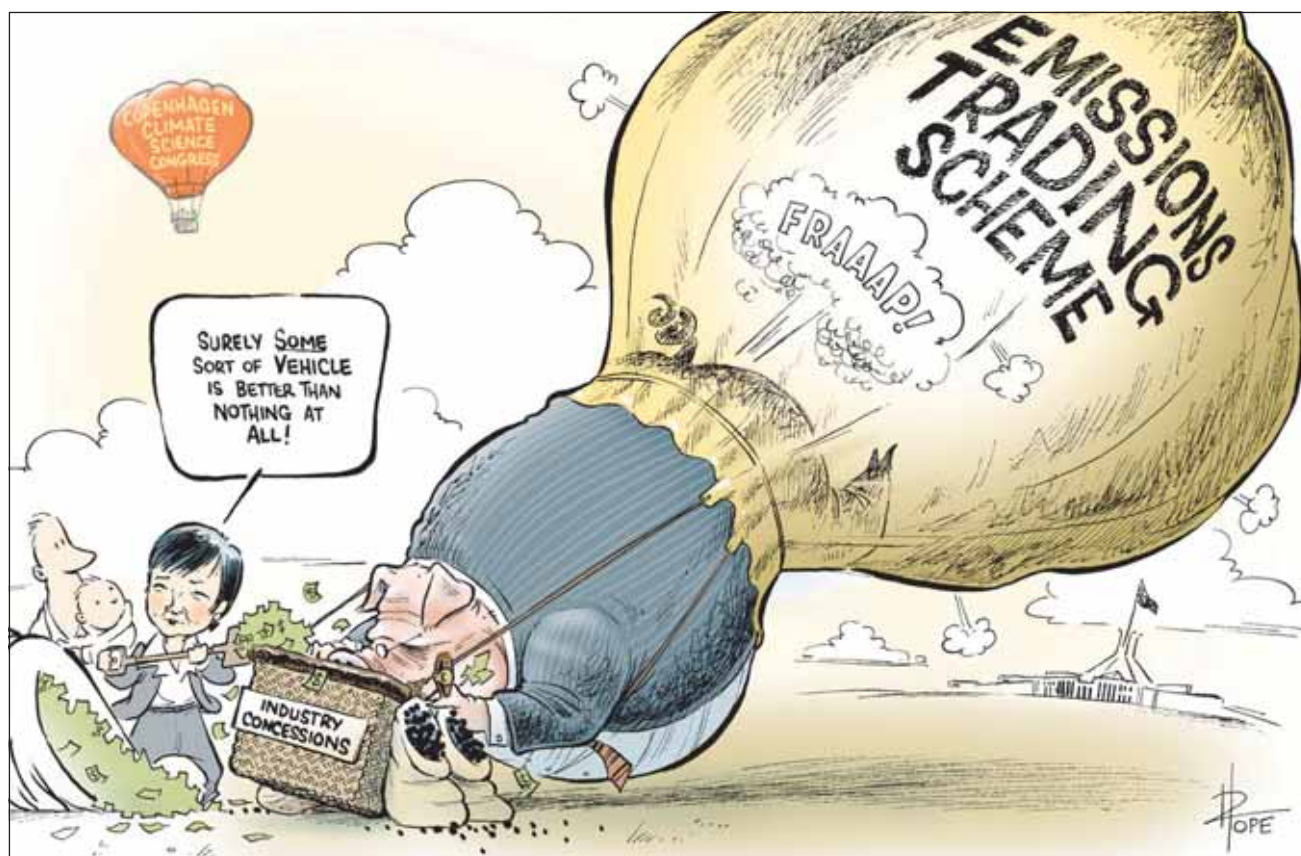
Politics is about change and reform; politicians are drawn to the trade by a desire to make a difference and the firm belief that they can do so. To tell them that their aim should be to set in place processes which are designed to last forever is to discredit their entire vocation.

Moreover, politicians will argue that history shows that such an approach verges on totalitarianism. Attempts to achieve utopian societies are only ever undertaken by dictators and megalomaniacs and invariably end in tears. Look at Adolf Hitler and the thousand year Reich, or Mao Zedong and his various great leaps forward, five year plans and cultural revolutions. They purported to plan for eternity, but could not even anticipate events a decade in advance.

Circumstances change, often unpredictably: an obvious example is the weather patterns. Whether you accept global warming or prefer to ignore reality, it is obvious that what has worked perfectly well in the past is unlikely to do so in the future.

For many years the irrigation systems sourced from the Murray-Darling basin were brilliantly successful; indeed, they were regarded as sustainable. Now we know they weren't, but who is to say that what is held up as a long term solution today will prove any more enduring?

Solar energy looks terrific



in today's climate but what happens if you get a series of massive volcanic eruptions and the sun doesn't shine for a couple of years? What happens if clean fusion suddenly becomes a reality and there is a cheaper, more reliable source of power? For a politician, and indeed for many scientists, sustainability is one of those buzzwords that suggest there is a final solution, that progress simply comes to a halt.

All their training and experience tells them it doesn't, any more than history came to an end when Francis Fukuyama celebrated the triumph of capitalism (!) 20 years ago. So you have a built-in resistance, which is seldom overcome by explaining that sustainability does not mean stagnation; we're simply talking about policy which is not going to wreck the place – policy which

takes account of the legitimate needs of future generations.

Well, future generations are all very well for policy speeches, but they don't have the vote; this generation does, and is notoriously unwilling to forgo its own privileges, either current or potential, no matter how idealistic it may appear in opinion polls. This generation was all gung-ho about taking drastic action over climate change until it became clear that such action might impact deeply on its hip pocket. Since the said pocket was already feeling a bit insecure about the global financial crisis, enthusiasm for action – or at least action which is actually going to mean a change in living standards – has waned dramatically.

This, of course, is totally irrational: the threat posed by climate change is as bad as it has ever been – if anything

worse. But the public prefers to focus on one problem at a time, and the politicians tend to follow suit – after all, it is a democracy. At present most people are more worried about the sustainability of their jobs than of the total environment and that's where the political

agenda stands. Politicians, too, worry about the sustainability of their jobs.

Is there anything that can be done about this short-term attention span? Well, in a democracy not much. Short of total catastrophe, like war or famine (both of which are certainly

on the cards if nothing serious is done) democracies tend to bumble along on from election cycle to election cycle. But this in itself suggests a possible improvement: make the cycles more predictable, and also a little longer.

If all politicians – federal, state and local – knew they would be facing the people on the same day every five years they might be more inclined to plan strategically rather than simply react to political events. If they knew they could not be ambushed by a snap election at any level of government they would feel more able to take tough decisions which would be implemented in years rather than months. To be fair to him, Kevin Rudd is already trying this approach in some areas and his inclination towards long-term goals is apparent. Given a few less political constraints, he and his successors might even be game to move on the really important issues.

And of course, it would help if the mass media were prepared to look further ahead than the next circulation survey. But the sustainability of the tabloid press, talk back radio and commercial television is another issue entirely.

Nominations open for Green Globes

Nominations for the 10th Green Globe Awards have been opened by the NSW Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Carmel Tebbutt. Small and large businesses, not-for-profit groups, state government agencies and local councils are encouraged to enter the awards, which recognise environmental achievements.

Ms Tebbutt said environmental management had moved into the mainstream

in the decade since the Green Globe Awards began and the calibre of nominations for the 10th awards was expected to be higher than ever. 'Many businesses and organisations around the state are working really hard to improve their environmental performance and it's great that we can recognise these efforts,' Ms Tebbutt said.

'Sustainability is becoming core to success these days. Research shows that for Aus-

tralian, sound environmental management not only means lower operating costs but it makes organisations more attractive to prospective employees and enhances brand reputation.'

Nominations close on June 11. Applications forms can be downloaded from the Department of Environment and Climate Change website at www.environment.nsw.gov.au/greenglobes.

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Next time you dive in, remember that our river's health has as much to do with trees and it does with fish, and that the mountain streams need as much care as the mangroves, if we want to keep this river beautiful.

For more information on Brunswick Valley Landcare please visit our website: www.brunswickvalleylandcare.org.au

Reconciling our lives with the natural environment

Lani Summers

'An instrument of community.'

That is how Graeme Williams, describes his position as the Byron Shire Sustainability Officer. At 24 years of age and with only two years as a North Coast resident, Graeme carries an honest enthusiasm that you may expect of someone at the start of a career in what is likely to be an important and burgeoning profession. As we talk, the fact of his young age is made extraneous by a maturity of expression and a fortified philosophy beyond his years.

Graeme attributes the seed of his interest in sustainability to time spent growing up on traditional Darkinjung country along the Hawkesbury River in a township of only thirty households.

'There was a strong sense of the traditional owners, which my Mum taught me about, but also the natural environment was on the doorstep. I used to play on the river as a child and that is where my first memory of environmental consciousness was formed. I was four when a local creek was piped and filled in, to construct a park. I remember thinking, what about the tadpoles?'

Graeme's interest in the natural world remained,

informing his subject selection throughout high school and university.

'I was lucky enough to be able to turn my passion into my profession.'

While attaining his degree in Environmental Management, Graeme spent time in Tasmania, campaigning to protect threatened forests. This experience solidified his commitment to his calling.

'To see those beautiful forests splintered for woodchips is an image that really impacts me. I have a profound respect for the life-giving force and heritage of those ancient trees and all the people involved in the Tasmanian wilderness campaigns.'

It is little wonder then that Graeme names Senator Bob Brown and musician John Butler as some of his heroes and locally the passionate residents that volunteer their time such as Gayle Russell of North Coast Climate Action Group and Jeannette Martin of the Mullumbimby Community Gardens among a long, commendable list.

It is the connection to people that attracted Graeme to working in local government.

'It is the closest level of government to the community and the opportunity to work with people not just policy. It



Graeme Williams in the Florentine Valley, Tasmania.

also meant I wasn't confined to working in the city.'

When asked whether the increased political and media dialogue surrounding climate change had seen improved support for sustainability, Graeme told *The Echo*, 'Yes, definitely, both within government as well as general public, although the rate and depth

of growth in awareness is individual and varied'

Mr Williams believes the hastening of awareness and the subsequent change of behaviour is imperative.

'I believe our future as a species depends on reconciling the way we live, with environmental justice. Without being too fundamentalist, I'd

challenge everyone to get informed about an issue that they can feel passionate about – even if that means finding out more about the impacts and systems behind their everyday consumption habits.'

Can we change fast enough? Graeme is optimistic.

'Individual change collects and becomes community change. This local council is very responsive to the community. We have innovative projects that reflect the council taking seriously the concerns of the community such as Food Production on Public Land, Sustainable Streets and the publicly driven Community Garden in Mullumbimby. There is also an increased collaboration between councils on a regional level particularly in the area of sustainability. Initiatives such as the Regional Carpooling project and a Regional Food Security project are good examples.'

Projects in the pipeline include the upcoming World Environment Day, which is set to extend into a whole week-end of activities. The Sustainable Streets project is also likely to increase its scale.

'There are also a number of Climate Change planning and mitigation projects. Certainly an area I'm putting energy in, is looking at how we can

continue to reduce our energy dependence.

'Council has a big role in education, we are strengthening partnerships with ACE and their sustainability courses, more directly we also provide residents with updated rebate information for solar hot water, solar panels and rainwater tanks. Internally, conventional purchasing is being replaced with more sustainable versions, such as the wholemeal-coloured, recycled and locally printed business cards.'

'Being the smallest council in the region means we have limited resources, yet we have developed documents such as The Greenhouse Action Strategy and the Sustainable Agriculture Strategy that inform policy making. Also we have a biodiversity officer, a natural resource officer, a bush regen team, a sustainability officer, an environmental communications officer all of whose employment reflect the councils commitment to the environment.'

To alleviate the Mullumbimby/Byron centrality of many of the projects, Graeme has initiated an e-newsletter for all residents wanting to be informed and connect on issues of sustainability. To join, email subscribe to sustainability@byron.nsw.gov.au.

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The Greening of the Meadows

Nina Bishop

When Mullumbimby's Meadows Medical Centre asked me to assess their Ecological Footprint, I felt both excited and apprehensive. This practice is shared by 14 staff who each workday face formidable tasks. I had a hunch they would not appreciate me telling them they are inefficient! The mere fact they are able to help so many people with the many varied problems and enquiries, and remain sane, attracts my respect.

After crawling underneath office desks and examination tables, getting familiar with their computer, printing, copying, air conditioning, refrigeration, hot water and lighting systems, peering into their ceiling space, garbage and recycling bins, electricity and water bills, I came to a simple conclusion: This building and the people in it are hot – seriously hot!

This facility, as with many businesses for security reasons, doesn't have the luxury of venting heat during the night after a long hot summer's day. Naturally, it's locked up at 5pm together with the computer servers and many other electronics – these critters keep the office fires burning till doors open or, as often is the case, until the aircon is switched on the next day.

The obvious first step would be improved insulation, however with limited space and access to the ceiling cavity, this was not the first action to take. Looking at how to reduce passive heat gain and improve natural ventilation was. These are the actions undertaken so far to help cool the building:

- Heat reflective paint on the roof.
- Shade sails over the large eastern windows (direct sun on glass can equate to a 1kWh bar



Dr Peter Bowles, Jennie Jennings, practice manager, and Dr Michael Pelmore outside the Meadows with its new energy efficient shade sails. The other practice partner is Dr Giles Taylor.

Photo Lou Beaumont

heater on per square metre) and shade the concrete at the entrance.

- Wherever possible, turn electronic and electrical equipment off at the wall at close of day.

- Solar hot water system on roof – remove simmering electric dinosaur type from inside.

There has been a 16% decrease in electricity consumption comparing the recent summer to the same period prior to the audit. Since the changes have been gradual, during and not prior to summer, I'm expecting (hoping for) a further decrease next summer.

This is a practice buzzing with activity, little wonder they hadn't time to look into all of the energy saving and environ-

mentally friendly possibilities. This is what they have done, though, or are in process of doing to reduce their ecological footprint:

- Recycling – so far, I give the staff a silver star.

- Energy efficient lights – will upgrade to LEDs when they become more viable.

- Naturally venting the building – daily opening more windows (flying papers a problem).

- Reduced paper use by at least 50% – rationalising of printing paper size.

- Trialling a Bokashi composting system – removing organic waste from landfill garbage.

Last, but certainly not least, signing up for 100% accredited GreenPower, means that Meadows is paying an extra 6.5 cents

per kWh to their electricity retailer, commissioning them to source power from accredited renewable energy generators in Australia. In effect, they're paying for someone to put up solar panels rather than shovel coal into a furnace. How cool is that?

All these measures have reduced their Ecological Footprint by 31% – more than half of this is attributed to their use of GreenPower. Had they not taken any of these steps, they would be producing about 26 tonnes more of carbon pollution per year as well as more methane and other greenhouse gases.

They may not want to hear this, but there is still more to do. Steady as she goes – Green on, Meadows!



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Consider the critters

Tree Faerie

Modern folklore tells a cautionary tale of a time when the Indian Cobra had a bounty on its head. Too many humans, in the government's point of view, were succumbing to the reptilian bite and the remedy by those standards was to get rid of the species.

A mass murder of *naja naja* swept across the country and the humans were very pleased until it became obvious that more of them were dying from rat-borne disease provided by vermin whose prolific breeding went unchecked, than from the snake's natural digestive juices deposited in humans as venom. India today has laws in place to protect this efficient creature and one would hope that the local prevalent primates are implementing better first aid techniques.

A lesson in humans' madness can be learned from the pages of the internet when tapping 'passenger pigeon' into a search engine. Wikipedia tell us that 'The Passenger Pigeon (*Ectopistes migratorius*) or wild pigeon, was a species of pigeon that was once the most common bird in North America. They lived in enormous flocks and during migration it was possible to see flocks of them a mile (1.6 km) wide and 300 miles (500 km) long, taking several hours to pass and containing up to a billion birds'. The operative words, 'was a species', gives us a clue to the intervention.

What Mr and Mrs Homo sapiens didn't know about the bird flock that blocked out the sun as it passed, was that the Passenger was no great shake at being ma and pa and there was a critical mass of numbers needed to overcome this shortfall. The 19th century sport of potting the pigeon for food and sport caused an exponential decline to extinction of the species which could not outbreed the mortality rate.

'Pigeons are a pest and the best snake is a dead snake,' I hear time after time as I tell these tales, but you might think extinction a more serious issue when the declining species in question is our own dear selves. The health of our planet's wildlife is the strongest indication of the health of the planet itself.

Daily we see media images of polar bears frolicking in mush as their environment trickles into the rising ocean. Australia is not immune, we have a shameful record of bird, reptile and mammal species lost forever.

Macropods, which were once part of the staple diet of our prehistoric indigenous culture, are now in a dire situation as the unspoken unspeakable between wildlife carers is that it is better to euthanase male



Homo sapiens are dirty creatures whose lifestyle creates the perfect habitat for the propagation of vermin. The Carpet Python, *Morelia spilota McDowelli*, makes quick work of *ratus ratus* as he steadily cleans up the planet for us.

roos and wallabies that come into care than doom them to a short life of torment, pain and death from their own species group due to lack of habitat, when they are released back into the wild.

If there is an imbalance we caused it. If there are too many snakes it is because our filthy habits provided too many rats for them to eat or by purposely introducing (and don't say we didn't), the Cane Toad to poison the frog eating Red Belly, who as it turns out is the natural predator of baby Brown snakes.

For decades cockatoos and other feathered Australians have been legally and secretly culled. This is now becoming the norm among many farming groups as a remedy to what they see as the destruction caused by the birds.

Farmers would argue that there are just too many of them but I wonder by whose standards. Certainly not the cockatoos. Let's not forget our dear extinct pidgy friend.

There are those who might seethe at my seemingly lack of care for the bloke on the land, but I love that bloke. I eat meat and wheat and all manner of yummy things from the soil of the earth, but no finger pointing allowed. Even gluten-free vegetarians are not innocent in the chain of food production. Do you think lentils and tofu grow in the air? All food is grown where there was once wildlife habitat. All food.

Everything that goes into our mouth, even that which is grown organically in our own garden, is from this earth, produced in a place which was at one time the home to feathered, furred, scaled or finned critters that were exiled for the purpose of sustaining bloke and sheila kind. We also build houses, collect stuff and take up space far beyond our needs. We must at the end of the day see that it is, above all, humans who are the cause of most of Earth's extinction crises.

The solution? Well the truth is that when all the frogs are gone, we are stuffed. *Homo exstinctum*. It'll be too late to do anything when the wildlife barometer is not there to read.

We must care for the planet's natural health indicator now and to do this we have to care for that land which supports them.

By finding a balance between what we want and what we need and finding that balance for our critter brothers and sisters, then enforcing those standards in practice and education from the first year of primary education and hopefully before that in every lesson learned from birth, we may still have a chance of saving ourselves from extinction. Leading by example and quickly is the cure. Caring for habitat must happen immediately and for goodness sakes, people, stop killing snakes!

Being kinder to each other is where we can start today. After all, humans are one of earth's species too.



'Rainforests grow on deeper, more fertile soils with moister soil conditions. They have a canopy greater than 30m in height which is relatively closed (greater than 70 % canopy cover). Many rainforest plants produce fleshy-fruits and berries, which are a valuable food resource for a range of bird species, but particularly parrots and pigeons.' – Birds in Backyards www.birdsinbackyards.net

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Healing itch

Itch is a problem for so many animals, from dog and cats to horse. In many of these cases the Vets simply do not have an answer to the problems other than cortisone and steroid treatment, which is at best a short term relief for the animal and at worst the creation of other problems such as obesity and liver problems.

So how can you treat itch naturally? The first thing to do with all animals is to look at the diet we feed and ensure that it is as natural and chemical free as possible. If you are feeding your dog or cat commercially prepared foods, ensure they are free from chemicals, pesticides and herbicides. Ensure that your pet is getting the right balance of omega 3 and 6 oils in their diet. You may like to try a homeopathic detox to get rid of the built up toxins in the body. Catherine Tighe, consultant homeopath for Animal Health Store writes 'the truth of the matter is that when you stop using the medications the itch will return, it is the dogs constitution that allows it to be an itchy animal. This is why three dogs in the same house won't all get it. The ones without the itch are constitutionally sound. The other negative part of using these medications is that they are very strong and will shorten your dog's life span.'

Similarly with horses we need to get back to a very basic diet, looking at herbs to cleanse the liver and soothe the system, ensuring the correct balance of

the omega 3 and 6 oils is important and ensure you wash your animals with a gentle aloe vera based shampoo and conditioner. For the itch in horses a slightly different homeopathic remedy is used. A client of Catherine's wrote 'We recently purchased a healing kit from Catherine and to our delight and amazement the treatment has worked. We have treated two broodmares that suffered from the itch one

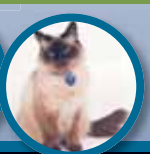
was quite bad. The treatments are quick and easy and after two treatments you would not know that either mare suffered the itch.'

So next time you have an itchy animal think about trying to heal it the natural way first! A wide range of natural food and herbal and homeopathic treatment options are available from Animal Health Store www.animalhealthstore.com.au.

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The pay dirt about sustainability

Story & photo Mary Gardner

I have sleepless nights about 'sustainability'. It's everywhere and nowhere. My feet drag. I guess I should be more enthusiastic, but about what?

Please, exactly what is to be sustained? An international economy where 80% of the resources are used by 20% of the people? A global extinction rate about a thousand times higher than the fossil record? Political leadership by the USA, a country ranking 97 of 141 in the Global Peace Index?

Hearing 'sustainability', many biologists tear their hair out. 'Sustainable logging' in old growth forests often means continued income from ongoing degradation. Old growth forests need to be full of dead logs that rot away. Our remaining native forests are beleaguered havens for species which have no where else to go. Aren't Australian plantation forests, some 1.5 million hectares, precisely created for this 'sustainability'?

'Sustainable fishing' is so wretchedly confusing. This often means continued income from animals smaller and younger than previous catches. Fishing pressures populations of fish and only some types of fish have lifestyles that can adapt. Many species of fish have reproduction cycles featuring sex changes which depend on larger weight and increasing age of individuals.

Then there is the fact that many fishing methods are destructive of the marine habitat and other species. And what kind of 'sustainability' is behind the 2006-07 export of \$1.49 billion of Australian fish products and the import of an international \$1.47 billion?

'Sustainable agriculture' – quick, check who says that? Agrichem companies have a different program to the permaculturalists. In the hands of each group, soil, the very foundation of farming, becomes a totally different entity. 'Sustainable development' – in which region is the group's head office based? The World Bank labels big dam projects as important to sustainable development. The people displaced don't agree.

How did we end up with so many meanings to 'sustainability'? In the 1970s, science was grappling with how ecosystems and their species maintained themselves over time. By the 1980s, ecologists saw the role of humans as a destabilising part of ecosystems. Mathematical predictions for the survival of different species, humanity and the earth itself were deeply pessimistic.

Panic and blame made headlines and still do. But Paul Raskin, a North American design futurist, interprets all this quite bluntly. When we ask



'what is sustainable?' aren't we really asking "what is desirable?"

Now I can shake my head and clear that foggy feeling. My confusion is replaced with clean, hard anger. Some of the mess around 'sustainability' is that the term has been stripped from its body of data. Then, as jargon, it is grafted like a skin to mask certain social attitudes. This is an abuse of science.

Now isn't any answer about 'desirability' really about ethics? About justice? In pre-European eastern North America, the Iroquois Confederation set the standard: 'what does this plan and action mean for the seventh generation after us?' In 1983, the pivotal Brundtland Commission rephrased it as a challenge to meet the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future ones to do the same.

So 'sustainability' becomes revolutionary action on behalf of the future. Well, to my mind, that's a reasonable measuring stick. This is how we can choose among our actions and gauge outcomes. All we need now is to add is our imagination.

Terry Pratchett's character

Death is fascinated with humans because they create and believe ideals such as justice. Tim Beatley, an influential United States urban ecologist collaborating with Australians, admits what inspires him is a novel called *Ecotopia*. Ursula LeGuin, a renowned science fiction author, asks graduates to imagine what society would be like if our priorities were the heartfelt concerns of nursing mothers.

Such an approach to 'sustainability' has affected some business. Ecological thinking about the lifecycle of products are guiding innovations. The new desirable bottom line is quadruple: money, environment, social needs, and cultural realities.

Since the late 1970s, research groups such as the New Alchemists, from Boston, combined ideals of justice and environmental restoration to create small scale appropriate technology. Over the last few weeks, my neighbours, assisted by government rebates, had solar hot water and power units installed. Does this mean we are getting somewhere?

Sustainable communities? From five continents, fifty leaders form a group called

the World Future Council. They advocate the interests of future generations. Among them are our Tim Flannery, New Zealand's Pauline Tagiora, India's Vandana Shiva and Thailand's Sulak Sivaraksa. The group's catalyst is Jakob von Uexkull, founder of the Right Livelihood Award.

Together they are promoting sustainable policy solutions. Feed-in tariffs to promote renewable energy. Laws setting corporate pay scale spreads so from entry level to CEO the ratio is 20-1. The concerns of youth. The stupidity of laws that are 'fore-closing the future'.

All this might seem far away from you, me and the lorikeet in the paperbark tree. But forever in our faces is our ignorance. Addressing that is surely most desirable. The impact of ignorance and the damage it wreaks in material and immaterial ways extends over generations. So the brightest bandwagon of all has to be education. I can get enthusiastic about that. Couldn't you too?

■ Mary Gardner is a biologist, writer and tutor. See more at www.mgardner.info.

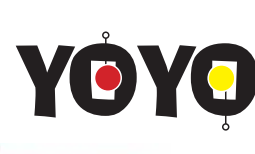
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3. Recycling an aluminium can saves how many kilojoules of energy?

Email your entry with contact details to editor@echo.net.au, with 'Sustainable' in the subject window, by Friday June 5. Correct answers will go in the draw (probably out of a compost bucket) to win the prizes. Many thanks to our sponsors:



Education for interesting times

Story & photo Eve Jeffery

Katrina Shields has been very busy in her first year at ACE. Katrina joined the college's team as the sustainability education coordinator and has brought to the table her abundance of experience working with Landcare, as a training consultant, an activist and community worker, and as the author of 'In the Tiger's Mouth: An Empowerment Guide for Social Action' and as editor of 'The Blackall Range Landholders Guide'.

Combining her talents with courses provided by ACE has been like putting a hand in a glove. ACE is part of a long history of adult education in this Shire, a history which started 100 years ago with the Literary Institute. The most recent incarnation of ACE is 14 this year and is now known as the Byron Region Community College. The college is community managed and has the vision to involve and engage the community through inspiring learning experiences.

Katrina is passionate about sustainable living and is steering the college to provide a broad spectrum of courses for both the novice and the experienced student.

Currently the college provides 17 different workshops

on subjects including bush regeneration, protecting native birds, ethical shopping, composting, becoming 'green' and the new course 'Start your own Bike Bus', as well as the extremely popular 'Backyard Food' course which has a waiting list and a grant from the North Coast Area Health Service which recognises the course as healthy for the body and mind.

The college is encouraged by course participant numbers which are high, demonstrating the lean to green in the area.

'Despite the challenges, we live in a shire and a region that has been in the forefront of green experimentation, activation and innovation,' says Katrina.

'There is a lot of local expertise, high population of early adopters and down shifters and relatively high social capital. There are a lot of early settlers who remember times of much higher regional self sufficiency and they still have those skills. We are extraordinarily blessed with natural resources such as good soils, higher rainfall, potentially available land, high biodiversity and



a year round growing season.

'However, our carbon footprint as individuals and as a region is way too high. Our resilience has been weakened by trends that can be reversed. Community education can play an important role in rebuilding this resilience and relocalisation.'

Courses at the college are very popular and the college is the recipient of excellent feedback from students. 'This area is very rich in people who are innovators who practically apply sustainability,' says Katrina.

'I think it is important to find

creative ways to frame these courses and shift the perception that these are only "general interest" or "lifestyle" courses. They are an important contribution to engaging, resourcing and activating people in the face of inevitable and far reaching societal change.'

Katrina says that many who undertake one course usually find themselves coming back for more. People are getting a taste for it and wanting to be part of a sustainable future.

'I believe part of the sustainability picture is for us to go slow and

be grounded enough to reflect and enjoy what we do,' says Katrina.

'To stay connected to family, friends and community and nourish our inner well springs. This is personal sustainability.'

Katrina and the college would like to hear from potential teachers and students about sustainable living and work practice topics or from sponsors who could help the college keep these courses affordable.

Email Katrina@acebyron.org.au or visit the website www.acebyron.org.au.



Victoria Cosford

'The Guide To Ethical Supermarket Shopping' is published by The Ethical Consumer Group and edited by Nick Ray and Clint Healy, who both belong to this community-based, not-for-profit network.

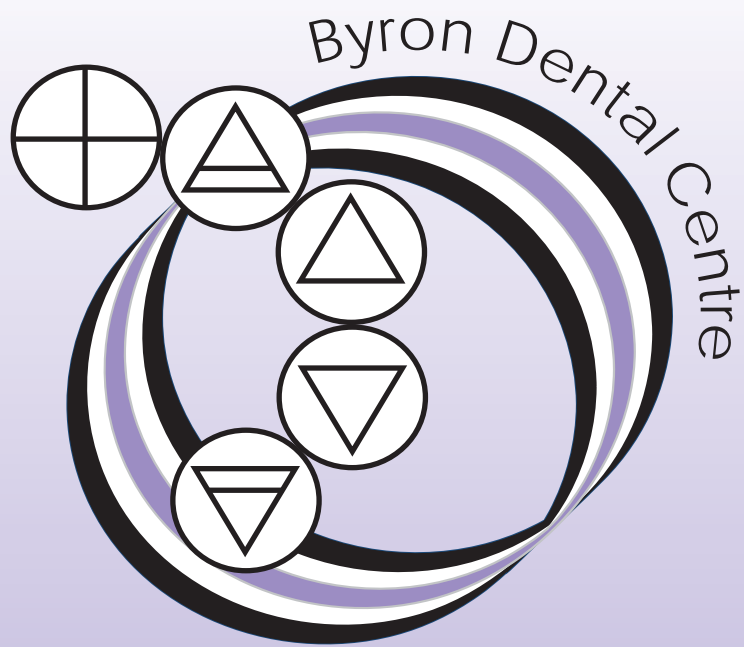
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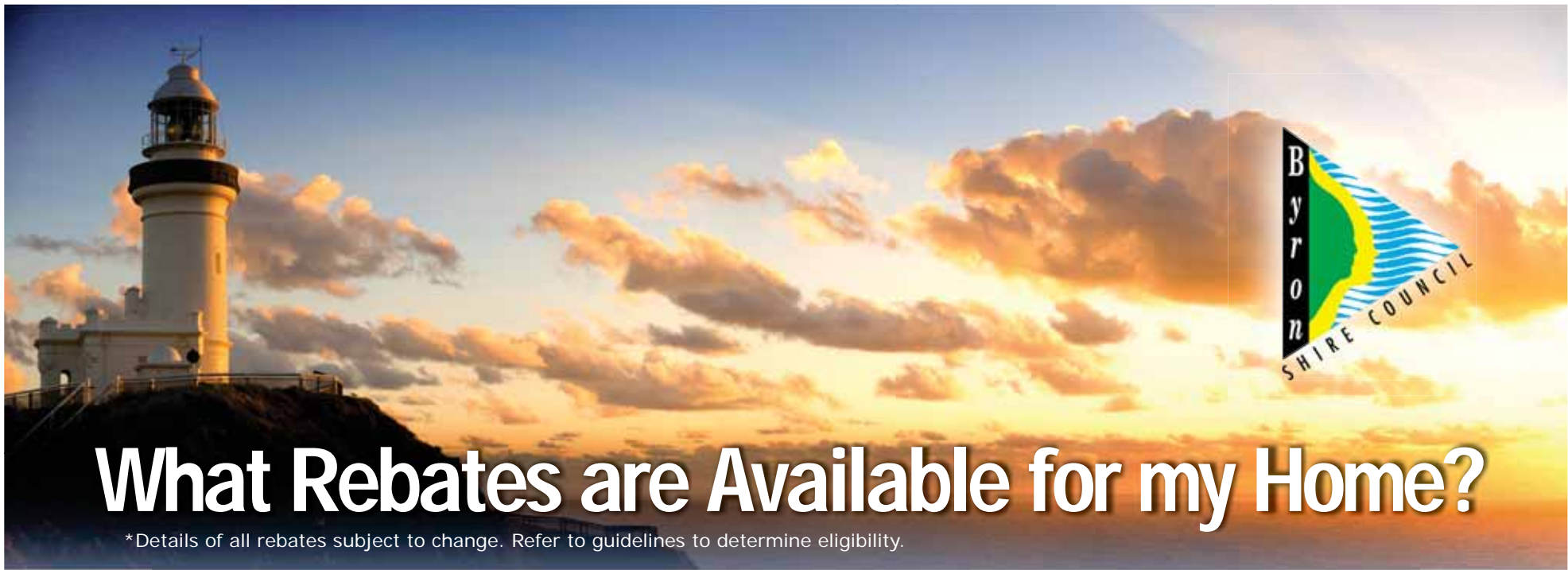


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- Rebate varies according to tank size & connection use

Federal Government offer up to **\$500** for household rainwater tanks (or greywater treatment systems) on existing dwellings until 31 March 2014.

- Must be connected by a licensed plumber for toilet and laundry use
- Must be connected to mains water supply

Local Byron Shire Rebates up to **\$1,800** for household rainwater tanks also apply.

- Rebate varies according to tank size & connection use

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- Must be replacing an electrical hot water system

Federal Government offer up to **\$1600** to owner/occupiers or tenanted homes for solar or heat pump hot water systems until 31 March 2012.

- Must be replacing an electric hot water system
- Not means tested
- Ineligible if Federal Ceiling Insulation Rebate has been granted

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- Must cover entire ceiling area

Federal Government offer up to **\$1600** to owner/occupiers for ceiling insulation.

- Must be installed in existing uninstalled home
- Must be installed by registered insulation installer
- Not means tested
- Ineligible if \$1600 Federal Hot Water rebate has been granted

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In days gone by you would find an **OBEISANCE** of *servants*; these days though it would be an **OXYMORON** of them. There is an **OBSTINACY** of *buffalo* which is in stark contrast to an **OSTENTATION** of *peacocks*. Perhaps we can have an **OBLIGATION** of *husbands*, an **OPTION** of *parties*, an **OPPOSITION** of *residents* and an **OVERNIGHT** of *campers*. But for now, check your dictionaries for an **ONOMATOPOEIA** of *cuckoos*.

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Our New Brown Babies

DUNBORNE BURMESE ARE BEAUTIFUL. They are house-reared, highly socialised and potty trained. They are bred to the pedigree standard and generally registered with the New South Wales Cat Fancy. Our breeding line is pure Aurora from Valerie Cashman of Aurora Cattery, Mudgeeraba. Dunborne Burmese however, are bred primarily as companion animals. They are incredibly intelligent, loyal, loving and easy to train. This is the cat you have when you really want a dog, especially the boys who like to 'hangout' – in your car, fishing, gardening or just doing the cafe thing. They bond very strongly to humans, with many of our kittens going to families in grief.



Gorgeous new brown kittens available, as well as blue and lilac.
Please contact us on 0429 867 993 to arrange a play visit.

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Locally owned and operated, COASTAL CASUAL FURNITURE has become known across Australia for the supply of outdoor furniture, cushions, café & restaurant furniture and more. It's one of the few businesses that will allow you to mix & match across the range to help you get the furniture that **you** want, and although the main focus is manufacturing, they also have a wide range of wood, stainless steel, aluminium and natural cane at attractive prices. They believe in service, backup and quality, and giving you the furniture that you want.



www.casualfurniture.com.au You can find them on Amber Road
(that's the road that meets Machinery Drive at the traffic lights near Aldi).

Oriental Medicine

ACUPUNCTURE & SHIATSU TRAINING. TEMPLE BYRON.
We are very pleased to announce that Acupuncture and Shiatsu Practitioner training will be offered at Temple Byron starting July 13, 2009

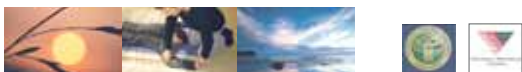
Courses on offer include:

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Organic Revolution, Main St Murwillumbah
Phone: 02 6672 7070

On the Spot Photos & Music

ON THE SPOT PHOTOS & MUSIC came into being when 'On the Spot Photos' was looking to expand and took over the old Buzz Bar music shop.

The shop primarily sells music (CDs, DVDs and a selection of records), as well as having a Kodak digital photo facility, internet access and music oriented fashion items such as shirts and hats.

They have recently expanded the music side of things considerably, now keeping the latest singles and all popular new releases. They also have specialist blues and country sections, and an extensive range of back catalogue titles.

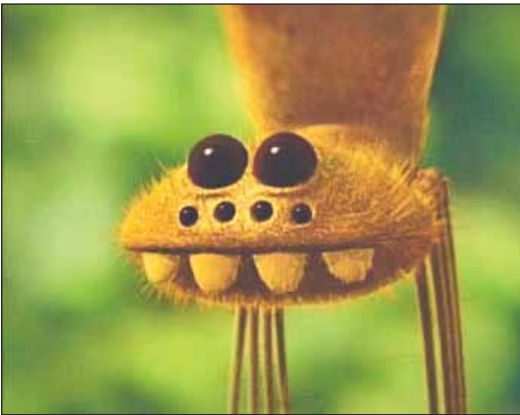
They have excellent suppliers, and directly import if required. If it exists On The Spot can get it for you.



23 Wharf St, Murwillumbah
02 6672 6062

Television Guide

1. Despite its stellar cast – including Robert De Niro and Blythe Danner, seen here – **Meet The Fockers** (Prime, Friday, 8.30pm) doesn't quite live up to **Meet The Parents**, the origin of the movie franchise.
2. **Miniscale** (ABC, Saturday, 6.25pm) is a delightful short animation series from European company Futurikon (www.futurikon.com). It says more with less.
3. **Michael Palin: Around The World In 20 Years** (ABC, Sunday, 7.30pm) reprises his extraordinary adventures which began with Across The Andes By Frog in **Ripping Yarns** in 1977. A cat is optional for the world traveller, but it does hold off an attack of mice.



	ABC 1	ABC 2	SBS	PRIME	ten	NBN
FRIDAY 22	<p>4.30 Police Rescue (PG) Repeat.</p> <p>5.30 The New Inventors (G) Repeat.</p> <p>6.00 Kids' Programs</p> <p>11.05 Island Life (G) Repeat</p> <p>12.00 Midday Report</p> <p>12.30 Darling Buds Of May (PG)</p> <p>1.30 Spicks And Specks (G) Repeat.</p> <p>2.00 Monarch Of The Glen (G) Repeat.</p> <p>3.00 Kids' Programs</p> <p>6.00 Message Stick (G) Repeat.</p> <p>6.30 Can We Help? (G)</p> <p>7.00 ABC News</p> <p>7.30 Stateline (G)</p> <p>8.00 Collectors (G)</p> <p>8.30 Silent Witness (M)</p> <p>10.15 The Hollowmen (M)</p> <p>10.45 Lateline (M)</p> <p>11.20 triple j tv With The Doctor Repeat</p> <p>11.50 Good Game Repeat.</p> <p>12.20 rage (M) goes on until 5am Saturday.</p>	<p>6.00 ABC News Breakfast</p> <p>9.00 ABC Asia Pacific News</p> <p>9.30 Business Today</p> <p>10.00 Kids' Programs</p> <p>4.30 The New Inventors Repeat.</p> <p>5.00 7.30 Select</p> <p>5.30 Catalyst (G) Repeat.</p> <p>6.00 Compass (G) Repeat.</p> <p>6.30 Scrapheap Challenge (G)</p> <p>7.00 Zoo Days (G)</p> <p>7.20 Mr Bean With Rowan Atkinson (PG)</p> <p>7.30 The Royal Today (PG)</p> <p>8.00 The Worst Week Of My Life: Tuesday (PG)</p> <p>8.30 Spectacle: Elvis Costello With... Herbie Hancock (G)</p> <p>9.15 A Little Later (G)</p> <p>9.30 Massive: The Photo Shoot (M)</p> <p>10.05 Stereophonics: Rewind (MA)</p> <p>11.45 London Live (PG)</p> <p>12.15 Close</p>	<p>5.20 World News in various languages.</p> <p>7.10 Cycling: Giro d'Italia Daily Update</p> <p>7.25 World News in various languages.</p> <p>1.00 The Food Lovers Guide To Australia</p> <p>1.30 Insight</p> <p>2.30 The Super Comet: On A Strange Planet (PG) Doco from Germany.</p> <p>3.30 Living Black</p> <p>4.00 The Journal</p> <p>4.30 Newshour With Jim Lehrer</p> <p>5.30 Hotspell (G)</p> <p>6.00 Global Village: Obernai – Alsace (G)</p> <p>6.30 World News Australia</p> <p>7.30 Friday On My Mind (PG)</p> <p>8.30 As It Happened: World War II – Behind Closed Doors (PG)</p> <p>9.30 World News Australia</p> <p>10.00 Boob Tube: Sex, TV And Ugly George (MA)</p> <p>11.10 Movie: The House Of Sand (MA 2005) Drama from Brazil. Stars Fernanda Montenegro, Fernanda Torres, Ruy Guerra, Seu Jorge.</p> <p>1.10 Cycling: Giro d'Italia 2009</p> <p>1.40 Film: The Demon Stirs (M 2005) Comedy from France. Stars Michele Bernier, Simon Abkarian.</p> <p>3.15 WeatherWatch Overnight</p>	<p>6.00 Sunrise</p> <p>9.00 Morning Show (PG)</p> <p>11.30 Seven Morning News</p> <p>12.00 Movie: The Others (M 2001) Stars Nicole Kidman, Fionnula Flanagan, Christopher Eccleston, Alakina Mann.</p> <p>2.30 The Golden Girl (PG)</p> <p>3.00 House Call (PG)</p> <p>3.30 Larry The Lawnmower</p> <p>4.00 It's Academic</p> <p>4.30 Seven News</p> <p>5.00 M*A*S*H (G) Repeat.</p> <p>5.30 Deal Or No Deal</p> <p>6.00 Seven and Prime News</p> <p>7.00 Home And Away (PG)</p> <p>7.30 Better Homes And Gardens (PG)</p> <p>8.30 Movie: Meet The Fockers (M) Stars Robert De Niro, Ben Stiller, Dustin Hoffman, Barbra Streisand.</p> <p>11.00 2009 AFL Premiership Season Geelong v Western Bulldogs.</p> <p>2.30 Danoz And Guthy-Renker</p> <p>Prime HD program same as above except: 12.00 Survival On A tropical Isle (G) 1.00 Movie: The Big Street (PG 1942) 2.30 Deal Or No Deal →</p>	<p>6.00 Ten Early News</p> <p>7.00 Toasted TV & Kids' Programs</p> <p>9.00 9am With David And Kim (PG)</p> <p>11.00 Ten News</p> <p>12.00 Dr Phil (PG)</p> <p>1.00 Oprah Winfrey Show (PG)</p> <p>2.00 Ready Steady Cook (PG)</p> <p>3.00 Infomercial</p> <p>3.30 Huey's Cooking Adventures (PG)</p> <p>4.00 Everybody Loves Raymond</p> <p>4.30 The Bold & The Beautiful (G)</p> <p>5.00 Ten News</p> <p>6.00 The Simpsons (G) Repeat.</p> <p>6.30 Neighbours (G) Repeat.</p> <p>7.00 Masterchef Australia (PG)</p> <p>8.00 The Simpsons (G)</p> <p>8.30 Law & Order (M)</p> <p>9.30 Law & Order (M)</p> <p>10.30 Life On Mars (M)</p> <p>11.20 Ten Late News</p> <p>11.50 Sports Tonight</p> <p>12.20 Late Show With David Letterman (PG)</p> <p>1.20 Infomercials (PG)</p> <p>5.00 Religion to 6am (PG).</p>	<p>5.30 Today</p> <p>9.00 Mornings with Kerri-Anne (PG)</p> <p>11.00 Danoz and Guthy Renker</p> <p>12.00 Ellen Degeneres Show (PG)</p> <p>1.00 The View (PG) talk show.</p> <p>2.00 Days Of Our Lives (PG)</p> <p>3.00 Alive And Cooking (G)</p> <p>3.30 Kids' Programs</p> <p>4.30 NBN News</p> <p>5.00 Antiques Roadshow (G)</p> <p>5.30 Hot Seat</p> <p>6.00 NBN News</p> <p>7.00 A Current Affair</p> <p>7.30 Friday Night Football Parramatta v South Sydney.</p> <p>9.30 Friday Night Football Wests v Brisbane</p> <p>11.30 NBN News</p> <p>12.00 Movie: Waking Up In Reno (M 2001) Stars Billy Bob Thornton, Charlize Theron, Patrick Swayze, Natasha Richardson.</p> <p>1.15 Movie: Up The Chastity Belt (PG 1972) Stars Frankie Howerd, Graham Crowden, Bill Fraser.</p> <p>3.30 Guthy Renker Australia (G)</p> <p>4.30 Good Morning America</p>
SATURDAY 23	<p>5.00 rage (PG)</p> <p>6.00 rage (G)</p> <p>8.00 rage (G)</p> <p>10.00 rage (PG)</p> <p>11.00 Executive Stress (G)</p> <p>11.30 The Cook And The Chef</p> <p>12.00 Stateline</p> <p>12.30 Australian Story</p> <p>1.00 Foreign Correspondent</p> <p>1.30 Can We Help?</p> <p>2.00 Naked Science</p> <p>3.00 Rugby Union: Shute Shield 2009</p> <p>5.00 Bowls: Perth International 2009 Australia v Malaysia: Men's singles.</p> <p>6.00 Echo Beach (PG) Repeat.</p> <p>6.25 Miniscale (G)</p> <p>6.30 Gardening Australia (G)</p> <p>7.00 ABC News</p> <p>7.30 New Tricks (PG) Repeat.</p> <p>8.25 ABC News</p> <p>8.30 The Bill (M)</p> <p>10.00 ABC News</p> <p>10.05 Foyle's War (M) Repeat.</p> <p>11.45 rage (M)</p>	<p>7.00 Kids' Programs</p> <p>3.00 rage (G)</p> <p>5.00 rage (PG)</p> <p>6.05 The New Inventors Repeat.</p> <p>6.35 Heartland (G) Repeat.</p> <p>7.20 Rex The Runt (PG) Repeat.</p> <p>7.30 The Einstein Factor (G) Repeat.</p> <p>8.00 At The Movies Repeat.</p> <p>8.30 Movie: The Bachelor And The Bobby Soxer (G 1947) Stars Cary Grant, Myrna Loy, Shirley Temple.</p> <p>10.10 Movie: Don't Knock The Rock (PG 1956) Stars Aland Dale, Bill Haley, Alan Freed.</p> <p>11.30 Close</p>	<p>5.20 World News in various languages.</p> <p>7.10 Cycling: Giro d'Italia Daily Update</p> <p>7.25 World News in various languages.</p> <p>1.00 Eurovision Song Contest 2009</p> <p>3.15 Moebius Redux: A Life In Pictures (PG) Masterpiece from Canada.</p> <p>4.30 Newshour With Jim Lehrer</p> <p>5.30 Tribe: Hamar (PG)</p> <p>6.30 World News Australia</p> <p>7.30 Richard Hammond Meets Evil Knieval (PG)</p> <p>8.30 The Squiz (M) Sports quiz show.</p> <p>9.00 RockKwiz (PG)</p> <p>9.50 Movie: Breakfast On Pluto (MAV 2006) Drama from UK. Stars Cillian Murphy, Eva Birthistle, Liam Neeson.</p> <p>12.45 Cycling: Giro d'Italia 2009 Highlights</p> <p>12.35 SOS (PG)</p> <p>1.35 Sinchronicity (MA)</p> <p>3.10 Weatherwatch Overnight</p>	<p>6.00 Kids' Programs</p> <p>12.00 Eclipse (PG)</p> <p>1.00 V8 Extra (G)</p> <p>1.30 Chrome (G)</p> <p>2.00 According To Jim (PG)</p> <p>3.00 Movie: Spy Hard (PG 1996) Stars Leslie Nielsen, Nicollette Sheridan.</p> <p>4.30 Jamie's Journey With The Children Of India (G)</p> <p>5.30 Sydney Weekender (G)</p> <p>6.00 Seven News</p> <p>6.30 Stonething Decoded (PG)</p> <p>7.30 Kath & Kim (PG) Repeat.</p> <p>8.00 The Vicar Of Dibley (PG)</p> <p>9.00 Movie: Phenomenon (PG) Stars John Travolta, Robert Duval, Kyra Sedgwick.</p> <p>11.30 Scrubs (PG)</p> <p>12.00 Movie: The Claim (M 2000) Stars Wes Bentley, Milla Jovovich, Nastassja Kinski, Peter Mullan, Sarah Polley.</p> <p>2.30 Danoz Direct & Guthy Renker</p> <p>Prime HD program same as above except: 12.00 Disney: Kim Possible (G) 1.30 Movie: The Shaggy Dog (G) 3.00 Movie: Robin Hood (PG) 5.00 Better Homes And Gardens → 11.50 Movie: Butter (AV 1997) 1.30 Final 24</p>	<p>6.00 Toasted TV & Kids' Programs</p> <p>10.00 Video Hits (PG)</p> <p>12.00 Infomercials</p> <p>1.00 River To Reef (G)</p> <p>1.30 Hook Line & Sinker (PG)</p> <p>2.00 AFL Premiership Season 2009 North Melbourne v Fremantle.</p> <p>5.00 Ten News</p> <p>5.30 Sports Tonight (PG)</p> <p>6.00 Futurama (PG)</p> <p>6.30 The Simpsons Marathon (PG)</p> <p>8.30 Movie: Alien Resurrection (M) Stars Sigourney Weaver, Winona Ryder, Ron Pearlman.</p> <p>10.45 AFL Premiership Season 2009 Richmond v Essendon.</p> <p>1.15 Infomercials</p> <p>4.00 Religion to 6am (PG)</p>	<p>6.00 Infomercials</p> <p>7.00 Today On Saturday</p> <p>9.00 Kids' Programs</p> <p>1.00 I Dream Of Jeannie (G)</p> <p>1.30 Home Made (PG)</p> <p>3.30 Discover Downunder (G)</p> <p>4.00 The Garden Gurus (G)</p> <p>4.30 Talk To The Animals (G)</p> <p>5.00 David Attenborough's Life Of Mammals (PG)</p> <p>6.00 Evening News</p> <p>6.30 Australia's Funniest Home Videos</p> <p>7.30 Movie: Charlie And The Chocolate Factory (PG) Stars Johnny Depp, Helena Bonham Carter, Freddie Highmore, Noah Taylor.</p> <p>8.40 Saturday Lotto</p> <p>9.55 Movie: Anger Management (M) Stars Jack Nicholson, Adam Sandler.</p> <p>12.30 Movie: Jeepers Creepers (AV15+ 2001) Stars Justin Long, Gina Philips.</p> <p>1.45 Movie: Police Academy (M 1984) Stars Steve Guttenberg Kim Cattrall.</p> <p>3.30 Guthy Renker & Danoz</p>
SUNDAY 24	<p>5.00 rage (PG) 6.30 Kids' Programs 9.00 Insiders</p> <p>10.00 Inside Business 10.30 Offsiders 11.00 Asia Pacific Focus 11.30 Songs Of Praise</p> <p>12.00 Landline (G)</p> <p>1.00 Gardening Australia</p> <p>1.30 Message Stick (G)</p> <p>2.00 The Airships (G)</p> <p>3.00 Stanley Kubrick's Boxes</p> <p>3.50 Dance Like Your Old Man</p> <p>4.00 Nollywood Lady (PG)</p> <p>4.50 Flickerfest: Get In The Car</p> <p>5.00 Sunday Arts</p> <p>6.00 At The Movies</p> <p>6.30 The Einstein Factor</p> <p>7.00 ABC News</p> <p>7.30 Michael Palin: Around The World In 20 Years (G)</p> <p>8.30 Dirt Game (PG)</p> <p>9.30 Compass (G)</p> <p>10.25 The Film Festival Project (M)</p> <p>11.15 Movie: The Scarlet Pimpernel (G 1935) Stars Leslie Howard.</p> <p>12.50 Movie: The Whip Hand (PG 1951) Stars Carla Balenda, Elliot Reid, Edgar Barrier, Raymond Burr.</p> <p>2.10 Street Practice (PG)</p> <p>2.40 Movie: Desert Passage (PG 1952) Stars Tim Holt, Joan Dixon, Walter Reed, Dorothy Patrick.</p> <p>3.55 Aussie Animal Rescue (G)</p>	<p>7.00 Classic Albums: The Band – The Band (G)</p> <p>8.00 Zoo Days (G)</p> <p>8.45 Creature Comforts (G)</p> <p>8.55 A Place In Slovakia (G)</p> <p>9.20 Scrapheap Challenge (G)</p> <p>10.10 Scrapheap Challenge (G)</p> <p>11.00 Beautiful Noise (G)</p> <p>11.55 London Live (PG) Music. Repeat.</p> <p>12.30 Red Dwarf (PG)</p> <p>1.30 Planet Rock Profiles (G)</p> <p>1.55 James Brown: Live In Montreux (G)</p> <p>3.20 Festival: Folk Music At Newport 1963-1966 (PG)</p> <p>5.00 Pop[b]session: Session 1 – While My Guitar Gently Weeps (G)</p> <p>6.00 ABC For Hosted by Tony Jones.</p> <p>7.00 Artscape (G)</p> <p>7.30 Sunday Arts (G)</p> <p>8.30 Reel Bad Arabs (M)</p> <p>9.20 War Hero (PG)</p> <p>9.35 Lugosi: Fallen Vampire</p> <p>10.30 Wild At Heart</p> <p>11.15 Close</p>	<p>6.05 World News in various languages.</p> <p>7.10 Cycling: Giro d'Italia Daily Update</p> <p>7.25 World News in various languages.</p> <p>10.00 Iron Chef America (G)</p> <p>10.50 Sushi Japan (G)</p> <p>11.00 K.D. Lang (G)</p> <p>12.00 Cafe Carnivale (G)</p> <p>12.30 World Superbike Championship Highlights</p> <p>1.00 Speedweek</p> <p>3.00 Football Asia</p> <p>3.30 UEFA Champions League Magazine</p> <p>4.00 Les Murray's Football Feature</p> <p>5.00 The World Game</p> <p>6.00 Thalassa (G) Doco from France.</p> <p>6.30 World News Australia</p> <p>7.30 Lost Worlds (PG)</p> <p>8.30 Datline</p> <p>9.30 Movie: Nowhere In Africa (M 2001) Drama from Germany. Stars Merab Ninidze, Juliane Kohler, Matthias Habich, Sidede Onyulo.</p> <p>11.55 Cycling: Giro d'Italia 2009</p> <p>12.25 Movie: Pavee Lackeen – The Traveller Girl (M 2005) Stars Winnie Maughan, Rose Maughan, Michael Collins.</p> <p>2.00 Speaking In Tongues (M)</p> <p>1.35 Weatherwatch Overnight</p>	<p>6.00 Religion</p> <p>7.00 Weekend Sunrise</p> <p>10.00 AFL Game Day (PG)</p> <p>11.00 Magnum, P.I. (PG)</p> <p>12.00 The Most Extreme (G)</p> <p>1.00 2009 AFL Premiership Season Sydney v Port Adelaide.</p> <p>4.00 Great Quake (PG)</p> <p>5.00 Destination New Zealand (G)</p> <p>5.30 Mercurio's Menu (G)</p> <p>6.00 Seven News</p> <p>6.30 Sunday Night</p> <p>7.30 Border Security (PG)</p> <p>8.00 The Force – Behind The Line (PG)</p> <p>8.30 Bones (M)</p> <p>9.30 Castle (M)</p> <p>10.30 SCU (PG)</p> <p>11.00 24 (M)</p> <p>12.00 2009 AFL Premiership Season St Kilda v Brisbane</p> <p>3.00 Brand Developers</p> <p>1.00 Danoz Direct & Guthy Renker</p> <p>5.30 Seven Early News</p> <p>Prime HD program same as above except: → 12.00 Dateline NBC 1.00 Final 24 (M) 2.00 Gear 3.00 Guthy Renker</p>	<p>6.00 Religion</p> <p>7.00 Totally Wild</p> <p>7.30 Animalia</p> <p>8.00 Meet The Press</p> <p>8.30 State Focus</p> <p>9.00 Video Hits (G)</p> <p>12.00 Merlin (PG)</p> <p>1.00 Oprah's Big Give (PG)</p> <p>2.00 Orangutan Diaries (PG)</p> <p>2.30 Netball: ANZ Championship 2009 Thunderbirds v Firebirds.</p> <p>4.30 Meerkat Manor (G)</p> <p>5.00 Ten News</p> <p>5.30 Out Of The Blue (PG)</p> <p>6.00 The Simpsons (PG)</p> <p>6.30 Merlin (PG)</p> <p>7.30 Masterchef Australia (PG)</p> <p>8.30 Rove (M)</p> <p>9.40 Harper's Island (M)</p> <p>10.40 The Office (PG)</p> <p>11.10 Formula One Grand Prix Monaco Grand Prix.</p> <p>1.25 Video Hits Up Late (PG)</p> <p>1.30 Infomercials</p> <p>4.00 Religion to 6am (PG)</p>	<p>6.00 Danoz And Guthy Renker</p> <p>7.00 Today</p> <p>10.00 Wide World Of Sports (G)</p> <p>11.00 The Sunday Footy Show (G)</p> <p>12.00 Sunday Roast (PG)</p> <p>1.00 WWE Afterburn Live.</p> <p>2.00 Super League Warrington Wolves v Wigan Warriors.</p> <p>4.00 Sunday Football Gold Coast v Manly.</p> <p>6.00 Evening News</p> <p>6.30 Home Made (PG)</p> <p>7.30 60 Minutes</p> <p>8.30 CSI (M)</p> <p>9.30 CSI: NY (M)</p> <p>10.30 The Evidence (M)</p> <p>11.30 Body Of Evidence (M)</p> <p>12.00 Super League Celtic Crusaders v Catalans Dragons.</p> <p>2.30 Girlfriends (M)</p> <p>2.00 Guthy Renker Australia</p> <p>3.30 Religion</p> <p>4.00 Good Morning America</p> <p>5.00 Early Morning News</p>

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MONDAY 25

TUESDAY 26

WEDNESDAY 27

THURSDAY 28

ABC 1

ABC 2

SBS

PRIME

ten

NBN

4.30 GP (PG) Repeat.
5.30 The Einstein Factor (G) Repeat.
6.00 Kids' Programs
11.00 Landline Repeat.
12.00 Midday Report
12.30 Poirot (PG)
1.30 The Cook And The Chef (G) Repeat.
2.00 Parliament Question Time: House Of Representative
3.00 Kids' Programs
6.00 Landline Extra Repeat.
6.30 Talking Heads: Adam Shand
7.00 ABC News
7.30 The 7.30 Report
8.00 Australian Story (PG)
8.30 Four Corners
9.20 Media Watch
9.35 Spooks (M)
10.30 Lateline
11.05 Lateline Business
11.35 The Man Who Was Pregnant (M) Repeat.
12.25 MDA (M)
1.20 Parliament Question Time: House Of Representative
2.20 Aussie Animal Rescue (G)
2.55 Street Practice (PG)
3.25 Bowls: Perth International 2009 Australia v Malaysia Mens singles.

6.00 ABC News Breakfast
9.00 Asia Pacific News
9.30 Business Today
10.00 Kids' Programs
4.30 Gardening Australia (G) Rpt
5.00 Message Stick (G) Repeat.
5.30 Can We Help? (G) Repeat.
6.00 Collectors (G) Repeat.
6.30 Scrapheap Challenge (G)
7.15 Mr Bean with Rowan Atkinson (G)
7.30 The Royal Today (PG)
8.00 Red Dwarf (PG) Repeat.
8.30 Good Game (PG) Repeat.
9.00 triple j tv With The Doctor
9.30 Code Geass (M)
9.55 The Who: Live At The Isle Of Wight 1970 (G)
11.30 Cowboy Bebop: Pierrot Le Fou (M) Repeat.
11.55 Close

5.20 World News in various languages.
7.10 Cycling: Giro d'Italia Daily Update
7.25 World News in various languages.
1.00 Food Lovers' Guide To Australia (G) Repeat.
1.30 The Children Of The Moon (G) Doco from France.
2.30 Dateline
3.30 Insight
4.30 The Journal
5.00 The Crew (G)
5.30 Corner Gas (G)
6.00 Living Black
6.30 World News Australia
7.30 Top Gear (PG)
8.30 Dave In The Life: Of A Pensioner (M)
9.00 South Park (M)
9.30 World News Australia
10.00 Shameless (MA) Comedy from UK.
10.55 Cycling: Giro d'Italia 2009
11.25 Movie: The Eye - Infinity (M 2005) Thriller from Hong Kong. Stars Chen Bo Lin, Isabella Leong, Kate Yeung.
12.55 Movie: Malefique (MAV 2003) Horror from France. Stars Clovis Cornillac, Philippe Laudenbach.
2.30 WeatherWatch Overnight

6.00 Sunrise
9.00 The Morning Show (PG)
11.30 Seven News
12.00 Movie: Making Of A Hollywood Madam (M 1996) Stars Michael Gross, George Segal, Cindy Pickett.
2.00 All Saints (M)
3.00 House Call (G)
3.30 Larry The Lawnmower
4.00 It's Academic
4.30 Seven News
5.00 M*A*S*H (G)
5.30 Deal Or No Deal (G)
6.00 Seven and Prime News
7.00 Home And Away (PG)
7.30 How I Met Your Mother (PG)
8.00 Scrubs (PG)
8.30 Desperate Housewives (M)
9.30 Brothers & Sisters (M)
10.30 Louis Theroux, Killadelphia (M)
11.30 30 Rock (PG)
12.00 The Winner (PG) New series.
12.30 Brand Developers
1.00 Danoz Direct
5.30 Seven Early News

Prime HD program same as above except:
12.00 Movie: Kingdom Come (M) 1.30 Gear (G)
2.00 The Great Outdoors (G) → 12.00 Dateline NBC 1.00 Deal Or No Deal 1.30 Australia's Best Backyards

6.00 Ten Early News
7.00 Toasted TV & Kids' Programs
9.00 9am With David And Kim (PG)
11.00 Ten News
12.00 Dr Phil (M)
1.00 Oprah Winfrey Show (PG)
2.00 Ready Steady Cook (PG)
3.00 Infomercial (G)
3.30 Huey's Cooking Adventures (G)
4.00 Everybody Loves Raymond (G)
4.30 The Bold & The Beautiful (G)
5.00 Ten News
6.00 The Simpsons (G) Repeat.
6.30 Neighbours (G) Repeat.
7.00 Masterchef Australia (PG)
8.00 Recruits (PG)
8.30 Good News Week (M)
9.30 Supernatural (M)
10.30 Late News With Sports Tonight
11.15 Late Show with David Letterman (PG)
12.00 Plus One (PG)
12.40 Video Hits Up Late (PG)
1.00 Infomercials (PG)
4.00 Religion to 6am (PG).

5.30 Today
9.00 Mornings with Kerri-Anne (PG)
11.00 Time/Life (G)
11.30 Danoz (G)
12.00 Ellen Degeneres Show (PG)
1.00 The View (PG)
2.00 Days Of Our Lives (PG)
3.00 Alive And Cooking (G)
3.30 Hi-5
4.00 The Shak
4.30 Afternoon News
5.00 Antique Roadshow (G)
5.30 Hot Seat (G)
6.00 Evening News
7.00 A Current Affair
7.30 Two And A Half Men (PG)
8.00 Missing pieces (PG)
8.30 Sea Patrol (M)
8.45 Lotto
9.30 Eleventh Hour (M)
10.30 CSI: NY (M)
11.30 NBN News
12.00 Ellen Degeneres Show (PG)
1.00 Entertainment Tonight
1.30 Guthy Renker Australia
3.00 Religion
3.30 Good Morning America
5.00 Early Morning News

4.30 GP (PG) Repeat.
5.30 The New Inventors (G) Repeat.
6.00 Kids' Programs
11.00 How To Divorce Without Screwing Up Your Kids (PG) Repeat.
12.00 Midday Report
12.30 The Einstein Factor (G) Repeat.
1.00 The New Inventors (G) Repeat.
1.30 Catalyst (G) Repeat.
2.00 Parliament Question Time: House Of Representative
3.00 Kids' Programs
6.05 Time Team (G)
7.00 ABC News
7.30 The 7.30 Report
8.00 Foreign Correspondent
8.30 Around The World In 80 Gardens
9.35 Mumbai Calling: Good Sellers (M)
10.00 Artscape
10.30 Lateline and Lateline Business
11.30 Four Corners Repeat.
12.20 Media Watch Repeat.
12.35 Foyle's War (M)
2.15 Parliament Question Time: House Of Representative
3.25 triple j tv With The Doctor (G)

6.00 ABC News Breakfast
9.00 Asia Pacific News
9.30 Business Today
10.00 Kids' Programs
4.30 Little Angels (G) Repeat.
5.00 Talking Heads (G) Repeat.
5.30 Sun, Sea And Bargain Spotting
6.15 Weird Science
6.30 Scrapheap Challenge (G)
7.15 Mr Bean With Rowan Atkinson (G)
7.30 The Royal Today (G)
8.00 Australian Story Repeat.
8.30 Teachers (M) Repeat.
9.20 The Bill (PG) Repeat.
10.50 Fireflies (PG) Repeat.
11.45 Close

5.20 World News in various languages
7.10 Cycling: Giro d'Italia Daily Update
7.25 World News in various languages.
1.00 The Storm Rages Twice (G) Drama from Lebanon.
2.35 The Red Flower (PG)
2.45 Blue, Karma, Tiger (PG)
3.00 Yellow Fella (PG)
3.30 Living Black
4.00 The Journal
4.30 Newshour With Jim Lehrer
5.30 Corner Gas (G) Comedy.
6.00 Global Village: Chile (G)
6.30 World News Australia
7.30 Insight
8.30 Cutting Edge: The Torture Hunter (M) Doco from Denmark.
9.30 World News
10.00 Hot Docs: The Road To Guantanamo (MA) Doco from UK.
11.40 Cycling: Giro d'Italia 2009
12.10 Movie: Trilogy - The Weeping Meadow (PG 2004) Drama from Greece. Stars Alexandra Aidini, Nikos Poursanidis, Giorgos Armenis, Vassilis Kolovis.
3.00 WeatherWatch Overnight

6.00 Sunrise
9.00 The Morning Show (PG)
11.30 Seven News
12.00 Movie: While I Was Gone (M) Stars Kirstie Alley, Bill Smitrovich.
2.00 All Saints (M)
3.00 House Call (PG)
3.30 Larry The Lawnmower
4.00 It's Academic
4.30 Seven News
5.00 M*A*S*H (G)
5.30 Deal Or No Deal (G)
6.00 Seven and Prime News
7.00 Home And Away (PG)
7.30 The Zoo (G)
8.00 Find My Family (PG)
8.30 All Saints (M)
9.30 10 Years Younger In 10 Days (G)
10.30 Lipstick Jungle (M)
11.30 Carpoolers (PG) New series.
12.00 Lost special (M)
1.00 Danoz Direct & Guthy Renker
5.30 Seven Early News

Prime HD program same as above except:
12.00 Movie: Tick Tock (M 2000) 1.30 Gear 2.00 The Great Outdoors → 12.00 Polynesian Paradieses (G) 1.30 Deal Or No Deal 2.30 Guthy Ranker

6.00 Ten Early News
7.00 Toasted TV & Kids' Programs
9.00 9am With David And Kim (PG)
11.00 Ten News
12.00 Dr Phil (M)
1.00 Oprah Winfrey Show (PG)
2.00 Ready Steady Cook (PG)
3.00 Infomercial
3.30 Huey's Cooking Adventures (G)
4.00 Everybody Loves Raymond (G)
4.30 The Bold & The Beautiful (G)
5.00 Ten News
6.00 The Simpsons (G) Repeat.
6.30 Neighbours (G) Repeat.
7.00 Masterchef Australia (PG)
7.30 Talkin' 'bout your generation (PG)
8.30 NCIS (M)
9.30 Lie To Me (M)
10.30 Late News With Sports Tonight
11.15 Late Show With David Letterman (PG)
12.00 Cops (PG)
12.30 State Focus
1.00 Infomercials (PG)
4.00 Religion to 6am (PG)
We are a nation that is unenlightened because of religion. I do believe that. I think religion stops people from thinking. I think it justified crazies. Bill Maher

5.30 Today
9.00 Mornings With Kerri-Anne (PG)
11.00 Danoz And Guthy Renker (G)
12.00 Ellen Degeneres Show (PG)
1.00 The View (PG)
2.00 Days Of Our Lives (PG)
3.00 Alive And Cooking (G)
3.30 Hi-5
4.00 The Shak
4.30 Afternoon News
5.00 Antique Roadshow (G)
5.30 Hot Seat (G)
6.00 Evening News
7.00 A Current Affair
7.30 Home Made (PG)
8.30 Two And A Half Men (M)
9.00 Two And A Half Men (M)
9.30 Underbelly Uncut (MA15+)
10.30 Underbelly Uncut (MA15+)
11.30 NBN News
12.00 The Ellen Degeneres Show (PG)
1.00 Entertainment Tonight
2.00 Guthy Renker
3.00 Religion
3.30 Good Morning America
5.00 Early Morning News

4.30 Police Rescue (PG) Repeat.
5.30 The New Inventors (G) Repeat.
6.00 Kids' Programs
11.00 Meet The Natives (PG)
12.00 Midday Report
12.30 National Press Club Address
1.30 Talking Heads (G) Repeat.
2.00 Parliament Question Time: House Of Representatives
3.00 Kids' Programs
6.00 Travel Oz (G)
6.30 The Cook and the Chef (G)
7.00 ABC News
7.30 The 7.30 Report
8.00 The New Inventors (G)
8.30 Spicks And Specks (PG)
9.00 The Chaser's War On Everything
9.35 Moving Wallpaper (M)
10.00 At the Movies
10.30 Lateline And Lateline Business
11.40 Dalziel And Pascoe (M)
12.25 Cricket In The 80s (PG)
1.25 Parliament Question Time: House Of Representatives
2.25 Aussie Animal Rescue (G) Repeat.
2.55 Street Practice (PG) Repeat.
2.25 National Press Club Address

6.00 ABC News Breakfast
9.00 Business Today
9.30 Asia Pacific News
10.00 Kids' Programs
4.30 The Cook And The Chef Moments (G) Repeat.
4.45 Animal Cops: South Africa (G)
5.35 Time Team (G) Repeat.
6.30 Scrapheap Challenge (G)
7.15 Mr Bean With Rowan Atkinson (G)
7.30 The Royal Today (PG)
8.00 Body Hits (PG)
8.30 Beyond Boundaries: Across The Andes (M)
9.30 Should I Smoke Dope (PG)
10.30 It'll Never Last (PG)
11.20 Navy Divers (PG)
11.50 Close

5.20 World News in various languages.
7.10 Cycling: Giro D'Italia Update
7.25 World News in various languages.
1.00 Movie: My Nikifor (M 2005) Drama from Poland. Stars Krystyna Feldman, Roman Gancarczyk.
2.40 Kater (G)
3.00 SA Black Thing (PG)
3.30 Nerds FC (PG)
4.00 The Journal
4.30 Newshour with Jim Lehrer
5.30 Corner Gas (G)
6.00 Global Village: Papua New Guinea (G)
6.30 World News Australia
7.30 Food Investigators
8.00 Office Tigers (PG)
8.30 Dead Tired (PG)
9.30 World News Australia
10.00 Movie: Ghost Dog - The Way Of The Samurai (MAV 1999) Drama from US. Stars Forest Whitaker, John Tormey.
12.00 Cycling: Giro d'Italia 2009
12.30 Manufacturing Dissent (M)
1.55 Weatherwatch Overnight

6.00 Sunrise
9.00 The Morning Show (PG)
11.30 Seven News
12.00 Movie: Nowhere Land (M 1996) Stars Peter Dobson, Dina Meyer, George Russo, Kate Fuglei.
2.00 Lost Special (M)
3.00 House Call (PG)
3.30 Larry The Lawnmower
4.00 It's Academic
4.30 Seven and Prime News
5.00 M*A*S*H (G)
5.30 Deal Or No Deal (G)
6.00 Seven and Prime News
7.00 Home And Away (PG)
7.30 Thank God You're Here (PG)
8.30 Criminal Minds (M)
9.30 My Name Is Earl (PG)
10.00 Family Guy (M)
10.30 Russell Brand's Ponderland (M)
11.00 Lost (M)
12.00 Murder Squad (M)
12.30 Brand Developers (G)
1.00 Guthy Renker & Danoz
5.30 Seven Early News

Prime HD program same as above except:
12.00 Inside Al Queda (M) 1.00 Final 24 2.00 The Great Outdoors (PG) → 12.00 Dateline NBC 1.00 A Country Practice (G)

6.00 Ten Early News
7.00 Toasted TV & Kids' Programs
9.00 9am With David And Kim (PG)
11.00 Ten News
12.00 Dr Phil (PG)
1.00 Oprah Winfrey Show (PG) Repeat.
2.00 Ready Steady Cook (PG) Repeat.
3.00 Infomercial
3.30 Huey's Cooking Adventures (PG)
4.00 Everybody Loves Raymond (G)
4.30 The Bold & The Beautiful (G)
5.00 Ten News
6.00 The Simpsons (PG)
6.30 Neighbours (G)
7.00 Masterchef Australia (PG)
8.00 The Simpsons (PG)
8.30 Law & Order: S.V.U. (M)
9.30 Order: S.V.U. (M)
10.30 Ten News With Sports Tonight
11.15 Late Show With David Letterman (PG)
12.00 Cops (PG)
12.30 Infomercials
4.00 Religion to 6am (PG)
Religion, to me, is a bureaucracy between man and God that I don't need. Bill Maher

5.30 Today
9.00 Mornings With Kerri-Anne (PG)
11.00 Danoz and Bio-Magnetics (G)
12.00 Ellen Degeneres Show (PG)
1.00 The View (PG) talk show.
2.00 Days Of Our Lives (PG)
3.00 Alive And Cooking (G)
3.30 Kids' Programs
4.30 NBN News
5.00 Antiques Roadshow (G).
5.30 Hot Seat (G)
6.00 NBN News
7.00 A Current Affair
7.30 What's Good For You (PG)
8.00 RPA (PG)
8.30 The Mentalist (M)
8.45 Lotto
9.30 Cold Case (M)
10.30 Cold Case (M)
11.30 NBN News
12.00 The Ellen Degeneres Show (PG)
1.00 Entertainment Tonight (PG)
1.30 Guthy Renker And Danoz
3.30 Good Morning America
5.00 Early Morning News

4.30 Police Rescue (PG) Repeat.
5.30 The New Inventors (G) Repeat.
6.00 Kids' Programs
11.00 Death Of A Nation (PG)
12.00 Midday Report
12.30 Pilot Guides (G) Repeat.
1.30 Collectors (G) Repeat.
2.00 Parliament Question Time House Of Representatives
3.00 Kids' Programs
6.05 Dan Cruickshank's Adventures In Architecture
7.00 ABC News
7.30 The 7.30 Report
8.00 Catalyst
8.30 The Ascent Of Money (G)
9.25 Q&A With Tony Jones
10.25 Lateline And Lateline Business
11.25 Spectacle: Elvis Costello With... (G)
12.15 Wildlife (M)
1.05 Raw Comedy (M)
2.30 Parliament Question Time House Of Representatives
3.15 Street Practice (PG)
3.55 The Glass House (M)

6.00 ABC News Breakfast
9.00 Business Today
9.30 Asia Pacific News
10.00 Kids' Programs
4.30 The Einstein Factor (G) Repeat.
5.05 The Cook and the Chef (G) Repeat.
5.35 ABC Fora
6.35 Scrapheap Challenge (G)
7.00 Zoo Days (G)
7.20 Mr Bean With Rowan Atkinson (G)
7.30 The Royal Today (G)
8.00 Spicks And Specks (PG) Repeat.
8.30 The Chaser's War On Everything
9.00 Moving Wallpaper (M)
9.25 The Graham Norton Show
10.00 Peep Show (M)
10.25 Q&A With Jocelyn (M)
10.55 Phoenix Nights (PG)
11.20 Double The Fist: Beat The House (M) Repeat.
11.50 Close

[s]	= Sex	[cl]	= Coarse language
[a]	= Adult themes	[sr]	= Sexual references
[n]	= Nudity	[mp]	= Medical procedures
[du]	= Drug use	[st]	= Supernatural themes
[dr]	= Drug references	[v]	= Violence
[*]	= Could offend	[ie]	= Issues about euthanasia
[h]	= Horror		

Programs are correct at the time of going to press but beware - all stations like tinkering with things at the last minute.

4.00 UEFA Champions League Final Manchester United v Barcelona
7.10 Cycling: Giro D'Italia
7.25 World News in various languages.
2.30 Dateline
3.30 Kings Of Clubs (G)
4.00 The Journal
4.30 Newshour With Jim Lehrer
5.30 FIFA Futbol Mundial
6.00 Global Village: Lombardia (G)
6.30 World News Australia
7.35 Inspector Rex (PG) Austria Repeat.
8.30 Mad Men (M)
9.30 World News Australia
10.00 UEFA Champions League Final Replay.
12.00 Cycling: Giro D'Italia
12.30 Oz (MAV)
1.30 Weatherwatch Overnight

SBS advises viewers that programming between 6pm and 10.30pm nightly is Closed Captioned (CC)

6.00 Sunrise
9.00 The Morning Show (PG)
11.30 Seven News
12.00 Movie: Mystery Woman - Game Time (M) Stars Kellie Martin, Clarence Williams III, Nina Siemaszko.
2.00 All Saints (M)
3.00 House Call (PG)
3.30 Larry The Lawnmower
4.00 It's Academic
4.30 Seven and Prime News
5.00 M*A*S*H (G)
5.30 Deal Or No Deal (G) games show.
6.00 Seven and Prime News
7.00 Home And Away (PG)
7.30 Ghost Whisperer (PG)
8.30 Grey's Anatomy (M)
9.30 Private Practice (M)
10.30 Heroes (M)
11.30 King Of The Hill (PG)
12.00 Cavemen (PG)
12.30 Brand Developers (G)
1.30 Danoz & Guthy-Renker
5.30 Seven Early News

Prime HD program same as above except:
12.00 This Rugged Coast (G) 1.00 Final 24 2.00 The Great Outdoors (PG) → 12.30 Movie: Grace's Choice (M 2004) 1.30 Danoz Direct & Guthy Renker

Most Prime programs between 6.30pm and 11.30pm (approx) nightly are Closed Captioned (CC)

6.00 Ten Early News
7.00 Toasted TV & Kids' Programs
9.00 9am With David And Kim (PG)
11.00 Ten News
12.00 Dr Phil (PG)
1.00 Oprah Winfrey Show (PG) Repeat.
2.00 Ready Steady Cook (PG) Repeat.
3.00 Infomercial
3.30 Huey's Cooking Adventures (G)
4.00 Everybody Love Raymond (G)
4.30 The Bold & The Beautiful (G)
5.00 Ten News
6.00 The Simpsons (G) Repeat
6.30 Neighbours (G)
7.00 Masterchef Australia (PG)
7.30 Rules Of Engagement (PG)
8.00 Worst Week (PG)
8.30 Law & Order: Criminal Intent (M)
9.30 Medium (M)
10.30 Ten News With Sports Tonight
11.15 Late Show With David Letterman (PG)
12.00 Cops (PG)
12.30 Infomercials (PG)
4.00 Religion to 6am.

5.30 Today
9.00 Mornings With Kerri-Anne (PG)
11.00 Danoz and Guthy Renker (G)
12.00 Ellen Degeneres Show (PG)
1.00 The View (PG) talk show.
2.00 Days Of Our Lives (PG)
3.00 Alive And Cooking (G)
3.30 Kids' Programs
4.30 NBN News
5.00 Antiques Roadshow
5.30 Hot Seat (G)
6.00 NBN News
7.00 A Current Affair
7.30 Getaway (PG)
8.30 20 To 1 (M)
9.30 The Footy Show (M)
11.00 NBN News
11.30 The AFL Footy Show (M)
1.00 Seinfeld (PG)
1.30 Entertainment Tonight (G)
2.00 Guthy Renker Australia
3.30 Good Morning America
5.00 Early Morning News



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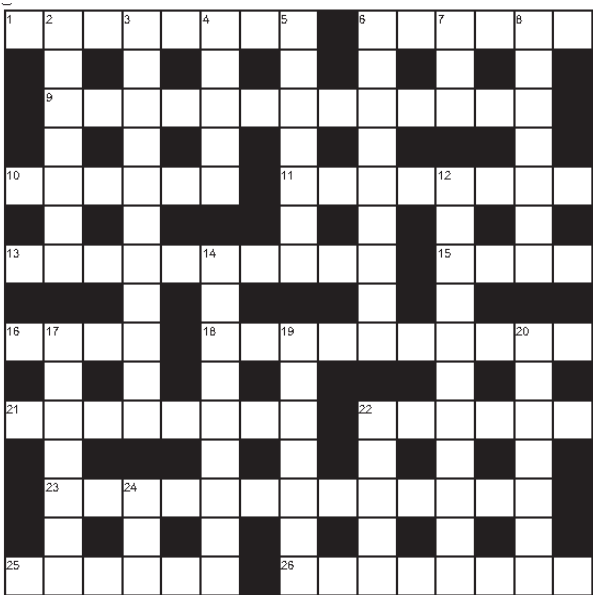
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Mungo's Crossword



Quick Clues

ACROSS

- Like a shooting star (8)
- Rupture, usually abdominal (6)
- What Oliver Cromwell provided from 1648-1660 (13)
- Short, light sleep (6)
- One who seeks the welfare of others (8)
- Hind part of the brain (9)
- Conceal from others (4)
- Employer (4)
- Flavoured dairy drinks (10)
- Romeo's cousin (8)
- F Scott Fitzgerald anti-hero (6)
- Quality of being calculated, especially in length (13)
- Three legged stand (6)
- Unhappiness, anxiety (8)

DOWN

- Cost, outlay (7)
- Concerning statistical modelling (11)
- Bailiff, sheriff (old) (5)
- Jeer, make disapproving sound (7)
- Difficult periods, usually involving poverty (4,5)
- Short cheer, sound of encouragement and approval (3)
- Put upon, inflicted (7)
- Less fit, less well (11)
- Bugs Bunny's enemy (5,4)
- Ocean liner (7)
- Wild spotted cat (7)
- Organisms in early stages of development (7)
- Blank patterns for crosswords (5)
- European mountain (3)

Last week's solution



Cryptic Clues

ACROSS

- Very fast but not imperial about the east; nothing. (8)
- Heard that woman was close – but really a rupture! (6)
- Mad prophetic sort describes England in 1650 (13)
- Two poles exude the rest (6)
- Capone keeps faith about one, a do-gooder (8)
- Present day renegade has large hesitation in the brain (10)
- Cheek skin (4)
- Yankee queen, an addict (4)
- Klim drinks! (10)
- Our crime, committed for Romeo's cousin (8)
- The Great male deer turned before close (6)
- The quality of being able to gauge the extent of out-of-control military abuse (13)
- Three feet of soil turned over the river (6)
- Princess's hair causes unhappiness (8)

DOWN

- Former coppers report cost (7)
- Type of statistical modelling for Umberto at an Alaskan city with a short prank (11)
- Sheriff appears about sunset. (5)
- Sound of disapproval for performance up in ring (7)
- Callous paper covers droughts and floods, for instance (4,5)
- Brief cheer for rugger-bugger (half) (3)
- Model says she's ready, but put herself forward unwanted (7)
- He in the urinal is sick – sicker! (11)
- Bugs's enemy, or Ex-senator Rod Kemp? (5,4)
- Kitchenware craft (7)
- Mysterious ape lord, or just another cat? (7)
- Back number covers brother, unknown to those not yet developed (7)
- Networks needed by setters! (5)
- Mountain party (3)

First published in *The Week*.



WITH LILITH

ARIES: Lots of home stuff going on for Aries right now (repairs, relocating, rethinking existing living arrangements) plus some health issues too – don't ignore them like you usually do. Volatile end of week Mars/Venus/Moon in Aries is astrological rocket fuel, making emotional control imperative.

TAURUS: The new twelve year Jupiter/Saturn cycle is an important time for Taurans to decide what really excites them, because your abundance becomes closely linked to your passion. How can you harness your natural skills and abilities, the ones you enjoy using, in a way that will build your future?

GEMINI: You'll need to wear your diplomatic hat this week, and remember to leave yourself extra travel time to get to important dates. When astral energetics start revving up towards the end of the week, keep your eye out for unusual new options even you hadn't thought of...

This week's not so abfab news? Mercury retrograde complications continue as cancellations, delays and misunderstandings. The upside? These temporary inconveniences are easily comforted by indulging in the many earthy, autumn sense pleasures on offer.



CANCER: This week's more for figuring out how to make altered circumstances work for you than for taking action. You'll want to believe promises, but confirm they're still current before including them in your plans because right now there's plenty of mind changing going on.

LEO: The life of Leo is back on the boil – even though that's a back-burner kind of simmer till the end of the month. But just keep watching the pot and adding new ingredients as they come available – don't make firm decisions just yet, do put out lots of feelers...

VRIGO: Despite the odd squabble and glitch, this week's receptive to your ideas and appreciative of your practical talents, while Saturn turning direct in Virgo brings satisfying payback for whatever hard yards you've accomplished in the home, job or relationship department – at last.

LIBRA: Double check all facts, figures and estimates, because Murphy's law's at work and what could go wrong is more likely to during the next fortnight. That said, this is still a brilliant week for getting solid groundwork in place for the rest of the year.

SCORPIO: This week's dense energy could definitely benefit from a hit of spritz, so let your fun loving side out for some exercise. Do something different, even if it's just rearranging the furniture or changing your hair, or you might get rebellious in a bigger and maybe messier way.

SAGITTARIUS: While you might be feeling keen as a bean to get something finalized or new changes under way, savvy Sagittarians won't make any financial commitments before the end of the month – though they will scrutinize, discriminate, do feasons, research and stay tuned to breaking news.

CAPRICORN: Restrictive conditions ease this week as

Saturn moves forward, releasing its strangle hold on Capricorn cash flow and improving the money scene with a bonus or opening of some kind. Your stars recommend avoiding making promises you might not be able to honor later on.

AQUARIUS: Aquarians tend to overcome obstacles via a combination of inspiration and good luck – which usually works, though right now you might have to add a little tough love and a lot of tenderness. This week's challenge is building a workable bridge between your best ideas and current reality.

PISCES: Mixing, mingling, interacting and spreading yourself around will lift your spirits, rearrange your state of mind and change your luck this week so don't hang about waiting for invitations – take the initiative, make the first move. Keep doing this until something happens, which be assured it will.

CHESS by Ian Rogers

Play at Seagulls Club, Thurs 6-10pm



Miroslav Filip (above), the Czech Grandmaster who died in Prague late last month aged 80, might have been a legendary figure, but for the political waves which buffeted Filip and his country during the Cold War years.

Filip's over the board achievements were considerable; he reached the final stages of the World Championship twice, in 1955 and 1962, and represented Czechoslovakia at 12 consecutive Chess Olympics.

Although he beat three World Champions during his career, Filip was generally peacefully inclined. Viktor Korchnoi once commented that he could not understand how a player with so

little fighting spirit could ascend so high in the chess world.

However, the Prague Spring of 1968 proved Filip's Waterloo. As the attempted reforms in Czechoslovakia were crushed by Russian tanks and a new more obedient government installed, Filip's girlfriend headed to the West.

Filip immediately became a person of suspicion and to allay any fears about his loyalty to the new pro-Russian regime Filip joined the Communist Party and became a 'trusted' speaker on Czech radio. (In contrast, Filip's colleague GM Ludek Pachmann disowned his communist past and was imprisoned, while young Czech star Lubosh Kavalek escaped to the US.)

Filip also held a position in the Czech Chess Federation which entitled him to decide which players could be trusted to travel to tournaments outside the Eastern bloc, which combined with Filip's brusque nature left him with few

close friends amongst his chess peers in Czechoslovakia.

A key moment for Filip's reputation came when he was appointed as deputy arbiter for the 1978 World Championship match between Anatoly Karpov and recent defector from the Soviet Union, Korchnoi. Although Filip was by now an experienced arbiter and could speak many languages, most believed that his appointment was made because the Soviets understood that he would faithfully serve their interests should disputes arise, as many did during Karpov's controversial 16.5-15.5 victory.

In fact there was no evidence that Filip was obedient to the Soviets during the match. At a critical juncture, Karpov's team complained that the chief arbiter Lothar Schmidt was biased against him and Filip took over, although only for long enough to ensure that Karpov signed a statement withdrawing his allegations against Schmidt.

After communist rule ended in Czechoslovakia in 1989, and political dissidents such as Pachmann, Vlastimil Hort and Kavalek were welcomed home, Filip, perhaps fearful of being viewed as a collaborator with the old regime, was rarely seen at a chess event.

'He was really not a bad guy,' said one of Filip's GM colleagues last week. And hopefully Filip will be remembered for fine games such as the win over the legendary Mikhail Tal, given below.

Curacao 1962

White: M Tal

Black: M Filip

Opening: Sicilian Defence

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.f4 b5 7.a3 Bb7 8.Qf3 Nf6 9.Bd3 Bc5 10.Nb3 Be7 11.0-0 0-0 12.Bd2 d6 13.g4 Typical Tal, but Filip reacts soberly. 13...d5 14.e5 Nfd7 15.Qh3 g6 16.Nd4 Nc6 17.Nce2 Nxd4 18.Nxd4 Nc5 19.b4 Ne4 20.Be3 Rfe8 21.Rae1 Bf8 22.Nf3 a5! 23.f5? Too enthusiastic, though 23.Bxb5 Red8 is fine for Filip. 23...exf5 24.gxf5 Rxe5! 25.fxg6 hxg6 26.Nxe5 Qxe5 27.c3 axb4 28.Bd4 Bc8! 29.Qg2 Qh5 30.Bxe4 dxe4 31.Qxe4? After 31.axb4 White can still hope to defend. 31...Qg5+ 32.Kh1 Be6!! 33.Be5 Rd8! 34.h4 34.Bf6 Qd2! also works out well for Black. 34...Qh5 35.Qf4 Rd3 36.Bf6 Qd5+ 37.Kg1 bxc3 38.Re4 Bc5+ 39.Kh2 Qa2+ 0-1

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THE LOUD '09 FESTIVAL

We have two double passes to **The Loud '09 Festival** Sunday June 7 at the Gold Coast Convention Centre. Just email gigs@echo.net.au to be in the running.



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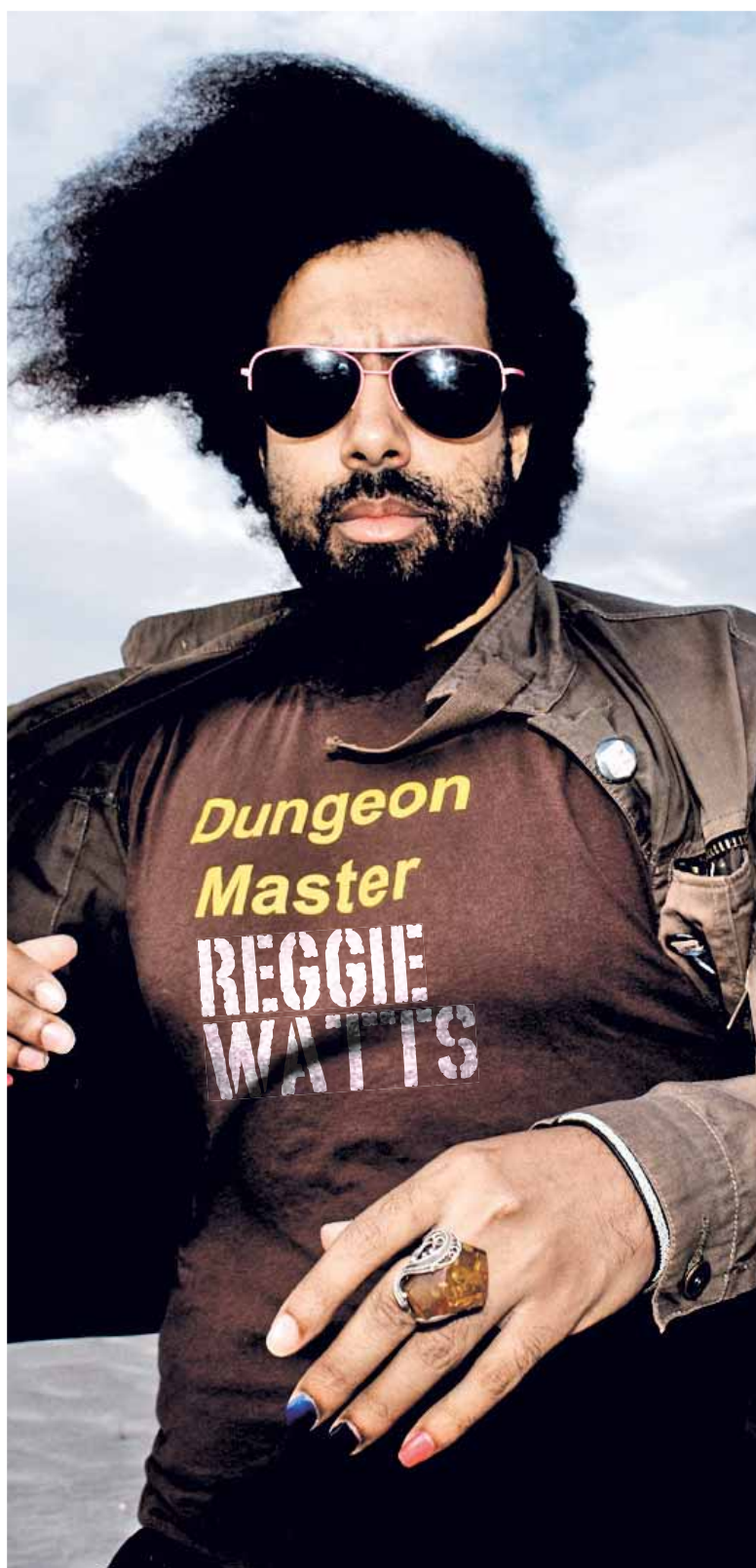
Email gigs@echo.net.au and it will be included for free. Remember the gig guide too, the best way to advertise the Tweed's events.

Does humour belong in music? Frank Zappa asked this question back in the 1980s, and though his question may never be answered, upcoming and inspiring musicians like Reggie Watts attempt to do just that. Reggie is back to perform at the Mullumbimby Civic Hall; he was only here a few months ago, but due to the overwhelming buzz he created he returns Sunday May 24. His solo show, aided by loop machines, harks to perhaps the most influential performer of that genre – Bobby McFerrin. By adapting new technology to a solo voice a symphony is created – bass lines, percussion, harmonies – which lays the foundation for improvisation and exploration. As an incisive commentator one-man-band on all that surrounds him, Watts is like a tornado traversing hip-hop, trip-hop, 80s pop alternative, nu-metal and classical opera. No two songs or performances are ever the same, as he disorients and stuns his audiences like a supernatural force.

Born in Germany and raised in the US, Reggie is a classically trained pianist and jazz singer. He made his name playing and singing in the Seattle music scene through the 90s. Shifting to a music-comedy hybrid Reggie infiltrated the New York and Los Angeles comedy scenes, and top festivals including South By South West (USA), Edinburgh Fringe (UK), Montreal's Just For Laughs and Cape Town Comedy Festival. He is winner of the 2005 Malcolm Hardee 'Oy Oy' Award, the 2006 Andy Kaufman Comedy Award, and the 2006 Seattle Mayor's Arts Award. He lives in Brooklyn, New York and frequently performs alongside Regina Spektor, Imogen Heap and the Dresden Dolls, Flight of the Conchords' Jermaine, Brent, Arj Barker, French chanteuse Camille, Kristen Schaal and Eugene Mirman to name a few.

What influence has Bobby McFerrin had on jazz singers?

He brought it to the mainstream. Jazz singers from way back have often used the elements of scat, or mimicking instruments – many could replicate bass lines and high hats... Bobby could do



the whole thing without a band.

Do you think that comedy can cheapen the musical experience?

Good question. It depends on how it's used and the context. If it's a great musician trying to be funny then it can be sad, and vice versa. If the initial intent was to be good music and then comedy is attached, it may not work.

So where does that leave your music?

Oh my music is crap (laughs). No, my show combines the two and there is both moments of serious music as well as comedic elements.

What lesser-known artists have influenced you?

Al Jarreau, Mr Bungle (Mike Patton), Van Hunt, Anita Baker, Suzi and the Banshis, Michael Winslow, Peter Murphy, Nipzer Ebb. Also D' Angelo's album Voodoo. It influenced so many and hasn't got the recognition it deserves. He asked bassist Pino Palladino to play as back from the beat as he could. He then moved him back in the mix even more, and then moved the drums forward. This created a unique sound unheard of before which is completely distinct.

Was yours a musical household?

No, but my parents love music. They loved James Brown, jazz artists like John Coltrane, also Stevie Wonder. My mum loves Edith Piaf. I grew up listening to the top 40 as well, and started piano at age five.

What other inspiration do you draw upon – books, poetry, art, architecture, economics?

I love technology design that integrates human usability – software, operating systems, that sort of thing. I like the way technology interacts with humans.

Is nostalgia the enemy of art?

No, it's a fuel for art. It can be too precious, and I like to take nostalgia and mix it with the now.

Reggie performs at the **Mullumbimby Civic Hall, Sunday May 24**. Doors open **7.15pm** for a 8pm show. Cuisine by Open Table, support by S Sorrensen and custom-designed Set/Décor/Projections are by Jonathan Oxlade. Tickets are \$25 available at Fairy Floss, Byron Bay and Mullumbimby Bookshop.

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Friday 29 May, 8pm

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Friday 5 June, 8pm

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Saturday 6 June, 7pm

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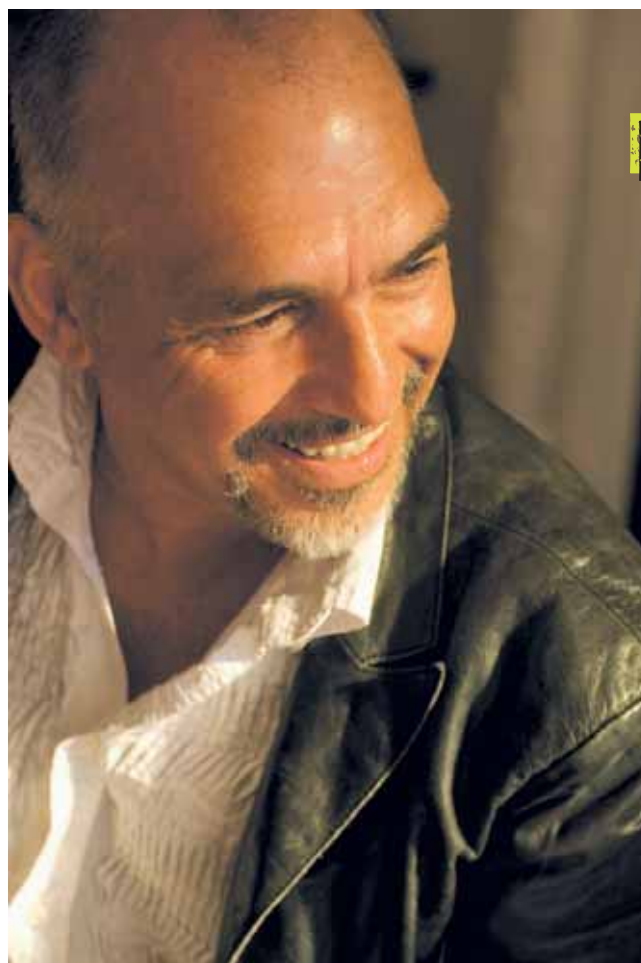
THE HORN

Mandy Nolan

When it comes to sex, at 41, I thought that I was across most of the practices employed by the average human. On a day to day level, most sexual activity involves a bit of socks-on missionary but there are those who like it kinky. And good luck to them if they could be bothered to make the extra effort. Some people love a spanking, others prefer the gimp mask and a few hours in the stocks while the average plushophile gets off on intimacy with a modified teddy bear and I have even heard of businessmen who enjoy crawling around on all fours, sucking a pacifier in an adult nappy. From group sex to doing it alone, I think you'll find that homosapiens has found a number of ingenious ways to reach the same outcome (pardon the pun). It wasn't until I was reading my daughter's magazine that I came across a story that had me gobsmacked. This guy really goes the extra mile. Literally. 'I have sex with my car' declared a proud young man creepily draped over his VW Beetle. Yep, this bloke is what's now known as a mechaphile, one of only a

handful (thank christ for that) of people who take their love of cars to the extreme. Jordan Witham not only has published photos of himself with his vehicle, he admits to having penetrative sex with the exhaust pipe. I can only hope the car has cooled down and he has a covered garage. God help the neighbours if he's got off-street parking. And what if he gets a wandering eye? What if the shiny silver of a new exhaust catches his interest from a neighbour's driveway? Man, if I lived near him it wouldn't be a case of Lock up Your Daughters, more like: Lock Up Your Motors! Apparently it all started pretty innocently. Jordan was rubbing his car's body work and he became aroused. (As you do. Frankly that's why I don't wash my car. Deliver me from temptation). After a bit of self pleasuring it led to a more penetrative relationship. I'd be asking the question everyone's asking Matty Johns at the moment: was it consensual? Just because she doesn't put the brakes on, doesn't mean you've got the green light. Apparently Jordan's mum isn't aware of her son's rather

erotic love for vehicles but recounts an embarrassing moment catching her son pants down watching Herbie Goes Bananas. Jordan's dad is more open-minded and holds the opinion that different people are into different things. Apparently he's fond of letterboxes and has a fresh take on how to blow them up. Jordan is not interested in women, not unless she's built like a truck with impressive rear suspension, fog lights and a tidy little chassis. But Jordan has kept his options open. He's not straight. He's bought himself a new car which he calls Todd. Even though he admits to finding Todd attractive, he has sex with Ingo his VW, who he identifies as a girl, more regularly, mainly because Todd is kept in the driveway. 'I have to sneak outside in the middle of the night to do it with him,' says Jordan. And what a sight that must be for the chap across the road coming home from the pub. I suppose when one of his vehicles won't start in the morning, Jordan can quite accurately say 'I think the engine's rooted!'



JOE CAMILLERI AND THE BLACK SORROWS SATURDAY 8PM AT THE COOLANGATTA HOTEL



live music

So authentic is Craig's sound and look, in 2005 he was used as the face of Channel 9's Starstruck. **Seagulls Friday May 22 at 8pm.**

The Syncopators

Great jazz at the **South Tweed Sports Club – The Syncopators** (from Melbourne) **Saturday May 23, 7.30pm.**

You Am I

The incomparable **You Am I** are hitting Australian stages in May. Fresh from their crowd-stopping performance at Sound Relief in Sydney and a European Tour, You Am I will be hitting the road again and making a stop at The Cooly. The stats read well, most of us know them, 8 records, 3 numbers 1's, 9 ARIA's, 32 nominations no less, live music awards, soundtracks and of course 1874 shows all over the globe. Recently announced as headliners of this years JD set, You Am I will be warming up with a Gold Coast show at **Coolangatta Hotel**, the scene of some classic You Am I shows over the last few years. **Thursday May 21 at 8pm.**

The Black Sorrows

The Black Sorrows are back! This is one of Australia's most-loved bands – they have sold more than one million albums and released classic singles such as *Chained To The Wheel*, *Harley and Rose* and *Hold On To Me*. They return with their first new studio album in eight years – *Roarin Town*. **Saturday May 23, 8pm, at the Coolangatta Hotel.**

The Zookeepers

The Zookeepers party band is a tight, dynamic and versatile live covers act offering the best in live entertainment and provide awesome live music. **Friday May 22 at the Cabarita Sports Club.**

Paul Atkins

Paul is one of the busiest solo acoustic entertainers on the Gold Coast! Hailing from Canada, Paul plays a blend of soul, reggae, funk, pop and rock covers with his own twist. **Saturday May 23 at the Cabarita Sports Club.**

Emma Dean video clip launch

Brisbane chanteuse **Emma Dean** returns to the Gold Coast with her full band to launch her new video clip *Real Life Computer Game*. Most artists are content to stick with the formula they're known for, changing as much or as little as they think they can get away with. Emma Dean however isn't most artists. In fact, on her debut album *Real Life Computer Game* the Brisbane-based performer has

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The Loud '09 Festival

The all ages **Loud '09 Festival** is coming up quick and features the Butterfly Effect, Mammal, Mourning Tide, Pez and 360, Funkoars and a whole bunch more. Ten finalists from the Loud '09 Band Competition will also appear at the festival, and one of the finalists is Northern Rivers act The Nine Sons of Dan. See more at www.myspace.com/ninesonsofdan For more information on loud '09 Band Competition go to www.themusicpit.com.au. **Gold Coast Convention Centre, Broadbeach Sunday June 7.** Tickets from ticketek.com.au or phone 132 848. General \$56+bf and gates \$65. Proudly supported by JJJ.

Workshop on getting your music promoted

Unknown musician **Johnnie Mac** from Uki rocketed to number one on Triple J's *Unearthed* charts last month, plus got two other songs in the top ten without playing a single gig. Next month he will reveal how he did it at a Gold Coast three day workshop. Johnnie Mac hit the top of the charts in 35 days despite having no money, no record deal, and no manager. His over-night success has resulted in a flurry of CD sales and media acclaim. Johnnie's secret is he uses innovative online marketing tech-

niques. The workshop will be held at the **Quality Hotel, Cnr Makeri Road and Sunshine Boulevard, Mermaid Waters.** For more information visit www.rockstarsecretsexposed.com

The Mick Jagger and Tina Turner Experience

Featuring Kerry James as Tina Turner and Craig Taylor as Mick Jagger, the show features two hours of non-stop hits including *Jumping Jack Flash*, *Honky Tonk Woman*, *River Deep and Private Dancer*. With sensational costumes and a band featuring some of Sydney's finest musicians, **The Mick Jagger and Tina Turner Experience** is musically brilliant, raucously funny and even sometimes a little irreverent. Kerry James, whose impersonation of Tina Turner has been described as 'just freakish' by British media, has toured Europe, the US, the Middle East and the UK, and has worked alongside some of the biggest names in the business including The Hollies, Tony Bennett and Jerry Lewis. Craig Taylor has become known as Australia's answer to Mick Jagger, with a voice and appearance uncannily resembling the 'Voice of Brit Rock'. Craig had appeared on television on numerous occasions, including performing on The Midday Show and Bert Newton's GMA.



THE AUSTRALIAN BEE GEES



EMMA DEAN



CHRIS MALLORY BAND



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THE MICK JAGGER & TINA TURNER EXPERIENCE



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Unplugged in the Basement – Chris Mallory Band

The Chris Mallory Band is set to headline Unplugged in the Basement at the **Gold Coast Arts Centre** with support act Jaya and Amy Cushway on **Thursday May 21**. Doors, food and bar open at 7:30pm. Bands start at 8:15pm.

The Australian Bee Gees

From London's West End and the dazzling Las Vegas strip to the sands of Dubai and the exotic Far East, **The Australian Bee Gees** are back on the Gold Coast for one night only. Hailed as 'The best Bee Gee's tribute in the world', The Australian Bee Gees have captured the look, the sound and the personality that defines one of the most successful and adored acts in musical history. **Gold Coast Arts Centre, Saturday 8pm.**

A Pommie Day Out

Comedian and entertainer **David Lee-Jay's** unique show features lots of British humour and sing-along songs such as *When you're smiling, Hello who's your lady friend?, If you were the only girl in the world, You are my sunshine*, surely bringing back memories for the audience. **A Pommie Day Out, Wednesday 27** at 11am at **Twin Towns**. Tickets: members \$5, non members \$10.

From the Tweed to the Richmond, via Broadfoot

Broadfoot are playing three gigs this weekend – the first sees them in their trio format **Friday May 22** at the **King-scliff Beach Hotel** starting at 8.30pm. **Saturday night, May 23**, Broadfoot features a stretchy line up with the extra guitar of John 'Be Goode' Moodie joining the regular 'mob'. They are then back at **Lennox Point Hotel**. They wake, set up and start the party all over again, on **Sunday May 24** from 1 to 5pm at the **Shaws Bay Hotel in East Ballina**.

Samba-Blisstas – six week course in Kingscliff

It's official, the date has been set for the first ever **Carnaval Drumming and Percussion**

course in Kingscliff, which will train up a local team to become the Kingscliff contingent of the **Samba-Blisstas!** It all starts on **Wednesday** nights from **June 10** (6.30pm to 8pm), and the full course fee is \$175 with all equipment supplied. If the numbers are there to continue at the end of the six weeks, ongoing sessions will be \$20 per class. So if you're keen, please visit and email them at www.carnavaldrumming.com for confirmation of a 'yes' and they will send you the info and details on how and where to send your money to book. Spots are limited to 30 people for every course.

A Classical Concert by the Sea

Tweed Palliative Support is holding a fundraising concert in an ocean front home at **Pottsville Beach Sunday May 24** to raise funds for its newly acquired hospice at Dulguigan. Formerly known as The Bright Side of Life, the hospice will extend end-of-life options for those who would prefer to spend their last precious days or weeks surrounded by family and friends in a non-medical environment where care and compassion are provided by highly trained staff and volunteers. This will be the only hospice between Newcastle and Hope Island, Queensland. **The Classical Concert by the Sea** will feature **The Avondale Players**, a chamber music quintet comprising David McNeven (cello), Anna Stoddart (flute), Mark Meekin (violin), Maria Bashford (viola) and Laura Hymers (oboe). Also featured will be Paul McGeeown, tenor. TPS urgently needs funds to develop and maintain this facility for the people of Tweed Shire. A series of fundraising events is planned for the future. Tickets are \$30 and include champagne and canapés. For further information and to book call TPS 02 6672 8459 or Deirdre 02 6676 1183. Numbers are strictly limited so phone now. **Sunday May 24**, at 2pm. Venue: **7 Monash Place, Pottsville Beach**.

The Big Band at The Buddha Bar

In times of recessions and economic collapses, what better way to enjoy the demise of capitalism than to experience the sounds of Ellington, Basie and big band Latin tunes? The **Big Band at the End of the Universe** is a no nonsense 16 piece ensemble committed to playing high quality arrangements of the world's greatest composers. They rehearse every week locally and have done so for over two years, and the result is a sound that is both rare and beautiful. This is not old crusty Glenn Miller big band stuff, this is hip Latin and swing arrangements that you don't normally hear in



THE SYNCOPATORS SOUTH TWEED SPORTS CLUB, 7.30PM SATURDAY

the Shire. This gig will feature singer Heidi Adams. They are perhaps one of the few big bands in Australia to have a regular monthly gig! **Buddha Bar** this **Sunday** at 7pm.

FEHVA

Yeshe and The Buttery Recovery Choir

Yeshe will open our souls to the art of world music when he performs with Cyé Wood at the opening night of FEHVA, **Monday May 25** at the **A&I Hall** Bangalow. Multilingual singer/songwriter Yeshe will be on mbira and kamele ngoni with Cyé Wood on violin/viola. He will take us on a world music journey with original compositions as well as his interpretations of traditional African songs. The Buttery Recovery Choir will also be performing on the night. The Choir by Loani McRae made their debut recently with a rousing performance at the Byron Bluesfest. FEHVA Opening Night will be a true celebration of the Arts. For more information go to www.fehva.com. Tickets are available through Jetset Travel Marvel Street, Byron Bay, 6685 6262.

COMEDY

Comedy in the Basement – Lawrence Mooney

As a seasoned comedian, presenter and actor, Lawrence has established himself as one of Melbourne's leading entertainers. He initially trained to be an actor at Melbourne's National Theatre Drama School during the 1990s, where he featured in a number of productions. He later acted in the ABC's well respected police dramas *Janus* and *Phoenix II* and began regularly performing at the Melbourne International Comedy Festival and touring nationally with the Festival's Roadshow. **Gold Coast Arts Centre** 7.30pm **Friday**. Support is by Damien Power, and MC is Mark McConville.

theatre

Li'l Abner

Students at Murwillumbah High School are in the final stages of rehearsal for the 2009 musical production **Li'l Abner**. The musical is based on the

comic strip of the same name and is set in the southern hick town of 'Dogpatch USA'. In a rollicking farce which bares an uncomfortable but extremely funny resemblance to the political climate of George W. Bush style Americanism, the story involves the collision between the 'down-home' and

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the 'up-town'. It deals with issues as tragically diverse as gender politics, militarism, social security, patriotism and exploitation are dealt up with great songs, full orchestra, larger than life characters. Expect to be entertained! This colourful show for the whole family will be presented on **Wednesday May 27, Friday May 29 and Saturday May 30**, at the **Elliott Centre at Murwillumbah High**. Tickets are available at the school office or by phoning 02 6672 1566.

Ruby Moon

Murwillumbah Theatre Company is excited to announce their second play for the year – the entertaining yet disturbing psychodrama **Ruby Moon** by Matt Cameron, which opens on **Friday May 29, 7.30pm** at the **Murwillumbah Civic Centre**. This modern Australian drama begins like a fairy tale when 10-year-old little Ruby sets off to visit her grandma and never returns. The play explores the agony of her parents Sylvie and Ray as they try to understand what happened, as well as the possible motivations of a series of eccentric neighbourhood characters who knew Ruby. This play promises to stretch the imagination and push the boundaries. Tickets will be available at Murwillumbah Music Shop or at the door. Adults \$15, concession \$12, and school students \$5. For enquiries call Rosemary 6672 1520.

dance

The official Bang

Gang Party

The **Bang Gang DeeJays** have become heroes on the indie disco party scene not only in Australia, but internationally as well. They are infamous for the no-holds-barred approach to partying and they seem to create controlled chaos wherever they go! Jaime Doom and Gus Da Hoodrat are rolling back into town to host their official Bang Gang Party at Elsewhere on Friday May 22.

motion:theory with Daniel Webber + Ben Abrahams

After a more than impressive performance last month **Daniel Webber** returns to **Saturdays at elsewhere** in **May** to an eager crowd. Mixing together some acid and upbeat progressive house the Byron boy and motion:theory resident **Ben Abrahams** make an amazing pair behind the decks! **Elsewhere, Saturday.**

Royale Sunday with Ladyboy + Giv

Elsewhere welcomes back **Ladyboy** to the decks as he (she?) takes time out from a busy schedule (supporting Shazam and Jacques Renault to name just a few) to join us on the

Gold Coast. Ladyboy will throw a bit of italo disco in with the Royale Sunday vocal indie mix this **Sunday** beside the Royale master himself, **Giv**.

galleries

Tweed River Art Gallery Exhibitions

Dry Rain – Hobie Porter

A dramatic yet intimate glimpse into **Hobie Porter's** creative and environmental concerns. Exhibition floortalk 2pm **Sunday May 24**. Workshop **Saturday 30** and **Sunday May 31** from 10am to 4pm.

The 'Spectacle' of performance drawing by Kellie O'Dempsey

Collaborative performance sessions on **Sunday May 24** at 12 to 12:30pm and **Sunday May 31** at 12 to 12:30pm.

Until June 15: Facelift –

a selection of painted and photographic portraits from the Gallery's renowned collection.

Tweed River Art Gallery, Mistral Road, Murwillumbah.
 Phone: (02) 6670 2790 or email: tweedart@tweed.nsw.gov.au

Splendour In The Grass Event and Camping Tickets Sold Out

Organisers would like to advise that **Splendour In The Grass** weekend and camping tickets to the 2009 event have completely sold out. 'We are yet again in awe of the interest in Splendour, thanks to everyone for your support and embracing our ticketing process with its anti-scalping features and carbon offsetting option,' said Event Producers Jessica Ducrou and Paul Piticco. If you missed out on tickets, don't despair – from **9.00am June 15** – those who bought Splendour in the Grass tickets but can no longer attend will have the option to offer them for re-sale (less booking and admin fees) via www.qjump.com.au so that those who didn't secure a ticket in the general release have a chance to grab one. For more info on this resale option, head to www.splendourinthegrass.com/faqs.

coming up

The Loud '09 Festival

Gold Coast Convention Centre, Broadbeach
Sunday June 7

Wintersun

29 May-June 8

www.wintersun.org.au

Black Market Rhythm Co. & Cool Calm Collective
 Soundlounge

May 29

Murwillumbah Theatre Co Ruby Moon

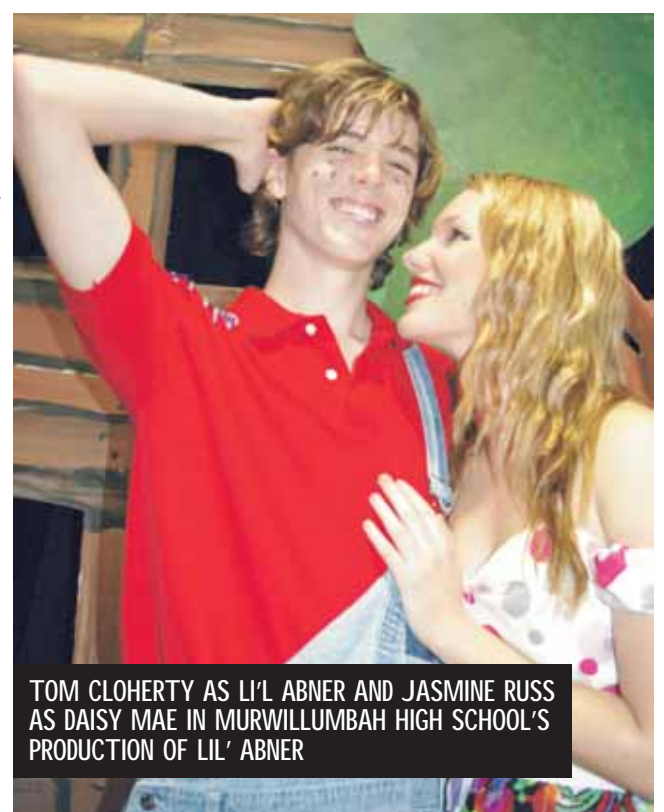
Fri May 29

Murwillumbah Civic Centre

Samba-Blissta 6 week course
 Kingscliff Community Hall
Wednesday June 10



A CLASSICAL CONCERT BY THE SEA FOR TWEED PALLIATIVE SUPPORT MAY 24, 7 MONASH PLACE POTTSVILLE BEACH, 2PM





gig guide local events and entertainment

THURSDAY 21

■ AUSTRALIAN TAVERN, M'BAH 9PM **LIVE MUSIC**
■ CUDGEN LEAGUES CLUB, KINGSCLIFF 5.30PM **LYNDSAY HAMMOND**
■ CLUB BANORA 4PM **GLENN BRACE**
■ COOLANGATTA HOTEL, GOLD COAST 8PM **YOU AM I**
■ GOLD COAST ARTS CENTRE 7.30PM **UNPLUGGED IN THE BASEMENT: CHRIS MALLORY BAND**
■ SEAGULLS 5.30PM **BJ LITTLE**
■ THE SANDS HOTEL COOLANGATTA **BATTLE OF THE BANDS SEMI FINAL** 8PM
■ TWIN TOWNS, **LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**
■ BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 9PM **AGENCY DUB COLLECTIVE**
■ THE RAILS, BYRON 6.30PM **FRIENDS OF HERS**
■ HOTEL GREAT NORTHERN, BYRON **JOSH PYKE**
■ LA LA LAND, BYRON **DANIEL WEBBER**
■ LIQUID, BYRON **BASIC NOVA EP LAUNCH DJ SANDY SITLANI + DJ NAVIN + DJ ABRAHAM PUNNEN**
■ RICE RESTAURANT, BRUNS 6PM **SHADOW SUNDA**
■ SUFFOLK PARK HALL 7.30PM **BOYCOTT JAPANESE PRODUCTS FILM**
■ MULLUMBIMBY RSL 7PM **JAM NIGHT**
■ COURT HOUSE HOTEL, MULLUM 7.30PM **OPEN MIC WITH MC NICK PENN**

FRIDAY 22

■ AUSTRALIAN TAVERN, M'BAH 9PM **DOOR 7**
■ CUDGEN LEAGUES CLUB, KINGSCLIFF 7.30PM **PAUL RENO**
■ CABARITA BEACH SPORTS CLUB, BOGANGAR 8PM **ZOO KEEPERS**

■ CABARITA BEACH BAR AND GRILL 9PM **MASON RACK**
■ CLUB BANORA 7.30PM **SMOKIN' CRAWDADS**
■ CURRUMBIN RSL 7PM **KAFFENE**
■ COOLANGATTA HOTEL, GOLD COAST, 8PM **THE LOUD 09 OUTDOOR MUSIC FESTIVAL & BAND COMPETITION**
■ ELSEWHERE, GOLD COAST, **OFFICIAL BANG GANG PARTY W/ JAIME DOOM + GUS DA HOODRAT + RESIDENT, AUDUN**
■ GOLD COAST ARTS CENTRE 7.30PM **COMEDY IN THE BASEMENT - LAWRENCE MOONEY**
■ KINGSCLIFF BEACH HOTEL, 8.30PM **BROADFOOT**
■ KINGSCLIFF BEACH CLUB 7.30PM **LOADED DICE**
■ IMPERIAL HOTEL, MUR'BAH 8PM **THE PARTY ANIMALS**
■ MURWILLUMBAH SERVICES MEMORIAL CLUB 6.30PM **MACKA**
■ MURWILLUMBAH HOTEL 9PM **DJ LEE**
■ POTTSVILLE BEACH SPORTS CLUB 7PM **RUSSEL HINTON**
■ SALT BAR, CASURINA 8.30PM **SMART ARTIST**
■ SEAGULLS 8PM **BJ LITTLE**
■ SEAGULLS 8PM **THE MICK JAGGER & TINA TURNER EXPERIENCE**
■ SOUNDLOUNGE 7PM **EMMA DEAN (VIDEO CLIP LAUNCH) & GEORGIA POTTER**
■ THE SANDS HOTEL COOLANGATTA 9PM **DJ**
■ THE LOFT-GOLD COAST, **AFRO MOSES SOLO WITH KATIA DEEMSTER**
■ TWEED HEADS BOWLS CLUB 7.30PM **DUDES OF DOO WOP**
■ TWIN TOWNS SERVICES CLUB, 9PM **PEKO**
■ BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 9.30PM **8 BALL AITKEN**
■ THE RAILS, BYRON 7PM **BETTY**

BLISSETT

■ HOTEL GREAT NORTHERN, BYRON **MOTLEY (UK)**
■ BUDDAH BAR, BYRON 8PM **BLAZE FIRE SOUND FEATURING RAZ BIN SAM, MAJOR KRAZY, WHIPLASH, WADE, ELEPHANT WISE, DOLLAMIX**
■ LA LA LAND, BYRON **CHRIS KAYE + WEBBER + RUSHTON**
■ HOTEL BRUNSWICK 7PM **WORD PLAY**
■ BANG THAI 7PM **URBAN JAZZ WITH TIM SLADDEN & JACK BRITTEN**
■ COURT HOUSE HOTEL, MULLUMBIMBY 7.30PM **FUN GIRL INFECTION**
■ ART PIECE GALLERY, MULLUM 6PM **EXHIBITION: 5 BATHS A DAY IN SHADES OF PAYNES GREY**
■ MULLUMBIMBY DRILL HALL, 5.30PM **BOYCOTT JAPANESE PRODUCTS FILM**

SATURDAY 23

■ AUSTRALIAN TAVERN, M'BAH 9PM **DANCE PARTY WITH DJ**
■ CABARITA BEACH SPORTS CLUB, BOGANGAR 8PM **PAUL ATKINS**
■ CLUB BANORA, BANORA POINT 8PM **BLIND LEMON**
■ COOLANGATTA HOTEL 8PM **THE BLACK SORROWS**
■ COOLANGATTA SANDS HOTEL 9PM **DJ**
■ COOLANGATTA AND TWEED HEADS GOLF CLUB 7PM **UNDERPAID**
■ CURRUMBIN RSL 7PM **MASON RACK BAND**
■ ELSEWHERE, GOLD COAST, **MOTION:THEORY W/ DANIEL WEBBER + BEN ABRAHAMS**
■ KINGSCLIFF BEACH CLUB 7.30PM **BEST OF THE QUEST - SEARCH FOR A STAR**
■ GOLD COAST ARTS CENTRE, 7PM **JAZZ IN THE BASEMENT: JENNI COCKING**

■ GOLD COAST ARTS CENTRE, **THE AUSTRALIAN BEE GEES**
■ MURWILLUMBAH HOTEL 9PM **FAT ALBERT**
■ MURWILLUMBAH SERVICES MEMORIAL CLUB 6.30PM **NICK WATERS**
■ POTTSVILLE BEACH SPORTS CLUB 6.30PM **SIMONE**
■ SALT BAR, CASURINA, 8.30PM **BOUNCE**
■ SEAGULLS 8PM **MICHAEL KING**
■ SOUTH TWEED SPORTS CLUB, 3PM **LIVE JAZZ**
■ SOUTH TWEED SPORTS CLUB, 7.30PM **THE HIGHWAYMEN**
■ TWIN TOWNS SERVICES CLUB 9PM **SHOEBOX**
■ BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 9.30PM **DIRTY LAUNDRY WITH DJ NOWAK**
■ THE RAILS, BYRON 6.30PM **MISH FORNITO AND BAND**
■ HOTEL GREAT NORTHERN, BYRON **AFRO MOSES BAND**
■ BO'S, BYRON 6PM **JIMMY & JOHNNY B GOOD**
■ BYRON COMMUNITY CTR **SUNWRAE ENSEMBLE**
■ LA LA LAND, BYRON **LIVEWIRE**
■ LIQUID, BYRON **HOUSE OF NOW: DJ NICK, DJS ADAM AND CAPTAIN KAINE**
■ COCOMANGAS, BYRON **DJ QUALITY CONTROL + FOXXY**
■ THE YURT @ TEMPLE BYRON 7PM **BELLY TEMPLE (DANCE)**
■ HOTEL BRUNSWICK 7PM **HEKYL & JIVE**
■ COURT HOUSE HOTEL, MULLUM 7.30 **BO JENKINS**
■ MULLUMBIMBY RSL 7.30PM **JIM FAIRFUL**
■ MULLUMBIMBY CIVIC HALL 7.30PM **TINA MALIA**

SUNDAY 24

■ CLUB BANORA, 11AM **SUZI JAY,**

12.15PM **TEST PATTERN**
■ COOLANGATTA SANDS HOTEL **SMASHED CRABS** 5PM
■ CURRUMBIN RSL, 1.30PM **ROBBIE ROSENLUND**
■ ELSEWHERE, GOLD COAST, **ROYALE SUNDAY W/ LADYBOY + GIV**
■ POTTSVILLE BEACH SPORTS CLUB, 4PM **RICHARD O**
■ POTTSVILLE BEACH, 7 MONASH PLACE, 2PM **A CLASSICAL CONCERT BY THE SEA**
■ SALT BAR, CASURINA, 1PM **SOULMAN O'GAIA**
■ SEAGULLS CLUB, 2PM **LINE DANCING**
■ SEAGULLS, JAZZ IN THE SHED CAFÉ 2PM **LIVE JAZZ**
■ SPHINX ROCK CAFE, MT BURRELL, 1- 5PM **THE GARDEN PATH COLLECTIVE**
■ TWEED HEADS BOWLS CLUB 12.30PM **MICHAEL KING**
■ TWIN TOWNS SERVICES CLUB 7PM **LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**
■ UKI CAFE 11AM **PEACE BROTHER**
■ BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 4.30PM **KAFTA 8PM DJS GRAVY & NOWAK**
■ THE RAILS, BYRON 6PM **THE BLUES DOCTORS**
■ HOTEL GREAT NORTHERN, BYRON **SIDESHOW**
■ BUDDHA BAR, BYRON 8PM **THE BIG BAND AT THE END OF THE UNIVERSE**
■ LA LA LAND, BYRON **CAPTAIN KAINE + GUESTS**
■ MULLUMBIMBY CIVIC HALL 8PM **REGGIE WATTS**
■ HOTEL BRUNSWICK 3PM **THE REAL DEAL 7PM LEIGH JAMES DUO**

MONDAY 25

■ KINGSCLIFF BEACH CLUB 12PM **ROBBIE ROSENLUND**
■ TWEED HEADS BOWLS CLUB 4PM **ROBBIE ROSENLUND**

■ THE RAILS, BYRON 6.30PM **PAUL APPLEKAMP**
■ HOTEL GREAT NORTHERN, BYRON **MATT SEABERG**
■ COCOMANGAS, BYRON **BACKPACKER NIGHT**
■ CHEEKY MONKEYS, BYRON **MEXICAN MADNESS**
■ BANGALOW A+I HALL **OPENING NIGHT OF FEHVA: YESHE AND LOANI MCRAE AND THE BUTTERY RECOVERY CHOIR**

TUESDAY 26

■ AUSTRALIAN TAVERN, M'BAH 8PM **BATTLE OF THE BANDS AND JAM NIGHT**
■ SEAGULLS LAKEVIEW LOUNGE 5.30PM **CRAIG SHAW**
■ TWEED HEADS BOWLS CLUB 1PM **PETER JOHNSON**
■ THE RAILS, BYRON 6.30PM **JOE ROBINSON**
■ HOTEL GREAT NORTHERN, BYRON **HARRY HEALY**
■ BUDDHA BAR, BYRON **HARRY HEALY**
■ COCOMANGAS, BYRON **RETRO PARTY**
■ CHEEKY MONKEYS, BYRON **COYOTE UGLY**
■ BANGALOW HOTEL 7.30PM **BRACKETS JAM NIGHT**

WEDNESDAY 27

■ CLUB BANORA 11AM **BERNADETTE FISHER**
■ COOLANGATTA HOTEL, 8PM **JAM NIGHT WITH REMEDY**
■ CURRUMBIN RSL 6.30PM **NICK DISBRAY**
■ GREENMOUNT BEACH CLUB 7PM **DOWNBEAT JAZZ BAND**
■ SEAGULLS LAKEVIEW LOUNGE 1.15 - 3.15PM **DON WHITAKER**
■ TWEED HEADS BOWLS CLUB 1PM **DAVE CLAYTON**
■ TWIN TOWNS SERVICES CLUB 11AM **A POMMIE DAY OUT**

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beach buzz

what's happening in the surf

Cudgen Surf Notes

The 88th annual presentation of awards and trophies was held at the surf club last Saturday with a large attendance of members and guests.

Their were 44 members who had 35 hours of patrols or more who were recognised. The Jack Aked Shield for most hours went to Carol Nelson, Individual patrol efficiency to Mick O'Brien and Easter Friday patrol the champion patrol team.

Pointscore champion for 08–09 was Craig Spears. Cadet Club Champions; Letia Hurt; Callum Smith. Junior Club Champion; Lynton Hurt. Senior Club Champion; Jarrad Cain. Open Ski Champion; Jarrad Cain. Masters Female Champion; Jo Colja. Male Masters Champion; Russell Zahn. Club Coaches Award; Callum Smith. New Bronze Holder; Tim Re-

gan. IRB Driver of the Year; Mick O'Brien and Steve Spence. Best Competition Performance; Matt Rigney and Ben James. Furthest in Masters Competition; Jan Gielis. Most Consistent Masters Performer; Adam Mills. Trainer of the Year; David Field. Boatie of the Year; Mark Buckman. Cadet Club person of the year; Nathan Sharp. Junior Club person of the year; Dylan Klein. Senior Club person of the year; Ken Small. Blue of Blues; Mick O'Brien.

FNC Junior Titles

Round two of the prestigious Fantastic Noodles Far North Coast Regional Junior Surfing Titles proved to be fantastic on Sunday at Broken Head, with perfect conditions for the region's best.

After some amazing surfing in round one, which saw Sam Cliff from Tweed Heads and Tyler Wright from Lennox Head stamp their class and dominance upon a tough field to claim respective U18 Boys



The Under 16 Boys division of Round two of the Fantastic Noodles Far North Coast Regional Junior Surfing Titles saw some intense battles take place at Broken Head but it was (L-R): Jake Cumberland from Tweed Heads who took the victory from Byron Bay pair Tommy Boucaut and Soli Bailey. Tom Snellgrove from Lennox Head finished fourth.

and Girls division, round two was equally as enticing. The blue ribbon division, Under 18 Boys, saw first round

winner Sam Cliff taking out a close fought final from Mitchell James, Regan Fredericks and Joel Ford.

Jake Cumberland showed he wants the Under 16 Boys title by backing up his first round win with a clear victory over

Tommy Boucaut, Soli Bailey and Tom Snellgrove.

With first round winner Michael Wright away, the Under 14 boys, James Young took the opportunity and backed up his first round second place with a win. Alyssa Lock proved again that she is the one to beat in the Under 14 girls.

Kirsten Ogden was a clear winner in the Under 16 girls division, putting together a wave in the final that scored a near perfect 9.67.Codie Klein fought out a great final in the Under 18 girls defeating Layla Wright and Taylor Telling.

Having recently announced the support of junior surfing throughout the state and the nation, the Fantastic Noodles State Junior Surfing Titles covers ten events in South Australia, Western Australia, Tasmania and Victoria, 14 Regional Junior Surfing Title events in NSW, plus an ASP Pro Junior event in South Australia in July.For more information visit: www.surfingnsw.com.au.

TIDE TIMES					
PHASES OF THE MOON					
New Moon	24th May	10.11 pm			
First Quarter	31st May	1.22 pm			
Full Moon	8th Jun	4.12 am			
Last Quarter	16th Jun	8.15 am			
FRI 22th	High	6.06 am 1.4	Sunrise	6.25 am	
		6.33 pm 1.7	Sunset	5.00 pm	
	Low	12.12 am 0.5	Moonrise	3.39 am	
		12.02 pm 0.4	Moonset	2.53 pm	
SAT 23th	High	6.57 am 1.4	Sunrise	6.25 am	
		7.16 pm 1.8	Sunset	4.59 pm	
	Low	1.03 am 0.4	Moonrise	4.44 am	
		12.44 pm 0.4	Moonset	3.36 pm	
SUN 24th	High	7.49 am 1.4	Sunrise	6.26 am	
		8.03 pm 1.9	Sunset	4.59 pm	
	Low	1.54 am 0.3	Moonrise	5.53 am	
		1.28 pm 0.4	Moonset	4.26 pm	
MON 25th	High	8.43 am 1.4	Sunrise	6.27 am	
		8.51 pm 2.0	Sunset	4.58 pm	
	Low	2.46 am 0.3	Moonrise	7.03 am	
		2.16 pm 0.4	Moonset	5.24 pm	
TUE 26th	High	9.37 am 1.3	Sunrise	6.27 am	
		9.43 pm 2.0	Sunset	4.58 pm	
	Low	3.40 am 0.3	Moonrise	8.10 am	
		3.06 pm 0.4	Moonset	6.31 pm	
WED 27th	High	10.33 am 1.3	Sunrise	6.28 am	
		10.37 pm 1.9	Sunset	4.58 pm	
	Low	4.36 am 0.2	Moonrise	9.11 am	
		4.01 pm 0.5	Moonset	7.41 pm	
THU 28th	High	11.31 am 1.3	Sunrise	6.28 am	
		11.32 pm 1.9	Sunset	4.57 pm	
	Low	5.33 am 0.2	Moonrise	10.03 am	
		5.01 am 0.5	Moonset	8.52 pm	
Eastern Standard Time. Heights in metres.					
Tide times Courtesy of NSW Tide Charts, Manly Hydraulics Laboratory, NSW Dept of Commerce					

MONTHLY MARKETS	
1st Sat	Brunswick Heads (02) 6628 4495
1st Sat 8-11am	Casuarina Farmers' Market 0414 777 432
1st Sun	Banora Point Farmers' Market 0417 759 777
1st Sun	Byron Bay (02) 6680 9703
1st Sun	Pottsville (02) 6676 4555
1st Sun	Tweed Heads (07) 5599 1714
2nd Sat	Kingscliff (02) 6674 0827
2nd Sun	The Channon (02) 6688 6433
2nd Sun	Chillingham (02) 6679 1284
2nd Sun	Lennox Head (02) 6672 2874
2nd Sun	Coolangatta (07) 5533 8202
2nd Sun	Tweed Heads (07) 5599 1714
3rd Sat 8-11am	Casuarina Farmers' Market 0414 777 432
3rd Sat	Mullumbimby (02) 6684 3370
3rd Sat	Murwillumbah Cottage Markets 0417 759 777
3rd Sun	Ballina 6687 4328
3rd Sun	Banora Point Farmers' Market 0417 759 777
3rd Sun	Nimbin (02) 6689 0000
3rd Sun	Pottsville (02) 6676 4555
3rd Sun	Tweed Heads (07) 5599 1714
3rd Sun	Uki (02) 6679 9026
4th Sat	Kingscliff (02) 6674 0827
4th Sun	Bangalow (02) 6687 1911
4th Sun (in 5 Sun month)	Coolangatta (07) 5533 8202
4th Sun	Murwillumbah 0422 565 168
4th Sun	Tweed Heads (07) 5599 1714
5th Sun	Nimbin (02) 6689 0000
5th Sun	Tweed Heads (07) 5599 1714
FARMERS MARKETS	
Each Sat 8-11am	Bangalow (02) 6687 1137
Each Thu 8-11am	Byron Bay (02) 6687 1137
Each Tue	New Brighton (02)6684 5390
Each Sat 8am-1pm	Uki (02) 6679 5438

SPORT RESULTS
BOWLS
Cabarita Beach Men
May Carnival. Pairs winners [skips only] 1st J Banks,2nd B Lamb ,3rd I Taylor
4th R Hickman, 5th J Felton, 6th P Earle.
Round winners 1st P Duncan, 2nd B Kent, 3rd B Murray. Triples winners [skips only] 1st B Sands, 2nd M Penfold, 3rd D Hopps [Cabarita]
4th M Howarde, 5th Rick ['THE MELLOW ONE'!!!] Parlett, 6th C Flocklock.
Round winners 1st M Barry,2nd P Duncan,3rd J Knight.
Pennant results 16/5/09 Div 2, Cabarita def Mullumbimby 63-60
Div 4, Cabarita def Murwillumbah 65-34, Div 6 Pottsville def Cabarita 80-35.
Condong Cane Toads
Sunday 17th Cane toads 35 bowlers hosted 22 Tweed Heads bowlers and 15 South Tweed Trippers who came from tweed to play bowls and enjoy a BBQ lunch
Winners on the day G Norton, K Hayworth, P Ayres, runner/ups B Hunt, A Warman, T Owen, Losers B Bottrell, S Morten, J Whithela, Lucky trio J Timmins, S Cook, B Dunne,. Raffle winners M Fitzsimons, S Williams, F McPhilips, A Warman all had a great morning of bowls. Our next game 24th May 21 mixed bowlers from Sandgate Brisbane.31st May visit to tweed bowls. Good bowling all.
Condong Men
Wednesday 13th 36 bowlers played in warm condition. Winners being D Coates,K Bland B McLennan. Runner/ups J Timmins, J Ross and K Lutherborough. Raffle winners: K Bland,Pillon, H Ross. Cox. Next Wednesday a biggest morning tea will be held at 3pm for breast cancer. Please bring your money with you for biggest raffle. Thursday 14th Condong Men hosted Gold coast hoteliers to a day of bowls and con just came out winners . Lucky rink winners were R Brown, B Ronweder, runner/ups C Billinghamurst, K Bosley. Raffle winners Prawns C Billinghamurst, beer K Bosley.Thank you for a great day. Open singles played G Miller def K Palmer. Friday night Major Minor Jackpot pairs winners T Lee, C Vigilone 2+18 \$40 each second R Pilon, S Cook 2+14 \$20 each Jackpot next week \$100 Friday 22/5/09 names on board in club pllease .Saturday 16/9 pennant results div 5 Condong 65 Burringbar 60 div 3 Condong 63 Pottsville 64 Div 7 Condong 73 Bangalow 38. Raffell winners K Palmer, T Hart, P Messing.
Cudgen Leagues Ladies
Congratulations to Faye Turner & Joy Ashford winners of the Club C'Ship Pairs Final played last Thursday & to runners up Lorraine Sandall & June Wotherspoon, well done. Ladies
Social results Winners Rnk3, Marion Hull, June Tilley. Raffle Yvonne Pritchard. Congratulations Everybody.
Sun Social BBQ Day results, Winners Judy & Barry Martin, June Wotherspoon. Run-

ners up , Eileen Burke, Tom Grimes, Val Andrews. Raffle winners, 1st Helen Wylie, 2nd F Mitchell. Congratulations to all the winners & to everyone that came to support this great event, the next one will be on Sun 14th June -09.
Coming up, 8.30 - 1st & 2nd Rounds – District C'Ship Fours at Byron Bay today. Thurs Ladies Social 12.30 for 1pm start, all welcome. Mon 25th 8.30 – Mullumbimby Gala Day. Mon 25th 1pm Social Mixed Triples, all welcome. Tues 2nd June 9.30 Committee Meeting. Happy Birthday to all celebrating this week. Members on the sick list, well wishes from All Members. Look forward to seeing Members & Visitors at our Club. Bookings 0266741816/2734. Happy Bowling Everybody.
CUDGEN LEAGUES MEN
MON. 11/5/09 Mixed Mufti Winners J.Whaites, B.Blake
WED.13/5/09 Mens Mufti Winners F.Pieterse, J.Hazel
'A' Grade Pairs Semi Final F.Pieterse, J.Hazel 30 def K.Hansen, M.Grover 15
SAT.16/5/09 Mens Whites Winners R.Tobey, R.Moss
Pennant Results Div. 4 – Brunswick Heads 5 Cudgen 1 at Cudgen
Div. 6 – Cudgen 5 Bangalow 1 at Bangalow
Thank you Bangalow for your hospitality. We won at bowls but the joke telling and social contest was declared a draw.
SUN. 17/5/09 'A' Grade Pairs I.Turnbull, P.Schofield 25 def. P.Tindale, I.Tilley 17
Amended Saturday and Wednesday trophy allocations.
Winners \$30-00.[out of the hat]. Jackpot, 3 draws at \$120-00 [1 times ability,2x out of hat] Visitors welcome.
Kingscliff Ladies
Social Bowls Winners for the 13th May were:
Rink 11 - M. Atkinson / E. Haydon / E. Wilkinson def M. McCrindle / E. Edmed / S. Spoud
Rink 13 - J. Duffy / B.Lane / A. Johnson def J. Kemp / J. Dalmayer / A. Graham
Runners-Up were M. Lincoln / E. Clay-bourn
A Grade winners were J. Scher / N. Craven 19 def L. Willoughby / E. Taylor
E. Claybourn / M. Lincoln 22 def B. Mirls / B. Sheehy 18
Raffle Winners were Marion Gardiner, Jean Dalmayer and Annette Johnson.
PATRONS DAY - WEDNESDAY 3rd JUNE
Ladies the list is now on the Notice Board for you to indicate your attendance. Doris and Laurel look forward to sharing this day with you.
Coming Event: Friday is the commencement of the B. Grade Pairs.
Ladies are you interested in playing Lawn Bowls? Then come to our Free Open Morning. Bowls and coaching supplied. All you need is to wear comfortable clothing and sneakers, or socks. There is to be a Sausage Sizzle after and the important date is Sunday 24th May, 9am - 11am. RSVP by 22nd May by phoning 02 6674

1404.
Kingscliff Men
Those of you who have ever been served a beer by or fronted up to collect winnings from Peter Sheath will appreciate his always present smile and good humour. Peter is unfortunately suffering from a severe illness and needs our support. There will be a Special Twilight Barefoot Bowls and Barbecue on Friday 29th May commencing at 5:00pm. A Monster Raffle will also be drawn later in the evening. It would be great to see a huge turnout of bowlers and other club members. Results of the first round of the B Grade Singles played on Saturday 16th May. B Beattie d B Butler, R Maltby d S McDonald, D Whittington d J Akers, C Lane d K Taylor, P McKirdy d M Scott, W Blackwood d D Roughly. Results of the second round played on Sunday 17th May. B Beattie d R Lewis, D Whittington d R Maltby, L Morris d C Lane, B Henry d T Whittaker, P McKirdy d K Dawson. Draw for the third round to be played on Saturday 23rd May. J Julius v B Beattie, D Whittington v L Morris, B Henry v the winner of G Hallett and T Wonka, P McKirdy v W Blackwood. Roll up 9:00am. Winners to play on Sunday 24th. Nominations or the B Grade Pairs are now open. The list is on the board. Thursday 14th Winners: H Moores, R Makin, J Davies; J Borthwick, G Douglas, S Cupitt; N Madden, H Azzopardi, I Smith; Plate Winners: L Gillespie, S Kemp, N Peacock: Saturday 16th Winners: B Jack, R Cavanagh, T Schofield; J Southwick, E Moore, R Morrissey: Plate Winners: K taylor, D Fines, B Dobbins: Tuesday 19th Winners: T Halloran, K Liddington: Runner Up: B McIlhatten, M Rice: Plate Winner: G Pickett, D Langtry: Coming Up: Kingscliff Men's Over 55 Pairs – Monday 25th May starting at 12:30pm: Total Prize Money: \$1000.00. There will be a Joint Special General Meeting of the Men's and Ladies' Bowls Clubs on Saturday 6th June commencing at 10am.
Tweed Heads Men Social Results
Tues 12 May
Men winners: Ken Withington, Howard Waye, Russell Luland, Terry Patton; Jed Hambleton, Ray Carter, Peter Howell, Tom Kelly; r/up: Len Harrison, Ray White, John Heath, Bill Davies; Cliff Brown, John Bibby, Geoff Green, Jim A. Smith.
Ladies winners: Dorothy Stewart, Sylvia Jackson, Jean Green, Pauline Houghton; r/up: Jill Clark, Kath Sieben, Norma Bell, Margaret Heydt.
Wed 13 May - Random Draw.
Green 1: Jeff Walter, George Brooks; r/up: Paul Price, Ian Wildman.
Green 2: Ken Davey, Ross Cali; r/up: Dennis Lusby, Dennis Freeman.
Green 3: Bob Chapman, Bill Grose; r/up: Les Wurth, Lol Sables.
Green 4: Norm Picking, Peter Harris; r/up: Clem Jones, Brian Scrase.
Fri 15 May
Green 1: Don Shoober, Jack Barnes, Bob Wike; r/up: Peter Howell, Tom Kelly, Geoff

Dixon.
Green 2: Murray Freiberg, Brian Newcombe, Ian Wildman; r/up: Bryan Osborne, Jed Hambleton, Ian Irvine.
Green 3: Len Harrison, Tony Govett, Kim Stephenson; r/up: Ron Edwards, Bob Cumming, Les Hughes.
Sat 16 May
Green 1: Peter Goldsmith, Don Shoober; r/up: Frank Birkin, Ron Parker.
Green 2: Rob Empson, Brian Irby; r/up: Ray Carter, Ross Cali.
Tweed Heads Tourers
Last Sunday there was a mixed contingent of 72 players from Tweed Heads, South Tweed and Condong for a morning game of bowls at Condong Bowling Club. Winners for the Tourers were Jenny Ware, Col Moses and Stan Williams.
Next Sunday, 24 May, the lads will host the South Tweed Trippers and the Pottsville Pirates and the list is on the notice board in the Members Lounge.
TWEED HEADS WOMEN
Winners of the 2009 May Triples was the Cudgen team of Marj Trapnel,June Wotherspoon and Liz Flemming with score 2 plus 45. Second was Parqadise Point's Sandra Petty, Trish Pask and Julie Stevens with 2 plus 41. Third South Tweed's Lorna Goulding, Cheryl Moran and Jenny Blyth with 2 plus 36. Fourth the Tugun team of Lyn Baker, Ann Tough and Olive Crowhurst with 2 plus 36.1st Game Winner Win plus 20 the composite team of Trish Dixon, Pat McClusky and June Beverley. The 2nd game winner was the Coolangatta team of Ruth Armenores,Del Jones and Geraldine Carrie with the win plus 20.
Wednesday Pairs winners were B. Bradley and L. Hodgson and R. Quinlan and M. Van Runt. Runners up were P. Mann and D. Turner and T. Sibley and B. Irwin. Thursday's winners were L. Rayward, M. Cooper, M. Jarick and J. Crerar and J. Pattai, J. White, D. Evans and J. Pearce. Runners up were N. Wise, M. Kelly, J. Ware and J. Armstrong and E. Lees, N. Matheson and R. Walllis.
DARTS
Tweed Valley Darts Association
Results of semi finals played on Monday 18th May.
Hogan's Heroes 8 def Clockwork Orange 3 and Gulls 8 def Jokers 4. Cgulls 6 def Sharks 1 and Devils 6 def Leftovers 4. Michael (Ducky) Brown and Micheal McNamara both threw 180 on the night. Next week Jokers play Hogan's Heroes at the Courthouse Hotel. Clockwork Orange to score please. Leftovers play Cgulls at Sth Tweed Sports Club. Sharks to score please.
Good luck to everyone for next week.
GOLF
Chinderah Veterans Social Golf Results for Thursday May 14. Stroke Winner 'A' grade, Mel Brodie, net 56, new handicap 10. Runner up, John Gordon-Smith, net 58, new handicap 9 .
Winner 'B' grade, Geoff Condon, net 55 (c/ back), new handicap 16. Runner up, Russ

Barns, net 55, new handicap 16.
Winner 'C' grade, Ken Bagnall, net 50, new handicap 24. Runner up, Jan Boulton, net 52, new handicap 26.
Ball rundown to net 59
Next event 21/5/09, Stableford
Results for Monday May 17. Stableford: Winner 'A' grade, Noel Brinmead, 41 points, new handicap 12. Runner up, Tony Brown, 40 points (c/back), new handicap 8.
Winner 'B' grade, Bob Richards, 42 points (c/back), new handicap 13. Runner up, Geoff Mobbs, 42 points (c/back), new handicap 19.
Winner 'C' grade, Doug Helton, 44 points (c/back), new handicap 19. Runner up, Doug Spray, 44 points, new handicap 29. Ball rundown to 38 points.
Next May 25 Stroke & Monthly Medal.
Murwillumbah Golf Club
Sunday 10th May Women's Winner C.Fogo 38 pts Members Winner H.Eustace 43 pts B/R/Down Women 34 pts Mmembers 36pts Monday 11th May B/R/Down to 69 nett N/Pi.
2nd G.Hughes 8th.A.heanes 10th.W.Haigh 14th.R.Masiar Tuesday 5th Winer A.Grade K.Quantrill 37 pts c.b R/ Up A.Amisano 37 pts c.b B.Grade I.McCormack 37 pts R/Up S.Mackey 36 pts Winner C.Grade J.Dobinson 38 pts R/ Up M.Shanley 36 pts N/Pins 2nd J.Smith 8th J.Rockliff & L.Johnson 14th C.Tinker & S.Proud. B.R.Down to 33 pts Wednesday 13th Winner A.Grade A.McLean 39 pts R/ Up R.Masiar 37 pts B.Grade Winner P.Luff 44 pts R/Up D.MacTaggett 43 pts Vetrean D.MacTaggett 43 pts N/Pin 2nd K.Dean 10th S.Harbson B.R.D.to 34 pts c.b Thursday 14th Winner Canadian 2.Stroke J. Moore & B.Lane 64.500 nett R.Up D.White & M.Parkes 66 nett c.b N/Pin 2nd L.Moore 8th V.Ireland & M.Shanley 10th J.East 14th D.McCabe & K.Hall B/R/Down 71 nett c.b Fri 15th May Women Winner R.Austin 38 pts Member Dennis O'Brien 38 pts N/Pin 2nd Deb O'Brien & S.Austin B.R.Down to 32 pts Sat 16th May 2.Person Ambrose Winners W.Colefax & L.Soutar 61.250 nett c.b R/Up J.Cousins & J.Akehurst 61.250 nett N/Pins 2nd S.Turner 8th A.Causley 10th C.Clothier 14th P.Taylor B.R.D.65.500 nett c.b.
NETBALL
Murwillumbah
Results: 11/12
Hot Shots 15 PA–Kelsey Noble d Super Stars 3 PA–Georgia Percy. Bogangar 20 PA–not assigned d Girl Zone 1 PA–not assigned.
Intermediate: The Storm 38 PA–Shelby Gilbert d Cabba Crew 12 PA–Chelsea Ashton. Southern Cross Stars 43 PA–Jaye Magnum d Spice Girls 14 PA–Hannah Sheahan.
Open: Waratahs 24 PA–Caitlin Rabjones d Tigers 23 PA–Melissa Wyness, Cougars 47 PA–Emma Hickman d Flamiun Devils 14 PA–Tegan O'Connor. Newbies won by a forfeit to Lady Beetles.
All draws are now finalised – visit: www.murwillumbah.netball.asn.au.

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They're spinning (it) out! Rally organisers have drip-fed out all the various reports over the past week, eco-impact, cultural heritage, social impact (a misnomer as it was all about dollars not locals' amenity), in order to maximise their media coverage. With the rally boss believed to have majored in psychology, can we assume he was chosen for his expertise in spinning news rather than wheels? The opposition's campaign also appears to be a battle of psychological dimensions but looks like doing a better job of winning hearts and minds.

But if critics feel that it will be just as hard to repel the rally juggernaut as it would be to turn the proverbial ship around, they'd be spot on. Organising committee boss Garry Connelly says a ship carrying container-loads of kit belonging to the 20-odd international teams expected to compete has already set sail from Argentina, bound for Australia. He says he's confident the development application will get up. With the NSW government throwing money at the event and council general manager Mike Rayner spruiking its advantages, any 'no' vote by the council is tipped to invite government intervention.

Tweed Shire Council has taken out two major gongs in the Engineers Australia (Newcastle division) excellence awards and will now compete for national honours in Canberra in November. Its \$45 million sewage treatment plant at Kingscliff won one of five excellence awards from a field of 16 finalists as well as the RTA's award for infrastructure excellence in regional communities. Natural resources chief David Oxenham says apart from meeting the future needs of the Tweed Coast, the plant was good for the environment. 'It has improved local environmental outcomes by integrating world-class



North Star Holiday Resort social-club committee members Pauline Fitzgerald (left) and Pat Bryant with some of the goodies that were sold and raffled at their 10th annual lamington and craft stall last Easter, which raised \$2,800 for four local service organisations (Westpac Life Saver Rescue Helicopter, Rural Fire Service, Cabarita Beach Surf Life Saving Club and Kingscliff Ambulance Service).

The social club is a community within a community with 173 members, more than half the number of permanent residents at the holiday resort of around 350. Club activities include craft, cards, exercise classes, pool aerobics, a cabaret in July and bus outings to events and shows. The club also held its other fundraising event for the year, a biggest morning tea for the Cancer Council, last week. Photo Rod Harvey

engineering solutions with an interactive education facility. We could not have asked for a better outcome?

Backburner hears that feelers are out for a venue to accommodate the race-day car service pits and other crew support facilities that will be more acceptable than the part-closure of a popular beachfront park at Kingscliff. Among those at the top of the list is the football oval at the nearby Cudgen Leagues Club, games permitting. The local residents' association has been among the noisiest opponents of the event's park grabbing, with one Gold Coast Indy escapee predicting it will degenerate into a sex, drugs and rock and roll spectacle on his doorstep.

Wildlife carers have noted a dramatic increase in the number of calls in the past few weeks about echidnas being injured or killed on local roads. Carers

remind motorists to be wary of echidnas' extremely tough spines, capable of piercing the tyres of cars.

Apparently at least one state government minister is now aware of strong opposition to the running of the world rally through the Green Cauldron (the federal government's description for our beautiful Tweed Valley and surrounds). The minister was heard, in the wood-panelled corridors of Macquarie Street, expressing surprise that Events NSW (the state agency which, under the previous premier, gave a secret multi-million-dollar handout of taxpayers' money to the rally organisers to run the event), did not consult with local communities beforehand. Given the event is planned to be run here for many years afterwards, it would have been nice to have been asked.

Apologies to crossword ad-

dicts: last week we published the wrong solution to Mungo's puzzle. This week, the solution to last week's crossword is guaranteed correct. The drudge who made the mistake will spend September in Kingscliff.

Remember that Simpsons episode when a slick salesman comes to town and persuades everyone that a monorail will make them rich? Backburner can't help humming the Monorail Song whenever Tweed residents profess belief in that '\$31 million' coming to them from the rally. 'There's nothing on earth like a genuine, bona fide, electrified, six-car monorail! What'd I say? Monorail!' In case you missed the episode, the salesman sells the town a crock, but he does it with a song and dance routine. Our monorail, sorry rally, salesmen also have a crock for us, but the only entertainment is in the outrageous exaggeration of benefits and minimisation of costs.

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