

THE TWEED SHIRE

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LOCAL & INDEPENDENT



LIFTOUT - MIDDLE PAGES

Political gift's timing 'purely coincidence'

Ken Sapwell

Casuarina estate developer, Don O'Rorke, has dismissed as 'coincidence' the timing of a \$50,000 political donation from one of his companies seeking government approval to remove hundreds of beachfront parking spaces.

The Queensland-based property tycoon acknowledged that Kings Beach No. 2 had tipped the money into Labor Party coffers just three weeks after the government was re-elected and 18 months after it first applied for the changes.

He said he was a supporter of the political process and had made donations to all major political parties over a long period, although the April 2007 tip was the first to the NSW branch of the ALP.

'The timing of the donation is purely coincidence in that we have not yet received an approval for the town centre, so no way can it be construed that we were either prepaying or paying after the event for any approvals,' he said.

Growing concerns

Details of the donation emerged amid growing community concerns that the state government is about to step in and override Tweed council's insistence that the developer retain beachfront car parking spaces.

Although the NSW government is the consent authority, the council holds the ace hand because it will only agree to hand over part of a natural stormwater swale to make way for a bigger supermarket if the developer sticks to the original parking concept in court approved plans.

Residents are divided over the issue, with some fearing council's stand will stall plans for a supermarket while others say beachfront car parks are a must to cater for visitors whose cars already clog nature reserves and nearby streets.

Fears of direct intervention in council affairs came after the council voted to call the bluff of the state's government and its planning director general, Richard Pearson, who signalled his strong support for the developer's plans.

Tweed goes bananas



Photo: Jeff Dawson

One of the most popular floats in Banana Festival parades is the Krishna community's chariot, pictured here with Lakshman and Dhire-Lalit on it, while Klindi nurses Bala Govinda. The chariot will be a colourful part of the parade this Saturday from noon.

With bananas lining the shop windows of Murwillumbah and Banana Jim getting about in his bow tie, it is clear Banana Festi-

val fever has gripped some of the Tweed.

Although the annual festival officially kicked off last week, Saturday will mark the biggest day of the event with the colourful street parade and Banana Queen crowning.

Dozens of floats will take to the streets of Murwillumbah from noon to 1.30pm, starting at the Murwillumbah Showground and finishing at Knox Park where a family

fun day will be held. In the evening is the all-important festival ball and crowning of the Banana Queen from 7pm at the Murwillumbah Civic Centre.

It will all wind up on Sunday with a breakfast fry up in Budd Park from 9am, perfect for those with banana hangovers, and the Tweed River Spectacular (see more festival news overleaf).

'It is an insult to the diligent and talented officers assessing the application to suggest a political party let alone a government in power would unduly influence their deliberations,' Mr O'Rorke said.

Undermine public trust

But Greens MP, Sylvia Hale, who has compiled a dossier tracking a link between donations and approvals, said the situation at Casuarina demonstrates how political donations can undermine public trust in the planning system.

'People are entitled to ask, has this big do-

nation to the ALP affected the way the project is being assessed? Are decisions about this project based solely on what's in the community's interest or are those decisions being tainted by the money that the developer has paid to the NSW Labor Party?' she asked.

'It's time the government and opposition bit the bullet and banned these sorts of political donations altogether. That is the only way to genuinely start cleaning up the conflicts of interest and outright corruption that is undermining public faith in the NSW planning system,' said Ms Hale, whose request to the ICAC to investigate her dossier has

been rejected by the corruption watchdog.

Other residents' groups and at least one councillor has branded the plan to remove most of the beachfront parking as a de facto privatisation of the beachfront, but Mr O'Rorke says a new road running perpendicular to the beachfront will meet parking needs.

One of the biggest donors

Mr O'Rorke last came under the spotlight over donations in the Tweed when an inquiry found he was one of the biggest donors to a

continued on page 2

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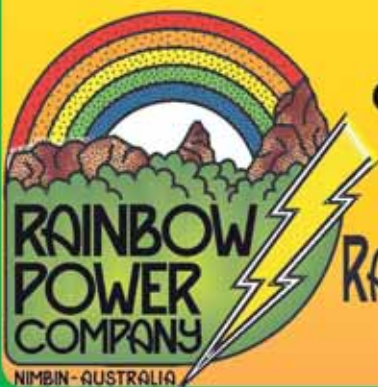
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Waterskiing all part of the show

Roxanne Millar

For more than 50 years the Tweed River has been left out of the Banana Festival like a geeky teen overlooked for the football team.

But this year, thanks to the efforts of a professional water skier, the iconic local waterway will play a starring role in the annual event.

Former professional Sea World waterskier Carol Robinson has organised an action packed Tweed River Spectacular on Sunday featuring displays by some of her former colleagues.

From 10am to 2pm, professional jet skiers, waterskiers, jet boat drivers, a waterskiing dog and barefoot champion Pete O'Neill will take to the river by Budds Park in Murwillumbah for a range of displays.

Having moved to Murwillumbah 12 months ago, Carol was astounded that the Tweed River hadn't been more of a focus during the Banana Festival in the past and volunteered to change that.

'A few of us could see the potential and how beautiful the river is. We hope the Tweed River Spectacular becomes an annual Banana Festival event,' she said.

Carol entered the world of professional waterskiing in the 1990s when she was selected for a waterskiing apprenticeship while working at Sea World in a different field.

After a few years entertaining tourists, Carol and her waterskiing husband took their show on the road and travelled the world putting on professional waterskiing displays.

'I am very grateful for what I have done. It was an opportunity many people had, but it depended on whether you wanted to take it or not.

'We could have stayed at Sea World for many years or travel the world. It wasn't about the money, it was about the experience.'

That experience helped her

Political gift 'coincidence'

from page 1

tightly orchestrated campaign which elected a slim majority of pro-development councillors later sacked in disgrace in 2005, accused of being developers' puppets.

In 2007 Consolidated Properties Group gave \$50,000 to Liberal Lord Mayor Campbell Newman's campaign fund and the group, which has significant commercial property holdings in the Brisbane CBD, also donated about \$17,000 to the Queensland branch of the Labor Party in the 2006/2007 financial year. Kings Beach also donated \$5,000 to the federal National Party in 2004.



Banana festival icon Banana Jim and Tweed River Spectacular organiser Carol Robinson will don water skis for Sunday's ski shows on the Tweed River. Photo Jeff 'Skins' Dawson

secure many of the top waterskiers that will perform over the weekend, and who are all donating their time.

'Everyone has been really supportive and it is going to be a great day. We'll also have lots of stuff on dry land for people

who get sick of looking at the river,' she said.

The Tweed River Spectacular is free at Budds Park from 10am to 2pm on Sunday. The Tweed River will be closed in an area around the Murwillumbah Bridge during the event.

Koala habitat 'will be broken up'

Roxanne Millar

Koala campaigners say Tweed Coast koalas will be wiped out within 10 years by the proposed Kings Forest township if developers do not redo their \$3 million plans.

A proposed 20,000 trees to be planted by the developers of the 5,000-home Kings Forest township will still result in the extinction of Tweed Coast koalas, opponents have warned.

Team Koala spokeswoman Jenny Hayes told Tweed Shire councillors at a community access session last week that the area's koalas will be wiped out within 10 years if the development is approved in its current form.

She said tree planting by the developer would not save the koalas, which face having their habitat severely fragmented by a golf course proposed in the town.

'Koalas do not survive by sitting in the same tree,' she said.

'They need to move. The population is only viable if they move and the golf course shows they won't be able to move.

'The vast majority of the development is exactly where the koalas live. They are the existing residents of Kings Forest and over-development for them means death.'

Reg van Rij, regional manager of Leda Developments, the firm behind the township proposal west of Casuarina, re-

jected the claims in an earlier address at community access.

He said the developers intended to lodge a development application for the town soon, with the view to beginning work next year. He said \$3 million will have been spent on plans and consultant reports by the time the DA is lodged.

'They're saying "save the koalas." I'm not sure what it is the koalas must be saved from,' he said.

'The number of swamp mahogany trees to be lost in the whole life of Kings Forest will be in the order of 20. None exist in the core koala habitat. We'll be extending the core koala habitat by 60 hectares, planting 20,000 swamp mahoganies.'

Swamp mahogany trees are a major food source for local koalas.

Ms Hayes said it would take 10 years for the trees to mature and by then cars and household pets would have killed off the koalas trying to traverse their fragmented habitat.

She urged the developers to consider redrawing the plans, moving a shopping centre and golf course and installing vegetated bridges for koalas to use as crossings.

'They are building a town bigger than Murwillumbah. It can be done, but only with the strictest attention to what the koalas need.'

Councillors told to stop bickering

Ken Sapwell

A panel investigating allegations of code-of-conduct breaches by Tweed Mayor Joan van Lieshout has refrained from making any findings because of fears 'it would inflame the situation further.'

Chairman of the council's newly formed conduct review panel, David Gibson, has instead told councillors to 'stop the bickering' and urged the embattled mayor and general manager Mike Rayner to talk to each other more.

In a brief interim report, Mr Gibson cleared Cr van Lieshout of any breach when she unveiled her vision for the Tweed at a senate committee hearing without council authorisation, saying she had acted 'without prejudice.'

The former Local Govern-

ment and Shires Association director brushed aside three others allegations relating to a stoush over Mr Rayner's rally board role, suggesting they were 'dead' issues and would remain buried as long as she refrained from raising them again.

The report, tabled at this week's council meeting, is the first public confirmation of the behind-the-scenes spat since *The Echo* revealed four weeks ago that Crs Phil Youngblutt and Dot Holdom lodged complaints with the panel.

Mr Gibson said the two councillors, who he did not identify, had alleged the mayor failed to accept a council resolution appointing Mr Rayner to the rally board, used the press to call for his resignation from the board and had publicly stated he had a conflict of interest.

The two claim her outspoken comments tarnished the council's corporate image, but Cr van Lieshout says she was simply echoing concerns expressed by a growing number of people worried about Mr Rayner's dual role.

Mr Gibson noted that in March this year councillors had authorised Mr Rayner to join the rally board, and that last month Cr van Lieshout had failed in a bid to rescind the appointment in a 5-2 vote.

'This should be the end of the matter,' he said. 'It has been dealt with twice by council. The mayor indicated to us that this was as far she can take it, she respected the decision of the council and the matter was now closed.'

'We believe to make a finding now would inflame the situation further. If the issue is

dead then there is no need for further comment. It is time to put this matter behind those concerned, learn from the mistakes made, stop the bickering and move forward.'

Mr Gibson said he would adjourn proceedings for a month to see 'if this issue develops further', warning he would be keeping an eye on any future media reports of the stoush.

Councillors noted the report and adopted Mr Gibson's suggestion that they be retrained in the intricacies of the council's code of conduct and of dealing with the media.

■ See editorial, page 6

Mayor again opts out of recognition statement

Tweed mayor Joan van Lieshout has bowed out on a defiant note by again refusing to read a statement at the beginning of this week's meeting recognising local Aborigines as members of the Bundjalung nation.

In what is likely to be the last meeting she will chair before mayoral elections next month, Cr van Lieshout delegated the task to her deputy, Barry Longland, saying she had received new concerns about the statement's accuracy.

Her stand follows the council's rejection of an earlier mayoral minute urging it to seek a second opinion about the statement's validity from the Federal Department of Aboriginal Affairs.

Cr van Lieshout said she had been shown more evidence indicating the Githabul people also had a valid claim to be recognised as traditional owners.

'The statement singles out just one group and I think it is unfair on others who are disputing the accuracy of the

claims made in the statement,' she said.

Meanwhile, she had mixed success with a call for councillors to recognise the rally was going to happen whether they liked it or not and to unite behind it in a show of respect for the organisers and volunteers.

Three councillors heeded her call but Katie Milne, Dot Holdom and Barry Longland voted against it, saying it amounted to a de facto approval which they were not prepared to give.

Ballerina en pointe



Thirteen-year-old Olivia Kingston from Uki won 'Most Promising Tweed Valley Competitor for Dance' at the recent Murwillumbah Festival of Performing Arts and on Monday night she again displayed her talent at the awards and presentation concert, attended by around 200 people. The Muwillumbah High School student dances at the Ballet Factory in South Tweed where she started dance as a four-year-old. Photo Tree Fairie

www.tweedecho.com.au

Banora Point upgrade

The federal government announced on Friday the team who will build the \$310 million Pacific Highway upgrade at Banora Point.

The winning tenders came from Abigroup Contractors, Seymour Whyte Constructions and engineering firm Snowy Mountains Engineering Corporation.

Work will now begin on the detailed design of the Banora Point upgrade, as well as environmental management plans and community consultation.

Federal minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development, Anthony Albanese, said, 'Construction is expected to get underway later this year and create up to 290 jobs in the local economy.'

'This section of road will be a six-lane dual carriageway from Barneys Point Bridge to the Tweed Heads Bypass, while the existing Pacific Highway will be maintained as a local access road.'

'The project is part of the \$3.6 billion upgrade of the Pacific Highway - the largest single investment in a road anywhere in Australia.'

Work is scheduled to start by the end of the year and to be completed in 2012.

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Former tennis pro aces photo award

Roxanne Millar

A former professional tennis player from the Central Coast has won the Olive Cotton photography award with a stirring image of an albino girl.

Richard O'Farrell, once ranked 300 internationally, won \$10,000 for his portrait 'Savitri' at the Tweed River Regional Art Gallery last week.

The striking image was taken during a trip to India in 2008. Mr O'Farrell (pictured right with the winning photo) was staying in Mumbai when he came across a school for the blind and convinced the headmistress to give him access to photograph the students.

'I was walking along a street near my motel and I saw behind some large, iron gates a bus and some girls getting out hand in hand,' he said.

'I thought "how lovely" and then I realised it was a school for the blind.'

Over the several days he spent with the girls he captured an endearing look at life in the school, including the blind girls wearing trendy Ray Bans and students asleep at their desks.

When he met an albino student with pink eyes, he immediately saw her potential as a subject.

'I had a visualisation of her coming down the stairs but I wasn't able to do it because of



the light,' he said. 'So I asked her to close her eyes and I took a couple of photographs. On the second shot I knew I had something special.'

'Her frown wasn't to do with me annoying her, but all the things going on in her head. I think I captured the power of her thought.'

O'Farrell said he was humbled by his win and hoped to send a copy of the print to the albino girl's family. He also hopes to sell the print and donate some of profits to the blind school.

'I never planned to shoot at the school,' he said. 'I find it is all the stuff that happens

on the way (to a shot) that is magic. The world dissolves for me when I am in that photographic state.'

Portraits selected for the Olive Cotton Award are on display at the Tweed River Regional Art Gallery.

The exhibition will run until September 27.

Swine Flu Precautions

The government has given up trying to contain the spread of Swine Flu, and is concentrating on providing treatment and vaccine.

However, there is something we can all do to minimise the number of people in the community who will suffer from the epidemic.

If you have a case of the flu, any variety of flu, stay at home!

You are not irreplaceable, and it's a mistake to think that taking time off lets your employer down. Not taking time off when you are infectious lets everyone down.

If you are sick, keep it to yourself!

A message from *The Echo* in the interests of community health



Council backs surf life saving titles

Tweed Shire Council has voted to spend \$80,000 from next year's budget to sponsor the staging of the NSW Surf Life Saving Championships at Kingscliff.

The sponsorship will start in 2011 and last for two years.

General manager Mike Rayner recommended the move, saying the event drew 8,000 competitors, 600 officials and 12,000 spectators a day over the seven-day event, generating around \$18 million for the local economy.

Only Greens councillor Katie Milne opposed the expenditure, saying local businesses who stood to benefit should be made to contribute and that the money would be better spent on promoting small community festivals.

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Dog rescue led to pet-care film

Roxanne Millar

Falling in love online and moving the object of her affections over from Western Australia has led a Crystal Creek woman into the film business.

Administration worker Ronelle Herbert is producing a DVD on responsible pet ownership after rescuing a cross-bred Great Dane from an animal welfare organisation in Western Australia.

It will teach prospective pet owners all about local pet legislation, microchipping, health issues and caring for their pet.

With no experience in film making, this week Ronelle got a helping hand at a one-on-one development clinic in Murwillumbah run by Screenworks Inc to help budding producers.

Producer and Screenworks development consultant Anne Chesher said the program helped people get the ideas in their head closer towards production.

'It is perfect for people who may have limited or no experience in the film industry, but are looking to take their ideas forward,' she said.

'They are able to speak to a professional in the industry - me - and move their project forward.'



Ronelle Herbert befriends a Staffordshire bull terrier called Bear, pressganged into the photo as Anne Chester looks on. Photo by Jeff 'Dogsbody' Dawson

Ronelle was inspired to make her own DVD while volunteering at the Tweed Shire Council pound for Friends of the Pound.

'I saw how many pets were ending up there unnecessarily. I'd really like to be able to educate people to prevent

them dumping their pets at the pound and also to encourage people to get their pets from the pound,' she said.

Ronelle did just that earlier this year when she was surfing a West Australian animal welfare website and fell in love with the cross-bred Great

Dane needing a new home.

'I fell in love online and it cost me a fair bit in excess baggage to get Elsie over here,' she said.

'But I just had to have her.'

To find out more about Screenworks programs call 02 6687 1599.

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Tweed cyclist tackles Timor

A Tweed Heads champion road racer is among 60 foreign cyclists who will contest an East Timorese cycling race billed as one of the hardest in history.

Brendan Brooks (pictured) flew out of Australia on Tuesday to compete in the inaugural 350km Tour de Timor from August 24 to 28.

The local cyclist is part of a four-strong team consisting of Gold Coast and Brisbane riders Ashley Bryant, David Whitney and Mark Friendo that hopes to walk away with the US\$75,000 prize money.

East Timor president Jose Ramos-Horta said his country's rugged topography and dogged local competitors would make the Aussies wish they were in 'Byron Bay enjoying the sunshine'.

He told international media the Tour would be 'one of the most challenging bike races anywhere in the world, probably tougher than the Tour de France'.

Cyclists will tackle nine districts over five days, starting with a coastal ride east from the capital Dili, up short, steep hills to Baucau.

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Unlike his companions, road racer Brendan has little experience mountain biking and expects to find it extra challenging.

'It is a whole other sport riding a mountain bike,' he said.

'I've spoken to people in the Army who have been there and they've told me about the terrain and said how much they would hate to ride over there.'

'It can be done. But it is one thing on paper and another

thing when you are racing.'

The team cycles about 800km a week for training, on roads anywhere between Mulumbimby and Springbrook.

Ashley said the men read about the race in a cycling magazine, decided they had a chance and entered. They managed to secure sponsorship from local store Shortis Cycle and Tri where Brendan works.

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Councillors off track

The attempt by two councillors and a resident to rein-in outspoken mayor Joan van Lieshout by lodging complaints with the council's newly formed conduct review panel appears to have backfired in a big way.

As revealed in *The Echo* several weeks ago, the complainants allege the mayor had tarnished the council's corporate image by publicly questioning general manager Mike Rayner's appointment to the rally board and breached the code of conduct by unveiling her vision for the shire to a senate committee hearing.

In a terse interim report to this week's council meeting, panel chairman David Gibson dismissed the complaint about her senate evidence and declined to rule on the others, telling councillors to 'stop the bickering and move forward.'

The tawdry affair has served only to fuel a growing perception that the panel is being used as just another tool, along with a new media policy, to silence councillors from expressing views which are contrary to the official line.

It also exposes a serious flaw in the process in that the identities of the complainants have so far been shielded by a media policy which prevents them from being held publicly accountable for their actions.

In this instance, *The Echo* has been able to ferret out the names of the complainants and decided several weeks ago to identify the two councillors, Dot Holdom and Phil Youngblutt, on public interest grounds.

All councils are required to establish conduct review panels as a mechanism to deal with serious complaints against councillors and staff, but the Tweed was one of the last off the starting blocks.

It acted only after concerns that Greens councillor Katie Milne may have overstepped the mark by revealing she was unhappy with unspecified legal advice about the controversial plan to sell part of Bay Street to a developer.

Cr Holdom, believing that protecting the council's image overrides any protection of councillors' normal rights to speak out, was the first to lodge an official complaint with the panel following the 'leak' of a council memo by Cr Milne two months ago.

The panel dismissed the claim, but in a confidential report suggested that the council's media policy be tightened if it wanted to stop similar disclosures, leading to the new media rules which have been criticised as among the most restrictive in local government history.

The new policy, eerily reminiscent of Joseph Heller's *Catch 22* and which Cr Holdom helped to fine-tune, forbids councillors from revealing anything publicly unless it is already publicly available, including any details of the current stoush which finally became public in this week's agenda.

The Echo agrees with the panel's view that the allegations against Cr van Lieshout are now dead in the water.

After two strike-outs, we believe councillors should seriously consider their motives before calling in the panel to sit in judgment of colleagues at a cost of more than \$800 a day – plus expenses for travelling, meals and accommodation – and that they relax their iniquitous media policy.

Instead of trying to condemn colleagues for lifting the lid on internal squabbles they should be uniting to condemn their real enemy: a dysfunctional state government which has whittled down their planning powers, cut developers' contributions and is about to impose its own plans for the redevelopment of Tweed Heads.

So far, there's hardly been a peep.

Tweed Shire Echo

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

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Plan B good news for renewables

Malcolm Turnbull is quite right; the government had finally shown common sense in separating its Renewable Energy Bill from the Emissions Trading Scheme Bill.

So it is doubly unfortunate that so few of his own colleagues are exhibiting that rare political quality themselves. Forcing Penny Wong to revert to what she belatedly describes as Plan B is a much-needed win for the coalition parties in the ongoing climate change wars, and they should be savouring it while they can. Instead, they are already signalling that they regard it as an excuse for yet another round of brawling.

The problem is that the government's compensation package for trade-affected industries was based on the premise that the two bills would proceed as a package; thus compensation could be geared to the combined effect of both. Now they have been separated the compensation has to be as well: it would obviously be absurd for taxpayers to be paying industry compensation for emissions trading when the scheme was not in place.

But apparently the shadow industry minister, Ian MacFarlane, believes that is exactly what should happen: the compensation provisions should simply be copied over from the original combined legislation. The shadow environment minister, Greg Hunt, is rather more reasonable, but is still arguing for extra money for the cement and aluminium producers. And of course the Nationals are in there with their hands out, demanding cash for food processors, abattoirs, anything they can think of.

Kevin Rudd and Malcolm Turnbull are both keen that the bill should go through by the end of the week, so it probably

will; but by making extravagant demands, opposition members are setting themselves up for another defeat, albeit a minor one. With the big one on emissions trading still looming in three months time, it's something they do not need.

Turnbull, of course, is still chasing a compromise on emissions trading, but at the weekend he received advice from an unexpected and more than

for daring to suggest the earth revolves around the sun.

It is hardly surprising that she rejects the idea of climate change – and also, it appears, of political common sense.

With plan B more or less in place, Penny Wong now has to turn her mind to another problem in decoupling: Cubbie station, the giant cotton farm in the upper reaches of the Murray-Darling system,

price tag, but there may well be some overseas interest in what is still a working cotton farm – as long as the water is included.

Another day, another dilemma for Penny Wong.

And finally a local environment issue: the appalling World Rally Championship about to be inflicted on the Tweed Valley and surrounds by the state government and a developer-dominated local council. Ironically the area is advertised for tourism as 'the green cauldron' – well, at least the cauldron bit may be right. The course skirts a couple of national parks home to many native species: the assurance by organisers that they will scare the koalas away from the immediate surrounds so they do not get injured when the rally gets under way has underwhelmed conservationists.

The organisers say there is majority local approval but it turns out that many groups claimed to be onside have not been consulted: at best a single member had been taken aside and bribed or threatened into acquiescence. This technique has also been applied to the council, where the general manager has accepted a seat on the rally board, a conflict of interest so blatant that even the mayor has asked him to resign; as a result she has now been sent to Coventry by her developer colleagues.

But it doesn't matter what the locals think anyway; the state government has passed special legislation to ensure that the rally goes ahead no matter what. It is not clear how ticket sales are proceeding, but since there will be an enormous police and security presence an enthusiastic audience is guaranteed. Ah, the joys of country living. Vroom vroom.

It would obviously be absurd for taxpayers to be paying industry compensation for emissions trading when the scheme was not in place.

by Mungo MacCallum



usually ill-informed source. In the Sydney Morning Herald the eclectic columnist Miranda Devine urged him to vote the scheme down and bring on an early election; it was, she averred, his best chance of regaining office for the good guys.

The voters, it would appear, do not agree: according to a poll in the same paper on Monday, 46 percent intend to vote Labor and other ten percent to give Labor their preferences. But more significantly, 55 percent want the government to bring the emissions trading bill back in November and only 12 percent want it dumped. These are not the figures a rational person takes to an election.

Miranda Devine is, of course, a staunch Catholic and as such believes in miracles – but not in science, and especially not in the science which questions man's God-given dominion over land sea and air, the earth and everything in it. After all, her mob have only just got around to pardoning Galileo

is up for sale and the government is under pressure to buy it – or at least its huge water entitlements.

The difficulty is that you can't have one without the other. Last year the feds bought the Toorale station near Burke, returned its water to the system and made the land into a national park. Unfortunately there was an unintended consequence: as a productive station Toorale had been a major contributor to the district's economy, and without it there was a serious downturn. Locals do not want the same thing to happen with Cubbie.

They say that even without the irrigated cotton it is still good land and could be a viable producer of sheep or cattle – which it was before the cotton growers moved in. But the water is probably the most valuable part of the deal, and Cubbie is being offered as a package. The commonwealth government is the only body in Australia which could even contemplate the \$450 million

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Fourteen days and counting: rally still causing angst

■ The No Rally Group intends to lodge a court injunction this week to force the Repco Rally organisers to refer the event to Minister Garrett under the EPBC. This is the only legal recourse left by the ironclad WRC legislation that ate democracy by removing the rights of the populace, and, by way of desert, the right to appeal. We'll have an awesome party if this legal action works.

However, preparations are also well under way for the even bigger street party we're planning to welcome the event to this precious little neck of the woods that we call our own. Everyone is invited to the party. The word is on the street, on the page, on the net and in the hearts and minds of all of

us who stand together to protect our spirits against this outrageous attempted invasion.

The WRC Bill is a recipe for revolt. Honestly, what on earth were they expecting? We look forward to your company from August 29 to September 6. See www.norallygroup.org or join our mailing list, email koalaclawz@ymail.com

Andrea Vickers
Kingscliff

■ Fear and loathing creeps across our valley as the first signs of spring mean the rally is soon to be upon us. These feelings emanate throughout our diverse community, for those both pro and anti the event.

The supporters and sponsors fear the inevitable actions

of the protesters. Race organisers are so concerned they have called in help from the state and squads of stormtroopers are currently polishing their riot gear for a trip up north. The fear has our locally elected representatives (except Katie) either acting in an expected manner or betraying the community that voted for them. Despicable acts of gagging local government at times like this can only make many of us feel they have some nasty things to hide, maybe information that would shut down this race or certain people's careers.

No need to repeat the fears felt by those opposed to the race, they have been well documented in this fantastic news-

paper – your timing in coming to our valley was most fortunate and we thank you. Will this anxiety be repeated every second year for the next twenty years? When we feel the first warm breezes and notice the red flushes on the cedars, are so many people meant to dread winter coming to an end?

If you are a supporter of the race, do you think this is fair? In defiance to those who wish us to all conform I hope this is not going to be the case and the tragic event is brought to a grinding halt.

Adam Heggie
Pumpenbil

■ My concern about the rally was drivers testing the road at speed as I drive home from

work at night. Bob Newman at the Repco rally office took my call and suggested I call the police if anyone was speeding. I reminded him the police station is not manned at night. Bob Newman's next suggestion was, 'Stop your car in the middle of the road, and if a car hits you it will be easy to get the licence plate number.' Hmmm. Thanks, Bob Newman.

Barbara Downes
Murwillumbah

■ Incredulous! Rally organisers say they will put protection measures in place, such as helicopter flyovers to scare away koalas before the race, to minimise impacts (*The Echo*, August 13).

We know of 57 helicopters Gary Upson admits to, with international photographers invading our sky. Will this be an extra low-flying (tree-top, to be effective) chopper hired to stress, torment, traumatise and harass the little creature? Scare it away, or scare it to death?

These are the people who, according to Rally Australia chairman, Alan Evans, claim they will 'run the most environmentally friendly, sensitive rally in the world'. So sensitive to our iconic koala's comfort, especially in its mating season! (And we haven't even mentioned the ear-splitting discomfort to the human element below this 'sensitive invasion'. It is my understanding that people can be jailed for cruelty to animals.

Roma Newton
Kingscliff

■ Tweed Shire's general manager, Mike Rayner, spoke to Marine Parade residents on September 11, 2008, to announce that the rally was coming and would be based on the Marine Parade foreshore park in Kingscliff.

He said that park facilities and parking areas would be

expanded and upgraded. After council approved this work as a matter of urgency, the remaking of the northern BBQ/picnic area and the resurfacing of parking bays on Marine Parade are proceeding, apparently to meet the original rally deadline even though the rally pits have been moved to Cudgen Leagues Club grounds.

If the general manager and his staff still see our foreshore park as the centre for the all-night parties and anti-social activities of rally revheads, Kingscliff residents are entitled to ask council to publish the actions it will take to enforce council rules on consumption of alcohol, driving vehicles in the park, overnight camping, lighting fires, damaging trees and shrubs etc. Council's notice should state how many rangers will be on duty 24 hours per day during the period of the rally and provide a 24-hour telephone number for residents to report breaches of council rules and regulations.

Those councillors who support the rally and the general manager's role on the board of the rally should be in no doubt that residents and ratepayers will hold them to account if effective action is not taken to protect our park and the interests of residents.

Max Hopper
Kingscliff

■ You can make a difference. Doing nothing is effectively being in support, being complicit.

Our forests are sacred places, the basis of all life. Without them nothing survives.

The raping of our forests by racing cars through them to benefit so few is selfish, unconscious and disrespectful in the extreme.

Peter Rae
Condong

Letters dealing with other topics are overleaf

Casuarina Beach under no threat of privatisation

■ Your front page story and page 6 editorial re Casuarina was a stew of misinformation, factual errors and prejudice. As a member of the Casuarina Residents Association (CRA), I particularly resent the statement in your editorial that the CRA 'backs the developer's bidding' and is guilty of 'mischievous hypocrisy'. Neither I nor other members do anyone's 'bidding'.

As for being hypocrites, I suggest the minuscule number of people feeding you half-truths in pursuit of their own personal agendas should have a good hard look at themselves. I challenge Mr Taylor to produce 'the sizeable majority' of residents who support him. It won't happen, because Mr Taylor and Mr Dagworthy have no support whatsoever, which you could have easily checked but chose not to.

Just as, instead of insulting the CRA and by extension the unpaid, unstinting work put in by its president Rob Bryant,

you could have checked that he is indeed the legitimate voice of our community and does speak for very many families. Instead, your paper allows itself to be misled by a couple of disaffected conspiracy theorists, thus enabling a story that fits nicely with *The Echo's* so-called 'independent' editorial policy. Sorry, who are the mischievous hypocrites again?

Lisa Scott
Casuarina Beach

■ We stand by our report and comment. The association strongly backed the developer's plan to remove open space used by residents to make way for a shopping centre – Ed.

■ I refer to the front page article by Ken Sapwell and the following editorial comment in the August 13 edition of *The Echo*. I am a fan of *The Echo*, and always enjoy the content for its left of centre style, the pro-environment view, and its 'sticking it to the boss' attitude.

I was very disappointed however with the article and particularly the editorial, that paints the Casuarina Residents Association, and its president, Rob Bryant, as some sort of agent of the developer, Consolidated Properties.

I am a Casuarina resident, but not a member of the Casuarina Residents Association. I don't know Bob Taylor or Bob Dagworthy, but it would seem that they speak for a sectional view of the Casuarina community, rather than the majority. In any dealings or conversations I have had with Rob Bryant, I have found an honourable and ethical man, who would be horrified at the thought that he was considered a stooge of Consolidated Properties. From my observation, I have seen someone who has no agenda, cares about his community, and is representative of its wishes.

As for the argument regarding car spaces and beach access, there are 193 public car

spaces for direct beach access in south and central Casuarina alone. This does not take into account those in north Casuarina, fronting Kamala Crescent and other streets. While I have seen it busy, I've never seen them close to full, winter or summer.

Public access to the beach at Casuarina is excellent by any standards, and to suggest that the plan before the department will 'privatise' the beachfront is plain wrong. This is no gated community, limiting access to just residents. Anyone can access the beach at Casuarina, and, if you really think about it, before the development access was limited to those with a four-wheel drive, or a few rough car spaces at the end of a long beach track!

Anyway, I am further disappointed that a publication like *The Echo* is not promoting appropriate public transport access to Casuarina, rather than get involved in an unseemly debate over car spaces. Where's the moral high ground?

Scott Morgan
Casuarina Beach

■ Edited for length – Ed

Letters to the Editor

Fax: 6672 4933 Email: editor@tweedecho.com.au 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.



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1 REC value may change, please refer to website for current value. ECO13983/einstein

More letters

Small world

How small the world is! I am just back from Finland and the Global Ecovillage Network gathering there to learn what the rest of the world is doing to make sure our kids have a planet to stand upon. Here comes an email to my California home, from a friend in far-away Russia no less, with expressions of admiration for Mayor Joan van Lieshout's passion and vision all the way in Australia.

Your mayor is indeed not the only leader aware of the need to think about 'villaging' and small family-plots for food-production. It is just sad for me to read that instead of celebrating the fact that you have such an amazing public official at the helm of your 'ship', some people need to identify the deep human need for community connection and a life free of the fear of hunger as some kind of 'threat'.

Humanity all over the world has lived in such small villages and has grown their own food until very recently. Modern man is now sicker, more depressed and terrorised than ever, rich or poor.

Why fight the only sane solution? Thousands of areas all over the world are implementing this very idea. Why not be proud that you are far ahead of the game and cherish your mayor instead of

making her brilliant vision more difficult.

Ecovillages and local food-production will be the only way we will be able to hold hands, feed our children and enjoy life without terror. Congratulations for electing a sound official. All townships and cities should be so lucky!

Regina Jensen
California, USA

Not just saloon girls

I hope local and visiting girls/women will be more imaginative than merely being 'saloon girls' at this year's 'Wild Wild West' themed Tweed Banana Festival (article in this week's *Echo*).

They could be Indians, cow-girls, Calamity Jane, pioneers, any amount of things. Personally, my (former Western Australian Premier) Carmen Lawrence dress is looking good, very spotty indeed.

Lisa Townsend
Murwillumbah

'Fast buck' tourism

Isn't it ironic? ...strum ... strum ... The gentle beauty of the Tweed River viewed by jetboat. It is also idiotic. The peace of all shattered by a 'buzz' for the few. A jetski is like a mosquito and a jetboat is like a killer WASP.

While concern for carbon trading is mounting, shouldn't 'speed for speed's sake' be discouraged?

Mike Rayner, the general manager of TSC, also wants motor racing at Kingscliff. His 'vision' for the Tweed belongs in the past. The people here do not want his 'fast buck' tourism.

Lyn Vermeesch
Bogangar

■ Letters also received from H Boehme, Kingscliff, M Brodhurst-Hill, Casuarina, J Wilson, Cabarita, S Sledge, Lillian Rock. Please keep letters short and have them to us by noon Tuesday.



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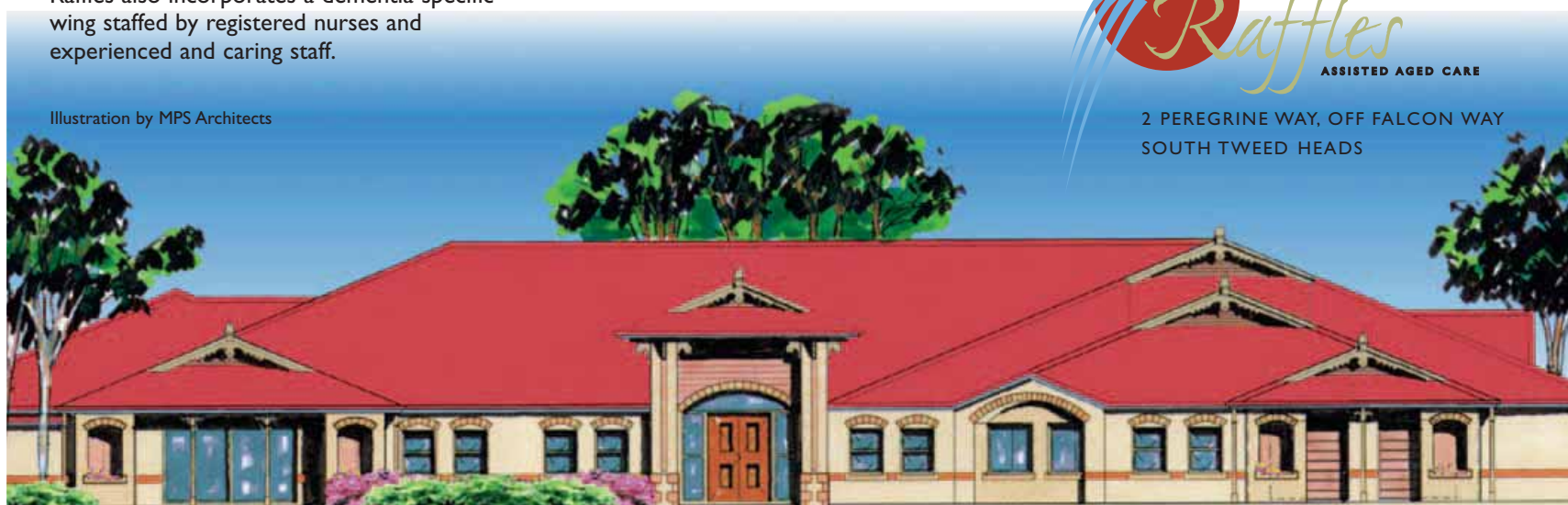
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STARS

WITH LILITH

Extra care's recommended this week around fire and flame – whether that's cigarettes, cooking and heating appliances, incendiary tempers or inflammatory words. Especially when late week new moon in dramatic Leo has everyone expressing their inner diva.



Leo Birthday Stars

ARIES: If unclarity, confusing cross currents or just lack of access to the right information makes this week feel slippery and confusing, resist impulse decisions until lively end-of-week new Moon jollies you out of the doldrums and simple solutions suddenly come available.

TAURUS: Don't let other people's attitudes rattle you, because this week's success goes to whoever's best at keeping their egos under control. And it's all about style, so conduct this week in a way that makes everyone feel good. Which is after all the highest kind of style...

GEMINI: People could be exasperatingly self obsessed this week, but it's still likely to take care of what's bothering you – though possibly not in the way you expected. Just be advised its speedy influences require caution: on the road, at work, in what you agree to.

CANCER: This week of lavish tastes and lively delights won't be impressed by careless dress, sloppy presentation or being kept waiting. Your best bet's to smarten up, make it as easy as possible for others to assist you, and be extremely appreciative when they do.

LEO: This week's Sun and new moon in Leo have you thinking and talking big, which pays off providing you aren't taking on mission impossible. Avoid over fanciful plans or sudden mad extravagance, and unexpected assistance will confirm that you're on the right track.

VIRGO: If chain reactions of change start detonating temperamental outbursts, don't give dramas too much energy. Focus instead on plan management, productive action and practical applications, and if mid week finds you feeling unappreciated, let others know how you feel and what you need.

LIBRA: Glittering propositions mightn't be all they're talked up as this week, so don't be dazzled by schmick presentation – check what conditions apply. The week's attention hogs and bossy behaviour are more than balanced by its generous gestures, great entertainment and excellent business connections.

SCORPIO: Others are likely to want you to do things their way this week, but butter them up enough and they probably won't even notice you doing it your way. You might even let them think something was their idea so they take the credit while you reap the benefit...

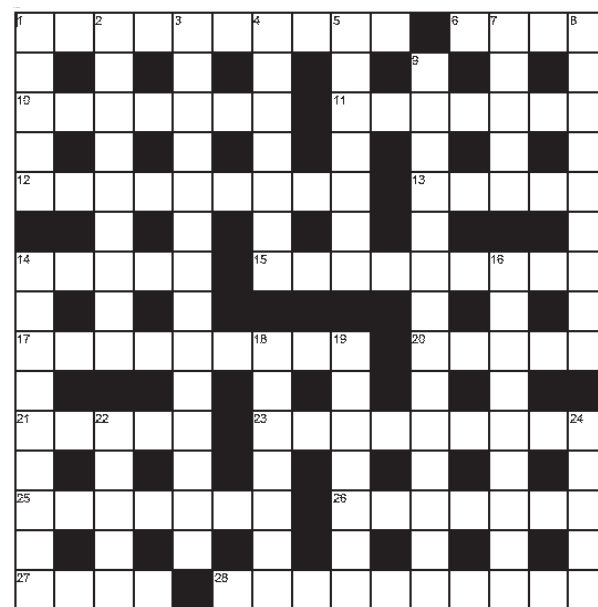
SAGITTARIUS: Dramatic endings, momentous meetings, exhilarating partnership offers – this week's stimulating buzz has plenty of promising potential for Sagittarians, all circumstances nudging you towards a giant step forward. Thursday's new moon could resolve a money block and

fatten up your finances. **CAPRICORN:** In the face of this week's emotional extravaganzas, resist the impulse to tell drama queens where to go – a judicious mix of tact and rat cunning will serve your interests much more effectively. Observing the fine line between firm and pushy is also highly advised.

AQUARIUS: This week opens doors for you. But you'll need to proceed with a degree of caution, so look before your leap and think before you speak. Expressing displeasure may feel fine in the moment, but two crucial words are worth remembering: Consequences. And Repercussions.

PISCES: This week helps you think clearly and express feelings simply with an effective mix of tact and practicality. Sexy, inspiring, late week new moon brings with it a lucky boost, and if you don't take ego wars too seriously there'll be no mean amount of fun available.

Mungo's Crossword



Quick Clues

ACROSS

- Road problems, gridlock (7,3)
- Shine, put out rays (4)
- Staffer at a plush hotel (7)
- Unattainable, ideal (7)
- Opera by Verdi
- Skill, artfulness (5)
- Chocolate substitute (5)
- Cigarettes banned (2,7)
- Off-centre, slightly crazy (9)
- Gold Coast footballer (5)
- Decisive evidence. Verification (5)
- Canadian flag (5,4)
- Deserter, double-crosser (7)
- Separate from others, set aside (7)
- As well, too (4)
- Celebrations, lavish meals (10)

DOWN

- River of Rome (5)
- Symbolic, like a parable (9)
- Australian middle class welfare (6,7)
- Young duck (7)
- Watery, of liquid found in the eye (7)
- Heath bush (5)
- Signal sixty seconds before start of a race (6,3)
- Mutual responsibility for the unemployed (4,3,3,4)
- Egyptian queen (9)
- Taken as a group, all together (2,3,4)
- Repentance, ruefulness (7)
- Title text for a picture (7)
- Australian gems (5)
- Rescues, liberates (5)

Cryptic Clues

ACROSS

- Trade preserve for bottleneck (7,3)
- Ray claims to exist twice (4)
- Snark-hunting hotel employee (7)
- University tenor to play piano – that's ideal (7)
- Reported stiffness with Italian bed – requires work by Verdi (8)
- Food firm with radio skill (5)
- About to steal seedpod (5)
- Naturally monks go in for healthy lifestyle (2,7)
- Crazy Bogle grabs note and coin (9)
- Bird, a new giant (5)
- Photographic evidence (5)
- The French twice invade chart, a French national emblem! (5,4)
- Quality, alternative: rat (7)
- Detach with hesitant admission of unpunctuality (7)
- And another thing – Gore's nothing (4)
- Brutes surround ruined fane for parties (10)

DOWN

- Row about British-Roman flower (5)
- Badly allergic, with nothing symbolic (9)
- Handouts for Domino covered badly, in my belief (6,7)
- Beat the weight – duck! (7)
- Visual humour? (7)
- On the outskirts of 17. A bush (5)
- Little wilderbeest confused by warning signal (6,3)
- Fresh, hot: free world OK. There's mutual responsibility (4,3,3,4)
- Queen Cole, a part badly played (9)
- All together, taking communion (2,3,4)
- Unhappiness about the code (7)
- Officer takes charge – a legend (7)
- Works over Capone for the jewels (5)
- Releases say: don't move! (5)

Last week's solution



Mungo's Crossword first published in *The Week*.

While US players have been making great strides in 2009 – most notably 14-year-old Ray Robson, who scored his first Grandmaster result this week – the US Chess Federation has been suffering near meltdown thanks to a series of legal cases.

The saga centres around Susan Polgar, the oldest of the legendary Polgar sisters and one of the great promoters of chess in the US. Polgar ran a chess school in New York for many years, won Olympic gold for the US, and has more recently moved to Texas and is heading an impressive chess program at Texas Tech.

Polgar and her husband Paul Truong were elected to the board of the USCF in 2007, but one of the unsuccessful candidates, the eccentric Sam Sloan, claimed that his campaign was sabotaged by obscene and abusive messages posted publicly in his name.

He sued the USCF, whose own investigation fingered Truong as the culprit.

A series of other lawsuits followed, including one for \$US25m

CHESS by Ian Rogers

Play at Seagulls Club, Thurs 6-10pm

from Polgar and Truong claiming defamation.

Sloan's suit was eventually dismissed but over the past year the USCF spent \$400,000 on legal fees and consequently cut working hours for its employees.

Last month, Polgar – already under attack for not resigning from the board of an organisation she was threatening to bankrupt – took a new hit when her webmaster was arrested and charged with more than 30 offences relating to hacking into the USCF's computer system and accessing emails between the USCF and their lawyers.

Then the USCF decided to revoke Polgar and Truong's USCF membership, effectively removing them from the USCF board. Last week, an appeal against this decision was refused by a meeting of delegates from around the US.

Polgar looks likely to finish as the big loser personally from

this saga but ultimately US chess may suffer the most, spending a million or more on litigation and losing Polgar, currently the face of chess in the US for the media, in the process. Chess may be a zero sum game but legal action in the US clearly is not.

Grandmaster David Smerdon won another tournament this week, the Waikato Open in New Zealand, continuing his incredible run over the past two months. The following game, against a FIDE Master, was almost too easy.

Waikato 2009

White: D Smerdon

Black: M Steadman

Opening: Alekhine's Defence

1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.Nc3 Nxc3 4.bxc3 d6 5.f4 c6?

The start of Black's troubles. White is planning to set up a massive pawn centre, so Black should already be pre-empting this with 5...c5.

6.d4 Qc7 7.Bd3 g6 8.Nf3 Bg7 9.0-0 0-0

10.Qe1 f6

Finally attacking the centre, but it is already too late.

11.Qh4! Be6

If 11...dxe5 12.fxe5 fxe5 13.Bh6 exd4 14.Ng5 gives White a typical winning attack.

12.f5! gxf5 (See diagram) 13.g4! Steadman was even more afraid of 13.d5!! cxd5 14.Nd4 which turns out to be crushing, eg. 14...Bf7 15.Nxf5 Bg6 16.exd6 exd6 17.Nxg7, winning material.

13...Qd7 14.exd6 Qxd6 14...exd6 allows 15.d5! cxd5 16.Nd4 with a winning attack.

15.gxf5 Bd5 16.c4 Bf7 17.Kh1! Kh8

18.Rg1 Rg8 19.Rg3 h5?! On 19...Nd7 Steadman feared 20.Qxh7+! but 20.Bf4! followed by 21.Rag1 was even easier.

20.Rg6! 1-0

a b c d e f g h



White to play and win neatly

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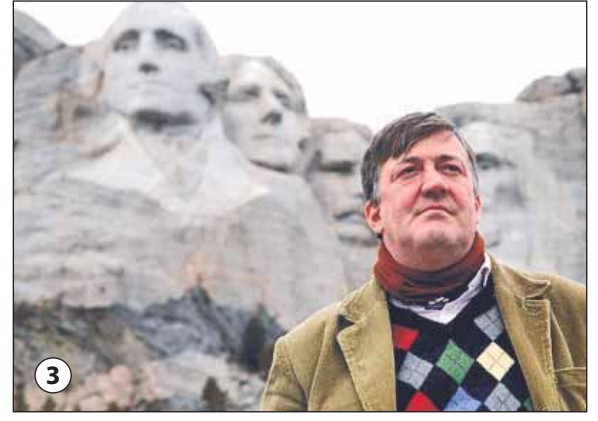
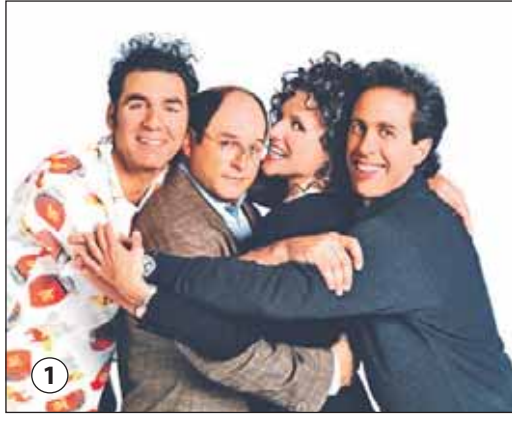


Television Guide

1. Channel Nine has launched its digital channel with the goshwome name Go! and it seems chiefly valuable for reruns of **Seinfeld**, every night at either 6 or 8.

2. Baker Street Irregulars should enjoy the 1976 film of Nicholas Meyer's book **The Seven Per-Cent Solution** (ABC2, Saturday, 8.30pm), in which the Master meets Sigmund Freud.

3. **Stephen Fry in America** (ABC1, Sunday, 7.30pm) gives us telling insights into a - ahem - unique culture. Should we carve our prime ministers into the side of a mountain, or would The Wiggles be a better idea? Stephen Fry is followed by another world altogether in **Midsomer Murders** at 9.35pm.



	ABC 1	SBS ONE	PRIME	ten	NBN	ABC 2	TWO	one HD	GO!	
FRIDAY 21	4.30 Seachange (PG) 5.30 Can We Help? (G) Rpt. 6.00 Kids' Programs 11.00 Planet Earth (G) 12.00 Middy Report 12.30 Jane Ayre (PG) 1.30 Spicks And Specks (PG) Rpt. 2.00 Monarch Of The Glen (G) 3.00 Kids' Programs 6.00 Message Stick (G) Rpt. 6.30 Can We Help? (G) 7.00 ABC News 7.30 Stateline (G) 8.00 Collectors (G) 8.30 George Gently (M) 10.00 Sensitive Skin (PG) 10.30 Lateline 11.15 triple j tv With The Doctor Rpt. 11.45 Good Game Rpt. 12.15 rage (M)	5.20 World News in various languages. 7.15 12th IAAF Athletics 2009 7.25 World News in various languages. 1.00 The Food Lovers Guide To Australia 1.30 Insight 2.30 Mohammad Hossain's Intensive Care (PG) 3.30 Blaktrax (G) 4.00 The Journal 4.30 Newshour With Jim Lehrer 5.30 2009 Ashes 5th Test Day 2 6.30 World News Australia 7.30 2009 Ashes 5th Test Day 2 10.00 World News Australia 10.30 2009 Ashes 5th Test Day 2 3.00 12th IAAF Athletics 2009	6.00 Sunrise 9.00 Morning Show (PG) 11.30 Seven Morning News 12.00 Movie: Domestic Disturbance (M 2001) Stars John Travolta, James Lashly. 2.00 All Saints (M) 3.00 New Idea TV (G) 3.30 Kids' Programs 4.30 Seven News 5.00 M*A*S*H (G) 5.30 Deal Or No Deal 6.00 Seven and Prime News 7.00 Home And Away (PG) 7.30 Better Homes And Gardens (PG) 8.30 Movie: Because I Said So (M 2007) Stars Diane Keaton, Mandy Moore. 10.30 2009 AFL Premiership Western Bulldogs v Geelong. 1.30 Infomercials	6.00 Ten Early News 7.00 Kids' Programs 9.00 9am With David And Kim 11.00 Ten News 12.00 Dr Phil (PG) 1.00 Oprah Winfrey Show (PG) 2.00 Ready Steady Cook (PG) 3.00 Infomercial 3.30 Friends (PG) 4.00 Huey's Cooking Adventures (G) 4.30 The Bold & The Beautiful 5.00 Ten News 6.00 The Simpsons (G) 6.30 Neighbours (G) 7.00 The 7PM Project (PG) 7.30 So You Think You Can Dance (PG) 10.00 Go Girls (M) 11.00 Late News 11.30 Sports Tonight 12.00 Late Show With David Letterman 12.45 Californication (MA15+) 1.15 Infomercials (PG) 5.00 Religion to 6am (PG)	5.30 Today 9.00 Mornings with Kerri-Anne 11.00 Infomercials 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) 4.30 This Afternoon 5.00 Antiques Roadshow 5.30 Hot Seat 6.00 NBN News 7.00 A Current Affair 7.30 Friday Night Football St George Illawarra v Brisbane. 9.30 Friday Night Football Wests v Parramatta. 11.30 Late News 12.00 Movie: Missing In Action II - The Beginning (MA15+ 1985) Stars Steven Williams, Soon-Tek Oh, Cosie Costa. 2.00 Movie: Run Ronnie Run! (MAV15+ 2002) Stars David Cross, Bob Odenkirk. 3.30 Infomercials 4.30 Good Morning America	6.00 ABC News 9.00 Business Today 9.30 Asia Pacific News 10.00 Kids' Programs 4.30 The New Inventors Rpt. 5.00 7.30 Select 5.30 TBA 6.00 Compass: Mazel Tov, Mazel Tov! (G) 6.30 Scrapheap Challenge 7.20 Mr Bean 7.30 The Royal Today 8.00 The Worst Week Of My Life: Tuesdays 8.30 Torchwood (M) 9.20 Boy Meets Girl 10.10 Later... With Jools Holland 11.10 London Live 11.40 The Graham Norton Show (M) 12.10 Close	5.00am to 6.00pm World News In Various Languages 6.00 12th IAAF Athletics 2009 6.30 World News 7.30 12th IAAF Athletics 2009 9.00 Movie: Memories Of Murder (MA 2003) South Korea. Stars Song Kang-ho, Kim Snag-kyung. 11.20 Movie: King's Game (M 2004) Denmark. Stars Anders Bertelsen, Soeren Pilmark. 1.10 Weatherwatch 3.00 12th IAAF Athletics 2009 5.30 Weatherwatch	6.00 ITU Triathlon From London. 8.30 This Week In Baseball 9.00 Major League Baseball 12.00 Australian Off Road Championships 1.00 Motorsport 2.00 Omnispot 2.30 2009 AFL Hawthorn v Carlton 4.30 Omnispot 5.00 Athletic 5.30 Powerboating 6.00 Australian Rally 7.00 Red Bull Air Race 9.55 Formula 1 Qualifying From Valencia. 11.25 Football 1.25 AFL 2009 Richmond v Hawthorn 3.40 Omnispot 4.10 NASCAR	All programs G or PG unless otherwise classified 6.00 Aria Music Show 7.00 The Nanny 7.30 Teen Titans 8.00 Xiaolin Showdown 8.30 I Dream Of Jeannie 9.00 Bewitched 9.30 Australia's Funniest Home Video Show 10.30 Entertainment Tonight 11.00 TMZ 11.30 Seinfeld 12.00 Gossip Girl (M) 1.00 Moonlight (M) 2.00 The Hills (M) 3.00 Just Shoot Me 3.30 The Nanny 4.00 Teen Titans 5.00 Xiaolin Showdown 5.30 I Dream Of Jeannie 6.30 Bewitched 6.00 Australia's Funniest Home Video Show 7.00 Entertainment Tonight 7.30 TMZ 8.00 Seinfeld 8.30 CSI: CSI (M) 9.30 CSI: Miami (M) 10.30 CSI: NY (M) 11.30 Just Shoot Me 12.00 Ellen Degeneres 1.00 Aria Music Show	
	SATURDAY 22	5.00 rage (PG) 11.00 Jam And Jerusalem (PG) 11.30 The Cook And The Chef 12.00 Stateline 12.30 Australian Story 1.00 Foreign Correspondent 1.30 Can We Help? (G) 2.00 Big Cat Diary (G) 2.30 South Side Story (PG) 3.00 Rugby Union: Shute Shield 2009 5.00 Bowls: Australian Indoor Championships Womens Semifinal 1. 6.00 Planet Food: Burgundy 6.30 Gardening Australia (G) 7.00 ABC News 7.30 East Of Everything (PG) 8.25 ABC News 8.30 The Bill (M) 10.00 ABC News 10.10 Foyle's War (M) Rpt. 11.45 rage (M)	5.20 World News in various languages. 7.00 2009 Ashes 5th Test 7.15 12th IAAF Athletics 2009 7.30 World News in various languages. 1.00 The Overcoat (G) Masterpiece from Canada. Set to the music of Dimitri Shostakovich. 2.25 Broken Column (G) Masterpiece from Norway. 3.00 The Wonderful World Of Albert Kahn: The Civilian's Story (G) 4.00 Le Petit Theatre de Marie-Antoinette (G) Masterpiece from UK. 4.30 Newshour With Jim Lehrer 5.30 2009 Ashes Update (PG) 6.30 World News Australia 7.30 2009 Ashes 5th Test Day 3 3.00 12th IAAF Athletics 2009	6.00 Kids' Programs 12.00 Eclipse (PG) 1.00 Magnum P.I. (PG) 2.00 V8 Supercars From Queensland. 5.30 Sydney Weekender (G) 6.00 Seven News 6.30 Coming Home (G) 7.30 Rugby Australia v New Zealand. 10.00 Movie: Broken Arrow (M 1996) Stars John Travolta, Jack Thomson, Samantha Mathis. 12.00 Movie: The Cabin Fever (M 2002) Stars Rider Strong, Jordan Ladd, James Debello. 2.00 Infomercials	6.00 Kids' Programs 9.00 Totally Wild 9.30 I Got A Rocket 10.00 Video Hits (PG) 12.00 Test Drive (PG) 12.30 Infomercial (PG) 1.30 Hook Line & Sinker (PG) 2.00 AFL Premiership Season 2009 Carlton v Melbourne. 5.00 Ten News 5.30 Sports Tonight (PG) 6.00 Futurama (PG) 6.30 The Simpsons (PG) 8.30 Movie: Serenity (M) Stars Adam Baldwin, Nathan Fillion. 10.45 AFL Premiership Season 2009 Richmond v Hawthorn. 1.15 Infomercials 3.15 Video Hits (PG) 4.00 Religion	6.00 Infomercials 7.00 Today On Saturday 9.00 Kids' Programs 1.00 The Snow Show (G) 1.30 Pearl Jam: Live In Cornice Italy (PG) 2.30 Hot August Night N.Y.C. (PG) Neil Diamond at Madison Square Garden 2009. 4.00 Discover Downunder (G) 4.30 Talk To The Animals (G) 5.00 Fishing Australia (PG) 5.30 Postcards (G) 6.00 Evening News 6.30 Australia's Funniest Home Videos 7.30 Movie: Suddenly 30 (PG) Stars Jenifer Garner. 8.40 Saturday Lotto 9.30 Movie: The Notebook (PG) Stars Rachel McAdams, James Garner, Gene Rowlands. 11.30 Movie: The Ring (MA15+ 2002) Stars Naomi Watts, David Dorfman. 1.45 Movie: Redeemer (M 2002) Stars Matthew Modine, Obba Babatundé. 3.30 Seinfeld (PG) 4.00 Infomercials	7.00 Kids' Programs 3.00 rage (G) 6.05 The New Inventors 6.35 Heartland 7.20 Rex The Hunt 7.30 The Einstein Factor 8.00 At The Movies Rpt. 8.30 Movie: The Seven-Per-Cent Solution (PG 1976) Stars Alan Arkin, Nicol Williamson. 10.20 Movie: Expresso Bongo (PG 1959) Stars Laurence Harvey. 12.05 Close	5.00am to 6.00pm World News In Various Languages 6.00 12th IAAF Athletics 2009 6.30 World News 7.30 12th IAAF Athletics 2009 10.00 Movie: Empire Of The Wolves (M 2005) France. Stars Jean Reno, Arly Jover. 12.10 Weatherwatch 3.00 12th IAAF Athletics 2009 5.30 Weatherwatch	6.00 ITU Triathlon From London. 8.30 NASCAR 12.30 Beach Volleyball 1.30 2009 AFL Carlton v Melbourne 5.00 Omnispot 5.30 Australian Rally 6.30 Powerboating 7.00 Red Bull Air Race 9.00 UFC Wired 9.55 Formula 1 From Valencia. 11.25 Football 1.25 AFL 2009 3.40 Omnispot 4.10 NASCAR	All programs G or PG unless otherwise classified 6.00 Aria Music Show 7.00 Kid's Programs 12.00 Charlie's Angels 12.30 Seinfeld 2.00 Scooby-Doo 2.30 Marine Boy 3.00 Movie: Gremlins Stars Zach Galligan. 5.00 Aria Music Show 6.00 Seinfeld 7.30 Dance Your Ass Off 8.30 CSI: CSI (M) 9.30 CSI: Miami (M) 10.30 CSI: NY (M) 11.30 Movie: Jeepers Creepers (MAV15+ 2001) Stars Justin Long, Gina Philips.
		SUNDAY 23	5.00 rage (PG) 6.30 Kids' Programs 9.00 Offsiders 11.00 Inside Business 10.30 Songs Of Praise 12.00 Landline (G) 1.00 Gardening Australia 1.30 Message Stick (G) 2.00 Weapons Races (G) 3.00 Morin Khuur: The Soul Of The Mongolian Horseman 3.55 Singing On The Violin: Claude Chalhoub (G) 4.45 Composer Tunes: Guiseppe Verdi 5.00 Young Performers Awards 2008 6.00 At The Movies 6.30 The Einstein Factor 7.00 ABC News 7.30 Stephen Fry in America 9.35 Midsomer Murders (M) 10.10 Compass: Break-Fast At Mabinahs (G) 10.40 Lin Hwai-Min: Floating On The Ground (G) 11.40 Coup! (M) 1.15 Order In The House 2.15 Movie: The great Man Votes (G 1939) Stars John Barrymore, Peter Holden. 3.30 Talking Heads (G) 4.00 The Pet Show (G)	5.55 World News in various languages. 7.00 2009 Ashes 5th Test 7.15 12th IAAF Athletics 2009 7.30 World News in various languages. 10.00 Iron Chef America (G) 10.50 Spacefiles (G) 11.00 Zucchero: Live In San Siro Milan (G) 11.30 Futbol Mundial 12.00 A Hat Trick Of Haydn 12.30 Futbol Mundial 1.00 Speedweek 3.00 UEFA Champions League Magazine Program 3.30 UEFA Champions League 2009/2010 Playoffs 4.30 The World Game 5.30 2009 Ashes Update 6.30 World News Australia 7.30 2009 Ashes 5th Test Day 4 3.00 12th IAAF Athletics 2009	6.00 Religious Programs 7.00 Weekend Sunrise 10.00 AFL Game Day (PG) 11.00 Kia Soul Live At The Chapel 11.30 According To Jim (PG) 12.00 V8 Supercars From Queensland 3.00 2009 AFL Premiership Collingwood v Sydney. 5.30 Mercurio's Menu (G) 6.00 Seven News 6.30 Dancing With The Stars (G) 8.00 Medical Emergency (PG) 8.30 Bones (M) 10.30 Las Vegas (M) 11.30 Renters (M) 12.00 Hot Auctions 12.30 Infomercials 5.30 Seven Early News	6.00 Religion 7.00 Totally Wild 7.30 Animalia 8.00 Meet The Press 8.30 State Focus (G) 9.00 Video Hits (PG) 12.00 City2Surf Highlights 12.30 Drag Racing (G) 1.30 Next Wave (PG) 2.00 The Biggest Loser (PG) 3.00 It's Me Or The Dog (G) 3.30 Orangetan Diary (PG) 4.00 River To Reef (G) 4.30 Discover Downunder (G) 5.00 Ten News 5.30 Out Of The Blue (PG) 6.00 The Simpsons (PG) 6.30 Australian Idol (PG) 8.40 Rove (M) 9.50 Rules Of Engagement (PG) 10.45 Formula One European Grand Prix 1.00 Infomercials 4.00 Religion	6.00 Arrive Alive Cup Matraville High v St Johns Woodlawn. 7.00 Weekend Today 10.00 Wide World Of Sports 11.00 The Sunday Footy Show 12.00 Sunday Roast (PG) 1.00 WWE Afterburn Live. 2.00 Super League St Helens v Huddersfield. 4.00 Sunday Rugby League Melbourne v Manly. 6.00 Evening News 6.30 Domestic Blitz 7.30 60 Minutes 8.30 Rescue Special Ops (M) 9.30 CSI: Miami (M) 10.30 CSI: Miami (M) 11.30 Psychic Detectives (PG) 12.00 Movie: Swimming Upstream (M) Stars Geoffrey Rush, Judy Davis, Jesse Spencer, Tim Dradl. 2.00 Seinfeld (PG) 2.30 Infomercials 3.30 Religion 4.00 Good Morning America 5.00 Early Morning News	7.00 Classic Albums: Sex Pistols - Never Mind The Bollocks (G) 8.00 Zoo Days (G) 8.55 Little Angels (G) 9.25 Scrapheap Challenge 11.00 Beautiful Noise 12.00 Soundtrack To My Life: Darren Hayes (G) 12.30 Red Dwarf (PG) 1.30 Planet Rock Profiles (G) 2.00 Blind Boys Of Alabama Live 3.00 Jewel Live 4.00 Paul Kelly Live 5.00 Divas 6.00 ABC For 7.00 Artscape 7.30 Cranford (PG) 8.30 Hornblower (M) 10.15 Saddam's Tribe (M) 11.45 Close	5.00am to 6.00pm World News In Various Languages 6.00 12th IAAF Athletics 2009 6.30 World News 7.30 12th IAAF Athletics 2009 10.00 Movie: Dreamship Surprise (M 2004) Germany. Stars Michael Bully Herbig, Rick Kavanian. 11.30 A Fork In The Mediterranean 12.00 Weatherwatch 3.00 12th IAAF Athletics 2009 5.30 Weatherwatch	6.00 Major League Baseball 9.00 Athletic 9.30 ITU Triathlon From London. 10.30 Football 1.00 I Fish 1.30 Grand AM 2.30 Andra PRO 3.30 Major League Baseball 6.00 Powerboating 6.30 Tread BMX 7.30 Slamball 7.30 Sports Tonight 8.30 Motorsport 9.00 Valencian Formula 1 12.00 Australian Superbikes 1.00 Omnispot 1.30 Poker 2.30 Major League Baseball 5.00 Tread BMX 5.30 Powerboating

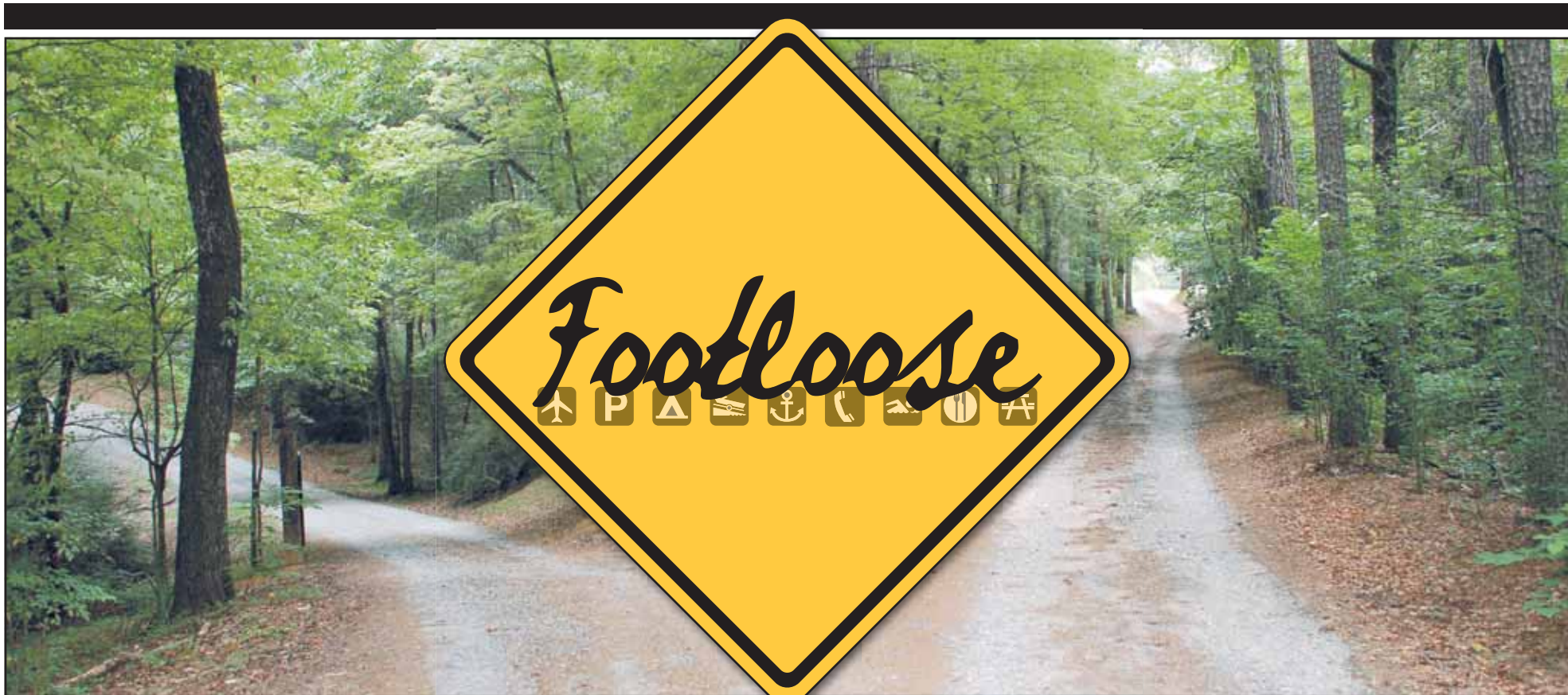


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AUGUST 14-30



'The use of travelling is to regulate imagination by reality, and instead of thinking how things may be, to see them as they are.' - Samuel Johnson

Travelling overseas can give an expanded perspective on the small world we call home, often confined to the workplace and the backyard. We come face to face with new cultures, learn new languages and marvel at new things.

But you don't even need to go so far to get a refreshing point of view in the Northern Rivers. How long has it been since you trekked to the waterfall up the road or sat on a beach at sunset, letting the waves wash over worries?

In Footloose we look at four regions ready to explore: the Far North Coast Hinterland, the Gold Coast, the Gold Coast Hinterland, and the Far North Coast. And if you want to go further afield, we also venture into the Sunshine Coast and its hinterland.

The variety of experiences available in these regions is immense, easily able to satisfy many varying definitions of what is a pleasant holiday. Your idea of a good time may be to sit in a cool café sipping coffee and reading a paper; for others it's the adrenalin rush in a speedboat's wake.

In the North Coast Hinterland, for example, you might take time to tour among the little villages, admiring galleries or market stalls. Behind the Gold Coast there are all kinds of camping to be had among rainforest, and once you've had your fill of nature, it's hard to go past the unique wineries. The Gold Coast itself, however, can be synonymous with partying and luxury hotels, if you can tear yourself away from the golden stretches of sand.

Before you set out, plan your itinerary. Make sure you can get to where you want to go comfortably in the time you have without exhausting yourself in the process. It is a holiday, remember? Discuss your trip among friends or family, commit ideas to paper and discover which are realisable dreams and which are better left for other times.

We can help you with that. In the following pages we provide you with ideas on where to go and what to do which are sure to help make a holiday special. The feeling of wellbeing will be increased with the knowledge that you're also supporting local industry and enjoying the beauty of our much-acclaimed natural environment.



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- Lismore ph: 6626 4200 Mon to Fri 8.30am to 4pm, Sat 8.30am to 12noon
- Murwillumbah ph: 6676 3309 Mon to Fri 9am to 4pm



Far North Coast

BYRON BAY, BROKEN HEAD, HASTINGS POINT, KINGSCLIFF



There are points on the Far North Coast of New South Wales where you are up so dizzyingly high that, by rotating slowly, you are able to let your eyes travel from Mt Warning to the ocean.

This is just one of the reasons for the immense and enduring popularity enjoyed by the region. Stretching from Grafton to the border between New South Wales and Queensland, this most northerly expanse of coast has long been a magnet for surfboard riders attracted by perfect breaks like Angourie, The Pass and Lennox Head. Its diversity ensures that it entices backpackers, holidaying families and sea-changers.

Its towns are scattered in between national parks, deserted beaches, rainforests and lush cattle-grazing fields. Considered by some to be among the best in the world, the beautiful beaches often back on to reserves, and the sub-tropical climate means you can even swim in mid-winter. There's fishing and whale-watching, hang-gliding and scuba diving; there are scenic coastal roads and village markets. And while each small town possesses its own distinctive character, it is undeniably Byron Bay which is considered 'the jewel in the crown'.

Most of the original hippy settlers from the 60s and 70s have moved inland now, but there is still an 'alternative' element – Nag Champa swirling out of doorways, dreadlocks offered on street corners – and apparently one of the highest contingents of yoga practitioners in the world.

Chic boutiques, masses of cafes and restaurants, at least four gyms and a Dendy cinema gloss the town with sophistication – though none of these things compares with the exhilarating climb up to the lighthouse. Unless it's the live music scene.

Besides, there are best-kept secrets like Yamba; timeless, unfashionable and sleepy places like Brunswick Heads, Hastings Point and Evans Head; beaches at Broken Head so difficult to

access most people don't bother but if you do you may have the entire cove to yourself. The Pacific Hotel at Yamba commands one of the most dramatic locations for dining on the whole North Coast, a white-washed building which seems to tip out over the ocean below. Nearby, Angourie is sought out by serious surfers and the Yuraygir National Park which bounds it has wild and wonderful tracks for bushwalking.

Catch a ferry to Iluka over the other side of the river-mouth north of Yamba and explore the world heritage-listed nature reserve which contains the largest coastal rainforest in New South Wales. At Ballina you can breakfast at The Point restaurant with the glassy Richmond River a croissant's throw away.

Dolphins may leap. Set on the mouth of the river this port town is ideal for family holidays, and ten minutes south of Lennox Head, whose spectacular coastline seduces professional surfers from all over the world.

Ever northward, it is best to turn off the highway at Wooyung, beyond South Golden Beach, and take the coast road which winds picturesquely all the way up to Fingal Head, close to the border. Kingscliff's surf club has a verandah overlooking the ocean and an excellent restaurant; its main street is cluttered with stylish boutiques and good cafes.

At Hastings Point general store the glorious hamburgers – old-fashioned, bulging patty with all the trimmings in a puffy warm bun – are best devoured over the road under a tree, the river and pelicans before you.

The word 'paradise' is heard frequently in this part of the world. Over fabulous tapas and a delicate riesling at the Byron Beach Cafe, the sun setting to the lazy roll of late afternoon waves, you might find yourself using it too.



events

Tweed Valley Banana Festival	till August 23
Lismore Cup	September 24
North Coast National Show, Lismore	October 24
Alstonville Agricultural Show	October 30-31
Ballina River Festival	November 29
Fatherhood Festival	September 5-6
Big Scrub Rainforest Day	September 20
Byron Bay Lighthouse Run	October 25
Summer of Cycling	November 7
Bangalow Christmas Eve Festival	December 24
Byron Bay NYE Community Celebrations	December 31

Coopers Cottage

MAP REF A1



Your pet friendly holiday home away from home.

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Cooper's Cottage caters for 6 people and offers:

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Our Rates are very competitive, starting at \$750 p/w, or \$150 per night. Peak season rates are \$2,500 p/w, or \$400 per night. Rates vary according to season and events throughout the year in Byron and the surrounding areas. Festival rates will apply for these periods, and are available on application. **MINIMUM STAY 3 NIGHTS.**

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Bundaleer Retreat

MAP REF A1



BUNDALEER is the aboriginal meaning for 'a place of green trees'.

A place of peace and tranquility, Bundaleer Retreat offers private bungalows less than 10 minutes drive to Byron Bay and Lennox Head.

With only 4 self contained studio cabins, this eco friendly bush haven, opposite coastal reserve land, enjoy total relaxation and privacy in natural surroundings around 15 acres of virtual parkland where over 80 species of birds have been identified, while still being close to all the ambience and action that Byron Bay is renowned for.

Also approved for functions & weddings. There is a Greek outdoor area which adjoins a 17m tropical pool with waterfall.

Our private holiday cottages, from \$125 per night, are ideal for a mid week break, weekend getaway or longer stay. Unique to accommodation located on 15 acres of coastal heath, featuring meandering waterways and lily ponds. Bungalows with private decks, kitchenette, bbq, claw foot bath, beautiful timber floors, high ceilings, plus a complimentary breakfast basket.

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The Cottage Ewingsdale

MAP REF A2



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"We had the most relaxing weekend at The Cottage. Deirdre went out of her way to make us comfortable, a bottle of bubbles when we arrived, she organized a cot for my son and provided lots of great local knowledge. The views from the balcony were stunning and the accommodation was a very high standard. We can't wait for our next trip." Jennifer, February 2009

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MAP REF A1



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Byron Bay Blisshouse

MAP REF A1



Byron Blisshouse luxury day spa and accommodation

Choose from two beach front, 4 star luxury Villas which sleep from four to six adults located at Belongil Beach or two beautifully appointed houses which sleep from six to eight people situated in town but still only a short walk to Clarks Beach.

Our properties also feature a mix of private day spas, outside jacuzzi, indoor spa bath, sauna, steam room, tropical gardens, expansive verandahs, and modern appliances.

Byron Blisshouse offers luxury for a romantic retreat, family holiday, private honeymoon, escape from the city, pampering weekend... You create the fantasy, we offer the package.

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The Old Church

MAP REF A3



The Old Church is situated in the Byron Bay Hinterland at Newrybar.

This beautiful, historic building that has been restored over the past eight years is a focal point of the village.

The polished floorboards throughout most of the house and huge living areas create a sense of open spaced relaxation that you can only dream of occupying.

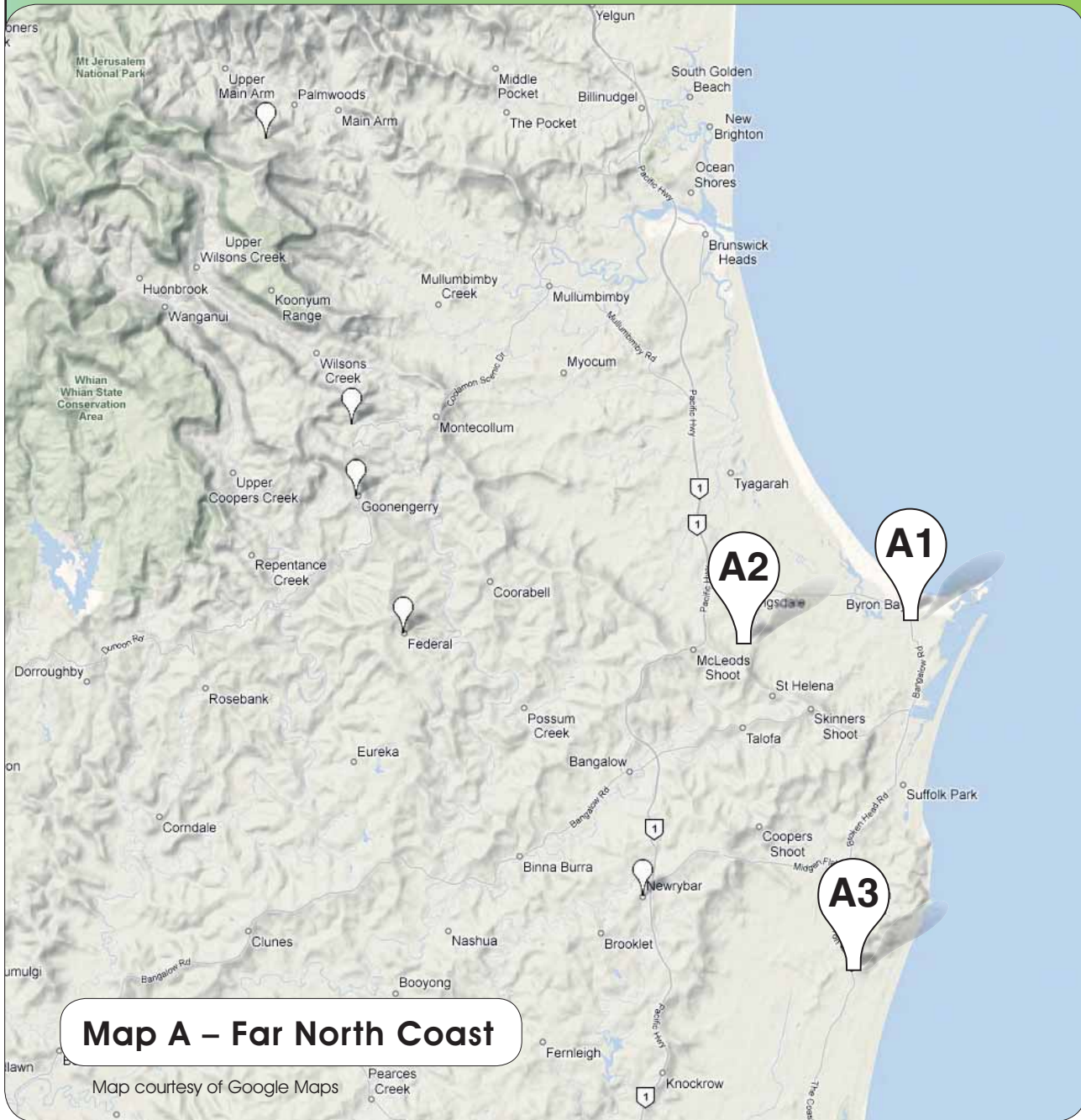
With 4 bedrooms that can sleep 10 people, 2 showers, 1 bath, 3 toilets and laundry. You are guaranteed that The Old Church is the perfect space and fantastic place to relax with friends or family.

Even though the space is vast we will not accept bookings for functions of any kind as this helps us to preserve the beauty of The Old Church.



www.theoldchurchbyronbay.com

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BRISBANE NEWS June 2009

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Far North Coast Hinterland

FEDERAL, GOONENGERRY, DUNOON, THE CHANNON, MULLUMBIMBY



Away from the coast, another world opens up. The undulating landscape of the hinterland throws up ever-changing vistas: orchards and forests, farmlands and national parks; perhaps that partly explains why artists are drawn here.

Pick a road, any road, and you will wind up somewhere totally enchanting, a perfect picnic spot or a hidden waterfall at the end of a brambly walking track. The lush and fertile volcanic soil hydrated by regular rainfalls offers up coffee, macadamia nuts, avocados, pecans and bananas and the various farmers' markets are there to showcase them.

Soaring up above the plains is Mount Warning from whence the rich soil has over the centuries spread. It is also responsible for the most spectacular National Parks, World Heritage-listed reserves, state forests and mountain lookouts whose panoramic views stretch all the way to the coast.

Here you will still find remnants of the 'alternative' culture that once inhabited Byron Bay in villages like Uki and The Channon, which seem almost frozen in time. There are retreats plunged down secluded tracks, and luxury wilderness B&B's where whip birds will waken you for a gourmet breakfast. Craft shops and tiny art galleries exhibit the talent of local artisans and country restaurants are tucked away in unlikely corners. Or you can compose your own picnic based on the little produce stalls which dot the region: frilly lettuces here, a tumble of citrus there.

Murwillumbah is a pretty town with heritage buildings; it flanks the Tweed River and rises up into the hills, nearly every street presenting a view of mountain, river or valley. Its superb gallery, the Tweed Regional Gallery, has regularly changing exhibitions and a slick cafe. Nearby Stokers Siding boasts a little pottery outlet, great for gifts – as is the gallery upstairs in the general store at Burringbar which features a fascinating array of locally produced arts and crafts.

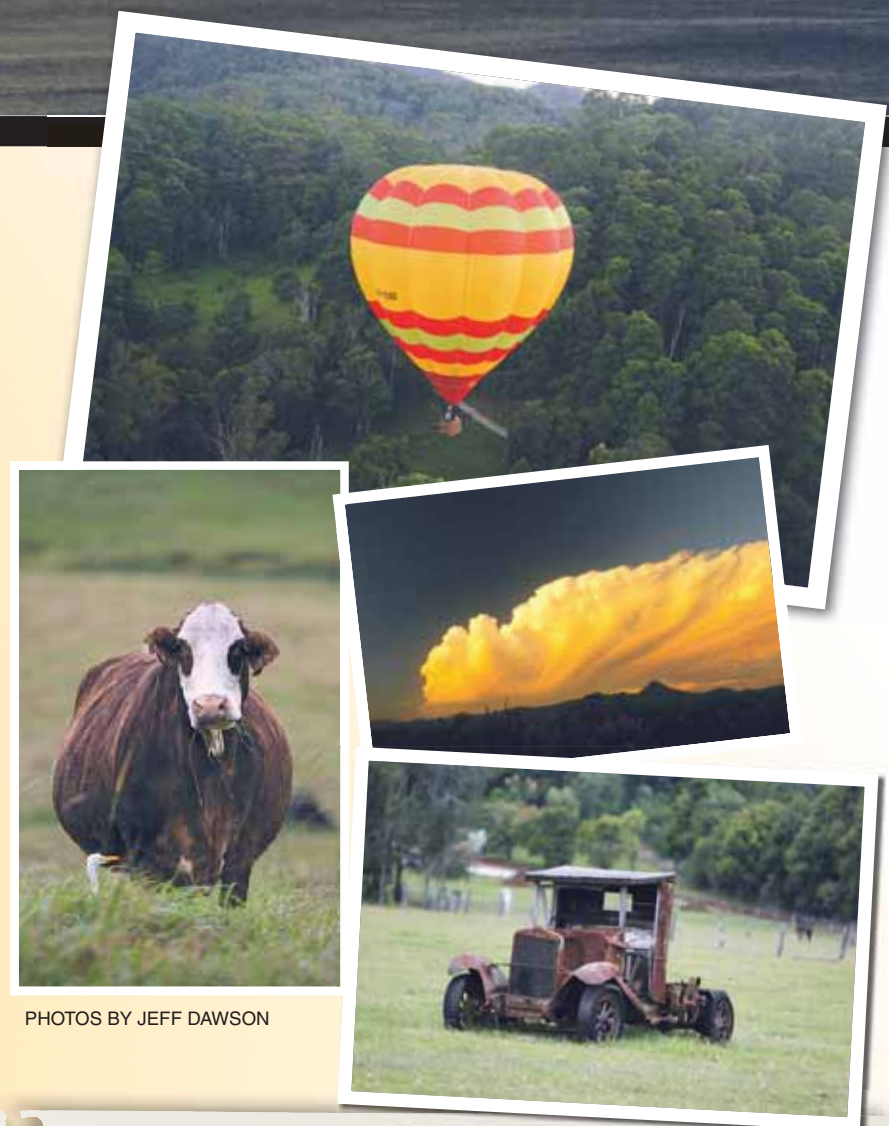
Mount Warning itself – the last remnant of the extinct volcano's central core – is worth a climb, although you should start early in the morning.

At 1,156 metres its peak is the first part of mainland Australia to be touched by the morning sun. The round-trip trek takes about five hours and is utterly intoxicating. Heading southward, the dramatic mountainscape and towering, majestic rocks rear up wherever you look.

The town of Nimbin is a blast from the Aquarius past with its fascinating museum and its Hemp Embassy. Nearby, the pretty village called The Channon was birthplace for the weekend market culture now spread throughout the entire region; its Sunday market is generally considered to be the best. Newrybar with its galleries, Eltham with its old pub and Pecan Pantry and beautiful Bangalow – city style in a country tow – all possess a sleepy English countryside charm you'll find hard to leave. Out to the foothills of the Great Divide you will continue to discover treasures to make your spirit soar.

Be patient and you may even spot a Platypus at the Rocky Creek Dam in nearby Dunoon. The beautiful village of Federal is a great family place. With quaint jewellery gallery & wood creations showroom.

If you're feeling hungry make sure you stop in at the Club Fed cafe as they boast one of the best burgers for miles. On the road out to Mullum you will stumble upon the rolling hills of Goonengerry...but drive slowly so you can stop off at the Happy Organics produce stand.



PHOTOS BY JEFF DAWSON

events

Murwillumbah Repco Rally	September 3-6
Tyalgum Festival of Classical Music	September 4-6
Speed on Tweed	September 5-6
ASOHO Womens Rejuvenation Retreat	September 11-13
Wild Honey Dance	September 26-27
Nimbin Country Show	September 26-27

A S O H O
MAP REF B4



Is the perfect place for a large family or 4 couples to enjoy the beauty of the Byron Bay Hinterland village of Federal.

There are 3 pavilions carefully decorated with fine Asian inspired furnishings and decor. Imagine being greeted everyday by beautiful lorikeets. The occasional sighting of koalas are not rare and perched in the trees sit the resident tawny frogmouth owls.

Enjoy a dip in the pool by day or relax in the shade of your own private spot on the wrap around verandah.

By night make homemade pizza in the courtyard to eat in the Balinese Hut whilst you wonder at the stars.

4 queen bedrooms, 1 single bedroom, 3 single loft beds. 3 bathrooms, 3 lounges (with TV/DVD) and newly fitted kitchen



www.asohofederal.com.au
ph: 6688 4202 or 0432 479 522

Cedarville House
MAP REF B2



This magnificent home is a self contained 4 bedroom fully functional and equipped heritage cottage with wrap around verandahs and a welcoming open fireplace.

The house is set on 30 acres in the beautiful countryside near the village of Dunoon, the macadamia capital of Australia. With its generous front and back verandahs, Cedarville would make an ideal artists retreat for a group who wouldn't have to go far to find enchanting subjects. Cedarville is 10 minutes to Rocky Creek Dam, Minyon Falls and the rainforests of the far north coast of New South Wales, a bird watching and bushwalkers paradise.

Also just 30 minutes to the magic of Byron Bay, where you can spend the day soaking up the atmosphere, or visit our areas unique markets for great local produce and gifts while being entertained by the varied performers.

The nearest main town is Lismore, home to people living alternate lifestyles, artists, painters, potters, wood turners and other craft work. The beautiful countryside, sub tropical rainforests, and abundant nature all year round has provided the perfect environment for artisans to thrive. Lismore these days is full of art galleries and craft centres.

www.cedarvillehouse.com
contact Robin 02 6687 5164

Eternity Springs
MAP REF B3



Let Eternity Springs Art Farm B&B work nature's magic on you!

Why waste your carbon footprint to travel far, when there is magic to be found in The Channon. Set on 20 undulating acres, Eternity Springs offers an inspired and natural environment for retreats. Take time for a mind, body, spirit lift; get lost at the secluded waterfall... find yourself in the labyrinth; graze on over 20 different sub-tropical fruits in season... enjoy yoga and meditation in 'Heaven'; find inspiration in the well resourced art studio... or just hang in a verandah hammock and soak up nature in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere!

Stay in a variety of individual, creative accommodation; treat yourselves to the privacy of the self contained luscious Lotus Cabin; or to the farmstay rooms with ensuites; if you're on a budget the Cubby Cabins will be for you.

Our facilities offer comfort and value for up to 18 people (more in tents), plenty of spaces for gatherings of family and friends or for workshop facilitators.



www.eternitysprings.com
483 Tuntable Creek Rd, The Channon 6688 6385

Nuwarra Eliya
MAP REF B6



Nestled on hilltops in the picturesque village of Goonengerry sits Nuwarra Eliya.

By day you can overlook the Nightcap Range forest and the luminous stars by night. With scenic drives to and from every direction you can be sure your stay will remain private and peaceful.

When you wake up to the early morning mist your elevated view will make you feel like you're high above the clouds and the perfect view of the evening sunset will take your breath away. This fully self contained, one bedroom cottage is perfect for a romantic getaway.

For more information and to book your stay please visit the website or contact Cheryl & Peter on 6684 9234.



www.nuwarra.com
36 Main Rd, Goonengerry 6684 9234

Toolond Plantation
MAP REF B1

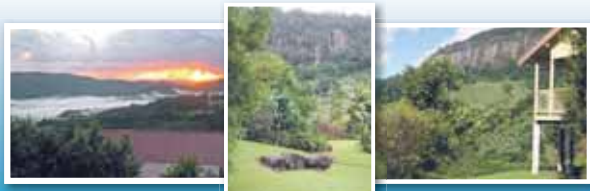


Toolond Plantation is a most unique country holiday location.

Self-contained guesthouse accommodation for up to 8 people and children and pets are most welcome. Boasting magnificent views of the mountains and escarpments of Main Arm Valley, 20mins west of Mullumbimby with extended views to the ocean.

The property has spring fed gullies and creeks, waterfalls, rainforest and scenic walking trails. The native gardens, abundance of wildlife and the rural setting create a natural, eco-friendly environment.

Enjoy the comforts of a warm, clean and homely 3 bedroom house (3.5 AAA rating) which easily accommodates up to 8 people. The house is spacious with 2 verandahs, is fully self-contained with all cooking facilities, 3 way bathroom, laundry, TV, DVD, fans, BBQ and a cosy log fire. A place to just relax, unwind and rejuvenate and an ideal spot for locals to come with family and friends.



www.byron-bay.com/toolond
Palmwoods Rd, Mullumbimby • 6684 5432

Manara Retreat
MAP REF B5



Maybe it's time for a break.

Set in the picturesque rolling hills of Goonengerry Manara is a spacious, comfortable, private 2 bedroom, 1 bathroom cottage with full kitchen, laundry and broadband facilities.

Wake to the sound of birdsong, breakfast on the sunny terrace, with glorious garden and forest views. Take a stroll and smell the flowers.

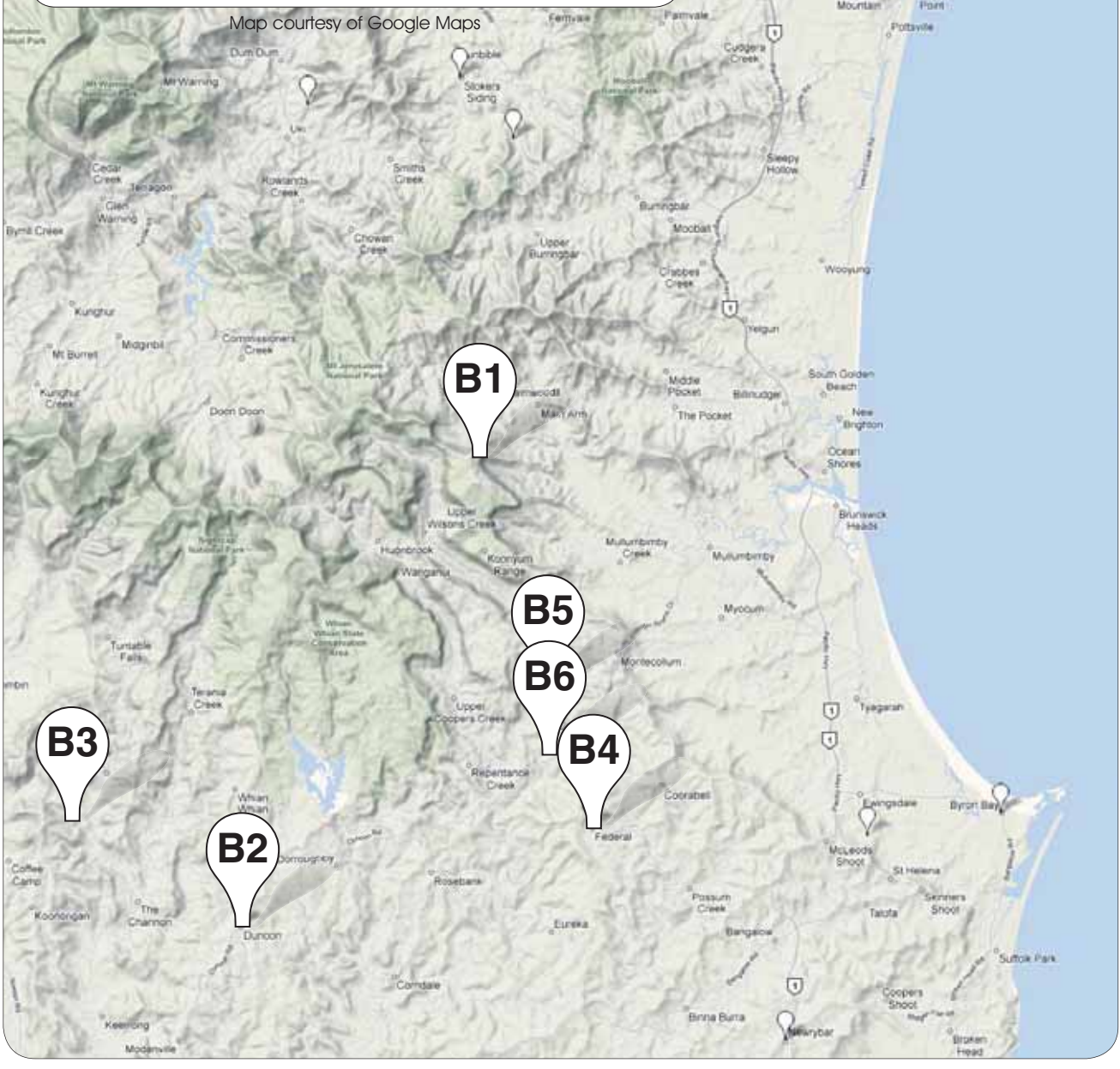
Surrounded by nature, where time moves at a more laid back pace, you are still only a stone's throw from fantastic beaches, restaurants and markets.

Byron Bay, Minyon Falls, the Crystal Castle and the friendly township of Mullumbimby are all close by.



[google / manara retreat](http://google/manara%20retreat)
Bookings: Phone 6684 9138

Map B – Far North Coast Hinterland



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Stokers Siding NSW 2484
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Gold Coast and Hinterland

SPRINGBROOK, CURRUMBIN VALLEY, MT TAMBOURINE, NTH TAMBOURINE, BALLANDEAN



When the notion of a getaway involves not only relaxation but an element of cosmopolitanism, glitz and downright fun then the Gold Coast is your destination.

From Coolangatta in the south up to South Stradbroke Island in the north, it unscrolls into 70km of beaches and a surreal landscape of high-rise architecture which rears up from them. The earliest surveyed town was Southport near the top of the stretch, settled in 1869 and known at the time as Nerang Creek Heads.

It was renamed Southport in 1875 after the English seaside resort town and by 1890 had become the place for the social set, largely because of its stunning views and perfect weather.

Accordingly, the Council encouraged it to flourish with the development of swimming baths and a theatre, kiosks and side-show amusements. The real tourism boom began in 1925 when firstly a coastal road was built between Brisbane and Southport and then Jim Cavill built the Surfers Paradise Hotel slightly south, in an area known as Elston which was later to become Surfers Paradise. With the increasing reliability of automobile technology in the 1930's the number of holiday-makers continued to grow and by the end of the 1940's the entire area had turned into a vastly popular holiday destination.

In fact, when you are there, it is difficult to know who are the locals and who are the tourists; there is this feeling that everyone is, like you, there on holiday, shopping in the boutiques and swimming at the beautiful beaches and dining in the restaurants.

None of that dense high-rise development can take away from the sheer gorgeousness of those beaches – 21 of which are patrolled. At Southport the permanent sand-spit separates the Broadwater from the Pacific Ocean; there is also the astonishing Versace Hotel and Sea World. (Worlds are a particular feature of the Gold Coast.)

Main Beach begins one of the area's most popular walks and its bathing pavillion is historic. Tedder Avenue several streets back is wall-to-wall smart restaurants, cafes and boutiques. Surfers Paradise should be avoided during Schoolies Week but otherwise promises, then delivers, a seamless flow of pleasures – from the minute you

leave your tall fancy hotel, cross the road to the sparkling beach for a swim, spend the afternoon shopping after a light little lunch, browse in a gallery or two, repair to your hotel for sauna and spa then head out into the evening for cocktails, dinner, and even dancing if the adrenalin is still with you.

The parkland at Broadbeach continues the beachside walk you will need to do to compensate for your golden excesses and the fact that here too proliferate the eateries and drinkeries. By Mermaid Beach and Palm Beach there's a subtle shift to the air, a sleepier air and a more 'locals' feel. There's Burleigh, Miami, Nobby Beach, Currumbin, Kirra and Coolangatta and there you are, back at the border. Sunset drinks on the Observation Deck of the Q1, seventy seven floors up one of the tallest residential buildings in the world, could be a quintessentially Gold Coast experience, especially at full moon when you can gaze out through the glass which separates you and look it in its lunar eye.

When it all gets too much it might just be time to head upward and inland. Find some mountains where the clean sharp air will clear your mind, distill your thoughts and soothe your soul.

Behind the brash and hectic pulse of the Gold Coast, a mere half hour's drive away, is the wonderland of the hinterland. Towering 600 metres high is Tamborine Mountain whose township is the region's pivot, it is surrounded by nine spectacular national parks. Walking gear, then, must be packed in order not to miss out on trails and tracks which will bring you out to astonishing lookouts, waterfalls, plants that have been growing there for millions of years, rare native bird- and wildlife, rainforest canopies and picnic spots. There is no hurry at all. Better still, you can stay for a night or a week (or forever): there are well-equipped camping grounds and lodges, family holiday homes and luxury retreats. The town's streets are lined with trees and there are boutiques, galleries and restaurants with a slowed-down village feel. There are award-winning wineries in the surrounding districts where you can indulge in tastings or just stock up your

cellar. It is an industry ever-increasing in popularity and significance for the region, so much so that there is even a wine trail throughout the hinterland with vineyard tours you can join in order to follow it.

Further down is Lamington National Park, 200 square kilometres of majestic ranges, subtropical rainforest, gorges and caves, waterfalls and pools. And more of those dramatic views which take your breath away. Springbrook National Park contains the Natural Arch where it is possible, if you feel brave, to swim in the invigorating waters beneath the waterfall. There are glow-worms at nightfall.

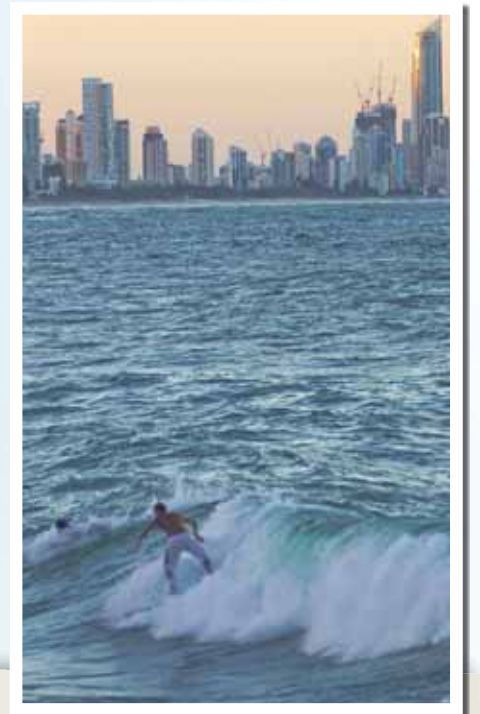
To sustain you, as you feel your busy life melt away, are cafes and restaurants dotted throughout this lush region. The hinterland communities were founded on farming and gourmet food producers abound: you will find avocados and grapes and rhubarb, chocolate and fudge and cheese, coffee and nuts. Roadside stalls and historic pubs vie with French, Italian, Mexican, Spanish, Indian and Thai restaurants, often located at lookouts with more of those astonishing views. Two main towns include Mudgeeraba – which boasts a fresh food market – and Nerang. The former is set at the base of the Tallai Hills and hosts, every first Saturday of the month, a popular village fair with stalls and entertainment.

Which begins to sound busy again! When it might be time to head instead to the Granite Belt for more injections of nature. Part of the Great Dividing Ranges in South East Queensland, it is cool high country south of the Darling Downs and north of the New England Tablelands. The predominantly granite rocks which compose its landscape distinguish the area and give it, of course, its name.

Breathtakingly beautiful wild flowers – there are at least 800 species of plants, including orchids, rock roses, native bluebells – burst into life

in spring. There are apple orchards and lavender farms, and there are more award-winning wineries; the area is, to be sure, considered Queensland's premier wine region.

And if all that bush-walking and mountain-climbing hasn't succeeded in restoring, reviving and rejuvenating you then maybe a glass of cabernet sauvignon from the Bungawarra Wines cellar door will do the trick.



PHOTOS BY JEFF DAWSON

events

Jet Sprint Boat Races	September 19-12
Wind in the Willows by Goat Track Theatre Company	September 21-27
Craft Extravaganza Christmas Affair	Oct 8-11
Forest Weekend	Oct 30 - Nov 1
Bird Week	November 1-8

Springbrook Mountain Manor

MAP REF C4



Pamper yourself with a stay at the splendid Springbrook Mountain Manor. This exclusive 4½ star rated English Tudor Boutique hotel is located in the glorious Gold Coast Hinterland, in the heart of the World Heritage listed National park, only 45 minutes from Broadbeach and 75 minutes from Brisbane.

A Bed & Breakfast rate of **\$190 per couple per night midweek or \$210 per night weekends** not only includes accommodation in luxury airconditioned suites and a continental breakfast, but also golf, tennis, croquet, spa, sauna, trail walks and much, much more. Drinks in the famous One Legged Duck Tavern/bar followed by dinner in the Manors restaurant could complete your perfect day. **Two night midweek and weekend accommodation/dinner/breakfast packages also available.** And by the way, the Manor specialises in weddings and conferences too.



www.springbrookmountainmanor.com.au
2814 Springbrook Rd, Springbrook QLD 07 5533 5344

Cottages On The Creek

MAP REF C3



It only takes 10 minutes to drive half a million miles away from the neon, high rise and glitz of the Gold Coast deep into the magical heart of Currumbin Valley.

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The cottages front an emerald garden oasis best viewed from the private timber decked verandah with bbq and Mexican fireplace and inside is everything you need for a totally self-catered stay, with open plan lounge, kitchen and deluxe double spa and master queen bedroom. And in this temple of nature, where better then to indulge in a Hawaiian temple-style massage to truly unwind. Cottages on the Creek are the perfect getaway when you can have it all – the delights of Gold Coast beaches, restaurants and shopping and the serenity, peace and majesty of the rainforest. You can even take your dog.

Visit our website www.cottagesonthecreek.com.au and to find out more ring Kate on 07) 55330 449 or email relax@cottagesonthecreek.com.au

www.cottagesonthecreek.com.au
1464 Currumbin Ck Rd, Currumbin Valley QLD

Escarpment Retreat

MAP REF C2



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We look forward to providing you with a memorable and magical experience in this unique mountain retreat.

www.escarpment.com.au
07 5545 3300

Avocado Sunset B&B

MAP REF C1



Avocado Sunset Bed and Breakfast is a romantic retreat catering for couples, overlooking the verdant Canungra Valley out to the Great Dividing Range beyond.

There are four themed, queen bedded rooms, and each one is a different experience. Sip champagne in the huge double spa while watching the sunset in the west at the end of a perfect day on the mountain.

Not far away are many great restaurants, the award winning cheese factory, the distillery, wineries and the new Mount Tamborine Brewery. Gallery Walk is just around the corner. If hiking is your passion, we are within walking distance to Witches Falls National Park, but if you prefer something a little less strenuous, visit the new, magnificent Skywalk. At sunset, sip champagne on the deck and watch the sky perform its magic. Listen to sounds of the bush as you drift off to sleep. Awake to the song of the rare Albert Lyrebird or the Kookaburra laughing in another day. Enjoy a magnificent breakfast along with your fellow guests.

In the winter, snuggle beside the log fire either in your room or in the beautiful guest lounge. A massage can be arranged and you can order a romantic dinner platter to enjoy in the privacy of your room. Relax in the peace and tranquillity of Avocado Sunset – you just will not want to leave but like many of our guests, you can come back again and again.

www.avocadosunset.com.au

186 Beacon Road, Nth Tamborine QLD 07 5545 2365

Pethers Retreat

MAP REF C1



Hidden at the end of a long winding driveway, Pethers Rainforest Retreat is the ultimate in luxury.

Set amongst 12 acres of privately owned rainforest are 10 very private treehouses. All are furnished and decorated with Asian overtones including antiques. This picture of opulence is followed through into the Main Lodge, Bar and Restaurant with towering ceilings and panoramic vistas...

Each treehouse has its own large spa, fireplace, king size bed, lounge and dining areas all overlooking the rainforest, plus a large private deck amongst the trees.

Enjoy breakfast delivered to your room each morning, followed by a stroll through the gardens. Take a picnic along the private walkway through the rainforest to the stream that is Sandy Creek.

From the moment you walk into the Main Lodge overlooking tropical rainforest you will be filled with the calming energy and sensuality that comes from the seclusion and the quite elegance of Pethers. Whether you are looking for a romantic break or a short getaway, Pethers Rainforest Retreat in the lush Gold Coast Hinterland is the place where you can leave your worries at the gate.

www.pethers.com.au

28b Geissmann St Nth Tamborine 07 5545 4577

Vineyard Cottages

MAP REF D2 (SEE BACK PAGE)



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- Private 2 acre cottage gardens with distant views of rural valleys and ranges.
- Intimate guests lounge with log fire.

www.vineyardcottages.com.au

New England Hwy, Ballandean 07 4684 1270

Map C – Gold Coast & Hinterland

Map courtesy of Google Maps



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Then it's time to be pampered by the therapists at Getaway Day Spa. The staff are all fully qualified beauty and massage therapists, ensuring your treatments are of the highest standard. With a variety of packages to choose from, you may decide to have only one treatment or indulge yourself with one of the deluxe packages.

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www.getawaydayspa.com

Sunshine Coast and Hinterland

MELANEY, NAMBOUR, MAPLETON, NOOSA, CALOUNDRA



PHOTOS BY JEFF DAWSON

Past Brisbane and up the Bruce Highway is the turn-off to this fertile region.

The Glasshouse Mountains soar steep-sidedly into the clouds, endlessly visible; the motorway curves around and takes you from Caloundra through to Noosa Heads past white-sanded beaches ever more beautiful.

Here there are more national parks than in any other region of Queensland. Boutique dining and designer shopping, art galleries and stylish bars attract sophisticated travellers and international tourists. Inland, the Blackall Range offers up villages with a nostalgic rural charm such as Montville and Maleny which feature wineries and cheese factories, weekly markets, arts and crafts and a generous array of accommodation in the form of B&B's, retreats, boutique guest houses and cottages.

Stunning scenery, rainforests and waterfalls are all there to be explored. There's the Ginger Factory at Yandina whose



glorious grounds are profuse with exotic flowering ginger varieties; the Spirit House nearby for dinner, Asian-style, in tropical gardens around a tranquil pond where the only sounds are bubbling waterfalls and wind-chimes.

Beneath heritage-listed fig trees the Eumundi Markets, held every Wednesday and Saturday, is considered one of Australia's leading tourist attractions and boasts more than 600 stalls.

Mount Cooroora at Poimona is 439 metres of steep and exhilarating forest track; take a picnic for the summit and allow yourself two hours.

An easier, equally beautiful walk is through the Noosa National Park via Alexandria Bay. Tea Tree Beach is a postcard; koalas peep from trees. The Noosa Farmers Market is a must for Sunday lunch supplies; there are golf courses, deer parks, honey factories and botanical gardens.

And there is sunshine, of course.



PHOTO COURTESY OF



events

Festival of the Walks

Aug 29 - Sept 13

Woodford Folk Festival

Dec 27 - Jan 1

Coolabine Ridge

MAP REF D1



Share the magic

Set amid 400 acres of forest and native grassland, this exclusive hideaway estate only 8km from Mapleton, offers a unique blend of seclusion and silence. Here you can discover the Sunshine Coast Hinterland in all its natural beauty.

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Tennis, mountain bikes, and boule are available for guests. Specially marked walks though-out the estate are there for you to explore.

Enjoy breakfast on your private balcony as part of your package, and allow us to give you what you desire most. Peace and relaxation, the simple pleasure of having time on your hands.

Talk to us about your wedding plans. Our open-air Pavilion, surround by manicured lawn and gardens, is available for receptions.

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 - bus tours and day trips
- low-cost transport to/from Brisbane and the Gold Coast

TOURS AND ACTIVITIES

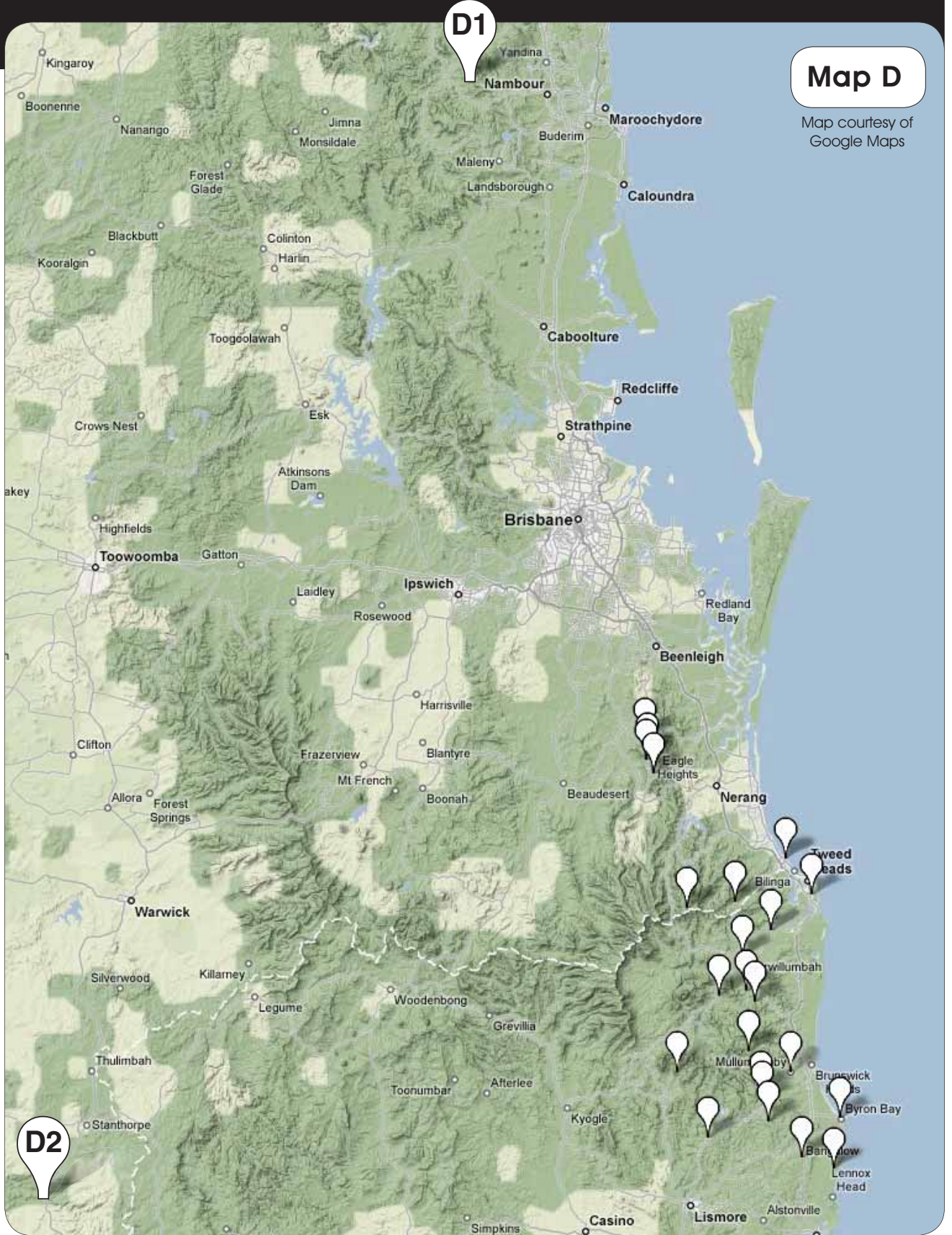
- air - ballooning, skydiving, hang-gliding, gliding, helicopter and microlight rides
- earth - mountain biking, hinterland and wildlife tours
- water - sea kayaking, snorkelling and diving, dolphin and whale watching

PLUS LOTS MORE!



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Map D

Map courtesy of Google Maps

Historic
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www.tumbulgumtavern.com.au

So there you have it.

The places we live are beautiful but there are other beautiful places within our reach. Whether a vibrant coastal town, a quiet Hinterland getaway or relaxing day at the beach.

Its all yours, so be **Footloose** and fancy free!



Footloose

An Echo Supplement
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seven

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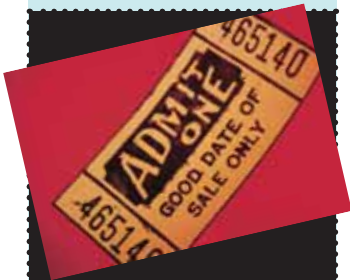
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AUG 20 - AUG 26

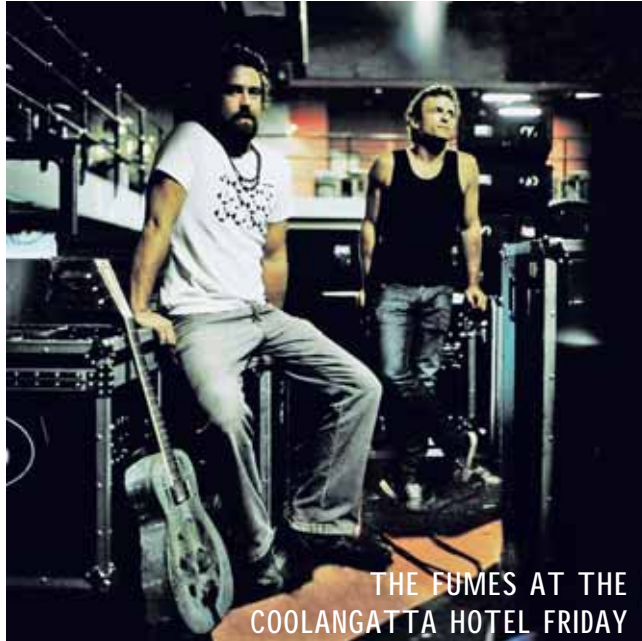
ALL YOUR LOCAL ENTERTAINMENT

live
music
arts &
entertainment



freebies

We have one more double pass to see Sean Choolburra headlining at Currumbin RSL's Sidesplitting Comedy on Thursday at 7.30pm. The gig has a stellar line up with Mark McConville and Mandy Nolan also on board. Email gigs@echo.net.au with subject header 'side splitters'.



THE FUMES AT THE COOLANGATTA HOTEL FRIDAY

Hearing Fumes

The Fumes have a new album out, and it's garnering some attention with an impressive number of stunning reviews. Sundancer has had people talking, and in response to the live shows the boys are back on the road again with a show at The Coolangatta Hotel on Friday. Read the band's press and you may wonder how a mere two-piece can garner so much hype and histrionics. But in the case of geetar-slinger and mighty-bearded vocalist Steve Merry and drumming prodigy Joel Battersby, the gushing is with good reason. The *Weekend Australian* wrote: 'The Fumes play sweaty, dirty man blues amid jolts of rock that lurch and veer between metal and, say, the Kings Of Leon. How can just two men make such a racket and sound at once so fat and tight? Best ask heavily bearded vocalist Steve Merry. He'll say he and drummer Joel Battersby have it goin' on, and that they've never considered

a bass player. Trust me, the Fumes are smokin'. Music Australia Guide was equally as impressed: 'This is a fine working class rock, blue collar guitar and drums that is as honest as a five year old child. *High City Lights* is a song of another time, an era when Australian bands—both indie and commercial—were revered for their Lack of presentation, while *Never Gonna Get Back Home* is a beer and piano soaked ballad... its finest moments reveal The Fumes as a band capable of a great next record.' And the *Sydney Morning Herald* just couldn't get enough: 'This Sydney duo can kick more arse. At times it's like they've taken on bovver duties for all parts of your body and maybe a wall or two. Herd-fisted blues rock is the go in scorchers like *Slay The Liar* but that's not the only ingredient with a touch of the garage and the delta, some swaggering Beats Of Bourbon style. And they can play nice so that even if you recognise a touch of "here's the quiet

one for the ladeez" in the title track, it has a genuine warmth and reminds me of the tough gentleness of the sadly lost Jesse Younan.'

Neily There

I remember being 10 years old and being in love with Neil Diamond. Sure he would have been arrested if he'd reciprocated, but I felt an instant connection with his passionate rocking ballads. For those who love a bit of Mr Diamond but can't get the real thing, get the next best thing: Canadian impersonator Bobby Bruce. The *Adelaide Advertiser* said: 'He not only mimics the great Neil Diamond to a tee but also implants some of his own pizzazz and style, a combination so clever and disarming that it brought the house down.' Direct from Las Vegas, Bobby Bruce stars as Neil Diamond in *Nearly Neil*, an international tribute to the incredible Neil Diamond, live in the **Stardust Room at Seagulls on Friday at 8pm**. The critically-acclaimed Bobby Bruce masters the full Diamond with classics such as *Crunchy Granola Suite*, *Holy, Holy*, *Love on the Rocks*, *Desiree*, *Girl You'll Be a Woman Soon* and *Sweet Caroline*. *Nearly Neil* is a sensational tribute to one of the true fathers of America's musical landscape. Tickets: \$18 members, \$20 non-members. Book online at www.seagullsclub.com.au or call 07 5587 9033.

Chairman of the Broad

Broadfoot are playing at **The Tumbulgam Tavern** this **Saturday** night. With home town hero – Matt 'Crazy Crab' Cleary featuring on guitar (known so

for his excellent use of available stage space) there won't be a dull moment. Playing a hedonistic mix of rock n roll covers and originals that will have you dancing if you have the inclination, the show kicks off at 8.30pm.

Dubbly Troubly

Lovers of reggae will rejoice when Brazilian rock/funk/reggae band **Dubbly** liven up the **Lounge Bar at Coolangatta Sands Hotel** on **Sunday**. Sure to evoke the loving vibes of the best rasta music with enough funk to get your ass shaking like a wet labrador. From 5pm.

Big Band in Tweed

The very popular **Northern Rivers Big Band** will appear at **Tweed Ultima Function Centre** at 2pm on **Sunday**. Tickets at only \$15 a pop for a sensational 2 hour (plus) show featuring this 18 piece big band playing the originals including *In the Mood*, *American Patrol*, *Moonlight Serenade* and all the favourites. Led by Gold Coast musician Roger Munsie, the band will take patrons on a world music tour. These very experienced musicians know what audiences want, and are sure to deliver! Phone 5599 3500 for bookings. Seats are limited.

Blinded by Lemons

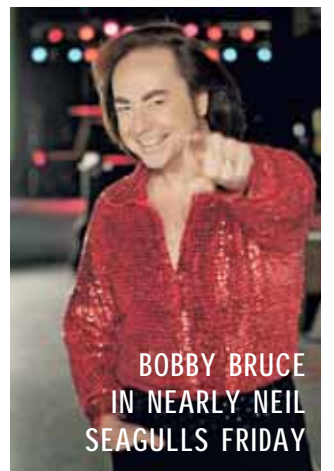
Reaching deep into the big bag of classics, **Blind Lemon** channel Muddy Waters, Jimi Hendrix, and Willie Dixon to modern blues hits from John Poppers, Eric Clapton and Johnny Lang. Enjoy their arsenal of rockin' tunes at the **Cabarita Beach Sports Club** on **Friday**.

Mick on Salt

Mick McHugh brings his salted originals to **Salt Bar** on on **Sunday** at 1pm. For those who haven't had the pleasure of meeting him, in 2008 Mick released two EPs, sang with Australian Idol winner Damien Leith, opened for Ozzie icon Tex Perkins, played the inaugural Green Fest and was short listed for songwriting in the Oz Songwriters Association contest. Mick's music has been described by media as 'positive and uplifting'. Whether it's heart touching ballads or uptempo fun, Mick delivers his songs with his heart on his sleeve.

A Passion for Latin

Chukale is one of Australia's finest Afro Cuban Salsa bands. In just two years this Brisbane based outfit has developed an extensive and enthusiastic following with the Latin community and the broader community of dance enthusiasts from a variety of cultural backgrounds. Chukale was born during a Brissie summer as an 11-piece with two vocalists and dancers. Tika Roberte and Maygualida Rodriguez make the band



BOBBY BRUCE IN NEARLY NEIL SEAGULLS FRIDAY

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NEARLY NEIL



Friday 21 Aug, 8pm

International Neil Diamond Tribute *Nearly Neil*, starring Bobby Bruce and his five piece Solitary Man Band, is a spectacular celebration of the music of a legend.

\$18 Members,
\$20 Non-Members

Reserved Seating / All Ages. Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times

seagulls on BROADWAY



Sunday 23 Aug, 2.30pm

seagulls on Broadway goes to the U.K. presents multi-award winning Morgan Kent as Rod Stewart, Sharon Rowntree as Cilla Black and friends, along with the *seagulls* band.

\$5 Members,
\$10 Non-Members

General Admission / All Ages. Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times

Creedence Clearwater Revival Show



Sat 5 Sep, 8pm

This magnificent international performance has been hailed by sellout audiences throughout Australia as "The Ultimate Creedence Clearwater Experience."

\$5 Members,
\$10 Non-Members

General Admission / All Ages. Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times

COMING SOON...

13 Sep Carter Edwards
19 Sep Charity Masked Ball
20 Sep Jazz Overture

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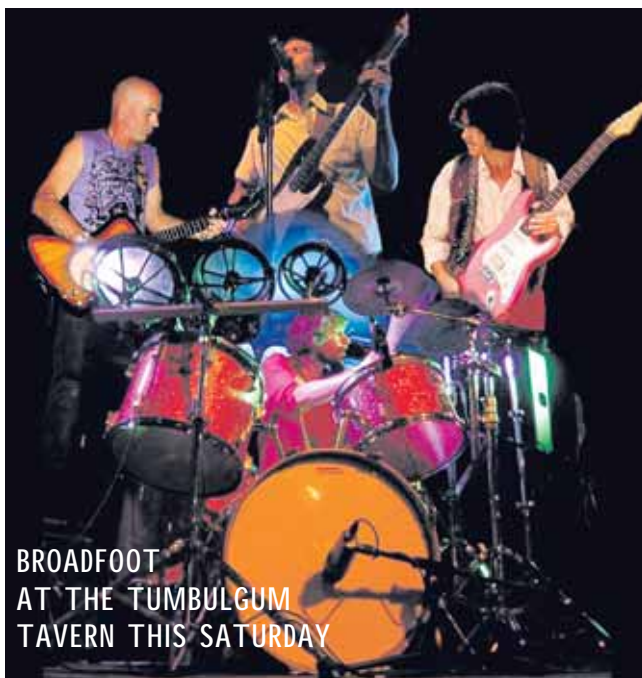
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BROADFOOT AT THE TUMBULGUM TAVERN THIS SATURDAY

gal. Internationally acclaimed country singer living right in Mullumbimby! Who would have guessed. Anyone with a pair of RM Williams, with a love of country and tipping the hat should find themselves at the **Court House** in Mullumbimby on **Saturday** for the **Hoedown Ball**. Featuring Clelia Adams and River Valley Express.

Ring of Confidence

How do you tell a story in four minutes? It's not easy. And try doing it without words. Harder still. Although listen to **Decoder Ring**, and the Sydney outfit makes this seemingly daunting task appear as a dream. An edgy yet upbeat, propulsive technicolour dream, that is. Then there's the cinematic tone. It's hard to escape mention of cinema when it comes to Decoder Ring, creating – as the outfit did – the exquisite accompaniment to the acclaimed Australian film *Somersault* (2004), which also became the group's breakthrough release. But it's not just the film connection which evokes the cinematic description. Decoder Ring is thought of as cinematic because it truly is – a group which creates the sort of music that paints landscapes. Like sitting in a dark room watching a favourite cult film, you're enveloped; senses overwhelmed. Decoder Ring are something to see, when they play the **Hotel Great Northern, Byron** this **Thursday**.



BUDGIE APPEAR WITH PHIL EMMANUEL AT THE COOLANGATTA HOTEL NOVEMBER 28

of movement regardless of age and ability. 'Awareness Through Movement' workshops can produce an astounding change in the mind and body, used to reduce pain, increase flexibility and disorganise our bodily patterns of stress and the experience of stress itself. Like learning to ride a bike, when you 'get it' you have it for good! Peter Binns, Director of the Australian Feldenkrais Centre in Melbourne and a Certified Feldenkrais Practitioner with over 20 years experience. **Gold Coast Arts Centre** from 11am on **Saturday**. Bookings to 07 5588 4000.

coming soon

Budgie Boy

In a giant double header for lovers of rock, **Budgie** and **Phil Emmanuel** are on their 2009 Aussie tour – they perform at the **Coolangatta Hotel** on **Saturday November 28**. Tickets are on sale now.

That tastes Uki

The gorgeous, the freaky and the fabulous will be gathering at **Uki Hall** on **September 12** for the **Ukiopia** costume party and feast. This is your chance to renew your annual membership or purchase your new membership at the door. Only \$10. They only ask that you do your bit and bring a plate of food to add to the feast table.



BLIND LEMON AT CABARITA BEACH SPORTS CLUB FRIDAY

unforgettable. The brass section is Conservatorium trained laying down groove over a driving rhythm section. This talented and highly professional ensemble infect

the **Buddha Bar, Byron** on **Saturday** with a genuine Latin passion!

Hoe Down Ball

Clelia Adams is one hell of a

arts

Baby You Moved Me!

Ever wanted to find a way to move through the day with the least resistance? **Awareness through Movement** is a workshop that uses the Feldenkrais Method to refine and improve the quality, range and comfort

TWEED VALLEY JAZZ CLUB PRESENTS

THE CLARENCE JAZZMEN

RAFFLES & MEMBERS DRAW

Date: **FRIDAY 28th August, 2009 at 7.30 pm**

Venue: **Greenhills On Tweed, River St, South Murwillumbah (Blackboard Menu & Bar Service available. No BYO).**

Cost: **MEMBERS \$15 VISITORS \$20 U/18's \$5**

Early Band: Gold Medal Winners – Jazz Section Festival of Performing Arts 2009 from 6.00 pm

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FRIDAY 28 AUGUST 7.30PM

Byron Bay Community Centre

Tickets \$22/\$20 ph: 6685 6807

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Gota GIG or event to promote?

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.



Wed 19th August **STRETCH & RHYS BYNON**

Thurs 20th August **DANIEL WEBBER**

Fri 21st August **RYAN RUSHTON DANIEL WEBBER**

Sat 22nd August **CAPTAIN KAINE**

Sun 23rd August **CAPTAIN KAINE**

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gig guide local events and entertainment

THURSDAY 20

- MURWILLUMBAH CBD, **TWEED VALLEY BANANA FESTIVAL**
- CLUB BANORA 4PM **MICHELLE BENSON**
- CURRUMBIN RSL 7.30PM **SIDE SPLITTING COMEDY W SEAN CHOO LBURRA, MANDY NOLAN & MARK MCCONVILLE**
- COOLANGATTA HOTEL, 8PM **SNOB SCRILLA**
- CUDGEN LEAGUES CLUB, KINGSCLIFF 5.30PM **ALICE ANDERSON**
- GOLD COAST ARTS CENTRE 7.30PM **UNPLUGGED IN THE BASEMENT - STEVE JEVNE**
- SEAGULLS LAKEVIEW LOUNGE 6PM **CRAIG SHAW**
- THE SANDS HOTEL COOLANGATTA 8PM **PHIL EIZENBERG** 9PM **DJ STIB**
- TWEED HEADS BOWLS CLUB 6PM **VEENIES - MICHAEL**
- TWIN TOWNS 1PM **PETE DAVIS** 1.30PM **DENIS WARREN** 5PM **LONE WOLF** 6.30PM **PATTI** 8.30PM **AKINGA**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 9PM **DUBBL**
- THE RAILS, BYRON 6.30PM **BASSIX**
- GREAT NORTHERN, BYRON **DECODER RING**
- BYRON COMMUNITY CENTRE 7.30PM **WINTER WINKLE: PERIWINKLE FUNDRAISER**
- THE CHAMELEON GLOBAL CAFE BYRON (OPP CINEMA) 7PM **INANNA'S WISH**
- LA LA LAND, BYRON **THE DANIEL WEBBER SHOW**
- LIQUID, BYRON 10PM **RUBBER: JACKIE ONASSID | KETASTEP | LUNA_TIK | BACKWARDS MAN | GRIT**
- MULLUMBIMBY RSL 7PM **JAM NIGHT**

FRIDAY 21

- BILAMBIL SPORTS CLUB, 8PM **JEFF BOYD**
- MURWILLUMBAH CBD, **TWEED VALLEY BANANA FESTIVAL**
- CUDGEN LEAGUES CLUB, KINGSCLIFF 7.30PM **UNDERPAID**
- CABARITA BEACH SPORTS CLUB, BOGANGAR 8PM **BLIND LEMON**
- CABARITA BEACH BAR AND GRILL, 8.30PM **SOLOIST**
- CLUB BANORA 7.30PM **TOOHEYS TALENT SEARCH HEAT 6**
- COOLANGATTA HOTEL 8PM **THE FUMES**
- CURRUMBIN RSL 7PM **STREET CAFE**
- GOLD COAST ARTS CENTRE 8PM **COMEDY IN THE BASEMENT - TAHIR**
- IMPERIAL HOTEL, MUR'BAH 8PM 8PM **PAUL ATKINS**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH HOTEL 8.30PM **PETE MEREDITH**
- MUR'BAH SERVICES MEMORIAL CLUB 6.30PM **TREVOR RICKS**
- MUR'BAH HOTEL 9PM **DJ HERVE**
- POTTSVILLE BEACH SPORTS CLUB 7PM **TREVOR HERD**
- SALT BAR, SALT VILLAGE 9.30PM **JON BRADLEY**
- SEAGULLS, STARDUST ROOM 8PM **NEARLY NEIL STARRING BOBBY BRUCE**
- SEAGULLS LAKEVIEW LOUNGE 8.30PM **SHANIA TWAIN SHOW**
- SOUNDLOUNGE, CURRUMBIN RSL 8PM **DECODER RING & BRIDEZILLA**
- THE SANDS HOTEL COOLANGATTA 9PM **DJ CLARK KENT**
- TWEED HEADS BOWLS CLUB 7.30PM **ADRENALINE**
- TWIN TOWNS 11AM **LINE DANCING** 5PM **ALTERNATING ARTISTS** 7PM **GLENN BRACE** 9.30PM **AKINGA**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 9.30PM

AUSTIN BUSCH & THE GOOD REASONS

- THE RAILS, BYRON 7PM **GOLDEN GLADE**
- HOTEL GREAT NORTHERN, BYRON **DA KARPO**
- ORIENT EXPRESS, BYRON 6.30PM **MICK'S SASHIMI BAND**
- SCOUT HALL, BYRON 7.30PM **'DANCE ON' A SAFE PLACE TO DANCE**
- STILL @ THE CENTRE, BYRON 6PM **EVE EXHIBITION OPENING**
- LA LA LAND, BYRON **RANGER STACEY, DANIEL WEBBER & RYAN RUSHTON**
- LIQUID, BYRON 10PM **MINISTRY OF SOUND MASHED 5 CD LAUNCH: DJ BENI | CAPTAIN KAINE | DAVE BASEK**
- COCOMANGAS, BYRON MAIN ROOM **QUALITY CONTROL: LOUNGE: KRISTIN**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 7.30PM **BO JENKINS DUO**

SATURDAY 22

- MURWILLUMBAH CBD, **TWEED VALLEY BANANA FESTIVAL**
- CLUB BANORA 4PM **MICHELLE BENSON** 8PM **JOHANNA HERMARA**
- CURRUMBIN RSL 7PM **CHRYSAL LYNCH**
- CABARITA BEACH SPORTS CLUB, BOGANGAR 8PM
- COOLANGATTA AND TWEED HEADS GOLF CLUB 6PM **QUADRANT**
- GOLD COAST ARTS CENTRE 8PM **JAZZ IN THE BASEMENT: RUSSELL BAYNE**
- GOLD COAST ARTS CENTRE PANORAMA SUITE, 11AM **AWARENESS THROUGH MOVEMENT WORKSHOP**
- MUR'BAH SERVICES MEMORIAL CLUB 6.30PM **DENNIS DEAN**

SUNDAY 23

- MURWILLUMBAH CBD, **TWEED VALLEY BANANA FESTIVAL**
- CURRUMBIN RSL 1.30PM **JAZZ CAFE TRIO**
- CABARITA BEACH BAR AND GRILL 1PM **GREG KEW**
- CLUB BANORA 11AM **GC YOUTH ORCHESTRA BIG BAND** 12.15PM **TRACE**
- THE SANDS HOTEL, COOLANGATTA 5PM **DUBBL**
- POTTSVILLE BEACH SPORTS CLUB 4PM **THE BAGMAN**
- SALT BAR, SALT VILLAGE, 1PM **MICK MCHUGH**
- SEAGULLS CLUB, 2PM **LINE DANCING**
- SEAGULLS, STARDUST ROOM 2.30PM **SEAGULLS ON BROADWAY GOES TO THE UK**
- SPHINX ROCK CAFE, MT BURRELL 1PM **DAVE AND FRIENDS**
- THE COOLANGATTA SANDS HOTEL 5PM **MUSGRAVE HILL DUO**
- TWIN TOWNS 12.30PM **ROBERT KEITH** 1.45PM 4PM **OWEN HOGAN** 6.30PM **PETE DAVIS** 7.30PM **VOICE & CONGAS** 8.30PM **AKINGA**
- TWEED HEADS BOWLS CLUB 5PM **MICHAEL**
- TWEED ULTIMA FUNCTION CENTRE 2PM **NORTHERN RIVERS BIG BAND**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 4.30PM **THE RED EYES** 8PM **DJ NOWAK**
- THE RAILS, BYRON 6PM **CHRIS COOK BAND**
- THE CHAMELEON GLOBAL CAFE, BYRON 4PM **TRADITIONAL IRISH MUSIC**
- LA LA LAND, BYRON **CAPTAIN KAINE**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 3PM **GREEN MACHINE** 7PM **LEIGH JAMES DUO**

MONDAY 24

- TWIN TOWNS 4PM **LLOYD SANIEL** 1PM **WALTER WILLIAMS** 7.30PM **SPIN** 7PM **DANCE CLUB**
- SEAGULLS 10.30AM **VEGAS VARIETY DAY**
- TWEED HEADS BOWLS CLUB 6PM **GLENN FOXWELL**
- THE RAILS, BYRON 6.30PM **CODY BUTLER**
- HOTEL GREAT NORTHERN, BYRON **BRIAN WATT**

TUESDAY 25

- TWIN TOWNS 1PM **LINE DANCING** 6.30PM **ROCKING TUESDAYS** 5 & 8.30PM **ALTERNATING ARTISTS** 6.30PM **PATTI**
- SEAGULLS LAKEVIEW 6PM **B J LITTLE**
- CUDGEN LEAGUES CLUB **JAYNE HENRY**
- MURWILLUMBAH HOTEL, 7PM **JAM NIGHT**
- TWEED HEADS BOWLS CLUB 6PM **DAVO**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 9PM **FERNANDO ARAGONES**
- THE RAILS, BYRON 6.30PM **JON J BRADLEY**
- HOTEL GREAT NORTHERN, BYRON **HARRY HEALY**

WEDNESDAY 26

- TWIN TOWNS SERVICES CLUB 10.30AM **SUE REID** 1PM **PAUL LINDENBERG** 2PM **STEVEN MICHAEL** 6.30PM **ALTERNATING ARTISTS** 8.30PM **AKINGA**
- CLUB BANORA 11AM **DAVID KIDD**
- SEAGULLS LAKEVIEW 1.30PM **DON WHITAKER**
- GOLD COAST ARTS CENTRE 10.30AM **GCAC MOVIE REVIEW CLUB**
- TWEED HEADS BOWLS CLUB 6PM **BJ LITTLE**

GIG GUIDE DEADLINE 12pm tuesday gigs@echo.net.au ph. 6672 2280 fax. 6672 4933

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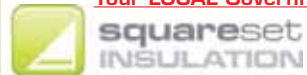
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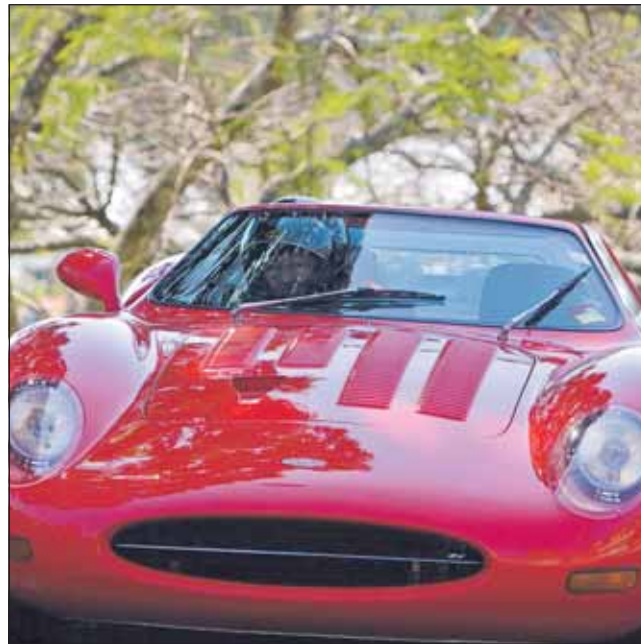
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Backburner has a little custard on the face after we noted the lack of a mention for this week's Banana Festival in Tweed Shire Council's new online community calendar of events. A council spokesperson has kindly pointed out that the whole point of the calendar is that it gives ownership to the community, in other words it's up to community organisations to register and keep details up to date for their non-council events. The spokesperson said this was all fully explained in the media release about the calendar and in council's own newsletter. So there you have it, organisations wanting to promote their events on the calendar have to do it themselves, and *Backburner* has to read the briefing notes.



Speed on Tweed bursts through Murwillumbah on September 5-6, concurrently with the world rally which has revived the event with an injection of funds. At least on past form the elegant classic cars will prove popular with spectators...

Another blooper in our banana-festival feature last week was picked up by a reader: the festival is now in its 54th year and well past its 50th birthday which we'd forgotten about. The reader, a longtime local, also gave us a snippet of history, saying the originally suggested name for the event was 'The Tweed Banana Eaters' Utopian Revelries', which was shortened to the 'Tweed Banana Festival' after a competition which offered as a prize for the winning idea, of all things, a fur coat.

During the launch of Murwillumbah's CCTV security network recently, Tweed-Byron police commander Superintendent Michael Kenny told how a local woman asked police to use the cameras to locate a diamond ring which she had lost somewhere in town the week before. Not quite the sort of thing our busy police should be spending time on...

Spies tell us that Tweed mayor Joan van Lieshout was in a generous mood at the Local Government Week celebrations at Salt recently. A boy with cer-

bral palsy took a particular shine to a bracelet Joan was wearing. Noticing his interest, Joan gave it to him, telling him 'If you like it that much, you can have it!' The lad was overjoyed (good job he wasn't entranced by her car).

Owner of Murwillumbah's Modern Grocer, Joanne Nimmo, was inspired to have a cake bake-off after the popular *Master Chef* television reality show sparked so much local interest. She will hold the inaugural master chef cake bake-off next month and is 'calling on all closet chefs, adults and kids, to have a go and give us your favourite chocolate cake.' Entry forms can be picked up at the deli/cafe opposite the Murwillumbah Services Club in Wollumbin Street. Winners will be announced on September 10. For info call Joanne on 02 6672 5007.

Repco Rally chief Garry Connelly boasts of pulling off an audacious coup by persuading Events NSW to stage a leg of the world rally championship

in the Tweed after having being turned down by Queensland. In an interview posted on the event's own website, a reporter asks him: 'Given from where you expect most of the spectators to come and the influx of money from just across the border, you're actually running a Queensland event but getting NSW to pay for it?' Connelly: 'But it's based 100 per cent in NSW.' Reporter: 'Sure, but you can see what I'm getting at?' Connelly: 'You think it's being a bit cheeky? Well, it is! We believe that the bulk of the spectators will come from southeast Queensland and then from the Sydney-Canberra region... but for corporate guests, we're getting a high level of interest from all over Australia.'

And it's not just the spectators. Local companies wanting a slice of the action seem to have been overlooked, with predominantly Queensland businesses being given the green light to profit from the Tweed-based rally (paid for by NSW taxpayers and Tweed ratepayers). From traffic con-

trol to food vending, the profits will sneak back across the border when the shouting and the tyre-screeching are all over.

Or maybe it will be over sooner than we think. Rally opponents say they are poised to launch a legal challenge which could stop the event in its tracks. The No Rally Group and others were preparing an injunction in Sydney this week to be lodged with the Federal Court. The groups have set up a fighting fund for the challenge with over \$20,000 raised so far and many offers of help. If the move goes ahead, Tweed councillor Katie Milne is expected to be named as the plaintiff in the case, which is being assisted by Lismore-based Environmental Defender's Office (EDO). The central argument is that rally organisers have breached the federal Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act. Yesterday (Wednesday), North Coast environmental activist Al Oshlack told *Backburner* that the sidelining of state laws in order to run the rally made it even more imperative for the Commonwealth to play a role in forcing compliance with the Act.

Visitors to Burringbar wondering what's happened to the top half of the historic cenotaph in the village park can rest assured it's safe and being spruced up in time for the memorial's 90th birthday on September 20. The Burringbar RSL Sub-branch, armed with a federal grant of \$4,000 as well as some state funding, is restoring the World War I cenotaph and its roll of honour to its original condition. It's a pity the magnificent old fig trees planted in the park near the original site of the cenotaph were poisoned this year. It will take their replacements many years to get to the stature of the old trees, but at least by then the wretched poisoners will have died or moved on.

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