



## New skate park now wide open

Youngsters keen on skaterboarding, scooter and BMX bike riding around Tweed Heads now have a place to call their own after the official opening of the state-of-the-art Sk8 park last Saturday.

The new and long-awaited skate park's concrete bowl, however, has already been put through its paces in the weeks leading up to the opening with many young users taking

**In the photo a local scooter rider backflips above the new skate bowl, already decorated with freelance signage, while mayor Warren Polglase and MP Justine Elliot (background, left) look on.** Photo Jeff 'Hold Me Tight' Dawson

advantage of the new facility.

The skate park, on the corner of Heffernan Street and Minjungbal Drive, Tweed Heads South, was jointly funded by the federal government and Tweed Shire Council so it was only apt that Richmond

MP Justine Elliot and new Tweed mayor Warren Polglase officiated at the opening.

Ms Elliot said a lot of time and effort had gone into planning for the skate park and 'it's good to see

**continued on page 2**

## Harbour overhaul begins at long last

**Ken Sapwell**

Work began this week on a \$7 million overhaul of the Jack Evans Boat Harbour in a bid to recreate a family-friendly destination for locals and tourists.

Mayor Warren Polglase joined federal MP for Richmond Justine Elliot on Monday to turn the first sod amid the ruins of a former caravan park, hailing it as a major milestone for Tweed Heads and the community.

The long-stalled project gets underway with the help of a \$1.8 million grant from the federal government's jobs program and a \$5 million budget allocation from the council.

But the council has been forced to drastically reduce the scale of landscaping works following its shock failure to secure additional federal funding for what was originally a \$14.35 million project.

Cr Polglase said existing funds would enable the council to complete about 60 per cent of the work envisaged under the revitalisation plans, including full restoration of the former Border Caravan Park site and new drainage pipes.

'This project has been in the pipeline for 15 years so it is very gratifying for myself and for the council to announce that we will finally see some works on the ground starting this week,' Cr Polglase said.

'The revitalisation of the harbour will be the catalyst for a rejuvenation of Tweed Heads that certainly needs a new direction after many tough years for local businesses.

'We have been through a lot of consultants who have come and gone over the years but we finally have a plan which will deliver open space, playing areas, barbecues and the beach.'

The \$7 million stage one will also include boardwalks, harbour revetment, a cycleway, park furniture, landscaping, barbecues and the first stage of an Aboriginal botanic gardens.

The project's final design was subject to extensive consultation and follows a series of aborted plans to resurrect the harbour as a tourist mecca following the closure of the caravan park in 1994.

A major part of the project includes two new drainage pipes fitted with pollution traps the size of small trucks to replace six pipes, including two from over the border, which currently drain into the harbour.

Cr Polglase said a push by the council's own river committee and some environmental groups to extend the pipes to the river had to be put on hold because of the enormous costs involved.

### Significant project

Ms Elliot said the overhaul was a significant community project.

'It will not only revitalise the Tweed Heads CBD but will create and retain 34 construction jobs which will support the local community during these difficult times,' she said.

'When complete the area will provide locals and holiday makers with a fantastic family friendly location.'

Stage One includes a cycleway with link to Bay, Boundary and Coral Streets, boardwalks, beach decks and platforms, new headland with 'all abilities' access ramp and rock pools, rejuvenated and enlarged beach areas, landscaping including tree planting and garden beds, seating, rubbish/recycling bins, drinking fountains, lighting and signage, barbecue and picnic area with shelters.

■ See also Blueprint for CBD, page 2



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## Skate park opens (from page 1)

so many young local skaters ready to make the most of their new facility with such enthusiasm.

The federal contribution of \$250,000 toward the park was part of the Rudd Government's economic stimulus plan to help cushion the impact of the global recession on local communities.

Ms Elliot said the park was

an important community facility for local families and designed specifically to accommodate diverse skating styles, featuring a bowl and a street skate section.

'Ultimately, we envisage the park becoming a recreational hub where young people come from all over the Tweed to test out the skate bowl and jumps,' she said.

## Blueprint ready for rundown CBD

Ken Sapwell

Long-awaited plans for the revitalisation of Tweed Heads' rundown central business area are expected to be unveiled within the next few months, ending a nine-year planning stalemate.

A taskforce set-up by former Planning Minister Frank Sartor to create a 25-year vision for the town two years ago is putting the final touches to their report which will be given legal teeth by a new Local Environment Plan.

The Department of Planning this week declined to comment on reports of an imminent release, saying only that they were working with council staff to finalise four documents which will provide a blueprint for the town's future.

But well-placed sources say the department is working to a pre-Christmas deadline to put the plans on public exhibition in a first step towards shedding its tag as a Mexican border town and regaining its status as a major commercial hub.

Tweed Heads Residents Association president Laurie Ganter says the plan should end years of uncertainty for both residents and developers which has left the town centre studded with vacant blocks, boarded-up stores and adult bookshops.



Richmond MP Justine Elliot and new Tweed mayor Warren Polglase get 'shovel ready' for the turning of the sod of the multi-million-dollar upgrade of the Jack Evans Boat Harbour.

releasing it for public exhibition,' he said.

'But now the council has finally decided on a plan to clean up the mess around the southern boat harbour the plan will be the next big step in trying to turn around the town's fortunes.'

The taskforce indicated the two towers would be located either side of Midjungbal Drive, with one on a site now occupied by the von Bibra car dealership, with the other on an unspecified site across the road.

Hopefully the concept would eventually meet the same fate as even more contentious plans which the taskforce advocated soon after it was appointed in 2007 but later scrapped following warnings of a strong community backlash, he said.

These included rezoning part of the Crown land-owned foreshores of the Jack Evans Boat Harbour for three 22-storey tower blocks as neighbours to the Seascape tower, which emerged as the town's first highrise following an intriguing approval process in 1982.

Another taskforce initiative to allow taller buildings in South Tweed Heads was forced on the backburner after the Emergency Services raised serious concerns about performing large-scale flood evacuations if population densities grow.

The plans to be unveiled by present Planning Minister Kristina Keneally include a new LEP, a DCP, a city centre vision and a commercial improvement plan.

He blames the delays on the council's failure to give teeth to the community-approved 2004 master plan and Mr Sartor's decision to send in a bureaucratic-dominated taskforce to set new height and density controls for the town.

Mr Ganter, who was one of the community representatives on the taskforce when it was set up nearly two years ago, predicted that unlike the \$700,000 master plan which had broad community support, the new one was likely to spark a wave of protests.

He said the taskforce's final report contained plans based on a Gold Coast-style model, including twin highrise towers on either side of the main southern approach to the town to create a 'fitting gateway symbolic of the future.'

'It's a concept that has been rejected by consecutive councils, residents' groups and a government appointed heights of building inquiry and that's unlikely to change,' he said.

'I trust they have spent their time toning it down but there should be no more delays in

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## Artfest celebrates our biodiversity

Kim Cousins

Paintings and photos of flora, fauna and landscapes will celebrate biodiversity in the Green Cauldron at the upcoming Caldera Artfest (formally Tweed Naturally Art Awards), October 2-5.

One of the artists entered in the festival is Tyalgum photographer John Pumpurs, who specialises in photos of frogs.

When a frog was found trapped in his neighbour's pool 15 years ago John took a photo which helped identify the amphibian as a rare species. At that moment he decided to keep up with the frog photos.

'It made me realise it was important,' John said.

John has two entries in the Caldera Art Festival this year and entered works in the Tweed Naturally Art Awards from the start.

'I have two collages in the art prize and one is not of frogs, believe it or not,' he said. 'The main entry is a poster of all the biodiversity of green tree frogs.' 'My interest is in education more than anything. Most



One of the photos of a green tree frog taken by Tyalgum photographer John Pumpurs whose works are on display in the upcoming Caldera Artfest.

people would never have seen these frogs.'

Andy Reimanis, Caldera Art 09 committee chair, said that although one never knows with an inaugural event, everything seemed to be running smoothly.

'There are 75 artists in all,' he said, 'A couple are still desperately trying to get their works finished.'

Andy said the Caldera Artfest would be the opening of a series of events and 43 finalists will be chosen for the travelling exhibition which will visit Beaudesert and Kyogle.

Artworks focusing on the importance of catchments and waterways will be exhibited at Murwillumbah during the Tweed River Festival.

# Ex-mayor unrepentant on poll boycott

Ken Sapwell

Dumped Tweed mayor Joan van Lieshout (pictured right) says she has no regrets about boycotting last week's mayoral elections which re-installed sacked mayor Warren Polglase after a draw from a cardboard box.

She says she agonised in her mind before rejecting overtures from both contenders to make her their deputy if she supported their mayoral bids, knowing she'd be accused of a dummy spit if she didn't.

'It's horrific what happened and so wrong,' she said of the lucky dip process which has been used four times in recent years to resolve voting deadlocks for the top job.

'It was one of the hardest decisions I have ever made and I've made some tough ones in my life.

'But I had no choice. Having been the mayor I have seen a lot of things and I cannot vote anywhere I do not see integrity and accountability being upheld.

'My responsibility is to the community and to the people who voted for me... it was a hard decision but in the end I had to take a hands-off approach.

'I knew I would come in for criticism but it's one of those things you have to wear, I have a strong faith and I honestly



believe things will pan out.

'I don't regret my decision and it's since been confirmed by people in the community whose opinions I value,' she said, adding that people generally had been very supportive of her.

Cr Lieshout, who served just one term before members of both factions launched their coup, said last week's events convinced her the process of choosing the mayor should be by popular vote of the community.

'It's wrong that councillors should be voting for each other and their agendas which also included a determination to get rid of me from the outset,' she said this week.

'The process of choosing

such an important position like that should be changed so that the mayor is decided by a vote by the community similar to other councils in the area.

'For that to happen we have to wait for a referendum at the next council elections in three years time, unless there is an early election because the council goes into administration or something like that.

'I also believe the administrators should have held a referendum and given people a choice, particularly considering the personalities and things which had occurred in the past. The process as it stands now is ludicrous and undemocratic.'

Cr van Lieshout said she would remain as active as before in the community and

noted that her vote was likely to remain crucial during similar three-all splits between the council's pro-development and community factions.

'I still hold the trump card and people will see that I'm still the same even though I'm no longer mayor,' she said.

Meantime former deputy Barry Longland, who lost his mayoral tilt and then lost to Polglase ally Phil Youngblutt for his old job in a second draw from the box, said this week that it could be time to reconsider the way the mayor was chosen.

'I think if the community feels strongly about it then we should have a look at the process,' said Cr Longland, who openly admitted he offered the mayor a position swap.

'But we should wait for the dust to settle and see what happens over the next three years before rushing into a decision.

'The idea behind the mayor being elected by his or her colleagues is that the mayor is supposed to have the confidence of the majority of councillors.'

Cr Polglase, who denies he entered into pre-election negotiations with Cr van Lieshout, declined to respond to calls.

But he has stated in the past that he believed the current system should stay because it was normally the best way to ensure the mayor operated with the backing of colleagues.

■ Editorial, page 8

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Now to do that properly, I feel you'll need some good solid walking shoes, lightweight shorts and shirt, hat, backpack and water bottles. I've got a feeling you'll find what's perfect for you right here in our shop. How about that!

I've also got a feeling that the more you buy from me, the less stress I'll have and then my mental freedom's guaranteed. Life's also about helping each other Kevin - your money helps me and my products will help you. See ya soon!

Your mate Tony

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## Council funding gives combined orchid fair a boost



Tweed Orchid Society life member and Far North Coast champion Bill Brown with some of his prized orchids.  
Photo Jeff Dawson

Kim Cousins

Spring has sprung for the Combined Orchid Societies which last month were successful in securing \$1,000 worth of funding from Tweed Council to stage an orchid fair next month to raise the profile of these unusual plants.

Show organiser Tom Rivett is hoping to attract a bigger demographic of people this year with the Combined Orchid Societies and Tweed District Orchid Society joining forces to put on the event from October 31 to November 1.

'The show will consist of 33 classes of orchids, with prize money of \$1,500 which is where the \$1,000 from the council will be used,' he said.

Tom said a major feature of the fair was the number and

range of the specialist traders who will be attending.

'This year together with twelve orchid traders will be bromeliad, begonia, frangipani and carnivorous plant growers. Specialist book suppliers and providers of orchid growing supplies will attend as well, all under the one roof. These traders will come from as far away as Townsville in the north and Taree in the south.'

Tweed Orchid Society life member Bill Brown, who has been growing orchids for '30-odd years,' will spend the next few weeks getting his orchids in shape for the show and hoping they flower in time.

'Orchids can last a week in flower or up to three months,' he said. 'They can flower one week before the show and you miss out.'

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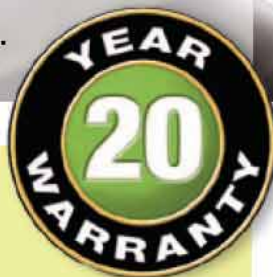
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# Golf course gets a little bit greener

It's a win-win for the environment with Tweed Shire Council and the Chinderah Golf Course teaming up to recycle effluent water for use on the golfing greens.

Last Friday, the water re-use project was officially launched at the 18-hole golf course, with the nearby Kingscliff Wastewater Treatment Plant supplying the recycled water.

The plant is one of the most advanced in Australia as far as nutrient removal goes, so the recycled water is odourless and very high quality.

For over 15 years, Chinderah Golf Course has relied on the Cudgen ground water aquifer for its water supply.

The recycled water is being used on trees and grassed areas all year round, overcoming problems in low rainfall periods. Artificial wetting agents are no longer necessary to keep the course green and lush all year round.

The environment benefits as the recycled water is not released into local waterways



Chinderah Golf Course operations manager Jeff Holloway tries out his swing on the greens being irrigated by recycled effluent water from the new Kingscliff Wastewater Treatment Plant.

where nutrients can pollute it but the same nutrients benefit plant growth on the golf course.

Council's director of community and natural resources David Oxenham said council had been working with Chinderah Golf for the past four years to complete a detailed design of the recycled water transport system and negotiate an agreement to supply the re-

cycled water to the golf course for irrigation.

'It's great news for the environment as we estimate that this scheme could reuse up to 100 million litres of recycled water each year which would otherwise be discharged to the estuary,' Mr Oxenham said.

'With recent droughts still fresh in the memory and considerable uncertainty about the impact of global warming on

our traditional surface water supplies, there is an increasing focus on alternative water sources as a substitute for traditional potable sources, particularly drought-proof sources such as recycled water.

'Tweed Shire Council has been recycling small quantities of water since the 1980s and over the last decade has attempted to increase the amount of water recycled throughout the shire.'

Chinderah Golf Course operations manager Jeff Holloway said the recycled water at the course had been in use for about six to eight weeks and 'we've improved the course so much we're hoping to hold a PGA pro-am here this time next year.'

Another recycled water project on the Les Burger Field at Bogangar is scheduled to be operating next year. This project has the potential to recycle up to 55 kilolitres a day.

More information on council's recycled water use is available at [www.tweed.nsw.gov.au](http://www.tweed.nsw.gov.au).

# Dog ban urged for new Kings Forest housing estate

Team Koala has stepped up its campaign for a koala-friendly development at the proposed Kings Forest township currently being assessed by the state government. The group has called for a ban on dogs and cats which threaten to kill off any remaining koalas in and around the massive subdivision site south-west of Kingscliff.

The campaigners want the dog-and-cat-free policy to apply to the Kings Forest development in line with similar policies at Koala Beach estate near Pottsville, the proposed Nightcap Village near Kunghur and the award-winning Currumbin Eco Village.

Team spokesperson Jenny Hayes said there was 'no such thing as a koala friendly dog, as koalas only weigh 7kg.'

'Small dogs such as terrier's are often the biggest threats. Where you have cats, you have feral cats,' she said.

'On the positive side, residents of Koala Beach report that they love this policy as they don't have problems with barking dogs, and that all the wildlife especially the birds are very tame and friendly.'

Ms Hayes has urged state planners to consider overpasses and underpasses to allow koalas a chance to get across busy roads.

'These have been proven to work and Lismore Shire Council has found them to be very successful. Koalas must be able to move around in order to find food and meet neighbouring koalas for successful breeding of baby koalas,' she said.

'A golf course is not a koala friendly space as claimed by the developer.'

She said the Kings Forest block sizes of two-to-four-hundred-metre blocks did not leave much room for wildlife or their habitat.

Ms Hayes has urged concerned locals who want a koala friendly Kings Forest to lobby their councillors as well as the

NSW planning minister (see letters, page 9).

She said councillors were set to vote on October 29 for the vital submission to the planning department.

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# Cudgen school set for its big day out

Kim Cousins

Cudgen Primary School isn't having a fete this year, it's having a big family fun day and village market.

Tanya Erezuma, parent and spokesperson, said it was decided to make the event bigger this year after a couple of other schools in the area cancelled their fetes.

'We thought we'd take the opportunity to get kids and

their families to come to ours,' she said. 'And we've had lots of community support.'

Local produce will be for sale at the markets/fun day, along with plants, homemade cakes and goodies, handmade crafts and second hand treasures.

Old favourites like the Lions BBQ and Devonshire tea will be joined by fresh sushi and cold drinks. Those feeling lucky can try the chocolate wheel and raffles running throughout the

day and get a ticket in the lucky dip bottle stall.

Fairground rides and show bags, alongside the face painting and fairy floss, will add excitement. Prepaid wristbands for rides make it easier for kids and are available by emailing [emiashbil@yahoo.com.au](mailto:emiashbil@yahoo.com.au) for \$20 (or \$30 on the day).

The fun takes place between 9am and 1pm this Saturday, September 26, at the school in Collier Street, Cudgen.

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## Eco-warriors face the future



Kim Cousins

Imagine a world without the Great Barrier Reef, a world where billions of people face food and water shortages.

Around 440 students from St Joseph's College at Banora Point did when they recorded their thoughts in a vote-a-thon as part of the Australian Youth Climate Coalitions Youth Decide.

The Eco Warriors group at the school (pictured above) organised the voting and held a BBQ for other students and staff, with guest speakers and an eco-friendly menu of chicken and veggie burgers.

'After the BBQ we went

around and promoted Youth Decide voting,' Eco Warrior and Year 8 student Kendal Fitzgibbons said. 'We've also been writing newsletter articles and letting people know how they can make a difference.'

Science teachers Gail Berry and Amie Nugent started up Eco Warriors after they attended a sustainable schools forum and thought it was something that could be done at St Joseph's.

'We started with 30 kids, now we're up to 50,' Gail said.

Eco Warriors have also been busy planting trees and picking up rubbish as well as making signs for the computer rooms reminding peo-

ple to switch off after use.

Next they plan to organise solar panels for the school and collect mobile phones for recycling.

Australia-wide 37,432 young people voted in the Australian Youth Climate Coalitions Youth Decide with 97.5 per cent choosing emissions targets higher than currently proposed.

'It's a great opportunity for them to be empowered and have the chance to vote,' Amie said.

Young Australian delegates will take the results to the United Nations climate change negotiations in Denmark this December.

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Illustration by MPS Architects



Raffles is another development of the McKenzie Aged Care Group, leaders in care for the elderly

## Music fest wants to avoid clash

Organisers of the Tyalgum Festival of Classical Music have lobbied all levels of government in a bid to avoid a clash between the festival and the controversial world rally next time round.

They say the running of the rally on the same weekend as the festival three weeks ago cost them dearly with attendance way down this year, which also impacted on local businesses relying on the event for a boost.

In a letter to the NSW Premier Nathan Rees, federal environment minister Peter Garrett and other government agencies, Ms Wilkinson said this year's 18th annual music festival was 'negatively impacted on several levels', pointing the finger at the rally and Speed on Tweed events held on the same weekend.

'Attendance this year was down, averaging 75 per cent, with two concerts as low as 60 per cent. It is extremely disappointing that the world class musicians engaged for the 2009 Tyalgum Festival missed the usual capacity audience to appreciate their talents,' Ms Wilkinson said.

'The drop in visitor numbers also had a negative impact on small local businesses, which have traditionally enjoyed a strong financial boost over the festival weekend. I therefore

express with disappointment and concern that this outcome appears to have been in part a result of other events held in the Tweed on the same weekend.

'We believe that road closures and confusion regarding the presence of Repco World Rally vehicles in and around the Tyalgum and Murwillumbah areas, and the lack of accommodation in Murwillumbah for Tyalgum Festival patrons, contributed to the negative results experienced this year.

'Anecdotal evidence indicates that rally issues dominated the press and sent mixed signals to many potential Tyalgum Festival attendees resulting in their conscious decision to stay away. This was evident by the substantial decrease in enquiries and bookings in the two week lead-up to the festival.

'The Tyalgum Festival Committee plans two years ahead and accordingly, planning for the milestone 20th Anniversary Festival in 2011 has already begun. We now have serious concerns that the success of our key celebratory event will be dramatically and negatively impacted should the World Rally and Speed on Tweed events again conflict with the Tyalgum Festival of Classical Music.

'We seek your formal support that should the World

Rally continue as proposed, first priority regarding scheduling be given to our local and community-based event that has been held on the first weekend of September for almost two decades. We believe that splitting the timing of these events will in fact benefit both, resulting in increased support and revenue for all parties, as well as the wider business community.'

Ms Wilkinson said the festival, which was growing in popularity each year, was recognised as 'one of the premier events in the music world's annual calendar.'



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Volume 2 #04 September 24, 2009

## The people's choice

Last week's out-of-the-box lucky-draw selection of our new mayor was a farce and a timely reminder that the Tweed urgently needs a different way to choose the mayor. Let's consider the well-tried and proven method of the community electing the mayor, a popular vote.

It works well for the surrounding local government areas of Byron Shire, the Gold Coast, Lismore and other shires where popularly elected mayors have strong support from their fellow councillors.

New deputy mayor Phil Youngblutt, however, has described Tweed voters as 'morons' who wouldn't know who to vote for. But if it were a people's choice, he wouldn't stand a chance of election, so a popular vote for mayor has a lot going for it.

Last week's mayoral outcome made a mockery of the people's choice at election time a year ago. Cr Polglase, the former sacked mayor, who won the lucky dip, was not as popular as other candidates in terms of the votes he personally received. He represented deep divisions in the community after the last council which he led was sacked by the state government because an inquiry found he and his team had been bankrolled in their election campaigns by a slush fund of developer cash and then became the 'puppets' of developers, putting their interests ahead of the community. People now will rightly ask, what has changed?

The current method where councillors elect the mayor each year distorts the will of the people at election time (every four years). Two months out from the mayoral election you get councillors putting good sense and judgment aside on some issues under consideration to side with an opponent just to get their vote for the top job. Then, if the numbers don't fall right and there's a tied vote, it's left totally to chance – as it was last week because of another councillor's dummy spit.

A popularly elected mayor will tend to be more accountable to the community who voted for them and give some predictability on the direction of the council leadership for the long term. At least, it's a much more democratic way with the whole community involved rather than just a handful of self-interested people.

### 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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## Kevin bucks jobs-for-the-boys rule

It has long been a tradition for Australian politicians approaching retirement to lecture their colleagues: 'And remember, not all the good people in this house sit on one side.'

While undeniably true, their precept is seldom remembered in the heat of battle and almost never when rewards are being handed out.

When Labor won back office in 1972 after 23 years in opposition, one of its more outspoken apparatchiks, Queensland's Jack Egerton, gloated publicly: 'And to the victors, the spoils.' He immediately claimed a directorship of Qantas, then still in government ownership, and spent most of the next three years seated in first class on international flights, waiting impatiently for the drinks trolley to come round.

Improbably, the grace and favour continued past a change of government: Egerton's perceived hostility to Labor's leader, Gough Whitlam, led Malcolm Fraser to offer him a knighthood, which, contrary to Labor policy, Egerton accepted. Whitlam described it as the most extraordinary ennoblement since that of Sir Toby Belch.

But in political history, Egerton was very much a one off. Long retired politicians are occasionally given a gong by the other side, but they have to be a long way from the action. The real spoils of office are indeed reserved for the victors.

When John Howard became prime minister, he circulated a note to his ministers which suggested that when they were making appointments within their portfolios, a certain amount of sympathy

with the Liberal cause should not be seen as a disadvantage. This was rightly understood to mean they were not even to consider anyone who wasn't a rusted-on, card-carrying supporter, and the principle was unfailingly followed. Howard's mentor, Britain's Margaret Thatcher, once told him that the chief aim of his time in government should be to make sure that the 600 people who really ran the country

the tenth former member of the coalition to be given a job by Rudd, and they are all real jobs, not sinecures of the kind awarded to Baume. More have been promised; Peter Costello has already been told that if he can only face up to the idea of doing some actual work his prospects are excellent, and in parliaments across the country retirement from the opposition benches does not look like such a bad idea.

Peter Costello has already been told that if he can only face up to the idea of doing some actual work his prospects are excellent...



by Mungo MacCallum

were all of his choosing, and he did not forget the lesson.

This did not mean all of his appointments were bad; Andrew Peacock, for instance, was eminently well qualified to become our ambassador to Washington. But others were the worst and most blatant examples of jobs for the boys. A particularly egregious example was Senator Michael Baume, one of Howard's most assiduous muckrakers, described by Paul Keating as a piece of parliamentary filth, who was given his remittance as consul-general in Los Angeles. Howard, of course, could claim that he was just following the pattern set by his predecessors; see Egerton above. And indeed he was, which is what makes Kevin Rudd's spectacular repudiation of the system so surprising and welcome.

Brendan Nelson, our ambassador designate to the European Union and NATO, is

This of course is in Rudd's interests; he is buying off some of Labor's most credible potential critics, although it must be said that he has never gone as far as Whitlam, who enticed the DLP's Vince Gair out of the senate with the bait of the ambassadorship to Ireland and the Vatican. And of course it also makes our Prime Minister look statesmanlike and inclusive, which, his critics insist, is the real point of the exercise.

But there is no evidence that Rudd is not sincere in his expressed desire to make use of the best talent available. He has never been a tribal politician; unlike Paul Keating and Mark Latham, to name but two, he does not have a visceral hatred of the mere idea of the Liberal Party, and he has demonstrated a Christian capacity not only to forgive, but to embrace his former enemies. Except perhaps one: John Winston Howard still languishes on the outer. That is a bridge

too hard to cross – or perhaps it's just that nothing has come up that suits Howard's peculiar talents. But come on: someone, somewhere must be in need of an impeccably credentialed roadblock.

Of course there is another way of looking at the argument that not all the good people are on one side. The story is told of the newcomer who took his seat in the House of Representatives and looked across the chamber. 'There they are,' he breathed. 'The enemy.' An old hand sitting nearby smiled sardonically. 'No, son, that's the opposition. The enemy are the ones sitting all around you.'

The line may resonate with Malcolm Turnbull, currently on a privately financed trip to London. Normally a leader with Turnbull's polling would be highly reluctant or less euphemistically scared witless about leaving the country unless he planned not to return; his job would be seriously at risk. Turnbull, however, owns the dubious advantage that his job is considered a death seat to which no one even vaguely competent presently aspires.

Still, taking leave at what is generally seen as a critical time for both his own Liberal Party and for the coalition as a whole might be seen as an act of bravado bordering on nose-thumbing. Turnbull is indeed surrounded by enemies, and he needs to win at least some of them over if he is to have any real future in politics. He has always seen his life as a series of challenges; he is pushing this latest one right to the limit.

Or perhaps he is already resigned to losing it and is preparing for the next one. Might Rudd have something in mind?

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# An accidental mayor pops out of the box

**Bigger fish to fry**

I understand that the rally was a very big event for the Tweed, whatever way you looked at it, and that lots of people still want to express their opinion about it.

However, I must say that at this crucial point in the Tweed's history it is getting dangerously close to self-indulgence. If everybody could just see that the developers of Kings Forest would like nothing better for us to all keep worrying about the rally, while they influence the councillors and the state planning dept to allow their massive development.

Or in other words, you are giving Bob Ell from Leda a big free kick, by diverting attention away from what is still to come. If you care about car movements through wildlife, Kings Forest will have 16,000 of them, every day, though the koalas' corridor. With no overpasses or underpasses, even though they are proven to work in Lismore.

The new mayor has stated his first priority is to get Kings Forest and Cobaki Lakes happening. Our planning department at the Tweed Shire Council are preparing a report on the revised Kings Forest development application. This will go to the councillors at the October meeting. This is one of the main submissions to the Dept of Planning in Sydney. If our report is critical, and the councillors merely note it, instead of supporting it, then it will look like we don't care what they do.

Joan van Lieshout's last act as mayor was to get the Kings Forest council submission time extended. We have until the October meeting to let our councillors know if we want our koalas' needs respected in this area. Every time you are tempted to waste this precious time on more rally talk, please consider it the equivalent of giving Mr Polglase an encour-

■ The good thing about cereal box toys is they never last very long.

**Jeremy Cornford**  
Kingscliff

■ In first preference votes our Mayor Warren Polglase received 5,495 or 1.04 of a quota to get elected. Phil Youngblutt received 2,607 or 0.55 of a quota to get elected as the last man standing; Kevin Skinner, now exposed as a pro-developer, received 3,322 or 0.64 of a quota to be elected as the second last man standing.

If Joan van Lieshout, who received 5,367 first preference votes or one quota, supports the three pro-developers their four votes only represent 16,791 votes or just 36.52% of the first preference votes – or 3.23 quotas which is not even 50% of the seven quotas. But worse still, our mayor has a further casting vote.

Meanwhile, three councillors – Milne, Holdom and Longland – received 20,360 first preference votes or 44.30% and have no say in the future development in the Tweed.

These three community based candidates have 3.79 quotas or a 54% majority of the quotas and majority of the Tweed votes. They clearly should be heard in our community as a democratically elected majority. Yet they will have no say.

This is plea to Cr Joan van Lieshout to please consider all

agement award. It is exactly what they want.

Bob Irwin has just warned that the Gold Coast koalas have less than 18 months left, due to insensitive development. The Tweed coast koalas are facing localised extinction even faster. Please help them now, if you would prefer that not to happen.

**Lisa Townsend**  
Murwillumbah

■ Team Koala would like to acknowledge and heartily thank both former mayor Joan van Lieshout and former deputy mayor Barry Longland for their care and concern for the Tweed

future votes in Council and support the community majority faction.

**Laurie Ganter**  
Tweed Heads

■ When I heard Warren Polglase became mayor, I felt such dismay. How can someone who led a council previously sacked for corruption now be at the helm again?

How do they get away with it? These politicians/councillors are harder to get rid of than noxious weeds. I feel the Tweed as it is will be destroyed. Another Surfers Paradise will arise from his appointment.

An example is today's headlines with him wanting Kings Forest and Cobaki Lakes developed as soon as possible. The development for Kings Forest is not koala friendly. Aren't these creatures important? Don't they have a right to live as well? What a nightmare.

**Karen Chadwick**  
Banora Point

■ Within minutes of the cockroaches resuming their former disgraced seats, they were distributing the family jewels to their mates, that is, subdividing farmland in the Wardrop Valley.

Cudgen will be next, a Woolworths special if you will.

I would have thought anyone with an intellect exceeding that of a cockroach would understand that soil, especially fertile

Shire koalas. Under their leadership, progress has been made for the koalas' survival on the Tweed.

We would especially like to thank Joan van Lieshout for getting an extension on the Tweed Shire Council's submission on Kings Forest development, to October 20. Their submission is an extremely important one that will heavily influence the Dept of Planning's decision-making on this issue.

Here's hoping the new council leaders will also support eco-friendly koala measures at the massive housing development proposed for Kings Forest, near Kingscliff.

soil, is the basis of all life. Soil is sacrosanct, not negotiable.

Continental Australia has very little fertile soil. It also has the planet's second least precipitation, only continental Antarctica having less. Tweed is the exception, a feed bowl in waiting.

If a farmer can't make the land profitable, get out of the way and let someone who can make it bloom. There are millions of skilled formers on this planet who would jump at the chance.

There's no sane reason to subdivide farmland, rendering it a cash cow for someone's retirement package. No exception. The opposite should be the case, sell it to the neighbouring farm.

The name on the title deed is of no importance. The soil belongs to all.

Yes, it was me yelling at you from the public gallery.

When such stupidity prevails, yelling at cockroaches seems a reasonable option.

**Peter Rae**  
Condong

■ Drawing a name out of a box to decide who has the role of mayor is the least imaginative way to solve the problem of a tied vote. Leaving such an important decision to chance has put the shire in the ludicrous position of having a mayor who was previously dismissed. It could be argued that choosing

We would very much like to thank the people who have already responded to the koalas' call for help, be assured all your letters have been passed on to the Council and the Dept of Planning. We are hoping that a strong show of public support for koala-friendly development, as at Koala Beach, will give these animals a last chance.

If you would like to help support koala-friendly development for this area, please tell your favourite councillor or the general manager. Their address is tsc@tweed.nsw.gov.au – please, please let them know you care.

a mayor by a method as random as gambling should be illegal in a properly democratic society.

**Ari Ehrlich**  
Tyalgum

■ I've lived in the spectacularly wonderful Tweed for nearly 25 years now but, given the double disadvantage of having been born and rather well educated in a major European city, I still can't grasp the arcane intricacies of local politics. It's all one dull, heart-deadening and cyclic surprise after another.

The vast, vast majority of inhabitants, ratepayers and community groups surely have no major differences at all over what they want most for the Tweed, themselves and especially for their kids. They want an end to the kind of 'pave paradise and put up a parking lot' over-development which typifies the Gold Coast.

One which threatens and squanders precisely the unspoilt nature of the area which holds people here, brings them in from outside, and legally shunts the dubious, myopic and self-declared opportunists (I see no clash of interest with Council members accepting gifts or financial assistance from developers' declared Polglase to Daly Report) aside.

So, common sense would seem to suggest, electing Green-based and environmentally concerned candidates would be the way to go, and it's reasonable

You can also email the Minister for Planning on office@keneally.minister.nsw.gov.au to let her know your thoughts on the matter, even if it is only one line.

If everybody who cares about the future of the Tweed, can encourage others to write also, it would be greatly appreciated.

**Jenny Hayes**  
Murwillumbah

**Farmers' feast**

I would like to thank the *Tweed Shire Echo* and *Byron Shire Echo* for their support and editorial promoting the Farmers Market Feast September 13 at

to believe, given recent statistical evidence (how many of your friends voted for Polglase?), that's what happened. We all leaned even more Greenwards. Put out more flags. We thought we'd 'won'.

But, I remind myself, once I've taken my head from the bucket of cold water, this is Downunder after all, so perhaps democracy in this part of the world does mean the opposite of most other civilised places, and a vote for Kate really does spin-translate into a former, utterly disgraced mayor getting back into the driver's seat.

Perhaps those rocks that were not, after all, thrown at rally cars, might be put to better use now. Yes, you're right, I mean use them to damn the river below Murwillumbah and sell the water to the highest bidder.

Big boys make money now, electorate all go thirsty later. Who cares? That's the way to do it. The good ole Aussie way, she'll be right? Maybe I've got the hang of this, after all.

**Norman Ingram**  
Tyalgum

■ Something is very wrong with our local government election process, when the former mayor of a sacked council occupies that same position, some years later, by way of his name drawn from a box. Time for the residents to vote for mayor!


**S Southey**  
Round Mountain

the Burringbar School of Arts Hall.

The lunch was a huge success, and Sue Harnett and myself were so fortunate to have the support and generosity of the local farmers and food producers to make the event possible. The range of delicious food produced within the two shires amazed all who attended.

The benefits of attending the New Brighton, Byron and Bangalow Farmers markets where the farmer becomes the middle man, are incredibly satisfying. I love watching the fresh produce being snapped up by loyal shoppers walking around the


**continued overleaf**



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

continued from page 9

markets with baskets overflowing with fruit and vegetables, fresh flowers and hand made goodies.

The function raised a massive \$3,700 to help pay the insurance on the hall and we are already planning the next one.

**Debra Allard and Suzanne Harnett**  
Committee Members

### Rally good and bad

A lot has been said about the rally, both good and bad. As a volunteer official over the four days of the event let me tell you what I experienced.

I was at both the super special stages on Thursday and Friday nights. The place was packed on both nights so one would figure that with all the pubs, restaurants, cafes and pizza places full to capacity that the local shop owners did make money. Every one I spoke to was polite and well mannered.

On Saturday and Sunday I was at two stages at Kyogle and stayed the night at the local footy grounds. The people there were putting on hot meals and tea and coffee for us at a price that put money back into their club.

Every shop I went into thanked us for being there as it was making a big financial boom for them. Even the local petrol station at Kyogle said the same thing as they also had a bumper week. I stood in a farmer's paddock and talked to

people from Ireland and next minute some other Irish people turned up and they started talking and discovered that they had travelled half way around the world and only lived three kms from each other at home so it was like watching a homecoming for these people.

As for animals being killed, I did not see any at all. To tell the truth, I see more dead animals on the side of the road travelling from Casuarina to South Tweed every day for work. Why isn't there a big stink about these poor things as there is more damage done by locals here than at the rally.

I understand that every one has a right to put their point of view across but some protesters were travelling along sections of road which had a 80 km limit and only doing 20 to 30 kms, holding up the public and making people frustrated and having to pass where one should not. Maybe some of the photos you were showing in the paper were of this and the danger they were causing to the public.

All in all it was a great week and when they come back in two years' time I will again volunteer as it showcases a great part of the world for everyone to enjoy.

**Steve Berger**  
Casuarina

ers will say that more are killed by people driving these roads to work or shop every day. That may be true, but let's not forget that this event was 'entertainment' - not a series of essential work or business related trips, and as such these deaths are those on top of those caused by our 'normal' operations.

Seemingly unaccounted for in the wash-up, however, is the disruption to animal breeding and feeding patterns and other animals that may have been either injured or fallen victim to stress myopathy and wandered off to die unobserved.

If the figures quoted are those caused by the actual race vehicles and do not include any impacts from the additional conservatively estimated thousands of vehicle movements of spectators, organisers, officials and police then they are flawed.

The organisers need to understand their responsibility for creating that additional traffic and for those resultant impacts. Surely the Life Cycle Analysis they would have carried out before this 'sustainable' event and their comprehensive Corporate Social Responsibility policy will have addressed these issues? Perhaps not?

**Nigel Greenup**  
Nunderi

■ It was interesting to see that the WRC allegedly caused only a small number of wildlife deaths. I suppose the support-

■ Many other letters came in for this edition, which we will try to print or acknowledge next week.

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## Habitat = Home

The rainforests of Borneo and Sumatra in Indonesia are the only native habitat on earth for the critically endangered Orangutan. Right now, their homes are under threat, with an area of Indonesian rainforest equal to 300 soccer fields destroyed every hour.

### How you can help:

- Donate to Rainforest Rescue's projects in Indonesia.
- Buy an Orangutan Habitat for Survival Gift Card.
- Go on a Rainforest Rescue Orangutan Adventure Trek.
- Become a regular Rainforest Rescue supporter and help save habitat for the Orangutans as well as countless other endangered species worldwide.



Visit [www.rainforestrescue.org.au](http://www.rainforestrescue.org.au) to find out more.  
To make a donation call 1300 763 611.

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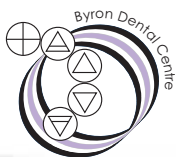
## Holistic is more than just white fillings

At the Byron Dental Centre, we take a holistic approach to dental health and wellbeing. Holistic means to take into account the whole body in the context of healing – each tooth corresponds to a different system, organ or meridian within the body.

The health of your mouth, teeth and gums are a reflection of what's going on within the body so with this approach to dental health, balance can be restored to whole body and being.

We offer general dentistry, safe amalgam removal and restorative procedures such as crown and bridgework all using biocompatible materials and Dr Jon's Whole Health and Wellbeing Program.

30 minute intro offer: Consultation\*, Check-up and Clean including 2 x X-rays – \$190 - great to get some information on your options and an update on your dental health.



Visit [www.byrondental.com](http://www.byrondental.com)  
or call 6680 7554 for an appointment

## HeART of the Bay

Art in the heart of the Bay  
Byron Artist Trail Spring Event

Thursday 24 September 2009 from 5:30pm till late

Come and join 15 Galleries located in the Byron Arts and Industry Park, as they kick off their Spring exhibitions. There will be free life drawing classes, glass blowing demonstrations, exhibition openings, positive thought cards launches, circus arts showcase, speeches, music, refreshments....and an opportunity to mingle with the artists and purchase a one off piece of art directly from the source!

Pick up your flyer with map from participating galleries or the Byron Visitors Centre.



See [www.byronartisttrail.com](http://www.byronartisttrail.com) for more information  
or call Samaya on 6685 6225

## Healing Through Dreams

Your night time dreams can change your life

A WEEKEND WORKSHOP WITH  
Prema Jansen and Olivia Lam

Prema is a Jungian Therapist practising and teaching Dream Work, Emotional Release and Sandplay Therapy for 30 years. Prema and Olivia run the Golden Dawn Centre in Malaysia.

10th -11th October at Coorabell Hall  
Cost \$300

Also

A 5-DAY CERTIFICATE TRAINING IN SANDPLAY THERAPY

Sandplay therapy provides the opportunity to explore the unconscious realms through physical contact with the sand and three dimensional figures. Prema studied Sandplay therapy with Dora Kalff, originator of Sandplay. The 5 day training is aimed at therapists, teachers and anyone interested in personal growth.

12th - 16th October  
Cost \$550

Limited spaces with some concessions.

For bookings and further information including a brochure please contact:

Anjali 6684 7023 or email [anjaliwalsh@gmail.com](mailto:anjaliwalsh@gmail.com)



## Have you booked your Christmas ads yet?

Spaces are filling fast - get in early.

Contact one of your friendly local Echo reps to discuss your Christmas ad campaign.

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# STARS

WITH LILITH

This week's stellar patterns recommend getting back to basics away from stressful complexity, so make your operating mantra **Simple, smooth and cruisy**



Libra Birthday Stars

**ARIES:** This time of powerful change supports your asking meaningful questions about your home and/or vocation, which this week require mature decisions. Strong emotions need careful handling. Discussing issues responsibly and fairly will win you the respect and cooperation you deserve.

**TAURUS:** This propitious period cuts some of the invisible strings tying you to the way things were, and as you keep getting rid of what you don't need, more of what you want starts appearing – especially with Venus in a compatible earth sign this week.

**GEMINI:** Risking valuable resources on a promise isn't recommended this week – wait till the end of the month when influential allies will be on your side and better deals available. This week wants you listening carefully to secret advice from your inner house of intuition.

**CANCER:** If you have criticisms to make this week, sandwich them between compliments and don't forget to acknowledge whatever others do on your behalf. If offers come your way do what you do best, think laterally – can you perhaps negotiate better terms?

**LEO:** Even though this week's audience might be inclined to point out certain slips in your magnificence, do your best to convince others to get over themselves and if not enjoy what's happening in their life, at least start looking for positive new opportunities on the flipside of present seismic shakeups.

**VIRGO:** This is one of your year's most powerful times for manifesting, so put those definite intentions out to the universe. Mercury, Venus and Saturn in your sign are pretty well a Virgo garden of earthly delights so go ahead and taste it – wouldn't want to waste it...

**LIBRA:** Maintain your buoyancy during this week of critical complaints by offering relentlessly positive alternatives for every negative you hear. That way if others don't agree with your opinions at least they'll go somewhere else to whinge. And leave you in peace.

**SCORPIO:** Watch your energy emissions during midweek Scorpio moon – even if it's justified, irritability is likely to have people exiting your orbit. That said, this week's upside brings plenty of motivation, determination and staying power to ditch bad habits, unhealthy attachments and unproductive distractions.

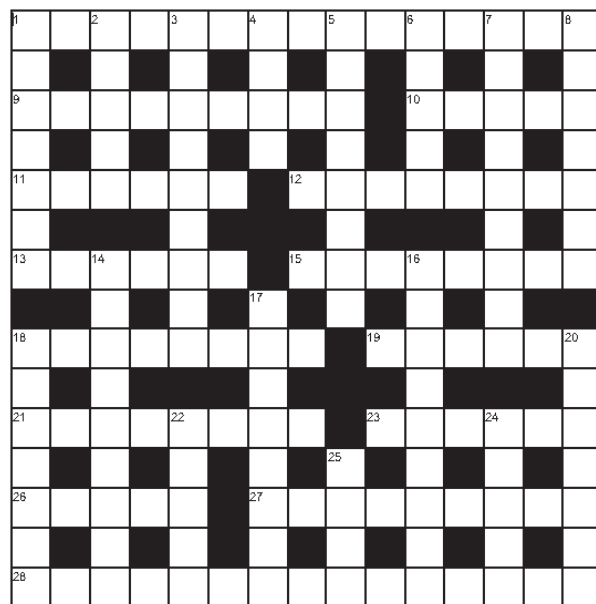
**SAGITTARIUS:** Setting yourself small, step by step, achievable, quantifiable goals will help stay in control of your response to this week's personal stresses, work concerns or financial pressures. Late week moon in Sagittarius recommends letting off some steam getting physical as opposed to verbal...

**CAPRICORN:** Acknowledging mistakes doesn't sit easily in the Capricorn repertoire of behaviours, but changing certain habit patterns this week will liberate you from the necessity of having to keep repeating the same scenarios. A breakthrough week, with old connections really coming through for you.

**AQUARIUS:** Retro Mercury can test friendships, but accepting that other people want freedom and tolerance as much as you do could move partnerships to a whole new level. And this week bring a reminder that life always provides for you no matter what. As it always has.

**PISCES:** With more Venus energy in the planetary picture your pleasure in beautiful things increases, so remember one of the major attributes of beauty is ease. None of us have all the answers, but you're more likely to find some this week by asking the right questions.

## Mungo's Crossword



### Quick Clues

#### ACROSS

- Insult used by right-winger against left-winger (9,6)
- The whole, unbroken extent (9)
- Extemporised, unrehearsed (2,3)
- Part of the foot (6)
- Long time resident, geriatric (3-5)
- Uncover, reveal (6)
- Stringently, sternly (8)
- Odorous, reminiscent (8)
- View, facet (5)
- Cast a vote, drew lots (8)
- Former American president (6)
- Native American tent (5)
- Summer fruit grown on canes (9)
- Insult from left-winger to right-winger (10,5)

#### DOWN

- Drug also known as snow (7)
- Factories for printing money (5)
- Ranging over everything, applicable to the cosmos (9)
- Informal records of debts (4)
- Pattern, guide (8)
- Nautical exclamation (5)
- Metrical unit of distance, approximately five eighths of a mile (9)
- Freedom, lack of restraint (7)
- Frozen milky confection on a stick (6-3)
- Engraves, signs, enrolls (9)
- Essential, pertaining to the whole (8)
- Like a mechanical man (7)
- Old-fashioned photograph printed on metal (7)
- Open, not secret (5)
- Thank you (French)
- Employs, exploits (4)

### Cryptic Clues

#### ACROSS

- Red doggy comrade, as seen by 28 across (9,6)
- Keep going, say; hesitation, but it doesn't stop (9)
- Spontaneously notice politician (2,3)
- Long time resident, geriatric (3-5)
- Conformist on foot (6)
- Antique watch for long-standing resident (3-5)
- Former model, stressed, is a revelation (6)
- Cunning holds Charlesworth caught between two intersections, rigorously enforced (8)
- Lease contains handout – that smells (8)
- Look quietly inside a religious group (6)
- After the dance, old Noffs drew lots (8)
- President at least sounds honest (6)
- The Kiwi leak gets shelter (5)
- Rubus, a sound of contempt (9)
- 28 Blue piggy bank, as seen by 1 across (10,5)

#### DOWN

- Carbon, first class in a big reefer – that's a drug! (7)
- Makes money from herbs (5)
- Not just about academic poetry – covering everything! (9)
- America overwhelmed by satellite debts (4)
- Part time worker unpunctual – that's a pattern (8)
- A huge expostulation from a sea-captain (5)
- Knock off a measuring device – reported from a distance (9)
- Military leave? An impertinence (7)
- Spank father, what a treat with a stick (6-3)
- Enrolls popular writers (9)
- Essential branch of calculus (8)
- Twitch Run with oxygen, smell and twitch – like R2D2, perhaps (7)
- Old picture of stannous group (7)
- Balls territory open (5)
- Gratitude in Marseilles for bizarre crime (5)
- Two cardinals follow American exploits (4)

### Last week's solution



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

Levon Aronian, already the 2008/9 Grand Prix Champion, has added last week's Grand Slam Final in Bilbao, Spain, to his growing collection of trophies.

After losing the first game, Aronian (pictured below) began a run of four consecutive victories which took him to the 35,000 Euro first prize. "To me losing a game is a kind of motivation,"



## CHESS by Ian Rogers

Play at Seagulls Club, Thurs 6-10pm

Aronian explained. 'In chess you have to prove what you can do every time and when you lose your opponent is asking you, "Are you fit enough for the game?"'

Aronian only qualified for the Grand Slam Final after the withdrawal of world number one Veselin Topalov but he took full advantage of his opportunity. 'When I found out a couple of months ago that I would accidentally be playing here I was very happy,' Aronian said. 'The Basque country is one of my favourite places. I came directly from [a gruelling] Grand Prix tournament in Armenia so I just tried to relax and not use too much energy.'

The 26 year old world number three also explained why he had arrived in Bilbao with Australian IM Alex Wohl

(from Byron Bay) instead of a grandmaster second: 'One of the reasons I am playing better is that I am opening myself to new ideas [from many different seconds]. I am working much harder now and am much more motivated than before, though I am still irresponsible sometimes.'

However, Aronian hinted that Wohl's position may only be temporary. 'Chess is not just an art, it is also a sport. In boxing, for example, they spar with the best. Whenever I can, I train with the best players in the world.'

Aronian is now within a few points of Viswanathan Anand on the world ranking list but Aronian shrugged off any suggestion that he was already in the same league as the World Champion. 'Ratings are not important to me – they change all the time. I am still far from being [the best in the world] but I am afraid of no one.'

Bilbao Grand Slam Final final

scores: 1.Aronian (Arm) 4.5/6; =2.Grischuk (Rus), Karjakin (Rus) 3; 4.Shirov (Spa) 1.5.

By winning the Blayney Open last weekend, 14-year-old Emma Guo became the youngest female player ever to win an Australian Grand Prix tournament. Guo's best game is below.

Blayney 2009

White: E Guo

Black: W East

Opening: London System

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.Bf4 Bg7 4.e3 d6 5.c3 Rather peaceful. 5.c4 is a favourite of Australian GM Darryl Johansen

5...0-0 6.Bd3 Nbd7 7.Nbd2 Nh5 8.Bg3

Again very obliging. 8.Bg5 makes it less convenient for Black to exchange the bishop.

8...Re8 9.0-0 Nxc3 10.hxg3 e5 11.Qb3! Nf6 Natural, but 11...Nb6 was safer.

12.dxe5 dxe5 13.Bc4 Re7 14.Rad1 Qe8 15.Ng5 h6!

Black starts to crack under the pressure. After 15...e4! Black should be fine.

16.Nge4 c6? Now Black's position collapses. After 16...Nxe4 17.Nxe4 Bd7! White can claim only a small edge.

17.Nxf6+ Bxf6 18.Ne4 Bg7 19.Nd6 Qf8 20.f4! b5 Desperation, but 20...e4 runs into 21.f5!

21.Bxf7+! Rxf7 22.Nxf7 Qxf7 23.Rd8+! 1-0



**the northern**

**Wed 23**  
**Fri 25**

**BRIAN WATT**  
**URTHBOY +**  
**HORRORSHOW,**  
**ASTRONOMY CLASS,**  
**HERMITUDE**

**Sat 26**

**AFL GRAND FINAL**  
**FROM 2PM**

**Mon 28**  
**Tues 29**

**MATT BUGGY**  
**HARRY HEALY**

**coming soon**

**TAME IMPALA**      **SEPT 30**

**JEZ MEAD**            **OCT 2**

**NRL GRAND FINAL**    **OCT 4**

**HATZ FITZ**            **OCT 9**

**OBESE RECORDS**

**BLOCK PARTY**        **OCT 17**

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# seven

SEPT 24 - SEPT 30

ALL YOUR LOCAL ENTERTAINMENT

## live music arts & entertainment



### Bellingen Global Carnival

The Bellingen Global Carnival is coming up! World class acts from the far corners of the earth will gather for a truly unique musical experience

**Friday October 2 to Sunday October 4.** International artists already on the program include South Africa's Hugh Masekela, Andy White (Ireland) and Paprika Balkanicus (Serbia/Romania/Slovenia). Full festival details can be seen at [www.globalcarnival.com](http://www.globalcarnival.com) or ring (02) 6655 3024. There's a **double pass giveaway** as well.

### Sharny Russell and George Golla

The Tweed Valley Jazz Club has very distinguished artists on its bill this month: **Sharny Russell and George Golla**. Polish born jazz guitarist **George Golla** migrated to Australia in the 1950s and began working professionally in Sydney from 1957. He is a prolific performer alongside clarinetist/flautist/saxophonist Don Burrows. That musical partnership has continued for almost forty years. He has supported artists such as vibraphonist Gary Burton in the early 1970s and has had a long association with Brazilian musicians including Luis Bonfa. He has made hundreds of recordings, including the Don Burrows Quartet at the Sydney Opera House, and Steph'n'Us with Stephane Grappelli during a tour with Grappelli and Burrows.

**Sharny Russell** is well known and greatly respected in the Australian jazz community as one of the country's leading



THE LIGHT FANTASTIC TYALGUM HOTEL SATURDAY 8PM

exponents of 'scat singing'. She is currently on staff at the Queensland Conservatorium, teaching jazz voice officially, and keyboard, improvisation, arrangement and composition by default! She has toured with Grace Knight and Don Rader, and been in concert with James and John Morrison, Galapagos Duck and George Washingmachine. See the duo at the **Tweed Valley Jazz Club, Murwillumbah, Friday September 25** from 7pm.

### Reflections of Michael - Man in the Mirror

Michael Jackson and Tina Turner performing live at Seagulls? You better believe it! Direct from USA, internationally renowned Michael Jackson tribute artist **C.P. Lacey** is bringing his acclaimed tribute show **Reflections Of Michael - Man In The Mirror**, to **Seagulls** on **Saturday September 26**. Lacey is currently

performing his Michael Jackson act weekly at the iconic Apollo Theatre in New York City. Lacey's act features the classic costumes, moonwalk moves and non-stop hits from the 70s, 80s and 90s that made Jackson the King of Pop. He will be joined at Seagulls by the red hot talent of **Samira**, whose **Truly Tina** act has the big hair, the big voice and big costume to rival the real thing. The leggy performer has the hustle and muscle, with the big hair, sexy costumes and volcanic vocals, as she delivers Tina's greatest hits, from *Proud Mary* to *Private Dancer*. **Saturday September 26**, 8pm at **Seagulls**.

### Wild Marmalade at Beach Bar

Byron Bay's high energy organic dance band **Wild Marmalade** are back in Australia after storming Europe and Japan. Wild Marmalade are Australia's favourite Drum

'n Didge band, they blend the ancient, soul stirring sounds of the didgeridoo with modern dance beats and tribal grooves. Wild Marmalade is Si Mul-lumby's rhythmic didgeridoo combined with the explosive Matt Goodwin on kit and log drums. Wild Marmalade are proven players in the world dance music scene having played at some of the biggest festivals and venues globally. Come and feel the spirit of the rhythm at the **Cabarita Beach Bar** on **Friday September 25** from 8.30pm.

### So you believe you have talent

It's your turn to become a star for the night with **So You Think You Have Talent**. If you can dance, sing, play an instrument, juggle, mime or even do magic, then now is your chance to become a contestant - the winner of the entire competition wins \$1500 cash. The audience is the judge: all audience

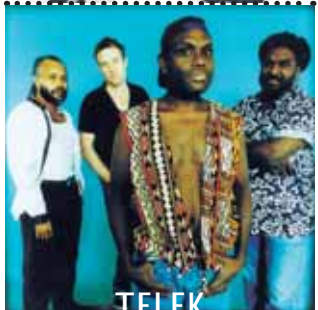
members receive a remote control to take charge of the voting process. Scores are instantly calculated and shown on the big screen for all to see. To become a contestant fill out an entry form (download from [www.seagullclub.com.au](http://www.seagullclub.com.au)) and take it into Seagulls. You will be contacted to confirm your position. Over 18 years only. **Seagulls 8.30pm Friday.**

### Fossil in the Rock

Regarded as the Northern Rivers premier covers/party band, **Fossil Rock** promises an evening of great music, including hits from The Eagles, Dragon, Bernard Fanning, Rolling Stones and Daddy Cool. **Friday September 25, Cabarita Beach Sports Club, Bogangar** from 8pm.

### Love Handles of Joy Quartet

The **Hans Lovejoy Quartet** (that's me, the guy writing this) will again be at the **Currumbin**



GEORGE TELEK & DAVID BRIDIE

## AT THE BELLINGEN GLOBAL CARNIVAL freebies

We have a double pass giveaway to the Bellingen Global Carnival which runs from Friday October 2 to Sunday October 4. Email [gigs@echo.net.au](mailto:gigs@echo.net.au) with the header 'Bringing it to Bellingen' and you can be in the draw.



## THE WHARF REVUE SYDNEY THEATRE COMPANY

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*The Wharf Revue* is always a hot ticket, so secure your tickets today!

'THE WHARF REVUE (AND I SPEAK ON BEHALF OF THE ENTIRE COLLECTIVE) IS THRILLED TO BE OPENING IN LISMORE, THE POLITICAL NERVE CENTRE OF AUSTRALIA, IF NOT THE SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE, WITH THE POSSIBLE EXCEPTION OF DUNEDIN.'

JONATHAN BIGGINS

NORPA 2009 SEASON



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**RSL this Sunday.** While writing this column is my day job, by weekends and nights I moonlight as a double bass player and crooner of jazz tunes. OK, so I guess I need to elaborate on why I am sort of a big deal. Ummm, this year I performed at the Byron Bay Blues and Roots Festival 2009 with Indonesian musician Tommee, and my South American Latin band Vivalucion composed three songs and performed onset for

the second season of ABC TV's *East of Everything*. My Big Band At The End Of The Universe also just scored a spot on the Mullum Festival bill in November. There, enough bragging. Special guest this week is vocalist **Cassie Bennett**, a young and talented performer from the Lismore region. James will be on drums and Alex is on guitar. **Currumbin RSL** from 1.30pm **Sunday**.

**PAUL DEMPSEY**  
FRIDAY  
SEPTEMBER 25  
SOUNDLOUNGE  
CURRUMBIN RSL



**VASUDAH AND JEM SHEOAK SHACK FINGAL HEAD, SATURDAY**



**Tiffany at the South Tweed Sports Club**

With the 'best of the best' sharing the stage and special guest **Ashley Lewis**, this promises to be a fine night of jazz. Bookings are essential and can be made on 07 5524 3655 at a cost of \$5.50 members and \$6.50 visitors. Dinner for two specials at \$18pp includes a bottle of wine. Joining Tiffany is David Fennell – piano/vocals, Jack Thorncraft – bass/vocals. Tod Burns – drums and special guest Ashley Lewis – trombone/vocals. Come along and



**CASSIE-BENNETT WITH THE HANS LOVEJOY QUARTET CURRUMBIN RSL, SUNDAY**

enjoy the best the coast has to offer with great company, hot coffee and snacks and cool jazz, **Saturday** at the **South Tweed Sports Club**, 7pm.

**Soul Company at Currumbin RSL**

**Soul Company** formed after Tanya Benetti met up with Brad Weynton after a Bowser gig at the Gold Coast Big Day Out in 2007. 'I had been playing a lot of rock gigs with Bowser at the time and wanted to try a more raw experience. Playing with Brad I found myself as a vocalist, so we formed Soul Company.' Tanya's inspiration comes mainly from folk/funk artists such as Jewel and Joss Stone to artists like Stevie Wonder and Aretha Franklin. Their stage presence, acoustic harmonies and beautiful vocals, guarantees an enjoyable experience by whoever has the pleasure to see them perform live. See them perform live at **Currumbin RSL** in the main bar from 7pm **Saturday September 26**.

## SOAPBOY

**Mandy Nolan**  
**MAKE THE BAD MAN STOP!**

I have phone plan anxiety. What if I'm not on the right one? Every other day someone from a phone company rings me to offer me some whizzbang deal complete with a phone, set of steak knives and \$3,000 worth of free calls providing they're made between 2am-3am each month to people whose names begin with H. I don't understand anything they are trying to tell me. I just want to be able to use the telephone at reasonable rates. But no, this is not possible. I must choose a carrier and then select one of their flavours. In a time of carbon consciousness these companies reward mindless consumption: 'limitless local calls' and punish for lack of brand loyalty. Any calls to a non Telstra number charged at triple. I find myself staying up making local calls just because I can, and crossing out everyone in my life who doesn't trade with Telstra. It's a form of phone plan apartheid. I just can't afford the luxury of having any Optus or Virgin buddies. Let them hang in their own communication ghetto. Being a breastfeeding Mum, I'm housebound. The calls are endless. And it's not just for phones. Holidays, specials deals, Nigerian dictators requesting bank details, people selling catfood, hair transplants, whizzbang sanitary pads that double as internet routers... the telemarketers are relentless. And it's not enough that they phone you. Now they come to your door. The other day I answered a knock and there was an Indian chap there from a call centre in Delhi. He looked at me plaintively and said 'Hello, Amanda Nolan, we have special opportunities in your area.' Please! Make them

stop! It's giving me eczema! The other day I answered the door to a very handsome young man from an energy company. He told me that Country Energy were outsourcing their billing rights overseas and that I needed to sign up with his company to ensure that the money stayed in NSW and receive a 4% reduction to my bill. I panicked. Someone was selling my bill? Overseas? This capitalism thing is out of control. I had a small panic attack that could only be soothed by looking at his lovely shiny hair. I let him in. Maybe he'd let me pat him. He needed to fill in some forms. He sat in my kitchen. He looked at my power bill. He wrote down my information. I gave him a bowl of water. He looked at my licence. He used my phone. In the space of three minutes I had let a stranger in the house and given him all my personal information. What if he raped me? I felt a surge of anxiety. What if he didn't? I asked him questions about my bill, and he just kept on with the same patter. I signed the form because I didn't know how else to get rid of him. He was so young I could have breastfed him. He left me with a bundle of papers and a signed contract. The next day it dawned on me. I was scammed. I rang Country Energy to ask about their billing situation and told them of my door to door marketer. It was a fib. They weren't selling their billing rights. I had in fact been tricked to change carriers and the contract I'd signed meant I was no longer a Country Energy client. That sleazy little bastard. To think I offered to dance naked for him around his cup of tea. I decided to ring my ombudsman. Not the boom shanka pot dealer who specialises in 'Om Buds', the authority which investigates the supposed fairness and strategies used by companies to get your business. (Geez, they should have a relationship ombudsman. 'Hello, I'm calling because my husband said I have a fat arse and he won't put the bin out.') You'll be happy to know I got a letter. I got an apology. I had my contract voided and my electricity went back to my original supplier. Remember the glory days when public utilities were public utilities? They didn't need regulating because private companies weren't scrambling for the opportunity to sodomise you with their special deals. Marketing has got a lot more aggressive. Somewhere out there there's an old woman paying for internet connection and she doesn't even have a computer. She's having to download porn on her stove. Although if it's on dialup, it's free.

**LALALAND**  
THUR 24 SEPT  
**SILICONE SOUL**  
WED 23 SEPT  
**STRETCH & RHYS BYNON**  
FRI 25 SEPT  
**JOHN COURSE SLAM**  
DANIEL WEBBER  
SAT 26 SEPT  
**LIVEWIRE**  
SUN 27 SEPT  
**CAPTAIN KAINE**  
DEVIL WEARS PRADA BABY...  
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# THE UNITY FESTIVAL FUNDRAISING TRIVIA NIGHT

Saturday 3rd October 2009  
Condong Bowls Club  
7pm for 7.30pm

The cost of entry is **\$15** per person  
8 people per table

To book your table please contact:  
Murwillumbah Community Centre - 6672 3003  
Condong Bowls Club - 6672 2238  
or email:  
[andrea@unityfestival.com.au](mailto:andrea@unityfestival.com.au)

There will be prizes for the winner plus raffle draws and live entertainment from "Fred" from "Gesha and Friends"

Continuous nibbles are also available for only \$10 per person (Please state if you would like the nibbles on the night when registering).

Australia  
New Zealand  
March 2010

Ferth Concert Hall, 5 Mar  
Sydney City Recital Hall, 7 Mar  
Bellinger Memorial Hall, 9 Mar  
Byron Bay High School, 10 Mar  
Sydney Enmore Theatre, 12 & 13 Mar  
Brisbane Concert Hall, 15 Mar  
Attackland Great Hall, 18 Mar  
Christchurch James Hogg Theatre, 19 Mar  
Wellington Opera House, 22 Mar  
Melbourne Hamer Hall, 25 Mar  
Adelaide Her Majesty's Theatre, 26 Mar  
Canberra Royal Theatre, 27 Mar  
Newcastle Civic Theatre, 29 Mar

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# ARTSplace

Pamela Payne  
pamelap@tweedecho.com.au

## The Pod

Are there smaller exhibition spaces? **The Pod**, in the reception area of **Mullumbimby Council Chambers**, measures just 70x80x80 centimetres: a white painted wood and glass display cube. Initiated by **Victoria Edgar**, it is now being curated by **Dev Lengjel**. The Pod is dedicated to 3D exhibitions. Currently on display is 'Surfers' by local artist **Potts**. This will be followed on September 24 by an installation of **Suvira McDonald's** work. At 10am on that same day, The Pod will be officially opened. Eventually, Lengjel will involve local schools. The pod needs to be a soap box for sculpture! Lengjel is calling for artists who want to be considered for exhibition in the Pod – sculpture, installations, ceramics, glass, or any variation so long as it is 3D. Send details: [dev@sculptureshow.net](mailto:dev@sculptureshow.net)

**Uki Community Art**  
On the side wall of the **Uki Buttery** there's a splash of vibrant colour: a tile mural of Uki; a celebration of a community. It was inspired and brought to fruition by local artist **Marie-France Boissonne**. She wanted a project that expressed the things that local people liked about Uki. And she wanted to create a work that would be on permanent display. 'So I came up with the idea of everyone making three dimensional tiles. We got the whole community involved. It was lovely.'

With help from Ukitopia's **Natascha Wernick**, Boissonne successfully applied to the NSW government for project funding. She then ran seven workshops for all the participants. And, with an electric kiln lent by Uki Public School, 55 hand made tiles were eventually fired. Boissonne and her friend **Hilda Ulotte** assembled, glued and grouted the tiles: sunflowers and tropical fruit, Mt Warning, rowing on the river, the Uki Café, Post Office and Garden Club, birds, butterflies and dragonflies... The size of this mural was limited by the number of people that Boissonne could fit in her workshop. 'It would



be fun in the future to make a really big one.'

## Merlin Quintet

The place: **St Martins Anglican Church**, Mullumbimby. The time: **2.30 pm Sunday September 27**. The event: Byron Music Society presenting the **Merlin Quintet** in Brahms Quintet No.2, and Mozart's G minor Quintet. Under the leadership of **Michele Walsh** – lecturer in violin and chair of the String Department at the Queensland Conservatorium, Griffith University – it promises to be a wonderful concert. Enquiries: Margot Dods – 02 6680 1586.

## Stills Gallery: Workshops

Concerned that, with term three activities closing, artists might be at a loose end, **Stills Gallery** has come to the rescue. Beginning on October 3, local artist **Bernadette Curtin** will run a four day 'painting intensive'. Widely exhibited, highly talented artist and workshop leader, Curtin is perhaps best known for her exquisite paintings of water. Bookings: [bernadettecurtin@linknet.com.au](mailto:bernadettecurtin@linknet.com.au); Ph: 02 6684 6795.

And, starting on October 1, an evening **life drawing** class (cost \$20) will be offered every **Thursday** from 5.30 to 8pm.

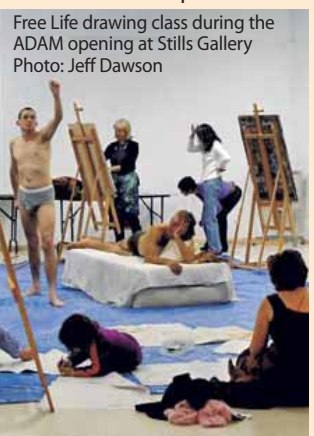
## Caldera Artfest 09

It's now less than two weeks to **Caldera Artfest 09**. For four days – from Friday October 2 to Monday October 5 – artists, local people and visitors will celebrate the natural beauty and diversity of our caldera. In the auditorium of the **Tweed Shire Council Civic and Cultural Centre**, more than 80 artists from the region will display work inspired by our

environment. As well, there will be films by established wildlife cinematographers and displays by relevant organisations – including Landcare and National Parks and Wildlife Service. The prize pool for first second and third prize has now reached \$7,500. But artists will have to hold their breath for the announcement of winners until another gala **Caldera Artfest 09** event on October 16 in Beaudesert. (Yes, Beaudesert is within the caldera's rim.) There will, though, be a special inaugural award at the Murwillumbah celebrations: the **Max Boyd Prize**. In recognition of the former Tweed Shire mayor and councillor's long contribution to conservation in the area, Crystal Creek Rainforest retreat has offered a generous prize. And what is perhaps most exciting about **Caldera Artfest 09** is that it is just one element within a much bigger canvas of activity.

**Caldera Regional Arts Inc** has been offered significant funding from the NSW Department of Industry and Investment to implement a project called **Caldera Art**. With **Andy Reimanis**, currently project manager for **Caldera Artfest 09**, appointed as Project Manager of the bigger, bolder and more encompassing **Caldera Art Project** for 2009 and 2010, there's plenty of reason for optimism about our local arts and our environment.

**Farewell**  
This is my farewell Arts Place. It's been a pleasure and a privilege to talk to so many fine and exciting artists. And I wish every one of you a successful, fulfilling and happy future.



Free Life drawing class during the ADAM opening at Stills Gallery  
Photo: Jeff Dawson



Michele Walsh



Caldera Art Classes  
Rhiannon Atchison.

GEORGE GOLLA PERFORMS WITH SHARNEY RUSSELL  
TWEED VALLEY JAZZ CLUB, M'BAH  
FRIDAY



## Paul Dempsey

**Paul Dempsey** returns to the Gold Coast this year with his very first solo album *Everything Is True* under his belt. With an armful of new tunes that tread a lighter, more spacious territory than his work with the much loved *Something For Kate*, the first two singles *Out the Airlock* and *Ramona Was A Waitress* show one of Australia's finest songwriters at the top of his game. His recent sold out Australian solo tour held crowds spellbound in the classic 'pin drop' fashion, and you can expect to be stopped in your tracks by Mr Dempsey's voice, songs and guitar playing prowess when he hits the stage at **The Soundlounge** with a brand spanking new band on **Friday September 25**.

## Vasudah and Gem

**Vasudah's** distinctive song-writing embraces heart melting ballads, funky raps and cheeky

cabaret. Meet them on their gypsy troubadour trail as they entwine their music with their wonderful eclectic friends such as Louis Burdett, the untouchable drummer, live hanging artist Kellie O'Dempsey and psychedelic guitar poet Daevid Allen. A duo with mellow ballads, stylish cabaret, chilled out sounds, upbeat rhythms, blue notes here, tangos there and melodic mojo flamenco flair. **Sheoak Shack Fingal Head, Saturday 7pm**.

## The Light Fantastic are back

**The Light Fantastic** play their first pub gig with their new line-up in their hometown at the **Tyalgum Hotel** on **Saturday 8pm**. The new musicians on deck are playing a night of covers from new and classic bands. Expect some free form jamming and some intricate musicality to really bring out the excitement in every song.

## coming soon

- **Unity Festival Fundraising Trivia Night**  
Saturday October 3  
**Condong Bowls Club**
- **Oh Mercy & Washington**  
Thursday October 1  
**Soundlounge**
- **The Toothfaeries & The Dave Flower Band**  
Friday Oct 2  
**Soundlounge**
- **Tame Impala**  
Thursday October 1  
**Coolangatta Hotel**
- **Seagulls on Broadway presents an audience with Frank Spencer & Friends**  
Saturday October 3
- **Northern Rivers Symphony Orchestra – A Bohemian Rhapsody**  
Sunday October 11  
**Seagulls**
- **Caldera Artfest 09**  
October 2-5  
**Murwillumbah Civic Centre**
- **Tweed River Festival**  
October 18-24
- **Choir Boys**  
Friday October 23  
**Cabarita Beach Sports Club**
- **Tweed Theatre Company Inc. 'The Last Resort'**  
Friday, October 16  
**Tweed Civic Centre**
- **Fantasy furniture exhibition by Keith Cameron**  
October 2 - November 15  
**Tweed River Art Gallery**

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SAT 26	MATRIX	7:30PM - 10:30PM
MON 28	ROBBIE ROSENLUND	12noon - 3PM

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# gig guide local events and entertainment

## THURSDAY 24

- COOLANGATTA HOTEL, 8PM CHESTER
- CUDGEN LEAGUES CLUB, KINGSCLIFF 5.30PM MIKE WINKWORTH
- CLUB BANORA 4PM GLENN BRACE
- GOLD COAST ARTS CENTRE 7.30PM UNPLUGGED IN THE BASEMENT - COLOURFIDE WITH CHEYNE MURPHY & MARK HEAZLETT
- MURWILLUMBAH HOTEL 7.30PM HAVANA NIGHTS (LATIN DANCING AND DJ)
- NEVERLAND, COOLANGATTA, 8PM BILLABONG PRES FILTHY HABITS
- SEAGULLS LAKEVIEW LOUNGE 6PM MICHAEL KING
- THE SANDS HOTEL COOLANGATTA PHIL EIZENBERG JAM SESSION FROM 8PM, 8PM BOGAN BINGO
- TWEED HEADS BOWLS CLUB 6PM VEENIE'S - UPSTAGE
- TWIN TOWNS 1.30PM DENIS WARREN 5PM LONE WOLF 8.30PM BREEZES LIVE BAND
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 9PM SUPERMARIO
- HOTEL GREAT NORTHERN, BYRON ARABIAN PRINCE (NWA)
- BUDDHA BAR, BYRON 8PM STANDUP COMEDY OPEN MIC W/ BAY FM'S PAUL MCMAHON & DANIEL PROKOP
- STILL@THE CENTRE, BYRON 6PM EVE EXHIBITION OPENING
- LA LA LAND, BYRON SILICON SOUL & DANIEL WEBBER
- LIQUID, BYRON 10PM HOMEBREW V'S FLUID DJ MANYA | ELCTRYKEED | DJ TATSU | STRANGE PLANET
- BALLINA RSL 8PM THE BIG GIG MC MANDY NOLAN, LINDSAY WEBB, ROBERT GRAYSON

## FRIDAY 25

- BILAMBIL SPORTS CLUB, 8PM JOHNNY CARR
- CABARITA BEACH SPORTS CLUB, BOGANGAR 8PM FOSSIL ROCK
- CABARITA BEACH BAR AND GRILL, 8.30PM WILD MARMALADE + DJ ANDREW BOOTH
- CLUB BANORA 7.30PM JACKIE LOVE
- CUDGEN LEAGUES CLUB, 5.30PM SIMONE CUTTING
- COOLANGATTA HOTEL 9PM DJ DAVE, DJ CHRIS TOFA 10.30PM VERTIGO
- CURRUMBIN RSL 7PM AKASA
- ELSEWHERE, SURFERS PARADISE, ELECTRIC BOOGIE SHOW
- GOLD COAST ARTS CENTRE 8PM GOLD COAST JAZZ & BLUES CLUB - HARLEM SWING, 8PM WILD WORLD - THE CAT STEVENS STORY, 8PM COMEDY IN THE BASEMENT - FRED LANG
- IMPERIAL HOTEL, MUR'BAH 8PM SOULMAN
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH CLUB 7.30PM MARK WINDLE
- MURWILLUMBAH SERVICES CLUB 6.30PM NO SECRETS
- MURWILLUMBAH HOTEL 9PM DJ HERVE
- NEVERLAND BAR COOLANGATTA, 8PM BEAUTIFUL GIRLS FILM SHOOT
- POTTSVILLE BEACH SPORTS CLUB 7PM JACKIE McDONALD
- SALT BAR, SALT VILLAGE 9.30PM THE REAL DEAL
- SEAGULLS 8.30PM SO YOU THINK YOU HAVE TALENT? HEAT 2
- SOUNDLOUNGE, CURRUMBIN RSL 8PM PAUL DEMPSEY
- THE SANDS HOTEL COOLANGATTA 9PM ACOUSTIC SESSION, 10PM DJS
- TWEED VALLEY JAZZ CLUB, M'BAH 7PM SHARNY RUSSELL AND

## GEORGE GOLLA

- TWEED HEADS BOWLS CLUB 7.30PM GREG DOOLAN BAND
- TWIN TOWNS 11AM LINE DANCING, 5PM ALTERNATING ARTISTS 9.30PM BREEZES LIVE BAND
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 9.30PM PHIL EMMANUEL
- THE RAILS, BYRON 7PM BOHEMIAN COWBOYS
- HOTEL GREAT NORTHERN, BYRON, URTHBOY AND HORRORSHOW, ASTRONOMY CLASS, HERMITUDE
- RETROSPECT GALLERIES, BYRON 6PM DOUG HAWKINS AND KEVIN BARTLETT EXHIBITION OPENING
- LA LA LAND, BYRON JOHN COURSE, SLAM & DANIEL WEBBER
- LIQUID, BYRON 10PM ASTON SHUFFLE | DEEGS | LT80 | JUNKBEATS DEEJAYS | CAPTAIN KAINE
- COCOMANGAS, BYRON QUALITY CONTROL + KRISTIN
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 7.30PM JOHN BUSHELLE BAND
- DRILL HALL THEATRE, MULLUM 8PM BOLD GIRLS

## SATURDAY 26

- CABARITA BEACH SPORTS CLUB, BOGANGAR 8PM MACKA
- CLUB BANORA 4.30PM GLENN BRACE 8PM RUMOURS
- CURRUMBIN RSL 7PM SOUL COMPANY
- COOLANGATTA HOTEL 8PM KISSCHASY SUPPORTED BY NUMBERS RADIO 9PM DJ KOMES, DJ JEZZA
- COOLANGATTA AND TWEED HEADS GOLF CLUB 6PM UNDERPAID
- ELSEWHERE, SURFERS PARADISE, MOTION THEORY
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH CLUB 7.30PM

## MATRIX

- GOLD COAST ARTS CENTRE 7PM JAZZ IN THE BASEMENT-DIXIELAND JAZZ #3
- MURWILLUMBAH SERVICES CLUB 6.30PM TREVOR RICKS
- MURWILLUMBAH HOTEL 9PM DR ROCK
- NEVERLAND BAR, COOLANGATTA, 8PM PARKLIFE AFTERPARTY
- POTTSVILLE BEACH SPORTS CLUB 7.30PM PAUL MULQUEEN
- SALT BAR, SALT VILLAGE, 9.30PM THE CREW
- SHEOAK SHACK FINGAL HEAD, 7PM VASUDAH AND JEM
- SEAGULLS 6.30PM SOUL MATEZ
- SOUTH TWEED SPORTS CLUB 7.30PM TIFFANY AND FRIENDS FEATURING ASHLEY LEWIS
- THE COOLANGATTA SANDS HOTEL 9PM ACOUSTIC SESSION WITH PAUL ATKINS, 10PM DJ TOMMY
- TYALGUM HOTEL 8PM THE LIGHT FANTASTIC
- TWEED HEADS BOWLS CLUB 7.30PM TOBY TYLER & THE COUNTRY BOYS
- TWIN TOWNS 2PM RUSSELL SPROUT 5PM ALTERNATING ARTISTS 9.30PM BREEZES LIVE BAND
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 9.30PM AFRICA MANDINGO
- THE RAILS, BYRON 6.30PM THE GRAINS
- LA LA LAND, BYRON LIVEWIRE
- LIQUID, BYRON 10PM DISCO LIQUIDO ADAM JAMES TAYLOR | DJ DEEDEE | DJ FOXXY
- COCOMANGAS, BYRON DJ QUALITY, CONTROL, KRISTEN
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 7.30PM SMART ARTISTS
- BANGALOW A & I HALL 6PM WILD HONEY DANCE FESTIVAL
- DRILL HALL THEATRE, MULLUMBIMBY 8PM BOLD GIRLS

## SUNDAY 27

- CLUB BANORA, 11AM NERIDAH 12.15PM BABY BOOMER PARTY BAND
- CUDGEN SURF LIFE SAVINGS CLUB, 2.30PM INNOCENT BYSTANDERS
- CURRUMBIN RSL 1.30PM HANS LOVEJOY QUARTET FEATURING CASSIE BENNETT
- COOLANGATTA HOTEL, 2PM SIMON MEOLA 7PM BULLET PROOF 8PM DJ LEE ROY
- COOLANGATTA AND TWEED HEADS GOLF CLUB 1PM SMOKE HOUSE COUNTRY MUSIC CLUB
- ELSEWHERE, SURFERS PARADISE, ROYALE SUNDAY W/STRETCH + GIV
- LEMONDE, KIRRA, 2PM BILL JACOBI
- NEVERLAND, COOLANGATTA 8PM NEVERLAND SUNDAY
- POTTSVILLE BEACH SPORTS CLUB 4PM DAVE CAVANAGH
- SALT BAR, SALT VILLAGE, 1PM SOULMAN O'GAIA
- SEAGULLS CLUB, 2PM LINE DANCING
- SPHINX ROCK CAFE, MT BURRELL 1PM ELENA B WILLIAMS
- THE COOLANGATTA SANDS HOTEL 5PM MUSGROVE HILL DUO
- TWIN TOWNS 5PM ALTERNATING ARTISTS 9.30PM BREEZES LIVE BAND
- TWEED HEADS BOWLS CLUB 5PM WAYNE NETTLE
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 4.30PM THE BAND OF FREQUENCIES 8PM DJ GRAVY & NOWAK
- THE RAILS, BYRON 6PM RUSHCUTTER
- LA LA LAND, BYRON CAPTAIN KAINE
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 3PM ROUND MOUNTAIN GIRLS 7PM SLIM &

## DR BAZ

- DRILL HALL THEATRE, MULLUMBIMBY 5PM BOLD GIRLS
- ST MARTIN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, MULLUMBIMBY 2.30PM BYRON MUSIC SOCIETY PRESENTS MERLIN STRING QUINTET

## MONDAY 28

- COOLANGATTA HOTEL, 8PM INDUSTRY NIGHT, 8PM DJ JEZZA
- TWIN TOWNS 1PM LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
- TWEED HEADS BOWLS CLUB 5PM ROBBIE ROSENLUND
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH CLUB 12PM ROBBIE ROSENLUND
- THE RAILS, BYRON 6.30PM GUY KACHEL
- HOTEL GREAT NORTHERN, BYRON MATT BUGGY

## TUESDAY 29

- MURWILLUMBAH HOTEL 9PM JAM NIGHT
- SEAGULLS 6PM CRAIG SHAW
- TWEED HEADS BOWLS CLUB 5PM MICHAEL
- TWIN TOWNS 1PM LINE DANCING 6.30PM LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 9PM JACK BEE
- THE RAILS, BYRON 6.30PM SLIM PICKENS
- HOTEL GREAT NORTHERN, BYRON HARRY HEALY

## WEDNESDAY 30

- CLUB BANORA 11AM ANNEMARIE LLOYD
- GOLD COAST ARTS CENTRE 7.30PM THE IMPERIAL RUSSIAN BALLET PRESENTS SWAN LAKE
- SEAGULLS 6PM DON WHITAKER
- TWEED HEADS BOWLS CLUB 1.30PM DAIL PLATZ
- TWIN TOWNS SERVICES CLUB 11AM LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

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As the rally recedes into history (only two more years before the next one) a recent article in *GP Week* (an electronic motorsport magazine) headed 'Media, not protesters, let down Rally Oz' blames local media for giving the anti-rally movement too much space instead of concentrating on those magnificent men in their rally machines. Singled out for a big brickbat surprisingly was the Murdoch-owned *Gold Coast Bulletin* for its 'splashing' of a headline which said 'We Won't Be Back', on a story detailing champion driver Sebastian Loeb's comments at the post-rally press conference about running the event in a place where many people didn't want it. Funny that, it was the same paper that vilified protesters from day one and was a strong backer of the event. Can't win 'em all.



Forty-five shopping trolleys like this one pictured, a pogo stick and seven push bikes have been retrieved from the bottom of the Tweed River during the past couple of weeks.

Simon Hartley, a diving officer and environmental science lecturer with Southern Cross University, and Byron Underwater Research Group (BURG) have been working to clean up the river bed for years and last Sunday helped school students collect fishing tackle and 100kg of bottles from Jack Evans Boat Harbour.

Hotspots for trolleys include Faux Park, Anchorage Island and Dry Dock Road but Simon said they also found the occasional one thrown in around the jetties. He said that at least three of the trolleys found under the jetty had illegal cast nets wrapped around them, in addition to rope and lots of fishing line.

It's good to see his improbable elevation to deputy mayor has not softened Phil Youngblutt's down-to-earth style. In rejecting a renewed push to have both the mayor and deputy's job decided by popular vote, Phil says voters couldn't be trusted to get it right. 'That would be a disaster,' he said, before adding, 'generally there's a bunch of morons out there voting most of the time.' Mercifully only 2,600 voters (a tiny fraction of the electorate) were moronic enough to vote for Phil. Wozza's long-time sidekick has made it known he doesn't plan to stand for re-election, but we don't think it's to take up a career in the diplomatic service.

Speaking of Wozza, Cr Polglase was still riding a wave of euphoria this week after re-assuming the mayoral mantle in the lucky dip. The birthday boy engaged all and sundry in light-hearted banter and parried reporters' questions with aplomb when he turned up at the Jack Evans Boat Harbour to start its long-overdue revitalisation by turning the first sod. But the council engineer in charge of the project

took some of the wind out of his sails when he handed him the ceremonial shovel, saying he had shortened the handle by four inches to make it easier for him to perform the task. Wozza, who has never been accused of being tall, was initially lost for words before recovering his composure to thank the engineer for his kind consideration.

Among the small group looking on was former council general manager and old mate John Griffin, who appeared lukewarm in his appraisal of the project, saying 'Well, if that's what the people want.' Dr Griffin, who is a long-time board member of the Twin Towns Services Club which occupies part of the precinct, was no doubt considering the imminent loss of hundreds of club car parking spaces which had been acquired through a special \$1 million lease negotiated with the council over part of the former caravan park site after it was closed amid community uproar 15 years ago.

Before sinking the shovel, the new mayor sunk the boot into the Hastings Point Progress Association for their temerity in challenging the council's approval of an over 50s resort which residents claim will double the village's current population. In his first official press release since regaining the top job, Cr Polglase said the residents' failed court appeal was a strong vindication of council's decision to give the green light to the controversial project, and warned them against any further appeals, saying that the 'council will be pursuing costs.' Councillors will decide at their next meeting whether to endorse their new leader's hard-line stance on the issue, with *Backburner* tipping it will be a close call.

And it's curious, how the accidental mayor keeps talking about 'creating jobs', as if he were the federal treasurer. The reality is, local councillors don't create jobs - except for

temporary ones in the building trade through indiscriminate approval of big developments. *Backburner* suggests translating Warren's mantra 'creating jobs' into 'favouring developers' for a better clue to where he's at.

The Tweed water supply system's microbe-killing chlorinators must be working at full steam given the experience of a local surfer last week. He tells *Backburner* that after a morning surf he showered at the public park at Cabarita Beach and reckoned he could smell the chlorine coming out of the tap. It was only the next day that he noticed the dark-blue swimming togs he had showered in were bleached to a shade of much lighter blue, with a streaked effect. He quipped he's now a true-blue 'bleach bum'.

Nicola Jamison, a teacher at Lindisfarne High School, kindly sent us some letters to the editor written as an exercise by year 5 students. The topic was Kevin Rudd reportedly swearing at some of his MPs when they objected to cuts in their entitlements. *Backburner* was impressed by the standard of literacy, but somewhat depressed that the majority of letters took the adult-appealing line that swearing is wrong because it may influence the young.

This Sunday, September 27, a mock 'state funeral for NSW democracy' complete with a hearse will be held outside parliament house in Sydney, organised by members of RAID (Residents Against Inappropriate Development) which now stretches across NSW. The group, like many on the Tweed, is fed up with what they call 'community bullying' by the state government which has hijacked planning powers from councils. Guest speakers include actor Michael Caton of *The Castle* fame. Some locals are planning to travel down for the protest but those unable to have been asked to fill out a 'condolence' sheet.



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