



LOCAL & INDEPENDENT



pages 8&9

Latest rate rise on the way

Richard Johns

Tweed ratepayers will pay an extra 8.5 per cent on their ordinary rate from July 1.

But this will only apply to around 18,300 residential properties that fall within the minimum rate band. Another 47 per cent of residents will pay extra depending on the land value of their property.

The business rate goes up by a minimum of 40.7 cents in the dollar, and for farmland by 23.4 cents in the dollar. However, the latter only applies to 268 properties out of a total of 1,575.

Tweed Shire Council already has approval from the state government to increase rates by another 7.5 per cent in 2011/12 and again in 2012/13, as a result of a seven-year rate plan approved by the state government three years ago.

Minimum rise 7.7 per cent

Taking sewerage and water charges into the equation the minimum rate rises by 7.7 per cent to \$1,716.45, with the shire's 8,280 pensioners eligible for a \$425 rebate.

The draft budget was put to councillors at their meeting on Tuesday night and will go out for public consultation tomorrow (Friday). Residents have 28 days to submit their comments before the draft comes back to councillors at their meeting on June 15.

While there are some highlights in the budget, including \$1 million for redevelopment of the Murwillumbah Community Centre, nearly \$4 million for the Jack Evans Boat Harbour and \$2.49 million for regional sports

facilities at Arkinstall Park, Tweed Heads, one of the biggest losers is the environment.

Only \$668,000 has been allocated to environmental projects, such as \$100,000 for a review of the Tweed Coast estuary management plan and \$498,000 for a Tweed/Byron bush futures program.

In contrast, the big winner from the draft budget is an upgrade of the Banora Point sewage treatment plant, where the cost has soared from \$2.6 million to \$28 million, with an additional \$14.9 million already pencilled in for 2011/2012.

Charges for the shire's recently introduced 'two-bin' refuse collection service are also revealed in the fine print.

While there are small falls in domestic waste service and waste management, the 'waste minimisation and recycling' charge soars 46 per cent to \$60.30 per annum. Council explains this by noting the money will help towards a new recycling facility, without specifying when this will come on stream. Overall, getting rid of your waste will cost an extra 7.3 per cent or \$14 a year, or more if you have a 240-litre bin.

There is a consolation for those living alone, with an 80-litre bin due to be introduced from July 1.

If you have a green bin look to pay \$50 a year, up from \$30.

During Tuesday night's debate on the draft plan council officers encouraged the public to contact them if they wanted to discuss in detail any part of the proposals.

continued on page 2



Recycling surfboards a swell idea

Surfriders Foundation Gold Coast-Tweed branch president Adam Feichtmann, front, and Chris Payne, president of Kirra Boardriders, background, at Currumbin Alley where the board swap will take place. Photo Jeff 'Bored' Dawson

Tania Phillips

They say one man's trash is another man's treasure and the Gold Coast-Tweed Branch of the Surfriders Foundation believe that extends to surfboards too.

Branch president Adam Feichtmann has come up with the concept of 'boardswapping' based on an idea from his native country.

The southern Californian-born surf activist is encouraging all surfers across the Tweed-Gold Coast region to come along to Currumbin Alley on Saturday, May 1 with any old boards they don't want and swap them with their mates.

Surfrider Foundation is a not for profit organisation dedicated to the

protection and enjoyment of the world's oceans, waves, and beaches for all people, through Conservation, Activism, Research and Education (CARE)

Adam said the event, from 9am to midday, aims to 'highlight the beauty of reducing, re-using, and recycling surfboards in a city obsessed with the consumption of new surfboards.'

'I heard of a similar event in the US six months ago and thought it was a great idea. The idea is simple, if someone has an old board sitting in the house that they are not using they can bring it along and swap it with someone else!'

He said the aim was to help conserve resources and reduce landfill

(where old boards may have ended up).

The board swap isn't restricted to one type of board, with surfers being encouraged to bring along short and long-boards of all types and ages.

Surfers just need to come along and register on the day and they will then be talked through the process and at the end they will have a new board without spending hundreds of dollars or adding to pollution, waste or landfill.

Adam, who ironically sold all his old boards at a garage sale before he moved back out to Australia several months ago, said there had already been a lot of interest in the event from surfers along the Tweed and Gold Coast.

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Chippie off the old block wins award

Tania Phillips

Cabarita carpenter Kelvin Wilson is no fool, but the joke was on him when he was named NSW Carpenter of the Year last week.

Kelvin, 53 (pictured right), received the award as part of National Carpenters Day, beating 'chippies' from all over the state to the coveted title and has vowed his new 'too good to use' Titanium hammer would be going 'straight to the pool-room'.

However, he admitted he was a 'bit bamboozled' when he was rung up on April 1 and told about his win.

The National Carpenters Day recognises the work of carpenters in building Australian houses and is promoted by Forest and Wood Products Australia. State winners were awarded across the country, with the national award winner this year being Tasmanian Ty Turner.

The judges were impressed that Kelvin was nominated by a customer who later became a friend through continued great work.

The humble but laconic father of three said he had been told that a client-turned friend had nominated him for 'some award' but thought no more about it.



'So when I got a phone call on April Fools Day I thought it was a bit bizarre.'

Thinking that he had been set up he got a mate to Google National Carpenters Day and there it was!

'It was hilarious, I was a bit stunned,' he said.

Kelvin, originally from Cronulla in Sydney, said he became a carpenter at 16 when his builder father, who had taken his older brother on as

an apprentice already, arranged for him to be apprenticed to a mate in the joinery trade.

'There were no joinery courses at that stage so I had to do a carpentry apprenticeship, it made it hard at TAFE, I was working on aluminium window frames, I never saw wood.'

All that changed when he finished his apprenticeship and decided, with the help of his father, to build his own house. The family moved to Grafton and built a house on a farm there before moving to Cabarita 20-odd years ago where he has been building a house ever since.

Kelvin, who dedicated the award to his late father, has two sons in the trade now, with youngest Nathan and oldest Daniel both joining the industry. Ironically middle son Christopher 'Chippa' Wilson is the only non-chippie, becoming a successful sponsored surfer instead.

No further LEP extension allowed

Consultation on the controversial draft LEP will close at the end of the month, despite a last-minute effort to have it extended.

Crs Katie Milne and Barry Longland tried to have the period prolonged by another four weeks but were voted down at Tuesday's council meeting.

General manager Mike Rayner urged councillors not to further delay the process, saying it was important for council to begin the process of putting together a response to the state government.

Cr Milne initially asked for a further two-month extension, arguing she was concerned about some major issues and wanted clarification on a number of points she didn't understand.

This provoked an angry response from Councillor Phil Youngblutt, who told Cr Milne he 'wouldn't waste his time' trying to explain anything to

you'. He said the consultation process had already been extended by a month and 'people have had plenty of time'.

Mayor Warren Polglase advised the public to contact the council if they wanted clarification on the draft.

'Our officers are willing to discuss this with the community, it is an offer we have made to all 90,000 people in the shire,' he said.

■ See Editorial, page 6

Uki phone tower gets the green light

Tweed Shire councillors on Tuesday approved a controversial 30-metre mobile phone tower for the outskirts of Uki despite concern by three councillors that Optus had not properly consulted with the community.

Cr Dot Holdom, who led the push to approve the tower, said she 'recognised and appreciated' there was 'a fair bit of angst' in Uki over the tower but she felt it was the right location for the tower and had 'held back' to gauge the views of other councillors.

Uki-based Cr Barry Longland said council had dealt

with the issue several times asking Optus to find another site, but Optus had ignored the request and an approval would send a signal to proponents that they could ignore council resolutions.

Crs Longland, van Lieshout and Katie Milne opposed the move, with Cr Joan van Lieshout saying Optus had refused to consult properly with the community and shown no respect as a result.

Staff placed 31 conditions on the tower, including that it be painted 'mist green to blend in with the its surroundings'.

Tree-clearing fine revoked in close vote

Richard Johns

Gales Holdings can breathe a sigh of relief. A \$3,000 penalty due to be imposed by the council for allegedly cutting down trees on land it owns at Chinderah has been revoked, thanks to the combined efforts of Crs Warren Polglase, Phil Youngblutt and Joan van Lieshout.

At Tuesday's council meeting, the trio put up a rescission motion to overturn a decision made at last month's meeting that the company, connected to the Segal family which has been pushing for years to develop the site, be fined.

Cr Kevin Skinner voted with them to ensure Gales escaped the penalty.

Cr van Lieshout said that since the last council meeting, 'I had community consultation and I was convinced this was the result of a storm.'

Cr Dot Holdom suggested Cr van Lieshout was acting against the advice of council staff who felt the action had

been deliberate.

There was also mention of a letter sent to the general manager, Mike Rayner, about this matter, but no further comment was made.

Voting against the reversal were Crs Milne, Holdom and Longland.

Rate rise on the way (from page 1)

Councillor Katie Milne tried unsuccessfully to seek support for a public meeting at which the program could be outlined and discussed.

According to officers the draft budget provides a capital works expenditure of \$72 million 'that will support growth and community needs'.

This can be set against the modest rise in the budget for an improvement in youth services, from \$65,995 to \$89,816, while the youth activities program is cut to zero from just \$12,500. In addition, the budget for 'youth strategy implementation' goes from \$500,000 to nothing.

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Pipeline option on the cards

Richard Johns

Tweed Shire Council and the Queensland government have held talks over a possible future link with the southeast Queensland water grid at Tugun.

A pipeline linkup to the Gold Coast water grid is a third, officially-preferred, option being considered by council in its efforts to secure water supply for an expected doubling of the region's population by 2036.

But such a scenario is doomed because of a lack of political will and interstate legislative hurdles. Even the Community Working Group (CWG) on water considered this option a 'pipedream', considering cross-border political and legislative hurdles would have to be overcome first.

However, a council spokeswoman told *The Echo* this week that 'preliminary discussions have been held with Queensland state government officials to discuss technical aspects of the proposed connection and supply arrangements.'

Furthermore, in notes appended to the CWG report and dated February 2010, the council stated in a response to a question that three potential routes had been identified to link with the SE Queensland grid 'and are being considered for comparison purposes to determine a preferred option. If this option were to become the

preferred option, further investigation would be required to identify the actual pipeline and the conditions of supply from SE Queensland.

Council officers warned major issues before any connection went ahead were 'legislative and political'.

Neighbouring Queensland has also given thought to the

governmental agreements.

Unlike regional NSW, the Queensland government has been pouring billions of dollars into trying to achieve water supplies for the future. Controversially, it has also built a desalination plant at Tugun, which is still not functioning properly, is yet to come fully on stream and has blown its budget.

Drought link for Qld possible

In a Queensland government report dated April 2009 titled *Drought Management Strategy*, the option preferred if the Clarrie Hall Dam reached a critical level would be 'to provide a pipeline link between the SEQ water grid and Coolangatta'.

The report, prepared by MHW Global, a US multinational corporation with an office in Brisbane, notes the timing of such a link 'is currently being investigated, however, it may not be avail-

able until after the construction of the Traveston Dam, programmed for 2012'. It then states that 'prior to that date, the most practical approach would be to utilise temporary desalination units located at acceptable points in the shire'.

In 1987, an expensive pipeline was built to link the Tweed's water supply to the Gold Coast which was in drought at the time, but it was dug up soon after completion because it was inadequate to cope with the water pressure.

possibility of 'exporting' water, observing in a recent report on water strategy that 'a substantial amount of work is required to prepare a policy framework that would govern supplies from the SEQ Water Grid to rural irrigators and urban areas outside the SEQ region, including economic and operational principles, standard contractual provisions and even possible inter-

Environmentalists consider desalination to contribute greatly to carbon gas emissions, while being economically unattractive.

Nevertheless, the Queensland government has estimated supply capacity from the plant at 45,600 megalitres (ML) per annum, with the potential to increase to 62,000ML a year.

continued on page 4



Elders day a winner

Well-known longtime Uki locals and 'elders' in their own right, (l-r) Bob Bale, Ron Cox and Bruce Ray (drummer Ray Hunter behind them) kept the crowd at the Uki Buttery markets last Sunday entertained with their band Apple Jack's own cheeky brand of country music. Photo Luis Feliu

Hundreds of people attended the second annual Honouring Our Elders celebration day put on by the Ukiopia Arts Collective at the Uki markets last Sunday.

Locals celebrated, nurtured and listened to the older generation of their community, their 'elders', who were treated to free massages, advice and other healing treatments. The elders also sat and shared stories of the past.

The event also marked

the beginning for the latest community art project, part funded by Regional Arts NSW called 'Storytelling totem poles', which gives every person in the community the chance to create a large bead carved with a story of their life or connection to community.

The beads will then become part of large totem poles which will be unveiled at the Ukiopia festival in November this year.

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Advice from the Chief Product Tester



Dear Product Tester, I was at the pub the other night and some blokes reckon you couldn't possibly test your products.

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Andy.

Dear Andy,

As you may have noticed we've recently been away for a couple of weeks. Some might think we've been relaxing by some pool sipping pina-colodas at some fancy resort. But not us. We've been hard at work keeping on top of our game.

Products tested: • Toyota Landcruiser 80 series – an oldie but a goody! Blows a little black smoke but never missed a beat. (Tested that for Hayes Toyota) • Oz Trail Camper 8 – a home away from home, after a couple of domestics, we can now put it up in about 20 mins • Hike boots (note to self, need new boots) and as luck would have it, I know where I can buy some good hiking boots • Hiking pole – really good when you've got jelly legs coming down a steep hill at the end of a 20km hike • Tent heater – never go to the Snowy Mountains without one.

There you have it Andy, always hard at work I am, even at night I was busy testing my sleeping bag.

Got to go Andy, I think I need to go test an esky.

Cheers mate, Tony.

For **genuine** advice on a great range of adventure gear for campers, hikers and travellers see



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Council asks government for changes to draft water plan

Tweed Shire Council has confirmed it asked the NSW Office of Water to change a draft plan in order to permit a controversial option for a new dam at Byrrill Creek as well as a pipeline to the Gold Coast as part of its future water supply strategy.

At its meeting on Tuesday this week, council tabled a report asking that the draft Water Sharing Plan be amended to permit the option of a future dam for town water supply at Byrrill Creek.

In its submission to the NSW Office of Water, council staff also asked for a further change to the government's draft plan allowing the transfer of water between NSW and Queensland.

Council's director of community and natural resources, David Oxenham, told councillors that the draft water sharing plan had been on the books of the Office of Water for a number of years, with clauses relating to the potential prohibition of the dam and pipeline.

Mr Oxenham said the dam option ensured the shire's current water supply yield was 'protected'.

Cr Kevin Skinner said the



Council's director of community and natural resources, David Oxenham.

dam and pipeline options should be left open in order to 'protect the ability to extend our water supply if necessary' and that land had been bought for the dam over a number of years.

'It's common sense to hold our options open, this water

sharing plan does that. The desalination plant at Tugun is expected to be tripled in future and to close the door on an opportunity to share with that water is the nail in the coffin for an option that is absolutely essential to go forward,' Cr Skinner said.

Free fun day at farmstay

Tania Phillips

When Jenny Parratt attended a family fun day on Anzac day in Sydney back in 1985, little did she know that she would be helping to plan a similar event here in the Tweed Valley a couple of decades later.

Last year, sensing a need for a similar event, Jenny approached friend Alex Reynolds, from Hosanna Farmstay at Stokers Siding, about running the Tweed Valley Family Fun Day, after the main Anzac Day march in Murwillumbah.

The inaugural event attracted an amazing number of people and organisers believe this Sunday's event, from around midday to 4pm, could be even bigger.

Big turnout expected

'Last year we expected 200 and had 700, this year the council (who handled the DA for the event) are predicting those numbers may double,' Jenny said.

She said the aim, as with the annual Fusion-organised Sydney event which attracts more than 30,000 people, was to provide wholesome fun for young families on Anzac Day.

The day, she said, was endorsed by the local churches of the Tweed and in collaboration with the Murwillumbah Services Club, as a 'gift to the local community'.

'Our focus is wholesome entertainment for young families as well as activities aimed at teenagers and young adults, it also offers a creative chan-

nel for our youth to spend the afternoon.'

The free event (food and drink is the only thing not supplied free) will be held from midday to 4pm.

'The fun day will take the form of a fair with volunteers from churches and community groups, taking on a variety of interactive stalls,' she said.

Activities will include parachute raising, jumping castles, life-sized Tangram solving, a craft tent, stilt walking, storytelling tent, damper at the camp fire, face-painting, woodwork, farm tours and origami.

Pipeline option on the cards

from page 3

It is also looking at options for further plants elsewhere in southeast Queensland, including Bribie Island, and North and South Stradbroke Islands.

Tweed has ruled out this option as being too expensive. The water grid, though, allows the vital resource to be pumped to where it is most needed in the southeast region, 'allowing risk to be managed at a regional level rather than on an individual water storage or water supply basis.'

Many CWG members agreed a link to the grid was off the radar. Typical of the response was that of Richard Murray, of the Tweed Heads Environment Group, who described it as a 'pipedream,' quoting a media report at the time.

Colleen Edwards warned that in time of drought 'it may not function.'

Only Robyn Lemaire, president of Murwillumbah Ratepayers' Association, conceded there was anything positive in the option, noting it had a low environmental impact, would be 'cheap, a quick fix' and prevent construction of a new dam.

A link to the Tugun plant would require 7km of pipeline at 50cm diameter being laid through the Cobaki Lakes development. It could provide 7500ML of water a year. The cost of construction has been estimated at \$9 million with the shire charged \$2 per kilolitre of water supplied. Annual operating costs are estimated at just \$57,000.

The effect of climate change has also been analysed by southeast Queensland, which has 'assumed a 10 per cent decrease in the yield from dams and weirs.'

ANZAC Day services around the shire

Hundreds of people are expected to take part in Anzac Day services throughout Tweed this Sunday. The following are the official functions.

Burringbar: Assemble at the Old Bakery at 8.45am for the march to the memorial service beginning at 9am.

Kingscliff: Dawn service at the Cudgen War Memorial. Form up at 4.10am, service at 4.28am. Main service, assemble 10am at Turnock Street and Marine Parade. March off at 10.30am for 11am service at the memorial.

Murwillumbah: Dawn service, assemble at Westpac Bank at 5.10am for march off at 5.20am to cenotaph. Service begins at 5.30am. Breakfast for participants after at Murwillumbah Services Club, \$5 per adult for others. For main service, marchers assemble Brisbane Street. Schools and other organisations assemble Main Street opp. PO at 10.10am.

March off at 10.30am for cenotaph service at 10.45am. Transport available for non-marchers at assembly area.

Pottsville: Assemble at 7.30am at Pottsville Oval. March off at 7.45am. Service 8am at community hall.

Tumbulgum: Dawn service at memorial gates. Assemble 4.15am.

Tweed Heads-Coolangatta: Assemble at war memorial in Chris Cunningham Park at 5.45am, march off at 5.50am. Followed by service and breakfast, \$5 per head at Twin Towns Services Club. Main march, assemble Goodwin Park, Coolangatta, at 10am. March off at 10.30am to memorial at Chris Cunningham Park, Tweed Heads. Service starts 11am.

Tyalgum: Dawn service at memorial 5.15am.

Uki: Dawn service at war memorial. Assemble 4.15am. Breakfast in the hall after the service.

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LEPs and IOUs

There can only be one reason why the state government is foisting on all regional NSW shires a 'template' planning blueprint for their local environment plans (LEP), and that is to smooth the way for developers faced with increasing environmental or social obstacles to their demands for more land to build on.

There's been a worrying trend in the past few years under the unpopular state government where developers seem to get what they want and local communities are shut out of the planning process. The state government calls this planning 'reform' but it's really about making life a lot easier for the development industry, in which huge profits are to be made.

The suspicion in all this is that the hundreds of thousands of dollars 'donated' to political parties (with of course more lucre for the incumbent) by the developers over the years are now returning a dividend to them. Such donations by their very existence leads to a climate conducive to corruption, as the old saying goes.

The Greens have always called for a ban on these donations because of their corrosive influence, but Labor, the Libs and the Nats are happy to take the money, and we have to ask if all these changes are their payback.

For starters, the Part 3A legislation which gives the planning minister power to determine major developments has been used to pass some very controversial projects and removes local input or comment. The state-appointed regional planning panels which the government created last year to provide a handy consent authority for developers with projects over \$10 million (amazing, how many projects now just exceed that figure) also flatly ignore the wishes of local communities. Then again last year the developer lobby group got its way in reducing developer contributions to a cap of \$20,000 per dwelling, which is simply not enough to meet the increasing and ongoing infrastructure demands created by the new development.

Now communities across the state have to contend with standardised LEPs, which contain a common set of legal provisions, zones and definitions. Already the draft Tweed LEP has come under severe criticism from professional planners, environmental and ratepayer groups, and for good reason. Environmental protection areas will be dramatically cut and remaining farmland would be under pressure to be cut up for more development as a result. High-rise buildings over and above height limits agreed on after years of community consultation could also be approved, setting the scene for Tweed Heads to become a southern limb of the high-density Gold Coast, and the rural charm of villages to be destroyed with proposed increases to height limits in the outlying areas.

Tweed Heads ratepayers have already pointed out glaring problems with the plan for the CBD there, with no provision for car parking and inadequate public transport planning (no bus interchanges or light rail corridor, etc). The local environmental lobby says the plan is a step back to the bad old 1980s where developers ruled and the environment to them was simply a bushfire hazard to be cut down.

In other words, the draft LEP is a recipe for disaster and every ratepayer with an interest in the healthy future of the shire should put pen to paper and object to the proposals. This is crucial given the complaint by a former councillor this week that council planning staff are discouraging people from making submissions on public interest matters, instead urging them to concentrate only on how the document affects their property directly.

This alone would have been a good reason to extend the public exhibition period for much longer so as many ratepayers as possible could be fully informed on how the plan not only affects them but the shire in general. A majority of councillors refused to extend the exhibition period, so submissions have to be in by the end of this month. Start with the draft at www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/PlanDevBuild/LEP/DraftTweedLEP.aspx.

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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Archaic states dig in their heels

The Great Health and Hospitals War has, on the whole, been a pretty unedifying affair. But it has had one useful outcome: even the staunchest conservatives are now having second thoughts about the wisdom of our founding fathers in reserving so much power for the states.

Historically, this was hardly surprising, since those same founding fathers were originally all colonial politicians; considerably more hirsute than the present lot, but equally dependent on the support of their local constituencies, who were just as parochial as today's state of origin crowds.

So when it came to drawing up plans for federation, the key question was not how much power the commonwealth government would need to function effectively, but how much the states could retain for their own administrations. Defence and what was then called External Affairs had to be ceded to the central government, but that hardly mattered because Australia's foreign interests were then seen to be identical with those of Great Britain, so Whitehall was really calling the shots anyway.

The free traders won a few concessions which gave the commonwealth the customs service and limited jurisdiction over shipping and railways, but that was about it; the states were left with health, education, law and order, most transport, ports and harbours and anything else that wasn't specifically handed over. And of course they have their own parliaments and their own law courts - just about all the apparatus of a real nation except an army and navy, although there have been times when their police forces seemed to be filling almost that role.

But just what are these bloated and self-important entities, anyway? They are the former

colonies whose territories were determined originally by bored British civil servants drawing lines on inaccurate maps of places that they had never seen. In most cases the boundaries are purely arbitrary; even in the rare cases when they are based on geography (the Tweed and Murray rivers) they have absolutely nothing to do with the economies of the regions, let alone the popular culture.

The anomalies are both obvi-

rights; but they are also the first and loudest to complain about the waste, duplication and inefficiencies the system generates.

And indeed it was the conservatives who were the most consistent advocates of a national schools curriculum, even if some of them don't like the version which actually emerged. During the Howard years there was an attempt to wrest water management from the states and Tony Abbott, as Health

left Labor in power in both.

In South Australia Mike Rann ended up losing the popular vote, but Labor's concentration on the marginal seats left him with a workable majority in parliament. In Tasmania the Hare-Clark system, as forecast, delivered a hung parliament of ten Labor, ten Liberal and five Green, and the Labor premier David Bartlett, true to his word, recommended that governor Peter Underwood commission the Liberal leader Peter Hodgman to form a government; the Libs had polled more votes than Labor, and this was seen as the tie-breaker. But Underwood was unconvinced: his own sources told him that the Greens were more likely to provide stability for a Labor administration than for a conservative one, and this was eventually confirmed by the Greens leader Nick McKim. So Underwood followed convention and left the existing government in place; Bartlett had greatness thrust back upon him and started haggling with McKim.

The upshot is that Labor dominance across the map of Australia is unchanged: Western Australia's Colin Barnett remained the sole Liberal premier or chief minister, with the other five states and both territories held by Labor. The hold is, of course, not secure; much of John Brumby's blustering about hospitals and the GST can be put down to his belief that a bit of good old-fashioned Canberra bashing will help at a tight election later this year, and Kristina Keneally, while personally popular, heads an apparently doomed administration in New South Wales.

But the Labor hegemony has proved unusually stable. Given the mediocrity or worse of most of its ministers in the states and territories, this provides yet another reason to take a good hard look at the present structure.

They are the former colonies whose territories were determined originally by bored British civil servants drawing lines on inaccurate maps....

by Mungo MacCallum



ous and absurd: the people of far western New South Wales, for instance, have adopted the time zone of South Australia and the ongoing disputes over daylight saving meant businesses on either side of the Queensland-New South Wales border have made similarly confusing adjustments in summer. It is obvious that the residents of, say, Tweed Heads have more in common with those of the Gold Coast than with those of distant Broken Hill, but the state lines recognise no such reality. And until the 1950s passengers between Australia's two largest cities, Sydney and Melbourne, had to change trains at Albury because each of the states had its own jealously guarded railway gauge.

The situation is beyond the ridiculous, and the High Court - a Commonwealth institution - has recognised the fact by slowly but consistently eroding state powers as far as the constitution can be stretched. This move towards centralism has been resisted by the conservatives, who bleat about states

Minister, canvassed the idea of a total commonwealth takeover of the hospital system. So with both sides of politics moving in the same direction, perhaps it is time for another look at the tin full of worms which is our federal system.

Certainly the public is ready for it; study after study has found an overwhelming view that we are over-governed, with the states considered the least efficient and most dispensable of the three spheres. The replacement of both states and local councils by a system of regional governments based on commonality of interest and need was first proposed forty years ago by Gough Whitlam; the obstacles to its actual implementation remain immense, but perhaps - just perhaps - it is finally time.

And speaking of the states, aren't the Labor dominoes proving hard to topple? To the surprise of many commentators and the fury of Liberal Party, the washup from the two state elections held last month has

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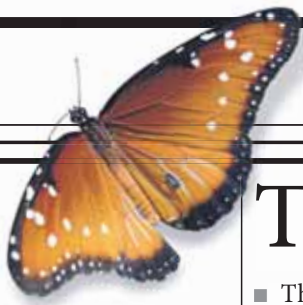
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Deadline: Noon, Tuesday

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

Persecuted Christians

I noticed that your slogan is 'The job of a newspaper is to comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable.' Believe me, Christians in today's society are the afflicted ones.

The basis our society is based on the Judeo-Christian ethics as written in the 10 Commandments and Christ's Sermon on the Mount. This has worked well to establish a civilised society. The self-centeredness of the individual has always been at odds with this ideal. However, over the centuries many individuals have sacrificed their whole lives to achieve this goal.

I refer to people like Sir Robert Peel, who laid the foundation for our modern police force; William Wilberforce, who fought a gallant battle against greed and self interest to have slavery abolished; Florence Nightingale and her little band of women, who lifted the nursing of the wounded out of the hands of gin-swilling prostitutes to the respected profession that it is today, thus establishing our modern hospital system.

The Union movement was also started by Christian men who became appalled by the working conditions in the 19th century and fought for justice for the working man. Christians started the first Sunday schools to teach poor children who worked during the week to read and write, thus establishing the basis for the education system of today.

These were people who believed in God and put Christian principles into action and the whole of our society has benefited by their actions. We only have to look at the societies around the world who have not had the benefit of the Judeo-Christian heritage.

Yet here in the society which has most benefited by this we find Christian leaders pilloried and belittled simply because they wish to give our young people *choice* in whether to believe in God or not. How can our young people make an informed choice unless they know and understand their options?

Since 2001 there has been an aggressive campaign with unlimited funding to indoctrinate our young people in the 'molecules to man evolution'. Any attempt to put another point of view for which there is ample scientific evidence totally unrelated to Christian beliefs is put to ridicule as being a 'religious' point of view and not worthy of consideration.

I would like to know *why*? Are we or are we not a *free* society?

G Thomson
Pottsville

Koala smokescreen

Dear John Fihelly of Kingscliff, re your letter in last week's *Echo* regarding Kings Forest. Great letter. You're right, it's about time someone spoke up about this koala smokescreen that is preventing a thorough discussion of the proposed Kings Forest project.

What right do koalas have to live in and around a nature reserve specifically dedicated to their protection? And what about the 30 or so other threatened and vulnerable flora and fauna species that call the Cudgen nature reserve and its surrounds home. They should all just bugger off to the nearest national park as well before they get eaten by a cat or a dog, run over by a car, cut down or smothered with noxious weeds.

The state-protected, state-significant wetlands, well they will be ok because the developer said he will protect them, so that's fine, we should trust him. Cudgen Creek and Cudgen Lake, they will also be fine, pollution won't get into those waterways, the developer said so.

I've also flown over Kings Forest, John, and also had the audacity to walk around in there once or twice. There's no forest, you're right again, it's just sand. Pure white, Pleistocene sand, 10,000 years old supporting one of the region's most floristically diverse flora communities in Wallum Heath. Well it did, before it got bulldozed last year, so that's ok as well. Apparently it is also home to numerous culturally significant Aboriginal heritage sites with artifacts possibly as old as 10,000 years old but we really shouldn't be too concerned about that either, should we? Just dig that all up, move it around and build over it.

All in all it sounds like the perfect place to let a developer run wild instead, and at the same time double the Tweed Coast's population in one hit, change a way of life and culture forever, destroy the region's biodiversity linkages and add enormous pressure to the Tweed's already struggling infrastructure. It's such a good idea and it's good to get the whole koala thing out in the open isn't it? Anyway, if it doesn't go ahead, you can move back to the Gold Coast. Just consider it like a big national park for members of our species within your classification - blinkered and ignorant.

Christian Ellis
Bogangar

No intelligence wanted

Thanks for the online *Echo*. Those who live interstate are very appreciative as they can keep an eye on an area they

The great water options sham

■ The correspondence and criticism, to this and other local publications, highlights just what a sham the Tweed Shire Council's Water Augmentation Community Consultative process was from the very start.

The fact is that only one of the four options to be considered by the working group was legal, that being the raising the wall at Clarrie Hall Dam. So the community via the working group had zero chance of deciding any outcome other than the decision they have taken.

I commend their commitment to force the Water Unit and council to re-examine other avenues.

It was of little surprise to see the working group members who declined to vote with the majority on this matter. Wouldn't want to upset the Grand Poobah, would we?

The deceitful manner in which Council has managed this process needs further investigation. Who in council or the Water Unit orchestrated this well planned and dubious strategy to convince the community they were actually playing a role in the decision making process?

Why has the Water Unit

ignored any current, forward thinking and sustainable outcomes in all of this?

All they seem capable of serving up is the same old tired crap. Environmental priorities as usual are always well down the list. Their bottom line is always the mighty dollar, regardless. Remembering we now have a \$100 million water treatment plant to pay for, it's important to note the sale of water makes up the majority of the financial pie that sees Tweed Council go about its day-to-day business. Council relies on those little cash registers (water meters) in everyone's front yard to keep ticking over. Without that, the incompetent fat cats in council will wither and perish and, god forbid, may have to get a real job.

Council's call to reduce consumption and conserve a drip of your daily consumption is also laughable. Are they not in the process themselves of ensuring an extra 70,000 residents move to the region in the next few years? That is another 20,000 water meters. They have struck gold, and are infected with the accompanying fever.

Any small reduction in water rates revenue by a lower consumption by the community in the short term, is more than corrected by increases in the cost to the consumer. Council has its cake, and shovels as much into its mouth as it possibly can.

The present Tweed Shire Council and senior management, including the Water Unit, have a duty and obligation to serve this community in a transparent and honest manner. Yet the deceit and contempt they shower the region with is ongoing and should be condemned.

Paul D Taylor
Murwillumbah

■ Tweed Council has no plans to re-examine water re-use before it pushes ahead with two expensive dam options.

Among the five major development areas, Tweed Council and government's current plans for Cobaki Lakes and Kings Forest do not display any attitudinal and behavioural shift towards using alternative water sources (ie. bulk stormwater harvesting, grey water re-use and on-site recycled water).

Tweed Shire Council cur-

rently uses less than five per cent of reclaimed water from nearby sewage treatment plants, preferring to pollute the Tweed River and Terranora Inlet. If council maintains its present re-use policy, more than 9,514,820 kilolitres will be wasted to the Terranora Inlet by 2031. This quantity almost totals Tweed's current water production. In the neighbouring Pimpama-Coomera redevelopment area the developers of the above Tweed developments would be required by Gold Coast City to use all three water re-use programs.

Council's present policy has done little to slow the drive towards more intensive and unsustainable developments and even higher levels of water use. Council's current policy seems unlikely to protect long-term social or environmental interests.

Our community needs to renew pressure on council to re-examine water re-use programs by lodging submissions to council's 2009 Demand Management Strategy due to close on April 30, 2010.

Richard W Murray

Tweed Heads Environment Group

Marine parks, beaches and 4WDs

■ Caroline Cranwell's statement, 'Creating more marine reserves just shuts out the amateur fisherman who is trying to provide his family with fresh fish...' (Letters, April 15) is a misunderstanding of the reason for marine parks.

Solomon Islanders before European settlement had taboo fishing areas because they knew areas of high marine activity were breeding sites and needed to be protected from fishing in order that there might be plentiful supplies of fish outside these areas.

Marine parks serve a similar purpose to the Solomon taboo areas, and are intended to build up fish supplies, thus aiding the amateur fisherman to supply his family with fish.

I remember a time as a boy prawning by gas light in ocean lagoon shallows in the

really care about. I've just had a very disturbing conversation with a recruitment officer in Tweed Heads who has, in the course of the chat, said that there are - and I quote - 'no jobs available for intelligent and skilled people in the Tweed Shire.'

Given that the emphasis up here seems to be on construction at whatever cost to the community, this would seem more than unfortunate. Clearly there are a large number of intelligent people who live in the Tweed Shire, presumably operating their own businesses (such as *The Echo!*). They all apparently voted for Cr Milne. In

1950s. We netted the lot. No one cautioned that we might make them extinct. If a prawn escaped, we were exhorted to get it. We were white people and we believed in 'maximising the resource.'

That greed led to the depletion of fish stocks, but has finally caused us to wake up to the need for marine parks.

Geoff Dawe
Uki

■ Having read the editorial (April 8) and the letters (April 15) objecting to 4WD recreational fishermen using Tweed beaches, may I be allowed to comment on what I consider to be the most unjustified, biased and ill-informed rubbish I have read.

I have lived on the Tweed almost 80 years. Many old timers spoke of seeing turtles swim-

ming off Tweed coastal headlands, but not Tweed beaches, the possible reason being from Cudgen Headlands to Bogangar the whole area was covered in heavy scrub. Timber out of the scrub was milled at the long-gone sawmill just east of the old Cudgen Creek bridge. From the scrub to the beach was a drop of anything up to 12 feet, no doubt turtles would have had problems climbing those banks.

The dunes we now have are courtesy of sand mining. Before dredges two mining companies hauled mineral by trucks along the beach during low tides, working around the clock. At one stage there were 90 trucks a day working, most were contractors, returning empty at speeds up to 70mph (not kph). I know, I drove one of them. As the tide rose the

beach resembled a ploughed field, and at the next low tide the beach was back to normal.

Take note, environmental objectors: through all this activity, pippies, ghost crabs and sea worms remained in abundance. Maybe the experts can enlighten us why pippies have disappeared from these beaches since developers moved in.

Perhaps it isn't 4WD recreational fishermen who are the problem, but the human element who treat the beach as their private property, along with their off-leash dogs causing the loss of species.

But don't worry, objectors, you win, the people in power will appease you, they need your votes, the rights of ordinary Australians don't count, hence more fishing lockouts.

Carl Redman
Cudgen

Victoria there is a strong push at both levels of government to build sustainable and resilient communities. They've even set up an organisation called Sustainability Victoria, which I understand attracted more than 400 applications for one position.

Apparently the only people in the Tweed who are considered as 'successful' are those who build incredibly ugly developments, and import labour while claiming they are creating jobs for the locals. Melbourne inner city suburbs of Brunswick and Carlton, once crowded and full of cars, now provide green space, parks, quiet neighbour-

hoods and traffic diversions. Huge numbers of people ride bikes (much to the chagrin of the car hooners), and a bike-sharing program is being set up in Melbourne.

In Tasmania there has been a growing focus on the food industry, something it would seem that the Tweed is in a perfect position to emulate. What a shame that there is apparently no room for intelligent people to be employed in the Tweed, and the council is heading in the direction of the mind-destroying Gold Coast. Why on earth is the focus by council on greed and speed, manipulation, bullying and corruption of decency allowed to continue unabated?

Why is the Tweed hosting stupid events like the Repco rally, while Melbourne hosts a Sustainable Living Festival? How is it that our government systems have become so corrupted that this is now the norm, and consideration for others has gone? Does the level of intelligence among councillors reflect the intelligence of the community? Australia needs leadership in a redefinition of success and decency. I guess we shouldn't hold out any hope of that coming from the Tweed.

J Lucas

Narre Warren, Victoria



Long way to go on e-waste recycling

says Planet Ark's campaigns manager Brad Gray.

'It's really encouraging that most Australians recycle their paper and plastic packaging but when it comes to e-waste recycling we still have a long way to go.'

The research also revealed 14 per cent of people put their used printer cartridges in their council provided recycling bin.

'Printer cartridges are complex items which are unable to be recycled alongside everyday household waste,' says Gray. 'When we put the wrong items in a household recycling bin, we contaminate the entire contents of the bin and reduce the effectiveness of the whole recycling process.' Printer cartridges can easily be dropped off for recycling in 'Cartridges 4 Planet Ark' collection bins, located at participating Australia Post, Officeworks, Harvey Norman,

Dick Smith and Tandy outlets and now JB HI-FI and The Good Guys. The campaign has already recycled 12 million cartridges, giving new life to what would otherwise become complex waste.

'And with over 32,000 Australian businesses participating in the program, individuals who have a collection box in their workplace also have the option of recycling their household ink cartridges at work,' says Gray. 'We also encourage any business that uses more than three printer cartridges a month to register for a free workplace collection box.'

Printer cartridges collected through 'Cartridges 4 Planet Ark' are either returned to their original manufacturer for reuse, or recycled into new products by Planet Ark's resource recovery partner Close the Loop. 'Cartridges 4 Planet Ark' is an example of an

effective extended producer responsibility program with the participating manufacturers, Brother, Canon, Epson, Konica Minolta and Lexmark, taking end-of-life responsibility for the cartridges they produce. To find your nearest drop-off location, visit PlanetArk.org or call the 'Cartridges 4 Planet Ark' hotline on 1800 242 473.



This park bench is made from printer cartridges

New research reveals a startling gap in the waste recycling practices of Australian households. An independent study, conducted for Planet Ark by Pollinate, has found correct recycling practices for printer cartridges, mobile phones, computers and other electrical equipment, significantly lag behind those of paper, plastic bottles and aluminium cans.

'The research found more than 90 per cent of Australians correctly dispose of everyday household recyclables but when it comes to recycling e-waste (electronic waste) such as printer cartridges, almost 50 per cent of people are getting it wrong.'

Solar Energy, worth forgetting about

You don't drive a hybrid, you always forget the reusable grocery bags, and you hardly ever remember to switch the telly off at the wall.

Sometimes our good intentions are hard to put into action! But no matter how strong your current commitment to green living is,

making small changes to your home and lifestyle can make a big difference. And the best changes are those that can be implemented and forgotten – yet still remain effective. Like a brick in your toilet cistern, or a solar power system on your roof.

Protecting the planet for future generations should be a collective effort, and one way we can all help the environment is by replacing our current electricity supply with a sustainable alternative. Most electricity

in Australia still comes from the burning of non-renewable fossil fuel resources like oil and coal. This process releases CO₂ and other pollutants into the environment, and over time these emissions build up in the atmosphere and contribute heavily to greenhouse gases and global warming.

In comparison, solar is a plentiful, clean and green alternative energy source that doesn't cost a thing. Installing a solar power system cuts your dependency on traditional, environmentally unfriendly, energy sources and contributes to a cleaner environment for everyone. Installing solar is a great way to show your commitment to a greener future, and best of all it's a change that's easy to sustain - once your solar system is installed on your rooftop you can largely forget about it!

Beyond Building Energy, Australia's largest supplier, manufacturer and installer of solar equipment are working to make solar power a realistic option for all Aus-

trians. The BBE Eco Home Starter package, consisting of a 1.5kW system with a 2kW inverter, is suitable for families who want to reduce their grid electricity consumption. A larger 3kW Eco Power Pro system would allow most households to go energy neutral. BBE sales consultants can work with you to determine the best system for your solar needs, and offer competitive prices and payment options.

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If you'd like more information about this topic, or Beyond Building Energy, please email Catherine Montford on catherine.montford@beyondbuilding.com



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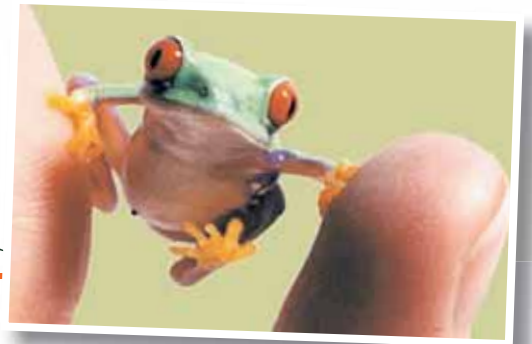
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seven

ALL YOUR LOCAL ENTERTAINMENT 7 DAYS A WEEK

tweed7

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ADRIAN KEYS AT THE CABARITA BEACH BAR ON SUNDAY APRIL 25

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Murwillumbah Race Day

Murwillumbah Race Day is a staple event in the Murwillumbah events calendar and it's on again this Sunday! The great day of family activity kicks off at 11.30am, and will feature jumping castles and kids-zones for the little ones. A shuttle bus will also be operating from the Services Club - check the club for details.

James T and the Tomahawks (ex Canned Heat member) will be part of the day's entertainment and of course there are the races - five in all. The first kicks off at 1.20pm. It's all happening at Racecourse Road, Murwillumbah, **Sunday April 25 from 11.30am.**

Ukitopia Arts Collective presents Songwriters on the song line

Instant atmosphere, transparent acoustics and a rapt audience in pews - concerts at the Uki Holy Trinity Church are fast acquiring a quality reputation. **Saturday April 24** sees the latest in the series of Ukitopia songwriter evenings. Wendy Grace is known locally for her uplifting singing workshops and original material - Luka Bloom is a fan. There is a justifiable buzz about Fiona Ryan. Stepping into a solo role after session work, the purity of her flute playing is outstanding. She also plays keyboards and has a set of dark, enigmatic songs to share in a debut solo show. Murray Kyle completes the bill with an hour long set alternat-

ing between guitar and keyboards, songs new and familiar. Murray's voice and songs are gradually gaining an international reputation. The evening will be stitched together by MC Loki, with audio ambience from Rich Bell. For audience comfort, tickets are strictly limited to 100. They are \$20 or \$15 for Ukitopia members and are available from the Uki Cafe and Crystal Treasures Murwillumbah. Doors open at 7.30pm, with chai and cakes available on the green outside before the show and during the interval. **April 24, Uki Holy Trinity Church.**

Tracey Hopewell

For over 23 years Tracey has been a professional, singer/performer and vocal teacher. For the last ten years she has been travelling and performing internationally throughout Australia and New Zealand, working with some of the entertainment industry's top names in both countries. She performs as a solo, duo and also has a full band, with a large repertoire which is constantly being updated on a weekly basis. Expect pop, rock, jazz, blues, country and soul. **Cudgen Leagues Club 7.30pm Friday.**

Smashed Crabs

Smashed Crabs are a five piece covers/originals band from the Gold Coast. Their influences include Sublime, Living End, Tool, Faith No More, Kings of Leon (early) and Queens of the Stone Age. **Coolagatta Sands Hotel, Sunday at 5pm.**

Adrian Keys

Adrian Keys is a solo perform-

er hailing from Perth. Originally classically trained, Adrian's style could be described as Xavier Rudd mixed with Johnny Cash and Ray Charles and a whole lot of reggae. Surrounded by a cocoon of musical instruments Adrian's performance is musically and visually captivating. Having captured the attention of audiences across WA, this ambitious musician will be touring nationally throughout 2010 with his EP release tour.

'Out of Wak'. Since then he has built a highly successful solo career, performing in clubs in Brisbane and the Sunshine Coast. In 2005, Rob received the 'Golden Service Award of the Year' at the Entertainment of the Year Awards for Clubs in south east Queensland.



WENDY GRACE AT SONGWRITERS ON THE SONGLINE, APRIL 24, UKI HOLY TRINITY CHURCH



BLUEJUICE APRIL 24, COOLANGATTA HOTEL. PIC BY DAN BOUD

Cabarita Beach Bar this Sunday from 2pm.

Robbie Rosenlund

Robbie Rosenlund is a self taught piano player and was born and bred in Brisbane. As Wickety Wak's keyboard player, and through his love for cartoon characters, his Kermit the Frog impersonation became one of the most requested segments of the show. After Wickety Wak, Rob joined forces with Peter and Pahnle in

In 2006, Rob received the 'Best Soloist Award' at the Entertainment of the Year Awards for Clubs in south east Queensland. See him at the **Kingscliff Beach Bowls Club, 12pm on Monday.**

The Vasco Era

Michael Fitzgerald (drums) and brothers Sid O'Neil (vocals, guitar, percussion) and Ted O'Neil (bass, backing vocals) were still in their teens when they formed **The Vasco Era** in the quiet coastal town of Apollo

Bay. The trio felt an instant musical and live chemistry spurring exciting local performances that were soon packed houses with the crowd feeling the dynamic intensity of their live shows. **Neverland Bar, Coolangatta, 9pm Thursday.**

Die! Die! Die!

Avant garde punk band **Die! Die! Die!** are putting the finishing touches to what will be their third, as yet titled, full-length record due out in Spring 2010. The new album boasts a

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Loren + Juzzie Smith
The SoundLounge
April 30

The Hoodoo Gurus
Twin Towns
April 30

Cotton Keays and Morris
Twin Towns
May 1

Tumbleweed
Coolangatta Hotel
May 1

Johnny Cash Tribute
Currumbin RSL
May 2

Music under the Stars
Sanctuary Cove, May 2

The Surfers Paradise Festival:
Launch It!
Surfers Paradise Esplanade
Sunday May 2

Stephen Fisher-King
Twin Towns
May 5

Spoon (USA)
Coolangatta Hotel
May 6

Marshall and the Fro
The Soundlounge
May 7

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Tweed River Art Gallery

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The 58th Blake Prize Touring Exhibition

Art and poetry exploring the religious and spiritual in art, presented by the Blake Society
The Dawn Language: Emma Walker
Paintings and works on paper that attempt to capture the atmosphere between dreaming and wakefulness

Mekong Drift: Karlee Rawkins and Marc Renshaw

Works that document and reflect a journey following the Mekong River through Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam

Landscape and Memory: David Kas

Drawings depicting mythical landscapes derived from experience and invention
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Sat 8 May 6pm 2010 Gallery Concert Series #3: Volteggiando Piano Duo featuring Maggie Chen and Vicky Yang - \$32 or Friends \$27. Contact Aleksandra: 6679 2244

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THE VASCO ERA
NEVERLAND BAR,
COOLANGATTA THURSDAY

guests The Holidays. April 24,
Coolangatta Hotel.

John Schumann

Best known, perhaps, for his leadership of the legendary folk-rock band Redgum, and his Vietnam veterans' anthem, 'I was only 19', **John Schumann** first came to national attention in 1980 as Redgum's lead singer-songwriter. In the ensuing years he recorded nine albums and, with Redgum, toured the UK, Europe and Ireland where his songs are still played. With 27 years in Australian music, John has received almost every award the industry has to offer – some twice over. **Twin Towns, April 24.**

art exhibitions

Local artist brings Tweed to life

The raw beauty of the Northern Rivers' countryside will be brought to life in a dynamic exhibition of new paintings by Pottsville artist **Maryanne Plenkovich**. The exhibition, entitled 'Out of My Garden', will be held at Kingscliff's **Mantra on Salt Beach** resort throughout the month of May. While some of Maryanne's paintings can be viewed in cafés and bars across the Tweed, the Salt exhibition marks the first major showing of the artist's paintings. 'I love to combine my love for art with my love for this beautiful region', Maryanne told the *Echo*. 'My work is all about bringing the outside in; I like to create a window to the outside world with the use of large-scale canvas mixed with the raw, organic colours of our beautiful natural countryside.'

Growing up in Lismore, the busy mother-of-three now lives at Koala Beach in Pottsville where she is kept on the go with plenty of private commissions for her paintings, which she often does in consultation with a property stylist. 'I like to focus on tropical succulents like bromeliads,

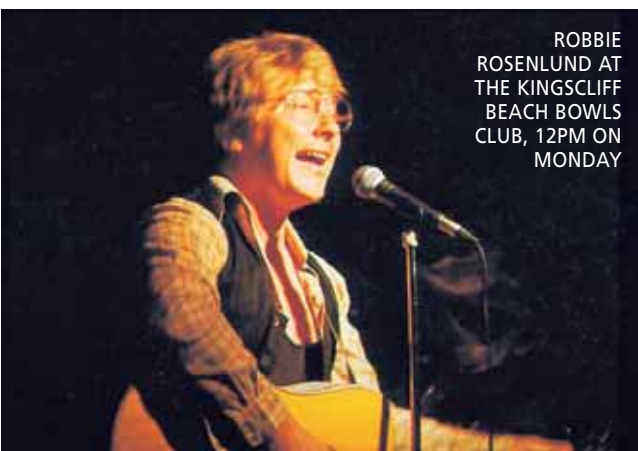
reckless, driven dynamic and sometimes menacing sound – the kind of energy-ridden anarchy of their debut record. This forthcoming album was recorded at Lab in Auckland and Chicks Hotel in Dunedin, New Zealand. **April 23, Coolangatta Hotel.**

Bluejuice

Bluejuice were so chuffed after reaching the coveted fifth spot in Triple Js Hottest 100 with their single *Broken Leg* that they're hitting the road on their huge 'Aint' telling the Truth' national tour. Playing with special



DAVID LADLEY SATURDAY MAY 1 UNTIL MAY 31.
CAFÉ D'BAR GALLERY



ROBBIE ROSENLUND AT THE KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS CLUB, 12PM ON MONDAY

MARYANNE PLENKOVICH'S EXHIBITION 'OUT OF MY GARDEN', MANTRA ON SALT BEACH RESORT



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CASUARINA	<p>Bamboo Restaurant & Lounge Bar Poolside at Santai Resort, 9 Dianella Drive, Casuarina 02 6670 5555</p> <p>Australian cuisine created by chef Greg Pieper. Greg uses produce sourced locally in the Tweed region and was awarded the prestigious 'chef's hat' – the toque – by the SMH Good Food Guide 2009/2010. Located at Casuarina, next to the spectacular lagoons and tropical gardens of Santai resort, Bamboo is a hidden treasure.</p>	<p>Nam Yeng Viet/Thai Restaurant Shop 2, 7 Wharf St, Murwillumbah Open 5pm 6 days (closed Sundays) Catering available BYO phone 6672 3088</p> <p>Only serving the freshest ingredients. Authentic Vietnamese and Thai style food in the heart of Murwillumbah. Winner of the 2009 BEX (Business Excellence Award). Prices are very reasonable, entrees start from \$8, mains from \$12.50. House speciality – Red Duck Curry, Tamarind Prawns and home made delicious desserts. For something different, try our Vietnamese coffee.</p>	MURWILLUMBAH
COOLANGATTA	<p>O-Sushi Coolangatta Showcase on the Beach 07 5536 5455 Byron Bay Woolies Plaza, Jonson St 02 6685 7103 www.osushi.com.au</p> <p>Winner of Best Sushi Bar in NSW region 2008. Eat in or takeaway. Licensed. Open 7 days 11am till late. O-Sushi is a modern Japanese restaurant guided by a philosophy that incorporates traditional values of providing the best possible service combined with fresh wholesome food.</p>	<p>Tweed River Art Gallery cnr Tweed Valley Way and Mistral Road, Murwillumbah Open Wed-Sun 10am-5pm 02 6672 5088</p> <p>The Gallery Café combines art with fresh food and wine. Enjoy having lunch at the beautifully appointed licensed café with indoor and outdoor seating and magnificent panoramic views over the Tweed River and Border Ranges. View the art and treat yourself to delicious cakes and great coffee. A fabulous venue for special events, office parties and wedding receptions. Group bookings essential.</p>	TWEED HEADS
CUDDEN	<p>Cudgen Leagues Club Phone: 02 6674 1816 Wommin Bay Road, Kingscliff www.cudgenleagues.com.au</p> <p>Sea Breeze Bistro open Tues-Sun 12-2pm, 6-8pm Tuesday and Wednesday lunches \$6 Thursday and Sunday Roast Night \$8 Friday nights on the specials board – warm salads to great steaks, cooked to order with a choice of sauces Dinner for two: The cheapest on the coast! Only \$32.50: includes a choice of two main meals and a 750ml bottle of wine.</p>	<p>Cafe Lazumba 14 Bay St Tweed Heads 07 5536 1811</p> <p>Sandwiches only \$2.50 each available every Tuesday and Wednesday (selected varieties) Lasagne and salad \$7.95 Homestyle traditional beef, Thai chicken and pumpkin ricotta</p>	TWEED HEADS
CURRUMBIN	<p>Alleys Currumbin RSL Club Currumbin Creek Road, Currumbin Open 7 days lunch and dinner 07 5534 7999 www.currumbin.com.au</p> <p>Enjoy contemporary dining where award winning chefs transform quality fresh, local produce into sumptuous meals and cater to varying dietary requirements. With over 30 years international experience including 16 years as executive chef at Seaworld Nara Resort, Executive Chef Jiri Solnicka joins the team. Check our website for great weekly specials. Winner – Best Club Restaurant QLD 2007, 2008 & 2009 (Clubs Queensland Awards).</p>	<p>Terranora Tavern 2-14 Henry Lawson Drive Terranora 07 5590 5416 Open 7 days Lunch from 12 noon Dinner from 5:30pm info@terrannotavern.com.au</p> <p>Terranora Tavern Bar and Bistro is the newest and most vibrant venue in the Tweed. The bistro is family orientated with Kids Eat Free on Monday nights and plenty of value for money meals. The fantastic outlook, overseeing the Gold Coast from Coolangatta to Surfers Paradise, provides an experience that is unparalleled in the Tweed. Come in and try our extensive menu and we're sure you'll be back for more!</p>	UKI
KINGSCLIFF	<p>FINS Salt Village, Kingscliff 02 6674 4833 dining@fins.com.au Dinner 7 days Lunch Fri, Sat & Sun GOOD FOOD GUIDE CHEFS HAT EVERY YEAR SINCE 1998</p> <p>DO YOU KNOW THAT THE FINS BAR IS ALSO OPEN JUST FOR DRINKS EVERY NIGHT FROM 5.30PM TILL MIDNIGHT? We have just launched our exciting new tapas menu. Drop in for a grazing experience. Spoil Mum this Mothers Day at Fins. 3 course menu + glass bubbles on arrival and complimentary chocolate truffles. \$85pp. Bookings essential.</p>	<p>Mt Warning Hotel Open 7 days 10am till late Bistro open daily 1497 Kyogle Rd, Uki 02 6679 5111</p> <p>One of the region's great old country pubs. Delicious food, bistro open for lunch everyday from 12-2pm, dinner Thursday to Sunday from 6-8pm. Children's playground, relaxing beer garden. Curry night on Thursday, raffles and member's draw on Friday, punter's draw on Saturday and on Sunday there is a delicious roast.</p>	UKI
FINGAL HEAD	<p>Sheoak Shack 64 Fingal Rd, Fingal Head Ph 07 5523 1130 Wed & Thurs 11am-5pm, Fri & Sat 11am-10pm & Sun 9.30am-5pm www.sheoakshack.com</p> <p>If you are looking for delicious food, coffee or romantic sunset cocktail on the riverbank, the Sheoak Shack is the beach shack for you with a funky laid back daytime vibe or a party atmosphere with live music on Saturday nights. This gallery/cafe showcases the work of high quality local artists and is available for private functions... more Byron than Byron, in sleepy Fingal Head.</p>		UKI



JAMES T AND THE TOMAHAWKS: THE MURWILLUMBAH RACE DAY SUNDAY 12.30PM AND THE M'BAH HOTEL SATURDAY NIGHT

pandanus trees and cordylines by combining acrylic and other materials like 2-pac resin to highlight their lush, moist beauty; Maryanne said. Out of My Garden is open to the public from **May 2 to May 31** with a special session to meet the artist to be held on **Saturday, May 15 from noon to 2pm**. This event will include wine-tasting and lucky door prizes including a meal at the Mantra Cafe and a night's accommodation at the resort.

Time and tide wait for no man

When he was preparing for his new art exhibition, Artist **David Ladley** decided to do a painting of nearby Rainbow Bay

beach looking towards the surf club. The best spot was on the beach looking up towards the surf tower with the palm tree next to it. So, easel up. Canvas ready. Paints on palette and he was away. Things progressed well, at first. Then the tide came in! The paintings are a collection of works mostly of our wonderful Gold Coast and northern NSW. David and his wife have travelled to many parts of the world sketching and painting on the spot. Only a year ago they were in Morocco, riding through the Sahara desert at dawn on camels. His exhibit starts on **Saturday May 1** and continues until May 31. **Café D'Bar Gallery** is opposite the lighthouse at Point Danger and is open every day. For more visit www.davidladleyart.com



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FRIDAY

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Property hunting brings on the stress

Australia's obsession with property hunting is stressing out the nation and impacting our relationships with loved ones, according to new research by Australian property portal, realestate.com.au.

The nationwide survey of over 1,000 adults revealed 84 per cent of prospective buyers believe looking for property is more stressful than visiting the end of year Boxing Day sales.

The findings reveal three-quarters (74 per cent) of Australians find inspecting properties stressful, with New South Wales property hunters coming in as the most stressed out state in the country and South Australians the most relaxed.

Unsurprisingly, this added stress is having an adverse effect on wellbeing, with 62 per cent of New South Wales property hunters saying they have become so distressed by the property search that they have fought about it with their loved ones.

Clinical psychologist and relationship expert Dr Timothy Sharp, also known as Dr Happy, says the findings

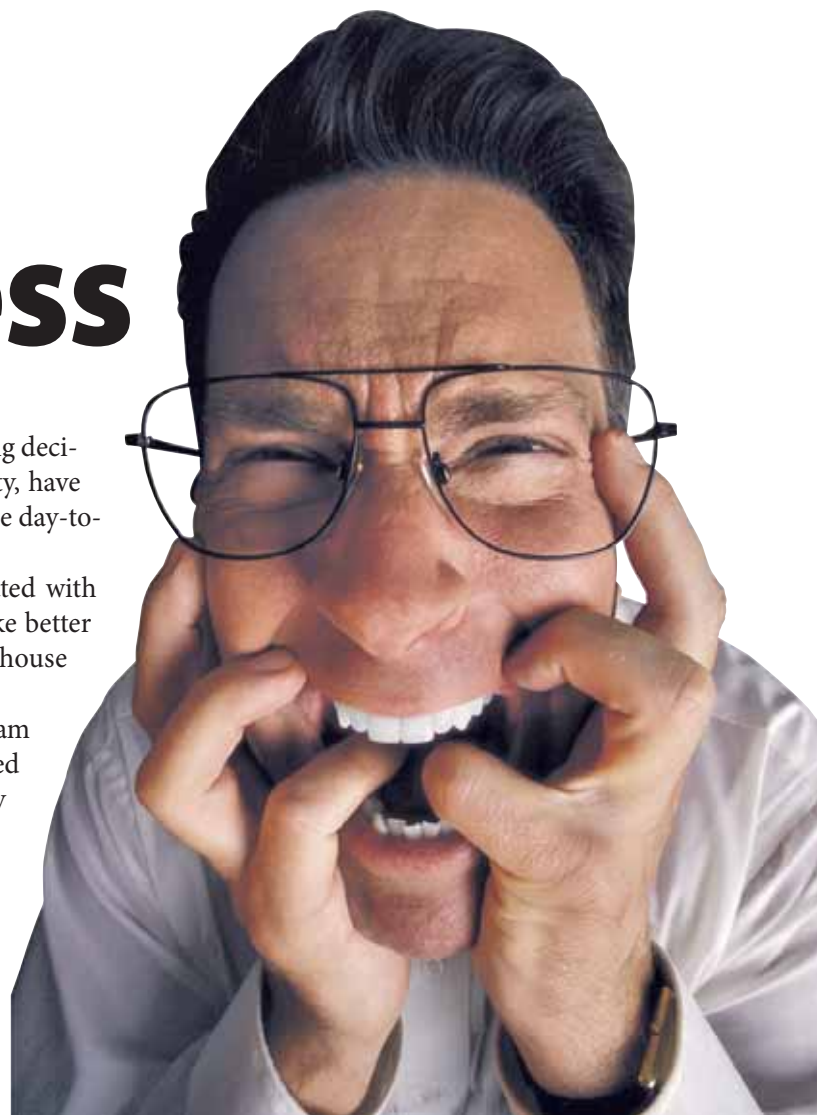
come as no surprise to him.

'Many people underestimate the effect big decisions, such as buying or renting a property, have on our state of being and how happy we are day-to-day,' said Dr Sharp.

'The key is to reduce the stress associated with the process. In doing so, we not only make better decisions but we bring the fun back to house hunting.'

Despite finding the search for their dream home stressful, it seems Aussies are addicted to the hunt. Ninety two per cent of property seekers spend over one full day per month (up to 25 hours) researching potential homes online.

The research also revealed that 86 per cent of respondents believed using on-line property websites like realestate.com.au could help ease the pressure felt when house hunting.



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Business is on a high, says PRD

An economic and property snapshot produced by PRDnationwide reveals a healthy property market, increased business confidence, and continued population growth.

Figures published in PRDnationwide's Quarterly Economic & Property Report show business confidence has hit a sixteen year high and commodities increased 1.9 per cent.

Report author Aaron Maskrey, said during March 2010, consumer sentiment increased in Queensland (10%), South Australia (2.6%) and New South Wales (0.3%), but fell in Victoria (6.1%) and Western Australia (1.7%).

'The successive rises in the cash rate has lead consumers to act conservatively - consumers are now more likely to use savings to reduce their debt, rather than to spend,' he said.

The median house price in Australia climbed on average by 12.76% - the highest level in 2009. Darwin has once again recorded the biggest increase of 19.7 per cent while Melbourne prices rose 19.3 per cent.

'Price growth will continue in the Victorian capital, with properties located within 10-15 kilometres likely to be the best prospects for growth,' said Mr Maskrey.

'This is a dramatic increase from the previous year when sentiment was at one of its all time lows of -30.5 index points,' said Mr Maskrey.

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- 6/5 Ocean Street, Kirra. Sat 2-2.30pm
- 5/8 Marian Street, Tweed Heads West. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 92 Broadwater Esplanade, Bilambil Heights. Sat 1-1.30pm
- 23 Plover Pl, Tweed Heads West. Sat 10-10.30am
- 15/1 Botany Cr, Tweed Heads. Sat 10-10.30am
- 2 Barton Place, Terranora. Sat 11-11.30am
- 602 Haig Street 'Elysee', Kirra. Sat 12.30-1.30pm
- 19/22 Marine Parade 'Kirra Gardens', Kirra. Sat 10-10.30am
- 1F Yacht Harbour, 3-9 Eden Street, Tweed Heads/Rainbow Bay. Sat 11-11.30am
- 3/15-17 Ivory Crescent, Tweed Heads. Sat 1-1.30pm
- 4 Shady Lane, Banora Point. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 64 Cominan Ave, Banora Point. Sat 1-1.30pm
- 4 Myeerimba Parade, Tweed Heads West. Sat 11-11.30am
- 46 Piggabeen Road, Tweed Heads West. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 6/184 Marine Parade, Kingscliff. Sat 10-10.30am
- 20 Shoal Place, Kingscliff. Sat 11-11.30am
- 5 Cormorant Place, Kingscliff. Sat 12-12.30pm

KINGSLIFF PROFESSIONALS

- 144 Marine Parade, Kingscliff. Sat 12-12.45pm
- 1 Pacific Street, Kingscliff. Sat & Sun 11-11.45am
- 13 Moss Street, Kingscliff. Sat 10-10.30am
- 2/22 Beach Street, Kingscliff. Sat 1-1.30pm

ATTENTION AGENTS

Have your Open Houses, Auctions and New Listings here.
 Email to adcopy@tweedecho.com.au



Homeboy wins Burleigh Classic

Thomas Woods flying down the line at Burleigh Heads on his way to winning the Hinterland Toyota Burleigh Classic. Photo Calderon/Surfing Queensland

Seventeen year old Burleigh Heads' surfer Thomas Woods shot into contention for Queensland's blue ribbon surfing title - The Open Men's State Championship, after taking out the Hinterland Toyota Burleigh Classic in emphatic style on Sunday.

Held in pulsing 1.5m waves at the infamous Burleigh Heads, the young Woods defeated a host of surfing stars including former Association of Surfing Professionals (ASP) World Tour competitor Troy Brooks and Corey Ziems, both from Currumbin and Chris Bennetts from Narrowneck who finished

second to fourth respectively in a full-throttle, four-man final.

Giving away several years to his competitors in both age and experience, Woods exploded out of the gates in the final with a blistering 8.67, going on to register a combined two-wave heat total of 16.40 to Brooks' 12.30, Ziems' 8.03 and Bennetts' 3.20.

'Burleigh delivered great waves for the Hinterland Toyota Burleigh Classic and to win in front of family and friends at your home break is always a great feeling,' said Woods. 'The QCC series is always a competitive series and I'm not getting

too far ahead of myself, but to win a spot in the ASP World Tour Trials event at Snapper Rocks would be a dream come true.'

Woods will now be looking to continue his good form as only two events remain in this year's \$16,000 four-event Queensland Championship Circuit.

The overall series champion will be decided based on a competitors best three-of-four results, with the top two competitors after four events set to compete against the world's best surfers at the 2011 ASP World Tour Quiksilver Pro Trials.

Murwillumbah all set for netball season

Local netballers are looking forward to a bumper season after an excellent response to recent sign-on days.

Murwillumbah Netball Association president Beth Matsuto, said more than 200 players had already signed on to play in fixtures and netta programs in the coming season.

'While we've conducted our formal sign-on days, it's not too late for other players to sign on,' said Beth. 'They can register for the coming season at the clubhouse in Condong Street, Murwillumbah between 9am and 1pm on Saturday April 24.'

Beth said this year local

netballers had benefited from new post pads and netballs provided by Ergon Energy in their continuing sponsorship of netball in Queensland.

'We'll also have the chance to apply for equipment grants through the association, which will be a great help in providing players with a higher level of facilities for their regular games and our most promising players will again have the opportunity to advance in the sport through the Ergon Energy Regional Academies.'

Last week, 14 enthusiastic people supported the association and playing netball in Murwillumbah by giving up

their time to learn more about umpiring. Robyn Richards and Maree Deller led the women and girls through a discussion of the rules as they completed their Introduction to Umpiring. It was great to see a variety of ages stepping forward.

Training starts back this week and this Thursday night is the general meeting - everyone is welcome.

Even though next Saturday is a long weekend for Anzac Day, games will still be played on Saturday.

For more information or to view draws for all grades, visit the website at www.murwillumbahnetball.org.au.

Cycle records broken before race start

Record numbers have registered to be a part of the 2010 Mantra Battle on the Border Cycling Festival to be hosted in the Tweed from the April 29 to May 3.

In its second year, organisers have announced a substantial growth in participation within the three events. The Tour De Tweed Coast four stage multi division competitive tour increased by 120 per cent with full field capacity in some grades reached a week early. The Cycling Festival has expanded and now reaches more communities around the Tweed including Tyalgum, Stokers Siding, Salt, Uki and travelling through Cabarita, Mooball, Duranbah and Tanglewood.

Organisers say local support has been terrific with a great response from all areas of the local community. 'Tyalgum have got together with the local store assisting with our registration area and Fluttersies Cottage Cafe feeding our volunteers,' said spokesperson Kristina Katsanevas.

'Saturday we move to Stokers Siding with Stokers School putting on a great feed for our participants and spectators, the corner store supporting with coffee and food as well as there being a great Art Gallery selling some amazing pieces. Sunday and Monday resides in Salt with a great family atmosphere at Salt Park around Bells Boulevard all restaurants and businesses have been offering

their services to the guests.' The Gran Fondo Social Ride entries are open until the April 30, but get in sooner rather than later to secure a spot. You get to choose your distance with this one as it is not a race from 100km, 136km and 189km.

For more information on road closures, entries or any event information visit: www.qsmsports.com.

Anzac Day races 'a big day out'

Tweed River Jockey Club officials are again hosting the traditional Anzac Day race meeting.

The race day is one of the Tweed River Jockey Club's biggest meetings of the calendar and regularly attracts enthusiastic support from Anzac Day crowds.

Many older residents still recall the days when the meeting was a focus point for huge numbers of cross-border patrons, as racing was banned on Anzac Day in Queensland until relatively recent times.

Tweed River Jockey Club chairman Bernie Quinn says that in those days Queensland registered vehicles could be seen parked from the race-course all the way to the Condong sugar mill on the Tweed River.

The 2010 meeting will be conducted over five races, including the feature 1800m Murwillumbah Services Club Cup.

Returned service men and women receive complimentary admission on presentation of their badge.

● Third quarter		April 6	19:37
● New moon		April 14	22:29
● First quarter		April 22	04:20
○ Full moon		April 28	22:19

APRIL 2010							
Astronomical data and tides							
Day of month	Sun rise	Sun set	Moon rise	Moon set	High tide, height (m)	Low tide, height (m)	
1	T	0655	1844	1955	0855	1050,1.54; 2307,1.83	0446,0.25; 1643,0.38
2	F	0656	1842	2041	1000	1139,1.41; 2351,1.78	0539,0.31; 1722,0.48
3	S	0656	1841	2131	1102	1228,1.30	0631,0.40; 1801,0.58
4	S	0557	1740	2124	1100	0036,1.69; 1219,1.20	0627,0.49; 1745,0.67
5	M	0558	1739	2219	1152	0025,1.59; 1315,1.14	0726,0.57; 1836,0.75
6	T	0558	1738	2315	1238	0120,1.50; 1422,1.12	0828,0.62; 1942,0.79
7	W	0559	1737		1319	0225,1.44; 1534,1.14	0930,0.63; 2059,0.80
8	T	0559	1736	0010	1355	0333,1.43; 1636,1.21	1026,0.61; 2210,0.76
9	F	0600	1735	0105	1427	0433,1.44; 1724,1.29	1113,0.56; 2309,0.69
10	S	0600	1734	0158	1458	0523,1.47; 1804,1.38	1152,0.52; 2358,0.62
11	S	0601	1733	0250	1527	0605,1.50; 1839,1.47	1227,0.48
12	M	0602	1731	0343	1556	0645,1.52; 1913,1.56	0041,0.55; 1259,0.45
13	T	0602	1730	0436	1626	0722,1.52; 1945,1.64	0120,0.49; 1329,0.44
14	W	0603	1729	0531	1659	0759,1.50; 2017,1.71	0159,0.44; 1359,0.44
15	T	0603	1728	0629	1735	0837,1.47; 2052,1.75	0237,0.41; 1430,0.45
16	F	0604	1727	0728	1815	0917,1.43; 2130,1.78	0318,0.39; 1504,0.48
17	S	0604	1726	0829	1902	1000,1.38; 2211,1.78	0401,0.39; 1543,0.52
18	S	0605	1725	0931	1956	1048,1.32; 2256,1.75	0448,0.41; 1624,0.57
19	M	0606	1724	1029	2055	1141,1.27; 2347,1.71	0542,0.45; 1713,0.62
20	T	0606	1723	1124	2158	1241,1.23	0642,0.48; 1811,0.67
21	W	0607	1722	1214	2304	0047,1.67; 1350,1.23	0747,0.48; 1921,0.69
22	T	0607	1721	1258		0155,1.64; 1503,1.27	0854,0.46; 2039,0.68
23	F	0608	1720	1338	0010	0307,1.63; 1609,1.37	0955,0.61; 2155,0.61
24	S	0608	1719	1415	0115	0415,1.65; 1705,1.50	1048,0.38; 2302,0.52
25	S	0609	1718	1451	0220	0514,1.66; 1756,1.63	1137,0.34
26	M	0610	1717	1527	0324	0609,1.65; 1844,1.75	0003,0.43; 1223,0.33
27	T	0610	1717	1605	0429	0702,1.62; 1929,1.84	0100,0.35; 1305,0.34
28	W	0611	1716	1646	0534	0753,1.56; 2014,1.89	0154,0.30; 1347,0.38
29	T	0611	1715	1730	0640	0843,1.49; 2057,1.90	0245,0.29; 1428,0.44
30	F	0612	1714	1819	0744	0931,1.41; 2140,1.88	0333,0.31; 1508,0.51

Daylight Saving Time ends 3am April 4. **Time lags:** Ballina Boat Dock: 15 min; Byron Bay: nil; Brunswick River Highway Bridge: high 30 min, low 1 hr; Mullumbimby: 1 hr 10 min; Billinudgel: 3 hr 55 min; Chinderah: high 1 hr 30 min, low 2 hr; Terranora Inlet: high 2 hr 10 min, low 2 hr 25 min; Murwillumbah: high 2 hr 30 min, low 2 hr 50 min. **Tides in bold** indicate high tide of 1.7m or more and low tide of 0.3m or less. Data courtesy of the National Tidal Centre.

MONTHLY MARKETS

Every Sat	6-11am Farmers Market - Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary 0417 759 777
1st Sat	Brunswick Heads (02) 6628 4495
1st Sat	8-11am Casuarina Farmers' Market 0414 777 432
1st Sun	Banora Point Farmers' Market 0417 759 777
1st Sun	Byron Bay (02) 6680 9703
1st Sun	Pottsville (02) 6676 4555
1st Sun	Tweed Heads (07) 5599 1714
2nd Sat	Kingscliff (02) 6674 0827
2nd Sun	The Channon (02) 6688 6433
2nd Sun	Chillingham 0437 041 023
2nd Sun	Lennox Head (02) 6672 2874
2nd Sun	Coolangatta (07) 5533 8202
2nd Sun	Tweed Heads (07) 5599 1714
3rd Sat	8-11am Casuarina Farmers' Market 0414 777 432
3rd Sat	Mullumbimby (02) 6684 3370
3rd Sat	Murwillumbah Cottage Markets 0417 759 777
3rd Sun	Ballina (02) 6687 4328
3rd Sun	Banora Point Farmers' Market 0417 759 777
3rd Sun	Nimbin (02) 6689 0000
3rd Sun	Pottsville (02) 6676 4555
3rd Sun	Tweed Heads (07) 5599 1714
3rd Sun	Uki (02) 6679 9026
4th Sat	Kingscliff (02) 6674 0827
4th Sun	Bangalow (02) 6687 1911
4th Sun (in 5 Sun month)	Coolangatta (07) 5533 8202
4th Sun	Murwillumbah 0422 565 168
4th Sun	Tweed Heads (07) 5599 1714
5th Sun	Nimbin (02) 6689 0000
5th Sun	Tweed Heads (07) 5599 1714

FARMERS MARKETS

Each Sat	8-11am Bangalow (02) 6687 1137
Each Thu	8-11am Byron Bay (02) 6687 1137
Each Tue	New Brighton (02) 6684 5390
Each Sat	8am-1pm Uki (02) 6679 5438

SPORT RESULTS

BOWLS

Cabarita Beach Men

7/4/10 Winners R Arrowsmith & M Matteucci.

r/up S Breccard & J Hay cons K Kennedy & K Stanley.

Social Sat 10/4/10 Winners J Tuckey, R Woodbury & S Goode. cons J Hunter, B Davey & L Freeman.

14/4/10 Winners B Lambert & C Klavertyn r/up B Parker & P Glancy cons "Woody" & D Vegter.

Social Sat Winners R Faulkner & E Kolbee, cons M Cheshire, E Stenner, C Morgan & J Simpson.

Open Singles results Semi-Final A Latif def R Harper, M Morgan def D Hopps. Final A Latif def M Morgan 31-26.

Cabarita Beach Women

20.04.10 Social Bowls - Cancelled due to rain affected track. Raffles - G.Coustley, L.Clarke, J.Double

27.04.10 Club Quarterly Meeting - We would like all Members to attend.

04.05.10 Club Sponsored Day - Club Members only. 2 games of 11 ends. 9.00am start. Sheet on board so put your name down for a great day ladies.

10.05.10 to 13.05.10 Zone Pennant Play Off - to be played at Cabarita Beach and CudgenLeagues Clubs.

Socialk Bowls - Tuesdays 9.15am. Visitors warmly welcomed. Ladies also invited to play Saturdays 1.00pm. Please Phone Club on 6676 2951 and leave message and contact number.

Coaching - Free every Saturday with accredited coaches from 9.30am.

Barefoot Bowls - Sunday 3.30pm to 5.30pm.

CONDONG LADIES

Rain stopped play today so no results, just some reminders. 3rd May pennant presentation at Pottsville. Bowls at 1 pm . Afternoon tea at 3pm followed by presentation.

4th May the first round of our Club Triples. E.Hunt versus M.Sweetnam. S.Cook versus D.Booth. H.Ross and B.Dunne got the Bye. Draw results on the board. 7th May Sea Horse triples at Ocean Shores. 10th till the 14th May District Pennant play off at Cudgen. social bowls as usual next week 27th April. 9am for 9.30 on the green. Beginner bowlers always welcome at Condong. Come along and have some fun.

CONDONG MEN

Wednesday 14th 26 bowlers Winners B Dunne, B Young, T Scuis, runner/ups D Coates. B McLennan, R Pilon. Raffle win R Thorley, C Douglas, K Palmer.Thursday 3 bowl pairs shoot/out winners \$50 M Bennett,B Clifford, runner/ups \$20 R Gerdes, S Reading.

Saturday 17th had 56 bowlers support WAZZAS BASH 14 teams competed. 1st B Ayres team 2w+14 2nd T Kennedy team 2w+9 3rd J Murrell team 1/5+4 4th M Bennett team 1/5+3 5th.A Fings team 1w+10. Raffle Cognations to Robbie Gerdes snr for winning first game. Raffle winners Turtle, A Fing, Turtle, T Kennedy, B Ayres. Congratulations to Condong Bowls club for 2010 Awards for Excellence (nominated by Peter Meadows) as a finalist in the Spirit of the Bush Award Proudly sponsored by ATMAAC interational well done Condong Bowls Club.

CUDGEN LEAGUES LADIES

Clb Champ/ship Pairs results for last Thurs 15th - Faye Turner, Joy Ashford def Clarice

Blake, Joanne Dent. Well done girls. Thurs 15th, ladies social results - Winners Rnk3, Eileen Burke, Margaret Talbot, Mary Hay. Raffle - Pauline Bowen. Was a great day last Sun with a visit from Coraki Bowls Club for our Sun Social results as follows - Winners, Rnk6, P Anderson, I Hockey, C Terry. Friendship - Rnk10, John Holt, Marion Hull, Coog Prichard. Raffle winners - Val Scheimer, Marion Hull, Coog Prichard, John Holt, Mary Sutton (visitor) Alex Lamperton (visitor) Money board - Tom Grimes, Yvonne Bradford, Yvonne Corcoran, Maureen Alcorn, Bill Anderson. Congratulations everybody, and to all who came to support our day, the next one will be on Sun 18th May. Thurs Ladies Social 12.30 for 1pm start. 2nd Round, Clb Champ/ship Pairs to play today - Pat Pieterse, June Tilley V's Colleen Wein, Liz Fleming; Maureen Alcorn (sub) Isabel Nipperess V's Faye Turner, Joy Ashford; Sharon Lee Hinks, Trish McGee V's Judy Martin, June Wotherspoon. Good bowling everyone. Mon 26th 1pm Social Mixed Triples mufti all welcome. Mon 3rd May District Pennant Presentation Day - Pottsville. Tues 4th May Quarterly General Meeting 9.30am, for all Members. Nom for Clb Champ/ship Singles (31up) cles Thurs 13th May. Members on the sick list, well wishes from all Members. Happy Birthday to all celebrating this week. All welcome sheet in Foyer from Bowls Office or ph 0266741816/ 2734. Good Bowling Everyone.

CUDGEN LEAGUES MEN

Tweed River Seafood Classic Sat 17.4 Winners: O.Simpson, T.King, J.Richie. Runners up C.Klavertyn, B.Griffiths, R.Allen.

Round 7

- Bulldogs v Broncos**
- Cowboys v Eels**
- Dragons v Roosters**
- Panthers v Tigers**
- Raiders v Rabbitohs**
- Sea Eagles v Titans**
- Sharks v Knights**
- Storm v Warriors**

Points Tally

	W	D	L
1 Dragons	5	0	1
2 Panthers	4	0	2
3 Sea Eagles	4	0	2
4 Storm	4	0	2
5 Roosters	4	0	2
6 Titans	4	0	2
7 Tigers	4	0	2
8 Rabbitohs	3	0	3
9 Warriors	3	0	3
10 Bulldogs	2	0	4
11 Eels	2	0	4
12 Knights	2	0	4
13 Cowboys	2	0	4
14 Broncos	2	0	4
15 Raiders	2	0	4
16 Sharks	1	0	5

- Video Pete** 30
- Chef Chris** 29
- Peta Ellen** 29
- Emily Walsh** 29
- Scott Leishman** 23
- Peter & Lee Smith** 23
- Rory Curtis** 22
- Luke Robertson** 22

The Echo's



FOOTY TIPPING GURUS

- Bulldogs**
- Eels**
- Dragons**
- Tigers**
- Raiders**
- Sea Eagles**
- Knights**
- Storm**

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- Bulldogs**
- Eels**
- Dragons**
- Tigers**
- Rabbitohs**
- Sea Eagles**
- Knights**
- Storm**

Luke Robertson



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- Bulldogs**
- Eels**
- Dragons**
- Panthers**
- Raiders**
- Sea Eagles**
- Knights**
- Storm**

Chef Chris.
Wednesday night: Roast – adults \$9, kids \$6.
Thursday night: \$10 Steak with mash and vegies or pasta – adults \$10, kids \$6.50



Murwillumbah Hotel, 13 Wharf St,
Murwillumbah • 02 6672 1139



- Bulldogs**
- Cowboys**
- Dragons**
- Panthers**
- Raiders**
- Sea Eagles**
- Sharks**
- Storm**

Video Pete's the name... ad sales, fishing and footie's the game... can we please revisit '08!

BYRON SHIRE



02 6684 1777
adcop@echo.net.au

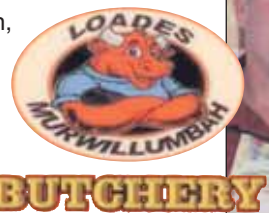


- Broncos**
- Eels**
- Dragons**
- Panthers**
- Raiders**
- Titans**
- Sharks**
- Storm**

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- Bulldogs**
- Cowboys**
- Dragons**
- Panthers**
- Rabbitohs**
- Sea Eagles**
- Knights**
- Storm**

I'm Peta Ellen Stenhouse. I work for the Tweed Shire Echo and my footy team is the almighty Bulldogs!

THE TWEED



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- Panthers**
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- Sea Eagles**
- Knights**
- Storm**

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- Storm**

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Round 1 winners, K.Liddington, I.Smith, H.Hockey. Round 2 winners, D.McLennan, F.Smith, R.Hall. Winner of losers, M.Burns, B.Blake, T.Grimess. Bradman Trophy, J. Turner, N.Ashford, B.Cusack.

Thanks to our generous sponsor Tweed River Seafoods

Sun. 18/4/10 Final District Minor Pairs, S.Bell, R.Chapman 18 def. B.Cusack, K.Hansen 11

Wed. 14/4/10 Mens Whites Winners: T.King, D.Cleave, A.Reid. Losing Rink: V.Shiemer, M.Ryan, F.McConnell.

Final Mens Fours, F.Pieterse, G.Hazell, B.Murray, B.Bell 26 def. J.Turner, K.Hansen, R.McIntosh, S.Archbold 15.

Minor Pairs, M.Ryan, K.Foran 16 def. K.Hansen, J.Holt [Sub] 12

Pennant teams are on the board. Check names please.

Kingscliff Ladies

Wed. 14/4/10. Ladies Social Bowls Rink

Winners were. A.Sherlock/J. Bonnett.

W.Butler/J.Scher. M.Hendry/D.Hallett/B.

Massey. Kingscliff Hibiscus 3 Bowl Triples

to be played Monday May 17. Entry Fee \$45 per team. Ladies enter your teams now, Contact Tournament Director

Raewyn Liddington. 02 6674 5668.

Kingscliff Men

Results of the Men's Open Pairs Club Championships played last weekend. G

Searle, M Turner d A Reid (sub), B Turner, T Wonka, J North d J Quinn, S Jamieson; K Banks, T Hills d T Wonka, J North. The Final will see G Searle, M Turner play K Banks, T Hills on Saturday 24th April. Roll up 9:00am. This should be a great game so come along and show your support.

Social Bowls Results: Thursday 15th April: Winners: B Harris, H Azzopardi, I Smith; K Prichard, K Berger, G Prichard; L Gillespie, J McLaughlin, B Griffith. Plate winners: H Hockey, J Donnelly, B Turner. Saturday 17th April: Winners: P Atkinson, A Simpson, S Cupitt; N Orme, K Taylor, I Thompson. Plate Winners: K Berger, G Hallett, B Goldstone. Coming Up: This Saturday 24th April: Kingscliff Men's Fun and Social Bowls Day sponsored by L J Hooker with a total prize pool of \$1,500.00. There will be two games of self select triples commencing at 12:45pm and followed by a sausage sizzle. Kingscliff Men's Prestige Two Bowls Triples will be held on Monday 24th May. Three games of 21 ends with a prize pool of \$3,000.00. Entry fee \$60.00 per team includes Chef's bowler's specials in the bistro. The Men's Two Bowls Triples Club Championships will commence on Saturday 1st May. Please check the board for the draw. Nominations for the Men's B Grade Singles are now open. Nomination sheet is on the board.

Pottsville Women

Thursday April 15 Winners: L.Johns & L.Dowling. Runners Up: A.Swift & D.Buckley. Raffle: J.Baxter. Lucky Bowler: J.Tuckey

Friday: Mixed Pairs, Mufti 1.00pm start. Updates: Check the board regularly for events.

Visitor Info: Thurs Women's Social Bowls. Names must be in by 8:30am morning of play. New bowlers requiring coaching should contact the club on 02 6676 1077.

Tweed Heads Ladies

Wednesday Pairs: J. Griffith, V. Gravinol def. A. Warman. D. Kendall, P. Mann, J. Finney. def. A. Morrissey, V. Neill. B. Jacobson, P. Southern, def. C. Davis, N. Bell; P. Collins, R. Quinlan, def. K. Figura, A. Ebsworth; L. Rayward, M. Dare, def. N. Bell, V. Cunningham; V. Moore, R. Curtis, def. J. Lyons, M. Van Runt; P. Griffith, L. Elsey, def. G. Wood, J. Davey; C. Murphy, R. Davies, def. J. Gilroy, D. Duncan; W. Wilson, M. Purcell, def. R. Calvery, B. Carmody; C. Hawkins, A. Plowright, def. M. Croghan, H. Mason; Thursday Social: P. Collins, K. Mahaffey, C. Drew, B. Bitmead, def. G. Evans, J. Roche, B. Carey, M. Gwynne, B. Latimer, E. Deimel, J. Ryman, R. Wallis, def. J. Redman, L. Wiles, D. Stewart, J. Webster; E. Lees, M. Jarick, B. Orchard, P. Henderson, def. A. Sargent, G. Cowen, D. Evans, D. McNamara; M. Riley,

K. Henshaw, M. Baxter, N. Dowling, def. N. Craig, A. Nash, S. Hambleton, D. Kendall; H. Reid, S. McGregor, E. Titmarsh, J. Kerkow, def. B. Everson, B. Rodger, P. Govett, J. Pearce, W. Wilson, M. Purcell, def. J. Green, P. Houghton; H. Bardsley, C. Hawkins, def. J. Hoffman, A. Plowright; P. Dearlove, A.M. Hardy, def. T. Dixon, A. Ebsworth; Thursday Consistency, L.A. French, def. S. Jackson; F. Martin, def. L. Hodsdon; H. Ram-say, def. P. Collins; B. Makin, def. C. Keane; M. Spencer, def. S. Ganter; L. Rayward, def. W. Wilson; J. Lyon, def. V. Robinson; L. Elsey, def. S. Lusby; A. Warman, def. M. Gun ton; R. Quinlan, def. P. Griffith; S. Goldsmith, def. K. Figura; L. Wilson, def. V. Young; M. Kelly, def. L. Robins; P. Reedy, def. M. Van Runt;

GOLF

Chinderah Seniors Social Golf

Results for 15.4 Stroke Winner A grade: Steve Holden, net 56, new h/cap 9. R/up, John Hunter, net 58, new h/cap 12.

Winner B grade: Russell Gardiner, net 57, new h/cap 15. R/up, Geoff Hawkey, net 59, new h/cap 13.

Winner C grade: Allan Stevens, net 56, new h/cap 31. R/up, hirley Seers, net 57, new h/cap 20. Ball rundown to net 60

Results for 19/4/10 - Ambrose Winners: Laurie Gee, Jill Collings, Ted Robinson and Mick Collings, net 45 5/8. R/up, Mick Law-son, Bob Magee, Jim Donnelly and Wayne

Huxley, net 46 3/8. Third, Garry Carey, Sandy Daley, Keith Morris and Dave Armstrong, net 48. Ball rundown to net 49 5/8.

Next event 26.4. Stroke & Monthly Medal.

Murwillumbah Golf Club

Sunday 11th Individual Stableford Women's Winner I.McCormack 35 pts Members Winner C.Deane 39 pts N.Pin 2nd D.Souter & R.Souter Monday 12th Veterans Individual Stroke .A.Grade Win-ners L.Reynolds 68 nett R.Up K.Dawson 71 nett Winner B.Grade B.Connolly 68 Nett c.b R.Up J.Rice 68 nett c.b N.Pin 2nd M.Chilcott 8th C.Somerville 10th H.Axford 14th J.Gooley B.R.D 71 nett c.b Tuesday 13th Women's Individual Stableford Winner A.Grade J.Jenkins 35 pts R.Up J.Smith 33 pts B.Grade J.O'Flanagan 41 pts R.Up B.Thompson 35 pts C.Grade J.Cahill 42 pts R.Up D.McGregor-Skinner 38 pts N.Pin 2nd J.O'Flanagan 8th S.Gorton & J.Cahill 10th D.McCabe 14th J.Selve & P.Betts B.R.D to 32 pts c.b Wednesday 14th Individual V's Par in 2 Grades Winner A.Grade D.Higgins +5 R.Up A.Moore +4 B.Grade D.Anthony +7 R.Up G.Jeffrey +6 Veteran N.Pin 2nd A.Moore 10th M.Flynn B.R.D 71 nett c.b Thursday 15th April Women's 4.B.B.B. Stroke Winner A.Wedlock & D.Stafford 59 nett R.Up B.Blunden & D.Fraser 63 nett N.Pin 2nd P.Buckler 8th J.Glasby & M.Shanley 10th G.Swan 14th J.Smith & D.Fraser Fri-

day 16th April Individual Stableford Med-ley Women's Winner I.McCormack 37 pts Members Winner R.McBurney 38 pts c.b B.R.D to 37 Pts Saturday 10th April Indi-vidual .Stableford in 4 Grades A.Grade Winner N.Gronewege 41 pts R.Up T.Hindle 40 pts B.Grade P.Dhillon 39 pts R.Up M.Adams 38 pts C.Grade J.Beatty 45 pts R.Up H.Kirk 41 pts D.Grade G.Locke 42 pts R.Up M.O'Grady 41 pts N.Pin 2nd B.McClean 8th T.Taylor 10th R.Baldock 14th W.Mander B.R.Down to 35 pts c.b

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13-APR-10; Standard Pistol A Gazzard 559, J Lumsden 552, A Uren 542. 14-APR-10; Air Pistol - D Besson 584, A Uren 574, R Rees 574, A Berry 573, J Lumsden 566. 17-APR-10; Standard Pistol - D Dowling 593, A Berry 586, S Nash 579, J Blair 563, M Rohrick 563, W Gray 559, A Uren 528, A Unwin 524, J Lumsden 515, J Gove 499, B Dowling 475, J Deubel 475, P Cusack 441, A Dennison 425. 18-APR-10; Rifle - D Blair 606, M Quinn 595, B Wenban 591, K M Bevis 588, M Luxton 580, K L Bevis 576, E Wenban 570, J Blair 565, R Blair 563, S Jenkins 537, J Lumsden 491.

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BAYWOOD CHASE lge 2 bedroom part furn unit with garden area, clean & tidy, no pets/kids, \$280pw single, \$320pw couple incl bills. Ph 66853554

Free To Let Ads

The Tweed Echo is offering free line ads to residential To Let advertisers. Send your listing of up to 50 words before Wednesday midday. Does not include share accom. and commercial leases. Fax your listing to 02 6672 4933 or email it to adcopy@tweedecho.com.au

TO LEASE

MODERN room in professional suites. Central location opp major shopping centre. Would suit professionals or healers. Toilet facilities, air-con & secure. Secretary avail if req. Ph 07 55365838 or email: info@alchemypsychology.com.au

PRACTICE ROOM Mullumbimby, suit therapist / body worker, psychologist. 0402632541 www.pcampiao.com

POSITIONS VACANT

WARNING

The Department of Fair Trading has warned people to be very careful about responding to advertisements offering work at home. Readers should be wary if asked to pay money upfront for employment opportunities and never send money to a post office box.

MODELS 18+ years required. Nude female for Picture and People magazines. No experience required. All shapes and sizes. Backpackers welcome. Good money. Professional accredited ACP photographer. Ph 0413627846

PSYCHOLOGIST

Tweed Heads/Byron Bay practice for part time sub contracting work. Willingness to work evenings is an advantage. Send your CV/enquiries to: info@alchemypsychology.com or fax to 07 55365776

ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANT min 2 days per week, some weekends, between Murwillumbah & Cabarita. 0430219741

EXPERIENCED BISTRO COOK

for Murwillumbah club Wed to Sat evenings, or kitchen lease is available. Please call 0434954498

SEASONAL SKI EMPLOYEES

Snowy Gums Ski Lodge in the Snowy Mountains, June to October, requires: Fully qualified chef • Barista/wait persons • Housekeepers. Accommodation avail. All candidates must have 2 yrs exp in hospitality an NSW RSA & an enthusiastic, friendly, unpretentious attitude. Phone 0402200656

LOOKING FOR WORK DURING SCHOOL HOURS?

Casual position packing organic foods 9am-1pm Tues/Wed/Thu, some Fridays. Will train, must be good natured, detail oriented, reliable & quick. Some flexibility at school holidays & 4 weeks off at Xmas/New Years. Interviewing next week. Email: teamsuperpower@yahoo.com with name, contact & any other relevant info

CAREER IN CHILDCARE Would you like to become a carer and work from home? Free training & financial support is provided, to enable you to provide accredited high quality care in a home environment. You will be supported by the largest scheme in NSW. Flexible hours. Childcare benefit available. Phone Northern Rivers Family Day Care for more info on 07 5536 1865.

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 No degree or experience required. **Cert III & IV** in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) Recruitment service & Job Guarantee!

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Free info session - 3rd May
Next course 26-30 May
 5/1 Carlyle St, Byron Bay

1300 558 890



MUSICAL NOTES

GUITAR AMP REPAIRS, all pro audio & custom modifications. Ph 07 55454831 www.thorPhillipsaudio.com

12 PIECE SOUL BAND - SOUL'D - available for work. www.soul-band.com or phone Steve 0410319410

PETS

ADOPT A CAT from Animal Welfare League NSW. Phone 66844070

FREE LABRADOODLE PUPPY on breeders terms. Phone 0430219741



Where do you get your copy?

If you don't receive The Echo at home or the weather is too bad for house to house delivery, pick up a copy of your Echo from the following places:

Banora Point: Banora Point Shopping Village, Chris' Paradise Fruit Shop, Tweed Heights Shopping Centre IGA, Zaraffa's Coffee in Banora Central

Bilambil Heights: Stores

Burringbar: Real estate agent and service station

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

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

Casuarina/Salt: IGA, Salt Bar, bottleshop

Chillingham: Store

Chinderah: Art Gallery, pub, newsagent

Coolangatta: 7-11 Supermarket, Atlantis Rising Astral Trading, Border Sub News, Coolangatta Hotel, Coolangatta Senior Citizens Club, Surf Club, Twin Towns, Zenergy Health Foods,

Condong: Store

Crabbes Creek: General Store

Fingal Head: Sheoak Shack

Hastings Point: General store, service station

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

Mooball: Moo Moo Stitches

Mount Burrell: Store

Mullumbimby: Echo office

Murwillumbah: Echo office, Bulk Whole Foods, Caldera Environment Centre, Magic Mountain Health Foods

Pottsville: IGA Supermarket, bottleshop, newsagent, fruit market

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

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

Stokers Siding: Store

Terranora: Supermarket, store

Tumbulgum: Post Office store

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

Tyalgum: Store

Uki: Store, pub

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

If you miss your printed copy of The Echo get it online at www.tweedecho.com.au

Noticeboard

AOOB

AOOB Twin Towns Branch Cent Auction will be held at Cobaki Broadwater Village on Sunday, May 2, at 1pm. Afternoon tea \$4. Members, family and friends invited.

Family history

Tweed Gold Coast Family History and Heritage Assoc. will holding its monthly get-together at 5th Tweed Sports Club, Minjungbal Dr, South Tweed Heads on May 4 at 1.30pm. Visitors welcome, for info call Noelene on 07 5599 8939.

VIEW club

Over 120 people attended Twin Towns Evening View Club art exhibition at Ken and Avalon Trelour's home on Saturday, April 17, in aid of the club's Learning for Life program for disadvantaged children.

Pensioner food

Wednesdays: Free food giveaway for struggling pensioners at 12.30pm at the iBar, Tweed Heads. More donations needed. Call Terri 0414 376 057. Friday: aged pensioners, at the iBar, Fridays 9-30am-1pm. Call Thelma on 07 5536 3037 for donating food.

U3A

U3A Tweed Coast, Friday Forum, from 2pm-4pm at the Uniting Church Hall, Kingscliff. Afternoon tea. Cost \$2, guest speakers are Wil and Thalia Tebutt who will talk about their walking holidays in Scotland, England and the Himalayas.

Probus clubs

Banora Point Probus Club meeting April 26 at South Tweed Sports Club 10.30am. Guest speaker is Joanne Carmody, the shire's chief librarian. Visitors welcome. Call Barbara 07 5513 1229. Murwillumbah Probus Club meets next Monday at Bowls Club. Payments due for April 27 Crams Farm barbecue (\$30) and \$50 for May 28 Brisbane River paddle steamer cruise. Kingscliff mixed Probus Club meets the first Wednesday of each month at 10am at the Uniting Church hall Kingscliff. Outings every 3rd Wednesday of the month.

Art workshop

Friday, April 16, 2pm-4pm, 5hrs and up \$34. Fun-tastic painting and drawing with Arna Baartz, following a short visit to the current art gallery exhibitions. Refreshment provided, bookings essential, call Tweed River Art Gallery on 02 6670 2790.

Pottsville meet

Pottsville Neighbourhood Watch meeting, Tuesday, May 4, at 7pm in the Sandbar Room, Pottsville Neighbourhood Centre, Elizabeth Street, Pottsville. (Please note change of venue and time). New members welcome, call Lilian 02 6676 4675.

Palliative care

Tweed Palliative Support is holding a 'huge' garage sale on Saturday, April 24, from 8am-1pm at 444 Tweed

Valley Way (just past the Duck Inn). Our two op shops, which are a major source of fundraising, have an abundance of good quality furniture, paintings and clothing which must go to make room for new stock.

Garden club

The next meeting of the Murwillumbah and District Garden Club will be held on Monday April 26 at 7pm in the Jesse Macmillan Hall, Wollumbin Street Murwillumbah. All welcome. Members, guests and interested persons come along to see the floral displays, learn about the club's activities and enjoy a cuppa after the meeting.

Free concert

Tweed Links Music Club concert, Sunday, May 2, 2pm, Coolangatta Tweed Heads Golf Club, Soorley Street, Tweed Heads South with the Tweed Links Quartet and Allan Grant Dancers. Special guest artists soprano Liza Beamish and with son Jeremy and others. Admissions \$6 for club members, \$10 for visitors. For info call Elaine on 07 5590 7870 or visit www.tweedlinksmusicclub.org

K'cliff CWA

Kingscliff Country Women's Association meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month at Cudge Leagues Club, Wommin Bay Road, Kingscliff at 9.30am. Sausage sizzle at Woolworths Kingscliff made \$294. Raffle won by G.Moran, Tweed Heads. New members welcomed call 02 6674 3724.

Garden club

Murwillumbah District Garden Club's recent bus trips have raised money for Murwillumbah Hospital auxiliary (\$500), Westpac Helicopter Service and Tweed Valley Palliative Care (both \$250). Next bus trip, to Lightning Ridge July 26-30, cost \$680 twin share and bookings need to be made as soon as possible at Beverley's on Main Street. Meetings held on the fourth Monday of each month at 7pm in the Jessie McMillan Hall, Wollumbin Street, all welcome.

Exercise classes

A community-based exercise class at Tweed Community Health Centre for 'mature age' people, no uniforms, no commitments, no co-ordination required! Move to music and increase your fitness in a fun environment. Fridays 8.15am (DST), Allan Millard Room, Tweed Heads Hospital. For more info call Jules on 0407 077 132.

Historical society

Tweed Heads Historical Society and Museum open Tues, Thurs, Fri 11am-4pm Sunday 1pm-4pm, Pioneer Park, Kennedy Drive, West Tweed Heads. For info call 07 5536 8625.

Croquet clubs

Tweed Heads Croquet play days are Monday 9am and Thursday and Saturday 9.30am, all welcome to come and try. Phone 07 5599 1611 for more information or come to the lawns at 39 Recreation Street, Tweed Heads on play days.

Mental health

Mental Health Carers meetings for the next month: Mondays May 3. Families and friends of people with mental illness are welcome to share friendship, information and experiences with other carers from 10am on the first and third Mondays in each month at the Tweed Heads Library, Brett Street (no public holidays). Knowledgeable volunteer members of the Tweed Valley Mental Health Carers Network assist. Inquiries (07) 5524 4556.

Palliative volunteers

Tweed Palliative Support's Volunteer Training Program begins on April 28, a course for new volunteers required to support and care for clients living with a life-threatening illness in the clients own home. A 10 week course,

to be held each Wednesday from 9am-3pm, from April 28-June 30. For info call 02 6672 8459.

Vintage film night

Friends of the Tweed River Regional Museum are hosting a vintage film night at the Regent Cinema, Murwillumbah, on Thursday, May 13, at 6pm.

Lifeball

Lifeball is an exercise sport similar to netball but played at a walking pace by senior men and women. Come and have a try. Sessions held every Tuesday 9.30am-11.30am at Tweed Supersports Centre, Chinderah, \$5 per person. Contact Jill 02 6674 0636 or George 07 5524 4558

Family night

Global Care family food and fun night every third Saturday at Christian Outreach Centre, Prince Street, Murwillumbah, entry \$5 for family \$2.50 for singles includes tea and entertainment. All welcome. Also free sausage sizzle every third Saturday at Murwillumbah markets. For info call Glenn on 0422 741 558.

Scrapbooking

Scrapbooking group 4Her meets every Wednesday at 10am at Christian Outreach Centre, Prince Street, Murwillumbah. All welcome, bring your own photos, classes available, morning tea provided. For info call Elaine on 6672 1571.

Red Cross

Tweed Heads Red Cross Branch will resume monthly meetings on 2nd Friday of each month in the community room at Tweed City Shopping Centre, commencing with morning tea at 9.30am. Visitors welcome, form info call Joyce on 07 5524 1277.

Hospital auxiliary

Tweed Hospital Auxiliary Meetings are held on the first Monday of every month in the Islander Room in the Tweed Civic Centre. New members welcome. For info call Merle on 07 5536 1441.

Rock 'n' roll dancing

Women wanted for rock 'n' roll lessons and dancing, first session free. Men also welcome. Wednesdays 1.30pm-3pm (DST), Coolangatta Seniors Centre, 2 Gerrard St, Coolangatta, phone 07 5536 4050.

PCYC markets

Held every Sunday at the Tweed Heads PCYC, corner of Florence and Adelaide Streets, running from early in the morning to around lunchtime. For more info call 07 5599 1714.

Free meals

Delicious free meals prepared by Sri Govinda Dham are served every second Tuesday at the Murwillumbah Community Centre from 11.45am-12.30pm. All welcome. Next one on December 15. For info call Prema Das on 6679 5541.

Landcare volunteers

Friends of Wollumbin (FOW) Landcare group are looking for more people to help with the Byangum Community Tweed Riverbank Restoration Project. Volunteers meet the first Saturday of the month from 8am to 1pm to plant trees on the banks of the Tweed River on Kyogle Road, one kilometre south of Byangum Bridge. For further info call Marcia on 6672 8146 or email podge@netspace.net.au.

Volunteering

Looking for a way to gain work experience, meet friends and/or contribute to your community? Each week NORTEC Volunteering has around 200 volunteer positions available through community organisations in our region. The 'five most wanted' vacancies this week include: Tweed Heads, site activities assistant;

Mekong River journey documented



Marc Renshaw and Karlee Rawkins in front of their joint exhibition currently showing at Tweed River Art Gallery called Mekong Drift which documents and reflects on their journey along the Mekong River. the exhibition is showing till May 2 in conjunction with three other exhibitions including the popular 58th Blake Prize touring exhibition. Photo Jeff Dawson.

Tweed Shire - Hands On Volunteers to provide manicures, nail and face massage and one-on-one personal support to residents; Murwillumbah, tax help volunteer; Tweed Heads - Volunteer-friendly visitor; Tyalgum/Chillingham, childcare worker. For info visit www.nortectd.com.au or call 02 6672 8288.

Parent support

The Family Centre's trained volunteers and support workers provide practical parenting support to parents and carers living in the Tweed Shire who are caring for at least one child 0-3 years of age. For info call 07 5524 871.

Walking group

Murwillumbah on the Move walking group meets at information centre carpark at 6.50am Wednesdays and Saturdays. Enjoyable walks around town. All welcome. For info call 02 6672 1660.

Bargain shop

The Uniting Church Bargain Shop helps the Blair Athol Supported Accommodation and Assistance Program. Pre-loved clothing, bric-a-brac, small household items, linen, books and luggage as well as new greeting cards and wrapping paper available. At 2/3 Machinery Drive, Tweed Heads South, from Monday to Friday 9.30am-3.30pm. For info call Malcolm or Georgina on 07 5524 4963.

Computer skills

Computer Association Tweed Seniors meets at 10.30am on the third Wednesday of each month at Seagulls. Learn computer skills from other seniors. Joining days are on the second Thursday of each month at Seagulls. For info call Noelene on 07 5599 8939 (Mon-Fri 9-5). All welcome.

Toastmasters

Become a popular, confident public speaker, tune listening skills and have a laugh as well. Join Murwillumbah Toastmasters every other Thursday for dinner and friendship (all ages). Call Marg 02 6677 9575 or Phil 02 6677 9388.

Justices

Tweed Valley Justices of the Peace have a desk at Tweed Centro each Tuesday 10am-2pm. Also at Tweed City Thursday from 10am-2pm and 5pm-7pm. For info call Margaret on 07 5599 2975.

Breast screening

BreastScreen NSW Tweed Heads Clinic at The Tweed Hospital offers free screening mammograms all year

round. After hours appointments are also available on Thursday nights and Saturdays. All women over the age of 40 are eligible, however women aged 50 to 69 are particularly encouraged to receive two yearly mammograms. Appointments can be made by phoning 13 20 50.

Kids helpline

When kids face a crisis, Kids Helpline is there to help, Australia's only telephone and online counselling service specifically for children and young people aged 5 to 25 years. For info call 1800 55 1800 (free call) or go to www.kidshelpline.com.au.

Community exchange

Tweed Shire Community Exchange. Tweed Shire's newest economy. Website: www.tweedshire.info. Email: ur@machinerydrive.com. Mobile/SMS: 0424 670787. People helping people. The exchange is a network of people helping people. Get help, buy things, sell things and help others without paying cash.

Community calendar

Tweed Shire Council online community calendar of events lets you know what's on. Available for event organisers, community groups,

resident and ratepayer groups and others to promote their local events. Visit www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/Events/WhatsOnCommunity.aspx.

Meditation

Buddhism drop-in classes in Murwillumbah for guided meditations, teaching and discussion, followed by refreshments. All welcome and no prior experience necessary. Class fee \$10. For info call 07 5535 1140 or visit info@goldcoastmeditation.org

Meditation groups

Every Monday evening, 7pm-9pm at Kingscliff Holistic Centre, For info call 6674 4866.

Pottsville meet

Pottsville Community Association has deferred the April and May meetings. Next meeting will be June 29 at 7.45pm. New members welcome. For info call Helen 02 6676 2549.

Nashos

The Gold Coast South-Twin Towns Branch of the National Servicemen's Association of Australia will hold its general meeting on Sunday, May 16, at 10am in the Anzac Room of Twin Towns Services Club. For info call John 07 5535 2484.

EMERGENCY NUMBERS	
Please stick this by your phone	
EMERGENCY ONLY AMBULANCE, FIRE, POLICE.....	000
AMBULANCE Kingscliff, Tweed Heads, Murwillumbah	131 233
MURWILLUMBAH HOSPITAL	02 6672 1822
EMERGENCY	02 6672 0230
TWEED HEADS HOSPITAL.....	07 5536 1133
FIRE BRIGADE	
Kingscliff.....	02 6674 1271
Murwillumbah.....	02 6672 8305
Tweed Heads.....	07 5536 2222
Tweed Rural Fire Service.....	02 6672 7888
POLICE NON EMERGENCIES 24/7	131 444
Tweed Heads.....	07 5536 0999
Murwillumbah.....	02 6672 9499
Kingscliff.....	02 6674 9399
STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE	
Tweed Heads.....	07 5524 1349
Murwillumbah.....	02 6676 7355
LIFELINE	131 114
GOLD COAST HELICOPTER RESCUE SERVICE	07 5598 0222
TWEED COAST AIR SEA RESCUE.....	07 5536 9333
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE 24 hour crisis line	1800 656 463
ANIMAL WELFARE (RSPCA).....	07 5536 5135
NSW Wildlife Information & Rescue Service (WIRES) ..	02 6628 1898
WILDLIFE CARERS TWEED VALLEY	02 6672 4789
CURRUMBIN SANCTUARY	07 5534 1266
SEA WORLD	07 5588 2222

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WELL presented staff req for new men's massage centre in Tweed. 0415746443

ELLA Erotic Body Rub, relaxation plus more. Murwillumbah, 0421025831

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 Good working environment with female staff
 must be 18-65 yrs old
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ANZAC DAY 25th April - 2UP & BBQ

HAPPY HOUR! 4pm-6pm Mon to Fri \$2.50 middies & \$3.50 schooners

BISTRO Kids eat free Monday nights (conditions apply) Wednesdays \$12 Steak & Parmy night **NEW MENU!**

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Pick it fresh on Tuesday.

Fresh vegetables, fruit, meats, bakery, dairy produce, pasta, olives, nuts, organic veg seedlings and a good cup of locally grown coffee. Two market hampers to be won on May 4. Free tickets from each stall you shop from. New Brighton Farmers Market every Tuesday 8am - 11am, rain or shine, New Brighton Oval. Tel: 6684 5390.

Anzac Day march commander for the Gold Coast-Tweed Nashos, Bill Hagen, known for his 'Kooooo Eeeee Kooooo Eeeee' (a call to arms) says it's a great honour to be able to march with veterans 'in commemoration of these sad occasions'. The Gold Coast/Tweed, according to branch president Don Beck, could have as many as 40,000 ex-nashos (national service personnel) living in the region, 'after all, this has to be one of the biggest concentrations of grey hairs in Australia'. Don says 'We would welcome those who were called up in the 60s and early 70s and assemble in Goodwin Park, Coolangatta, from 9.30am (this Sunday). Help support and maintain the memory of our forefathers who helped make this country one of the most peaceful and safest countries in the world, by marching with us this year'.

They call themselves The Gentlemen of Murwillumbah, the town's team in the new Village Rugby Comp which kicked off recently. Coached by former Wallaby Peter Crittle, the Gentlemen were just beaten in their opening round last Saturday by Byron Bay, with the score 12-5. Trailing by 5 points at halftime, coach Crittle's half time talk had the desired effect, with the Gentlemen pressuring the Byron line for long periods. Prop Phil Lees barged over to score the first try by a Murwillumbah side in almost 100 years! Yes, it's been century since a rugby team from Murwillumbah played in such a comp, as it was disrupted during the First World War when many of them enlisted in the 41st Battalion to fight abroad. Best for the locals were captain Phil Brown, Luke Mc Veigh and David Goodman. This weekend, they travel to Iluka to play Iluka. Good luck gentlemen.

Tweed councillors don't usually like unwanted disruptions during their monthly meetings, especially people in wildlife masks, and of course those irritating mobile phones going off in the public gallery. But on Tuesday night, it was none other than Cr Phil 'You're All Morons' Youngblutt whose phone went off, but instead of coolly turning it off, the councillor answered it, much to the annoyance of public officer Neil Baldwin who sternly pointed Phil to the door as he kept trying to talk on the phone. Phil told the caller (and everyone else in the council



Southern Cross University (SCU) Gold Coast (airport) campus student Alana Stockwell checks some books out at the new University Co-operative bookshop/cafe after its official launch last Friday.

If you've been to University in Australia in the last 50 odd years there's a good chance you are a member of the Co-op Bookshop, with its 43 outlets around Australia. The new bookshop and cafe is in the SCU campus near Coolangatta, and a *Backburner* hack, who joined the Co-op way back in 1982, has been reminded that membership is for life, and therefore all 1.5 million of us Co-op members are entitled to book discounts till the day we die. Give them a call on 07 5599 4191 and make sure you're still listed. Feel free to join if you're not a member (it's open to anyone, not just students). Photo Jeff 'Silly Font' Dawson

chamber) he'd ring them back. We assume it was just another moron, er, constituent.

You have to hand it to the Australian Hotels Association (AHA). They are a lobby group with an amazing capacity to turn black into white. There was their spokeswoman on Sydney television the other night bemoaning the inaccuracy of crime figures collected by the police and saying how no notice could be taken of data showing the enormity of the drunken violence problem. And she said it with a completely serious straight face even though the whole point of the criticism of the police figures is that they understate the problem of street violence caused by patrons of AHA establishments.

On ABC TV's *Hungry Beast* program last week, the local youth crime issue was taken up after a series of fatal and serious bashings in the Tweed-Coollangatta area recently. But *Backburner* was dismayed that much of the blame went on the lack of police while the root cause we all know is alcoholic recklessness due to licensing laws which allow nightclubs to stay open way past the point when most people would be drunk anyway. Shut the pubs and clubs earlier and you'll solve the problem of nearly every violent-assault hot spot around Australia.

Australia is expected to host a World Rally in 2011, but there is no confirmation the event will return to the Tweed/Kyogle region. A website, autosport.com, reported yesterday that the FIA, the sport's governing body, had decided on the 2011 calendar after months of negotiation with promoters North One, and Australia is included. *The Echo* put a question to Rally Australia yesterday seeking a statement that the event will return here but not surprisingly there was no response. Rally Australia is believed to have offered to maintain one employee at the council's office in Murwillumbah.

It harks back to yesteryear, but deb balls seem to be coming back into fashion, at least in the rural villages where traditions are held onto. The Tyalgum Debutante Ball is on next Friday, April 30, at 8pm with music by Trilogy, so if you want to take part or join the fun night, call Peter Hair on 0409 571 398.

Our new \$76 million water treatment plant at Bray Park promises to deliver improved water quality and provide extra protection from harmful micro-organisms. That's all fine, *Backburner* reckons, but what about the taste? Many rural residents will agree rainwater collected from the roof tastes

better than town tapwater any day and are willing to risk the water-borne bugs which sneak through tank or household filter systems. The shire's reticulated drinking water has been treated with chemicals such as fluoride (to fight tooth decay), chlorine (as a disinfectant), lime (to make it less corrosive) and aluminium sulphate (to allow flocculation and coagulation during treatment). But a recent study by Monash University and the CSIRO has found rainwater tanks in Melbourne are commonly contaminated with high levels of lead and other heavy metals. What a dilemma: taste or safety. The Australian Bureau of Statistics reports 20 per cent of homes now have rainwater tanks, up from 15 per cent three years ago.

In an age when we're surrounded by modern concrete buildings, it's nice to see Tweed Shire Council doing its bit to hide at least some of it! In a scene more akin to a movie set than a roadside, workers have put the finishing touches to the concrete reinforcement to the roadside bank at the Bray Park cutting last week. And they didn't just painting it brown, the bank is now a work of art complete with authentic looking lines and markings, it's almost like the real thing. Who said road work couldn't be aesthetically pleasing?

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