



Echo

LET YOUR FREAK FLAG FLY



Governments put \$885,000 in the refurbishment kitty for dilapidated icon

New life for Mullumbimby's civic hall

Alex McAuley

Byron Shire Council has pledged \$500,000 its special rate increase for 2005/2006 to the refurbishment of the Mullumbimby Civic Hall. In addition, Councillors Peter Westheimer and Ray Kestle have applied for a number of grants and been successful to the tune of \$335,473 from the federal government and \$50,000 from the NSW state government.

NSW Nationals senator Sandy Macdonald announced that the Regional Partnerships federal funding was to 'help the Byron Shire Council to purchase material and retain labour to improve the facility.' He went on to say, 'The hall was closed in 2003 and immediately sealed for safety reasons due to the failure of an aged sprung flooring system, the age of the timber and poor ventilation.'

Cr Westheimer took the

refurbishment of the hall on as his pet project on election to Council, describing the grant application process as his 'initiation into the vagaries of funding bureaucracy'.

'I am thrilled, it is like the baby has been born. I still want to stay involved with the project, but it has legs of its own now,' said Cr Westheimer.

'The refurbishment will include new seating, lighting, sound/visual equipment, kitchen, toilet repairs and disabled access. The inside and outside need repainting, and there will need to be a new awning, however the overall look of the building will remain unchanged. There will also be a new sprung floor put in, for which the Ministry of Arts has given us a \$50,000 grant.'

Cr Westheimer's vision for the hall is a 'flexible space suitable for all kinds of users. It could be used for

school functions, dances, yoga, drama, conferencing, really as many different uses as possible. In our business plan we forecast a \$30,000 per year income to cover the cost of maintenance, something which didn't happen before resulting in the collapse of the facility.'

And it doesn't stop there. Cr Westheimer hopes the refurbishment of the hall will be stage one of the Civic Centre precinct upgrade including the old council chambers and the garden areas.

'This is so important for the Mullumbimby community,' said Cr Westheimer. 'In the long term, I have a vision for a week long Byron Shire Festival comprising music, drama, and artistic activities to be held across the shire.'

'With the Civic Hall in Mullumbimby being refurbished and the existing facilities in Bangalow and Byron Bay, if we can establish a cul-



Councillors Ray Kestle and Peter Westheimer celebrate the good news. Photo Jeff Dawson

tural centre in Ocean Shores we could spread the festival across a broad section of the community. With the number of creative people living in this area it could be great. I

see it as the future for tourism in the shire.'

The working group will meet this week to confirm a project management plan and view the engineer's report,

which shows that the building is in good condition. Barring any unforeseen stumbling blocks, Cr Westheimer is confident that the project could be completed within a year.



Hannah Goodchild and Wiggles Gooddog at Saturday's protest. Photo Jeff 'Scruffy' Dawson

Dogs protest against shortened walkies under marine park plan

Nearly 100 dogs turned up at the beach near Brunswick Heads Surf Club last Saturday to protest against the new restrictions on the off leash dog exercise area being imposed on the area.

The 100 or so human escorts were outraged that the previous off leash area of one kilometre has been shortened to 500 metres as a result of the new Marine Park zoning plan which was gazetted in Byron Bay on Monday.

Member of Brunswick Area Responsible Canine

Owners (BARCO) Jill Ball claims that despite persistent lobbying of state government ministers in both primary industries and environment departments, they have not received any response to date.

'When we heard that it was likely that the off leash area was to be reduced, we sent a petition with over 800 signatures on it to Bob Debus, Minister for the Environment,' said Ms Ball. 'That was at the end of 2004 and we have still not received a reply.'

Ms Ball pointed out that although the off leash area was officially being reduced to 500 metres, because there is a 100 metre buffer zone south of the surf club, the actual area will only be 400 metres, which doesn't really leave a lot of room for a dog to stretch its legs.

Primary industries minister Ian Macdonald announced the opening of the park at Cape Byron.

'We worked closely with the local community to develop a comprehensive

continued on page 2



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Big cuppa brews up at farmers mart

The Cancer Council's biggest morning tea was held last Thursday at the Byron Farmers Market. On hand to give a cooking demonstration was celebrity chef and author Belinda Jeffery, who used the opportunity to use the market's produce and promote healthy eating. 'I was approached last year to be a part of the fundraising and I am delighted to help again,' Jeffery told *The Echo*.

Last year, Australia's Biggest Morning Tea raised around \$7.2 million Australia-wide. This money goes on research into the causes of cancer and into new and improved treatments.

The event also entered into The Guinness Book of Records as The World's Largest Simultaneous Tea Party.

For more info call 1300 65 65 85 or visit www.biggest-morningtea.com.au.



Belinda Jeffery and Cancer Council volunteer, Norma Forest, toast the launch of the 'World's Biggest Cuppa' program. Photo Jeff 'Not Now, Darjeeling' Dawson

Adoptathon aims to raise funds for pet shelter

Owning a pet is a big responsibility and not one to be taken lightly, however the benefits of owning a pet make the responsibility worthwhile. If you've always wanted a pet but didn't want to spend a fortune on a pedigree pooch or puss, then this weekend's Animal Rights and Rescue Pet Adoptathon is the perfect opportunity for you to rescue a needy animal and realise your dream.

Animal Rights and Rescue Group (ARRG) is a non

profit volunteer organisation which rescues homeless or unwanted animals and provides them with care and shelter until suitable homes can be found for them. ARRG is a no kill group meaning that no animal has been euthanased by the group unless due to illness or injury where the animal could not be saved.

As there is no RSPCA shelter or branch between Coffs Harbour and Tweed heads, ARRG covers the

entire far north coast region as far west as Tenterfield.

Currently, ARRG relies on foster families to care for their pets as it does not have a permanent shelter. The group is desperate to raise enough money for a shelter to give the animals a greater chance to find a permanent home in a shorter timeframe and take some of the burden off the foster carers.

As a way of raising money and finding loving homes for some of the rescued pets,

ARRG is holding its adopta-

thon at Lismore Showground Animal Nursery on Saturday May 6 and Sunday May 7 between 8am and 2pm. This will coincide with similar events being held in over 30 countries around the world in one huge event to find homes for thousands of unwanted pets. Dogs and puppies, cats and kittens, all are available for adoption by the right family. Entry is by gold coin donation and adoption fees apply.

The dogs bark but Minister presses on with park plans

Front page protection is provided for endan-gered species. Fifty-three per cent of the park is a general use zone, which allows most forms of recreational fishing, commercial fishing and trawling. Sanctuary or 'no take' zones take up 27.5% of the 22,000 hectare park, which extends from Brunswick Heads to Lennox Head.

Both fishers and conservationists have disagreed with this view, fishers saying too much of the area is locked up to fishing, and conservationists saying not enough pro-

tection is provided for endan-gered species.

Fifty-three per cent of the park is a general use zone, which allows most forms of recreational fishing, commercial fishing and trawling. Sanctuary or 'no take' zones take up 27.5% of the 22,000 hectare park, which extends from Brunswick Heads to Lennox Head.

Habitat protection zones

(18.7%) allow recreational fishing and some commercial fishing but no trawling.

An amendment to the Marine Parks Regulation, which came into force last Monday, allows aboriginal people to fish and collect anywhere in a marine park for the purposes of 'traditional use'. The NSW government has spent \$4.3 million buying back licences

from 21 commercial fishers affected by the zoning plan.

Brochures and posters providing information on the new zones will be distributed and government officers will promote community awareness, according to Mr Macdonald. More information on the marine park is available online at www.mpa.nsw.gov.au/cbmp/cbmp.htm.

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Billy Dalton's Art Show will be held in the upstairs Studio Room at the Byron Bay Community Centre opening Friday 19 May, 2006 with the last day being Wednesday 24 May, 2006.

An array of art styles will be featured:

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- Art Clothing - a mixture of hand painted silks
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- Photography - local surfers from The Pass and Watego's

Opening night begins at 6pm, 19 May, 2006.
Entry is free
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Local News

Remembering old mates lost to war



Parade marshal Merv Pepper's face reflects the solemnity of Anzac Day in Mullumbimby. The day was marked on Tuesday last week in several towns throughout the Shire. Photo Jeff Dawson

Police downplay Bay brawl

The usual suspects youth and alcohol seem to be the cause of events that led to at least two arrests last Friday night in Byron Bay, but local police are downplaying the situation, saying that many of the weekend's media reports are extremely exaggerated.

Byron Bay police duty officer Owen King has confirmed that five of the eight people detained were arrested and charged on the night, and when asked how many were involved in the incident said there were no exact figures 'but there were nowhere near what has been reported [300], probably only a few more than were detained'.

A local source who said he was a parent of one of the teenagers at Apex Park claims to have called police late Friday afternoon to tell them of a text he found on his daughter's mobile calling local teenagers to 'bring their weapons' but police say they were given

no prior warning of the brawl and said that although they had heard there were SMS text messages circulating, they had not seen any of these themselves.

The brawl started at around 10pm on Friday near the Beach Hotel at the top end of Jonson Street and continued into Apex Park on the main beach area intermittently until about midnight when back-up police, who had been called in from Mullumbimby, Kingscliff and Ballina to assist the local force, moved the last stragglers along.

Reports that this was an anti-tourist motivated argument seem to be false as most of the youth involved were from the Byron, Suffolk, Mullumbimby and Ocean Shores areas with a few of the youth appearing from Lismore. Of more concern to authorities is the fact that of those detained, five were underaged and all were intoxicated, two of those

arrested were girls under 18. 'This is more a case of local kids who have a tendency to think that this is their town and this is where friction develops,' said Inspector King.

Police were showered with rocks and bottles, with none hitting the mark and no injuries have been reported, but the warning that members of the public who want to hinder police in their duty will face severe consequences was brought home.

The more worrying aspect of the events are the number of underaged drinkers on the street. Children as young as thirteen were moved along or taken home.

Friday night is always the busiest night in Byron, but as to reports that there were 300 people involved local police have said that there is quite often that many people on the streets in town on any Friday night. They were not all in Apex Park brawling.

Night looks at highway impact

The Byron Environment Centre is holding a film night on Saturday May 6 at 7pm at the Heart Space above Santos in Mullumbimby. Guest speakers will be looking at the overall impacts of the Pacific Highway on community and the environment.

Films include *Bypassed*, a new documentary on the cross border Tugan bypass; *Paradise Lost*, an aerial perspective of the landscape between Ewingsdale and Tintenbar with a commentary by Bob Deards; footage from lobby group CARS, and subject to availability, David Bradbury's *Bridge over the River Bruns*. Speakers include ecologist Mark Graham, environmental scientist Steve Phillips, Valerie Thompson of the Total Environment Centre and Denise Greenaway, who will talk on the Ocean Shores experience. Entry is free.

BEC spokesperson Nino MacDonald said, 'Spending billions of dollars to build a highway with a 200 metre wide footprint and potential for six lanes will only increase road use in an age of climate change, dwindling oil supplies and soaring petrol prices. Politicians, bureaucrats and planners need to get their heads out of the clouds and have a serious look at what is going on down here. We need 21st century solutions for 20th century problems for a change.'

'Cumulative impacts of Pacific Highway upgrades are the greatest single agent of landscape change and floodplain vegetation loss in coastal NSW.'

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Orchids galore

According to Laurie Mountford, 'orchid growing isn't a passion; it's a bloody disease, and every orchid grower is an expert'. Laurie is a member of The Far North Coast District Orchid Council Inc and has spent the last ten years working with the council to hold the Mothers Day Orchid Gala.

There will be plenty of orchids for sale, and market stalls offering coffee, olives, honey and wine all add to the gala atmosphere.

The gala will take place at the Ballina RSL Club auditorium, River St, Ballina on Friday and Saturday May 12 and 13 from 10am to 5pm and Sunday May 14 from 10am to 2pm. Entry is free.

A grave turn to BayFM's new lineup



One of the many new programs to feature in BayFM's new season lineup, DJ Rapunzel and the Undertaker present 'Soundtrack to Life' and 'Last Requests'. For the former guests will talk about the music that shaped their lives, in the latter they'll select what they most want to hear (sic, fully sic) at their funeral. Soundtrack to Life begins Sat May 6, 9am-10am 99.9 BayFM.

Residential rates to pass \$2,000 mark

The total cost of Council rates to the average resident in Byron Shire will now top \$2,000 following Councilors decision last Thursday to adopt the draft Management Plan and Budget for 2006-9. Ratepayers will have a chance to comment on the 300 odd page document when it goes on public exhibition over the next few weeks.

As well as setting the increase in rates for the next year, the documents lay out in detail where each precious cent is spent and what the work priorities are for each division of Council.

Following a decision to apply for a rate rise double the level of that set by the state government, the average residential rate will increase from \$728 to \$783. However water and sewer charges will increase by \$30

and \$50 respectively and a new \$25 stormwater charge has been included for the first time. This follows a move by the state government to allow councils to introduce levies specifically for stormwater works. The total effect on the average residential rate bill will be a rise from \$1,889 this year to \$2,057 for 2006/07, or 8.89%.

'If approved the rate increase will raise approximately \$474,000 per annum,' said Byron Shire Mayor Jan Barham in her introduction to the plan.

'The projects and programs that will be funded by this increase include increased sports field maintenance to keep up with the construction of new sports fields in Bangalow, Byron Bay and Suffolk Park, more funding for urban and rural

roads, bushfire management on Council reserves, completing upgrade works on the A&I Hall at Bangalow, Stage 1 of the Byron Bay Library, further work on the Byron Bay Bypass, a one-off upgrade of playgrounds and community buildings throughout the Shire, as well as ongoing increased maintenance.

'There is also funding for a further loan of \$500,000 to upgrade sporting fields in the Shire, and for a new cleaning team to carry out improvements and clean up works in parks and reserves throughout the Shire as needed.'

'The rate increase will amount to approximately \$1 per week on the average residential rate and about \$1.20 on the average payment of all ratepayers. I urge your support to help Council deliver

a sustainable future for Byron Shire,' the Mayor said.

For the past three years, Council has raised rates by more than the state set level. Byron Shire General Manager Pamela Westing said that some of the projects funded by these special rate variations included renovation of the Mullumbimby Civic Hall, works at Bangalow's A&I Hall, a child care centre at Suffolk Park, the Tourism Management Plan, a Transport study for Byron Bay and increased funding for the library.

'Major capital works continue in the sewer fund as upgrades continue to sewerage treatment plants throughout the Shire. The Myocum dip is now fully functional and planning is under way for the long term waste management strategy,' she said in the plan.

Cyberknife alternative available in Oz

Last week's *Echo* reported on the plight of local resident Leah Chapman and her struggle to obtain potentially life saving treatment for her cancer. Leah's partner Ashley Mackinnon told us how the Cyberknife treatment she required is unavailable in Australia, and he couldn't understand why this should be the case.

However, another local resident who suffers from brain cancer subsequently contacted us to tell us that she had stereotactic radiosurgery - the procedure performed by Cyberknife - in Australia over a year ago under the care of Dr Robert Smee, Senior Specialist at Prince of Wales Hospital in Randwick.

'It is true that Cyberknife is not available in Australia,'

said Dr Smee, 'however there are other comparable treatments available, such as the modified linear accelerator [the method used by Dr Smee to perform stereotactic radiosurgery].'

'Cyberknife is a very good machine and it is being very aggressively marketed at the moment. The Medical Schedule Advisory Committee has recently met to evaluate Cyberknife and present its recommendations to the health minister. While we don't yet know what those findings are, it is expected that they will not recommend Cyberknife as it is not sufficiently different from current methods to justify its enormous expense.'

Dr Smee currently treats brain and back cancers, but said there was no reason that

he couldn't treat liver lesions if he had the time.

'We have adequate facilities in this country in terms of the process although not in numbers,' said Dr Smee. 'The government should be supporting this treatment more but not necessarily

through Cyberknife.'

Currently, there are six public hospitals in capital cities around Australia offering stereotactic radiosurgery. Anyone who would like more information about this treatment should discuss it with their specialist.

Concert to benefit Peru project

Allegro Gone Troppo's annual May (belated Mothers Day!) concert is supporting women and children in Lima, Peru. The concert will also feature a number of other accapella choirs.

The Peru Project is based in the poverty stricken slums of the capital city. The project provides a haven for women and children, teaching them skills and educates them to look after themselves and

their families. Recently a small group of local people collected unused spectacles for this project.

Funds (cake and food sales) from the Allegro concert on May 20 at the Bangalow Catholic Hall at 7.30pm will go directly to the project. For information or to help contribute to the project phone Frances 6685 9631 or Michael or Simone 6685 6838.

Local News

Tourism grants

Tourist operators can now apply for grants worth about \$7 million under round three of the Australian Government's Australian Tourism Development Program.

The Australian Tourism Development Program supports projects that promote tourism development in regional and rural Australia. The program provides successful applicants with grants ranging from \$50,000 to \$500,000 in two separate categories.

Applications close on Wednesday June 28.

Applicants are encouraged to contact AusIndustry customer service managers via the hotline, on 13 28 46 before submitting an application.

A pheasant morning in Bangalow



Ken Hammond with his Game Ring Neck Pheasant at last Sunday's poultry auction at Bangalow.
Photo Jeff 'Pluck A Duck' Dawson

BEACON slams Sartor on Becton delay

Local conservation lobby group BEACON has called on NSW Planning Minister Frank Sartor to stop his 'protracted dithering' and refuse Becton's development application (DA) for its North Beach proposal at Byron Bay on the basis that threatened species and ecosystems have not been properly assessed and the Species Impact Statement is legally invalid.

BEACON spokesperson, Dailan Pugh, said in a press release last Monday, 'BEACON have obtained expert ecological advice that Becton's assessment of threatened species and ecosystems does not adequately consider them and the impacts of the proposal upon them. Based on this, BEACON have obtained legal advice that the Species Impact Statement is legally invalid as it does not adequately address the Department of Environment and Conservation

[DEC] director general's requirements.

'Given these, and other, fatal legal flaws with Becton's DA, the Minister must stop dithering over his determination and refuse it without further delay.

'Minister Sartor has had Becton's DA since July 2005, though the clock started ticking when he exhibited the DA on March 3, 2006. From that date the Minister had 40 days to make his determination, though he has so far taken over 60 days.

'Last time it took the Minister over nine months to reject the legally invalid Masterplan, how long is it going to take him to reject this legally invalid proposal? If the Minister was a Council, by now he would have sacked himself and put in an administrator. We are waiting.'

Commenting on Mr Pugh's claims Simon Stockfeld, the development man-

ager for Becton's North Beach proposal, told *The Echo*, 'We haven't seen Becton's legal advice but we would be interested in seeing it. I believe Becton also made these claims several weeks ago.

'The DEC is in the process of assessing the SIS. It's voluminous - 1,000 pages - so it will take some time.

'It did conclude there was no impact on species and it is a direct response to the director general's requirements.

'We were given guidelines that it would take several months to assess the development application. The

Dance on the footpath

It is with great pleasure NORPA Dance Action presents free community dance performances Dance On the Footpath to celebrate 2006 National Dance Week.

The huge Byron community show will take place in Apex Park (opposite the Beach Hotel) from 2-4pm on Sunday May 7, and will comprise over 20 different local groups and many styles of dance including Jazz, Neo Classical, Hip Hop, Belly Dance, Highland, Salsa, African, Contemporary, Tahitian, B Boys and lots more, each act limited to 4-5 minutes. The event will be MC'd by hula girl Suzy Leigh who will be inviting the audience to participate in a big finale consisting of an African workshop run by Cheze and some hot freestyling!

There will be alternative celebrations of Dance on the Footpath held in Lismore (Thursday May 11, 12.30pm -1.30pm) on the grassy patch between the Northern Rivers Conservatorium of Music and Dance and the Lismore Library.

exhibition period was for six weeks instead of four, which we felt was appropriate given the history of the site.

'We believe a number of government agencies are still providing their assessments, including Council, and we expect a decision in the middle of the year.

'All things are on schedule and given the size and history [of the project] it shouldn't be rushed through.'

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Byron Community & Cultural Centre

Local News

BRUNSWICK HEADS BLINDS & AWNINGS



- ROMAN BLINDS
 - VERTICAL DRAPES
 - VENETIAN BLINDS (TIMB & ALUM)
 - HOLLAND BLINDS
 - PLEATED BLINDS
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Transport forum

Byron Shire Council is holding a free seminar on transport issues in the Northern Rivers Region on Friday May 19, 9am-4pm, at the Bangalow A&I Hall. All are welcome to attend.

Keynote speakers will present issues papers addressing the following themes:

- Reinstatement of rail commuter services on the Casino to Murwillumbah line;
- Rail versus road freight;
- The need for a long term integrated transport strategy for the region;
- Connectivity to Queensland;
- Pacific Highway issues and alternative highway routes;
- Safety on our roads – can we wait ten years for safe highways?;
- Public transport;
- Tourism and transport – future planning; and
- Pressure of high fuel costs.

For further details and to make submissions, contact Cr Tom Tabart on 6685 1286 or cr.tomtabart@bigpond.com, or Cr Jan Mangleson on 6680 1108 or cr.jan.mangleson@bigpond.com.

Colour Crysta eggs-tra happy



Brunswick Heads Public School's Crysta Carpenter won a \$100 shopping voucher for her entry in Brunswick 5 Star's Easter colouring competition.

Vandals dismay netball crew

What is it that makes groups of young people want to destroy things that others have worked so hard to create? This is a question the hard working folk at the Brunswick Byron Netball Association are asking rather a lot at the moment after a spate of vandalism at the Mullumbimby netball courts has left them aghast.

Following the Rukkus festival there was a significant amount of damage caused to the facility including broken glass left on the courts, gutters ripped off the club house, phone lines broken, power boxes and light poles vandalised and bollards in the car park pulled out. President of the BBNA Robyn Venn said that she was very disappointed by the mess left after the festival, but definitely doesn't want the event to discontinue as a result of the vandalism.

'We are all parents and we want to have events for our teenagers to enjoy in town, but they need to work for

everyone,' said Ms Venn. 'We had a very positive debriefing with the Rukkus organisers and feel we can make some changes for next year to prevent this kind of thing from happening again.'

Unfortunately, just when things were looking up vandals struck again, this time setting fire to a wheelie bin on one of the newly resurfaced courts. This is the second time this has happened and results in the surface of the court melting and needing immediate repair before it can be played on. Ms Venn explained that BBNA members had been working their guts out to fundraise the \$39,000 for a new court surface after the first fire had destroyed the court last year, and had just managed to get the money together to do the job.

Gerard Roche, Overseer of Parks at Byron Shire Council said that they were about half way through the job when the vandalism occurred and the necessary repairs would

set them back by at least a week.

'Once the asphalt is repaired, we have an interstate specialist company here to lay the new surface over the top,' said Ms Venn. 'The problem is that they are on a tight schedule, so council are working against the clock to get their bit finished before the resurfacers need to leave the area.'

If anyone has any information about the vandalism, please contact Mr Roche at Byron Shire Council on 6626 7000.

Inspectors visit

NSW Minister for Industrial Relations, John Della Bosca, said that inspectors would be visiting 140 commercial, transport and light industrial businesses on the north coast from this week.

Mr Della Bosca said the inspectors would be in the Ballina, Murwillumbah, Bellingen, Nambucca Heads and Byron Bay.

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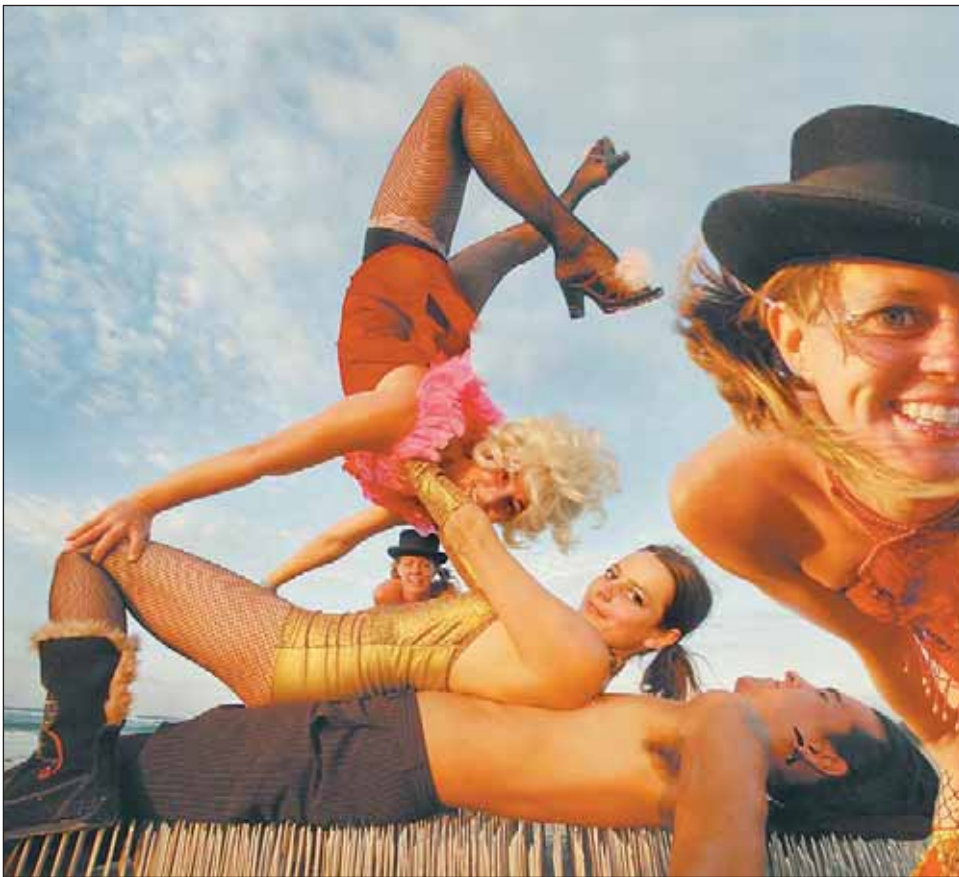
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72604

Local News

May Day Fiesta raises funds for Amnesty



As a visual metaphor, Crazy Circus rise above the hundreds of pri... short, sharp, spiky things that form repressive regimes worldwide. Crazy Circus team up with the likes of The Hottentots, The Samba Blistas, fabulous, hot fashions from Judy Who, There'll be Tango and Samba Dancers and of course African drummers, all contributing to the carnival atmosphere of this coming Friday night's May Day Fiesta for Amnesty International fundraiser at Ewingsdale Hall at 7pm. Photo Jeff Dawson

Throw out a lifeline for the dateless

Are you young, single and having trouble finding that Mr or Ms Right? Well this is your big chance to 'Get Connected' in a safe, non-threatening environment and while doing so be giving something to a worthwhile cause.

Lifeline Northern Rivers is holding the inaugural 'Get Connected' afternoon in what is described as 'a bit of fun for the over 25s' as part of Lifeline Awareness month during May. For a \$20 entry fee, you can expect some speed dating, dancing demonstrations and lessons, games, food and a drink.

Offering 24 hour telephone counselling services for the cost of a local call as well as face to face counselling, the service is literally a lifeline for many thousands of people with mental health problems, their carers,

friends and families. 'We are a non profit, volunteer run organisation that receives no government funding,' explained Sue Lloyd, Acting Chief Executive Officer of Lifeline Northern Rivers. 'We are in constant need of funds for the maintenance of our premises, paying for telephone services and running training courses for our volunteer counsellors.'

Currently, top of the wish list for Ms Lloyd is a new building in order to centralise all their services which at the moment are outsourced due to the lack of suitable facilities.

'We've got our eye on something that would be perfect, but it's going to cost at least one million dollars, so we've got a lot of work to do,' said Ms Lloyd.

So if you'd like the chance

to meet your perfect match for a great cause, get down to the Alstonville Leisure Centre at 12pm on Saturday May 6. If that's not quite your thing, there's no excuse for missing the Annual Book-fest running from Saturday May 20 to Tuesday May 23 at the Lismore Distribution Centre from 9am to 4pm. This is a great opportunity to pick up a bargain book from the huge range available for sale. Rounding up the month of activities will be a garage sale on Saturday June 3, also at the distribution centre.

Ms Lloyd is urging local businesses to support Lifeline by donating out of season or damaged stock and discontinued lines for sale in their centres. She is also looking for sponsorship and financial assistance for the new building.



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Comment

Kovco fumble likely to stick to Howard

On one level the saga surrounding the deceased Private Jacob Kovco was just another of the government's sick jokes: the most unfortunate case of mistaken identity since Tony Abbot's love child.

But once the initial incredulity over the coffin-swap wore off, it was replaced by something very close to anger, and the signs are that it is a widespread anger that John Howard will find a lot harder to shrug off than the selective outrage over his handling of the far more serious wheat for weapons affair.

Over the years the electorate has come to accept that Howard cannot always be trusted; that he is and has always been a political opportunist to whom truth is just another tool, to be used or discarded as circumstances dictate.

Most believe that he lied about the children overboard, the reasons for joining the invasion of Iraq, his knowledge of the Wheat Board scandal, and many lesser matters; such is the nature of politics in present day Australia, and while we may not be entirely comfortable about it, we are pre-

pared to put up with it as long as our material prosperity does not suffer. Honest John, the nickname bestowed in irony and later worn with pride, is now seen as just another meaningless tag.

But there is one field where Howard's sincerity has been generally acknowledged, and that is his devotion, amounting almost to a form of homoeroticism, to Australia's armed forces. He has embraced the Anzac tradition like a sweaty tracksuit.

His forebears, as his minders never tire of reminding us, fought in France; when he himself is in that country, no war grave remains unvisited. Any troops leaving Australia can be assured of a prime ministerial farewell, and a similarly well-publicised greeting on their return. Howard has usurped the role of Great War Leader; the constitutional Commander-in-Chief, Governor-General Major-General Whatsisname, must make do with occasional appearances at Rotary Club lunches.

Howard's eulogies to the military are usually sanctimonious, often descend into bathos and not infrequently go right over the top, but at least he means them – or so we have believed up to now.

But the mislaying of Private Kovco has made us think again.

If Howard really cares so deeply about our fighting men, why are their bodies so poorly cared for? Why is our first military casualty in Iraq (however he may have died) not treated with the respect Howard has always claimed

actually happened? It all smacked of uncaring expediency, a mean-minded desire to do the dirty deed in the cheapest possible manner.

And why did it take Howard nearly three days before he personally acknowledged the whole schemozzle? Why was it that, as soon as things went wrong,

Howard's eulogies to the military are usually sanctimonious, often descend into bathos and not infrequently go right over the top, but at least he means them – or so we have believed up to now.

by Mungo MacCallum

is his due? Why is responsibility for his repatriation handed to a foreign-owned commercial firm which apparently left the coffin to the far from tender care of airport baggage handlers? Why was it not conducted with all due ceremony by the army and his body brought home by the RAAF, as even-

our Great War Leader made himself all but invisible? Why did he leave the job of breaking the bad news to his neophyte defence minister Brendan Nelson – who at least salvaged a modicum of favourable coverage for the prime minister by rousing him out of bed to speak to Kovco's distraught widow?

Can it be that Honest John is not merely a liar, but a hypocrite?

It is a charge Howard will hate, but it is one he has brought upon himself: after all, he is the one who has spent the last ten years trying to cement the near sanctity of the defence force into the centre of Australian culture. And now it appears that it was all a sham, a ploy for political advantage. Truly, those who live by the sword shall die by the sword.

And speaking of hypocrisy, has there ever been a finer display of it than Howard's born-again support for the Smart Card – the ID card you have when you're not having an ID card?

His near hysterical rejection of Bob Hawke's Australia Card, an all but identical concept, is now to be forgotten because, avers Honest John, times have changed. We now live in the age of terror. We must now accept inroads into our rights and liberties which would have been abhorrent in more settled eras.

This was too silly even for his media boosters, who were constrained to point out that the Smart Card had

absolutely nothing to do with the war on terror and would be totally ineffective if ever called upon as a weapon. So the argument for the Smart Card is now exactly the same as it was for the Australia Card: it will consolidate some of the other cards we are now forced to carry and will help cut down on welfare fraud – although some critics say that the claimed savings will in fact be far less than the government is projecting.

These seem reasonable enough aims at the cost of very little additional intrusion of our privacy; we already have to provide all the details to use government services anyway, and in that sense the new card will be no more or less intrusive (or compulsory) than Medicare cards, pension cards and other paraphernalia we all carry. All cards are a nuisance, and some have slightly sinister connotations, but the Smart Card does not appear to be a special problem.

Nor was the Australia Card, but you never would have guessed it from the rantings of Howard and his colleagues at the time. Once again it's not the policy that jars; it's the humbug.



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Comment & Letters



Vol 20 #49

May 2, 2006

Choose your poison

It would be fair to say that attempts to reform cannabis law in NSW have been generally unsuccessful over the last thirty years. Former premier Bob Carr injected some sanity into the debate with the Drug Summit in 1999 but we can expect current Labor premier Morris Iemma, Liberals leader Peter Debnam and the aptly-named Andrew Stoner of the Nationals to trot out all the 'hard on drugs' clichés in the lead-up to the state election next year.

Those calling for drug law reform are not short on clichés either, or at least stereotyping. The colourful street parade of the Nimbin MardiGrass (www.nimbinmardigrass.com/2006/), on this coming weekend, tends to reinforce the images of the fringe culture of the radical baby boomer turned hippie – which is all well and good, but has as much bearing to the realpolitik of drug legislation as has the Spanish tomato-throwing festival La Tomatina to EU agricultural policies.

Where the Nimbin festival is stronger is in tackling law reform issues in forums. Those seeking cannabis decriminalisation or legalisation rightly point out its use and abuse is a health issue, not a criminal issue. Demonising and persecuting its users does little for community wellbeing.

The laws in Australia relating to drugs are a matter of custom and pragmatism. We allow the use of the powerful drugs alcohol and tobacco – which present far greater health problems than cannabis – because of custom, and we haven't outlawed petrol, despite its catastrophic effect on sniffers, because of pragmatism. Outlawing drugs on religious principles should not be part of a secular society but inevitably that is part of the motivation of our current lawmakers. And unfortunately the custom of outlawing some drugs is reinforced by an obsequious need to stay in the good books of the fundamentalist Bush administration.

All drugs are potentially dangerous. Life itself is dangerous – no one gets out alive. Learning to face the dangers through education is preferable to wearing blinkers on the hard issues.



continued from page 11

Because the wealthy make a lot of money out of it.

As a veteran of voluntary service in Vietnam, my youthful enthusiasm and desire to protect the freedom of the western world was cynically misused by politicians. I'm still getting over being pissed off about that and, since the RSL wouldn't allow us to join when we got back, I now avoid the politicians' playground of Anzac Day.

What helps is, now we are really working for freedom.

If our species is to have a future it must be one in harmony with each other and our earth.

Robin Harrison
Coorabell

off the NSW coastline there would be oil rigs popping up like mushrooms, so why not wind farms?

Peggy Balfour
Mullumbimby

Offshore wind

If oil drilling platforms can be constructed out to sea why can't wind power generators be constructed offshore also? Not in anyone's backyard and unobstructed wind flow. It is being done in northern hemisphere countries, why not here?

I'll bet if oil was discovered

Smart card?

John Howard has invaded the Orwellian realm. The proposed Smartcard is not compulsory, but if you want to access government services then you will have to have one. The nub of it lies right here – compulsory is voluntary.

Should you support John

Howard complete the following, 'the Smartcard is a necessity because (here put your unassailable reasons).'

However, I do believe Nietzsche once observed that 'necessity is not an established but an interpretation'. I further believe that William Pitt once observed that 'necessity is the plea for every infringement of human freedom'.

What is being done step by little step epitomises the 'inevitability of gradualness'.

J H Rose
Mullumbimby

The latest thinking on weed control

Something unusual happened at the Far North Coast Weeds bi-monthly Council meeting in Lismore this week. A recommendation came forward to list 'all lantana species' as members of the newly created Control Class 5 noxious weeds category at the February meeting – which would have the effect of prohibiting the sale of plants (fair enough) but also which would require any landholders to notify FNC Weeds 'within three days after becoming aware that the notifiable weed is on the land'.

Council sensibly voted to seek that this classification not be incorporated in the legislation.

At this week's meeting we councillors were encouraged by a further staff report to change our minds. We didn't.

This is unusual because my experience with FNC Weeds is that despite outward appearances it is very much the hidden hand of NSW Agriculture which makes major decisions. It is obvious that professional scientific advice be obtained, but the management of undesirable plants – indeed, the assessment of desirability in the context of a highly modified environment – depends on much more. The idea of the Noxious Weeds Act is 'a stitch in time saves nine' – in other words certain

highly invasive exotic species should be controlled and hopefully eliminated. This idea has been subverted by extending the list to include massively widespread species such as common lantana.

Like all exotic plants, lantana needs management, but haphazard removal will often encourage less easily controlled plants, or soil erosion.

It will be interesting to see if FNC Weeds' wishes are over-ridden by the minister. Meanwhile this letter is an attempt to inform the rural community especially what's going on and what my position (as Byron Shire delegate) has been.

Cr Richard Staples
Talofa

Cycle ways

My strong objection to the proposed cycle track along the rock edge in Banner Park, Brunswick Heads.

I was told it was going to be a concrete walkway for everyone including the elderly, the disabled in wheelchairs, people pushing prams with other children joyously running to and fro to look at the fish and birds in the creek. It was not until I saw a petition in some local shops to support a cycleway that I checked myself on the plan to find out it runs along from the rock wall edge in Banner Park and will be three metres wide.

I have always enjoyed the Woodchop Festival but was very disappointed to find out the jazz concert that always came down from Queensland could no longer come because

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Photographer **Jeff Dawson**
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Village Way, Stuart Street, Mullumbimby
Ph 02 6684 1777 Fax 02 6684 1719
Byron Bay: 3/6 Jonson St. Ph 6685 5222
Printer: Rural Press
Reg. by Aust. Post Pub. No. NBF9237.

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Letters

Stormy weather ahead for the Bay

■ It is already apparent that the stormwater flooding of the centre of Byron Bay is worst at high tide. How is it going to cope with rising sea-levels and increased rainfall intensities due to global warming?

I ask that before Byron Shire Council proceeds any further with their stormwater plans that they first incorporate a full consideration of the likely consequences of global warming into their planning. I would hate to see \$2-3 million spent that may not even be able to be flushed down the drain.

Dailan Pugh
Byron Bay

■ I'm a Byron Shire ratepayer, Byron Bay resident, and enthusiastic voter. I was among those who pointed out at great length that laying a whole bunch of new concrete and putting up a whole lot of new roofs in the poor bloody Bay would not only turn it into an average shit-hole but lead to rapid stormwater runoff. Well well, we did tell you so, and we were bloody well right.

So why the hell should I let alone any non-Byron resident foot the bill for these selfish bastards' abuse of common sense?

Like concreting sections of swamp, note the Byron Quarter and its adjacent flooding. That's *their* flooding, not mine.

Their concrete, their runoff, their problem. So let them pay for it.

Did we not cry out long: 'Don't be an idiot, Ross Tucker and co, if every bit of the hill from Bay Street down to Lawson Street is covered in cement, water will do its thing and rush off way too quick.' Well, we were right, they were wrong, so let them pay for it.

Who? The specific building owners. They can be individually listed and billed. You break it, you buy it, you bastards.

Oh, and Ian Kingston, I can still remember you laughing down by the courthouse; 'Oh, we have to call it wetland these days.'

Copies to Don Page and Frank Sartor. Yes, really.

Matt Hartley
Byron Bay

■ I was surprised to read that Council's advisors had come to the conclusion that the rock wall that lies between Main Beach and The Wreck has minimal effect on beach erosion. If they had been here longer and taken a short

walk on the beach I doubt they would have come to that conclusion.

For a start they would have realised that all beaches suffer storm damage but the ones without engineering interventions self-repair.

If they took a walk from The Wreck towards the Belongil at low tide they would have been able to observe the channel - which carries the renewing body of sand - and usually runs parallel to the beach, curving in sharply to return to its normal course after being diverted by the groyne. This happens about 100 to 150 metres beyond The Wreck.

They would also be able to see that damage is more severe the closer you are to the groyne and tapers off to be minimal by the time you reach the mouth of the Belongil.

Ironically I think the solution is not to demolish the present stone work - not practical anyway - but to extend it so that it re-creates the original arch of the beach as far as possible but some metres further out to sea.

It should also not be the confrontational sort of device it is now. It needs terraces of dressed stone or concrete blocks with rubble in between. The dressed stone

should have the tip facing the sea slightly higher than the back edge. This could allow waves to run up the slope, the water could run out between the rubble but deposit its sand. You could end up with a sandy slope.

True, storm activity would always remove some or all of the accumulated sand but the intervention would also be self-renewing and at least the sand would be carried further up the beach and not be caught up in the whirlpools that are created by the present structure and taken out to sea as now happens.

It would also need to taper in height from the centre and its wings extended, for example in the mouth to a bit beyond where the First Sun rock wall currently lies. The space between the old wall and the new could be refilled with sand and the projections that run at right angles (more or less) from the present wall would have to be removed.

Confrontational walls further up the beach would protect the houses but eventually destroy the beach and there are untold numbers of surveys around the world that bear this out.

David Gilet
Byron Bay

of insurance problems.

I have many medical problems and walk along that area under the trees at least five times a week. What insurance will the Council be liable for, passing a plan that will injure people, knowing the dangers that have been expressed by many people?

The Simple Pleasures I have enjoyed along with others for over 20 years are fast fading away.

I strongly support a cycleway through Brunswick but not there. I also support the business people in Brunswick and wish them well, but please don't do this to us.

K Hutley
Brunswick Heads

■ In response to Cycleway Blues, (Letters, April 18).

What a ridiculous and irresponsible lot we oldies must appear to be on our 'motorised wheelchairs and buggies'. Thanks, Michele Grant, for pointing this out to us.

The first thing my husband and I did on purchasing our scooter was to contact the police regarding regulations that applied to its operation.

Secondly, we took out third party insurance to offer some protection to a person or persons, should we accidentally bump them or be stepped on by someone unaware of our silent approach.

I drove a car for 60 years and never scratched the paint,

yet as soon as I, or others like me, sit behind the controls of a battery powered pedestrian aid, some people apparently think they should take off for the hills.

We elderly folk are not vermin. We are your senior citizens. We have done our bit in one way or another. Many of us, like my husband and I and our siblings, were born in the area and many of our forebears laid the foundation of the town and the waterfront we now enjoy. We've come along with this development and are proud of our heritage.

This is not a bustling metropolis. It is beautiful, laidback Brunswick Heads. Please slow down and make room for us all. In a few years you may all require pedestrian aids of some kind. I can recommend a scooter. It beats the hell out of a rockin' chair!

And Michele, isn't there something at Ocean Shores that you could fix?

Connie Crandell
Brunswick Heads

■ What a joy to read a letter written from the heart (John England, April 25) unlike Michele Grant's rabble (April 18) describing a three metre wide strip of blazing concrete along the waterfront, preferring to put her feathered friends the galahs before people like Craig Rosenkranz, a

quadruplegic and other like-wise handicapped people. Shame on you, Michele.

Coming to Brunswick before bitumen on our roads, I have seen many changes which have been done by some of the people who ride around town today on these scooters. In saying that, I am not ignoring new arrivals who also have a disability in some way. They also have a right, again seemingly ignored by Michele.

A nice walk and ride along this pathway after a meal at the outside diners must be considered a pleasant relaxation.

Also to mention is user-unfriendly footpaths for those handicapped people who I see daily out on the road because footpaths are inadequate.

I have walked on many shared walkways at home and abroad and never encountered problems. In most places people have the ability to share.

Michele, if you come to Brunswick and feel in danger and cannot share, then stay on the grass.

Kevin Mott
Brunswick Heads

Octopus Dei

Alex McAuley's disturbing article about the Catholic school principal dismissed for divorce and re-marriage and the alleged role of the Catholic enforcers, Opus Dei, took

me back, way back to the late 60s and early 70s. Opus Dei was active at the University of NSW - probably still is. Then they were dismissed and ridiculed as 'Octopus Dei'. The times were a changin' then, the tide flowing strongly with us and we thought they'd be washed up, washed out and like Goliath conquered pretty darn soon.

Parents with kids at Catho-

continued overleaf

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MATT SEABURG

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FINTAN

WHAT MAKES
BYRON SHIRE
DIFFERENT?

QUIRKY
FACT #25

VISITORS TO BANGALOW COMMENT,
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Letters

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NORTH COAST AREA HEALTH SERVICE NSW HEALTH

Liver Clinic Support Group

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Are you undergoing treatments and would like to compare your experience with others?
Are you on, or interested in treatments?
Have you completed treatment and are prepared to share your experience and lend your support to others?

This group provides an opportunity for people contemplating treatment, undergoing treatment and for those who have completed treatment or Hepatitis C to get to know each other.

The Liver Clinic welcomes you to come and participate in a facilitated, relaxed, informal discussion and to join us for a light lunch afterwards. Groups will be held in Lismore from 12.00–1.30pm on Friday:

26 May, 23 June, 21 July, 18 August and 15 September 2006

For more information please contact the Liver Clinic on 6620 7539.

Who wants the servo at Ocean Shores?

■ In the Anzac Day edition you take pride in our bias towards environmental conservation etc, but apparently have no difficulty in printing an article 'Highway ramp sought for servo access at Ocean Shores' which, quite frankly, I doubt has one skerrick of truth in it.

No 'community group' worth its salt would support such a move – designed to enhance the profits of the current owner of the land.

Derran Mallon
The Pocket

■ Landowner and service station developer Chum Vidgen advises us that there are groups interested in petitioning the minister for the ramp but he doesn't have their permission to release their names as yet. So far this doesn't seem

to include the local progress associations – Ed

■ Northern Shire residents be aware, a coach and truck petrol station is in process for Shara Boulevard. It was applied for in the 1990s, passed by delegated authority by Council general manager 2005, this should not be happening for reasons below.

- Big push by OSCA and other groups to get b-doubles off highway, letters to Ministers and state government fall on deaf ears.

- Community Liaison Group for RTA and Abigroup achieve a community road to separate b-doubles from locals, worth hundreds of thousands of dollars. Unanimous vote.

- When Abigroup did pier

piling in this area at Marshalls Creek, it was 42 metres before they hit bedrock. An all time record.

- This area's softest ground, you've heard of petrol tanks popping in times of flood.

- Abigroup used flood mitigation info after devastating June 2005 floods and two subsequent floods since to redirect water from west side to east side through series of drains, culverts and sediment ponds. These run behind proposed petrol station.

- All progress association meetings re truck stop, outcome no b-doubles using community road.

- Salad Bowl petrol station had a large area of contamination above water table, and it had also gotten into water table but this area was smaller (Minutes May 11). The land-

owner applied for access to Old New Brighton Road, but was denied, so that will have to be incorporated in station for semis etc.

- B-doubles will be allowed on the local road depending on how many wheels they have and their weight. Also trucks will drop their rigs off at the new truck stop to access petrol station. It will light up the night sky like playing fields.

- Petrol station sure, but in a safer area than this. But there's an idea – this area could be the new sports-fields. Access to the community road; will join up with bike track that's going over highway to Billinudgel. Enjoy the discussion. Seven hectares in all.

Kathy Norley
South Golden Beach

lic schools for the supposed 'moral values' may be interested in a character profile of these elusive octopi of god. They don't often surface from the backroom depths, but when they do the deformities revealed can be shocking. Best to be prepared.

They are the type who solemnly rebuke you for saying 'bum' because bad words are nails driven into Our Lord on the cross. They never laugh at jokes, not even clean ones – like, Why did the chicken cross the road? To get away from an Octopus Dei prayer meeting. And while we overflowed the streets in the Vietnam moratorium marches, they prayed for the defeat of the godless communists. That the godless communists were Vietnamese peasants fighting for their country was of no interest. And what Jesus might have thought of America's weapons of napalm and agent orange, they never bothered to ask.

But what most marks them out is their utter lack of humour or natural humanity. Where normal people see young life rejoicing, they see sin, damnation, penitence and punishment.

They suck the warmth out of the winter sun. Spring flowers die of despair as they walk past. They are like nasty little black holes gnawing at the heart.

When legendary entheogenist Jesus said, 'Let he who is without sin cast the first stone', these guys hurl their rocks with fresh vengeance. It's their greatest pleasure. George Pell and Tony Abbott, who sees backyard abortionists as God's instruments of punishment on women for being women, are examples of the species. Goliath is back, running the Catholic church.

Adrian Gattenhof
Mullumbimby

Donna's path

Could you feel sorry for a pregnant woman picked up at Sydney Airport with 2.4kg of cannabis resin? Would you manage a little pity, after reading that she gets convicted, just before the baby is due to be born, and handcuffed to the bed while being watched over by two officers from the prison service? Still none? After learning that her son Harper loses fingers and toes due to the baby's birth being artificially delayed by the prison service in order to move her to a closer jail, do you still feel 'serves her right'?

I suggest you read *Sins of the Mothers*, Pan Macmillan, just out, \$33. I defy you to put it down. Both my partner and I read it within a day.

It chronicles a lifetime of institutionalised violence, no parental contact, no care or love. It should be read by every parent, teacher, social or welfare worker.

The ability of children to survive anything thrown at them is well known. However, the guilt, anger, life problems that are left are less well docu-

mented. The passing down of our own upbringings, strengths and weaknesses will be searched while reading this book. You will come out of the experience stronger and with a better understanding of who you are. It can only make you a better parent or partner.

Donna's path to redemption is laid bare bravely. One can only wish her and her son Harper a happy future. They certainly deserve nothing less.

Tony Narracott
Byron Bay

Mini comets

The local ABC radio did not allow any questions to be put to their chosen astronomer, who reassuringly called these mini comets 'little fellas' and told us they would come nowhere near the Earth. Compare that one sided and hence totalitarian view with the Canadian astronomer's published paper that said the 'meteoroids released... are not expected to intercept the Earth in significant numbers' – <http://aquarid.physics.uwo.ca/%7Epbrown/taus.pdf>.

Doesn't that imply that

small numbers of fragments travelling at 144,000 mph will intercept the Earth's path this year?

The comet will not come within 10 million kilometres of the Earth, yes, that was historically true, but the debris field is now ten million kilometres wide, and it is not a single comet any more, but around 40 named mini comets and thousand of smaller meteoroids.

If just a tiny fragment the size of a bus hits the ocean a mega tsunami hundreds of feet high would be created.

Typical meteoroid ejection velocities of only 120 kmh during the 1995 WS3 Comet fragmentation would result in thousands of meteoroids having travelled over ten million kilometres to reach Earth's elliptic, and hence possibly its surface this year.

Peter Olson
Goonengerry

■ Letters acknowledged from Leigh Rees, Brunswick Heads, Allison and Cara Bosley, no address, Freedom Summers, no address.

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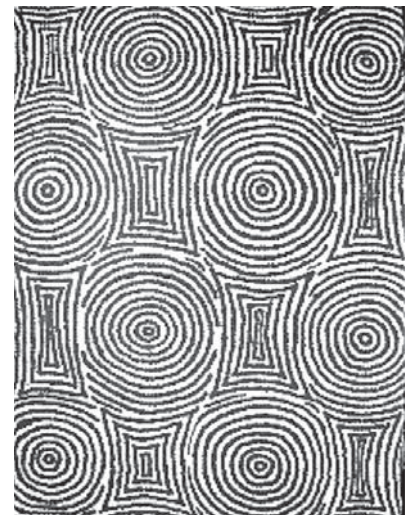
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IMPORTANT NOTICE: Usual conditions, buyers premium of 15%. All goods must be paid for and removed by noon Monday 22nd. Please ring and confirm final inclusions to avoid disappointment. No Cheques, Amex or Diners



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Climate change expert to speak at festival

Climate change is a global issue but we need to understand its influence in our own backyards.

That is the view of Dr Holger Meinke, pictured, an international authority on climate issues, who will speak at the Brunswick Valley Nature Festival in Mullumbimby next month about some of the likely effects of climate change on our region.

Dr Meinke is a principal scientist with Queensland's Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries and a member of several committees hosted by a United Nations climate research body, the World Meteorological Organisation.

He says that climate change has been going on for some



time and should be regarded as a fact of life that is here to stay. He believes that scientists have an obligation to help people understand and adapt to its effects.

That's why Dr Meinke spends a lot of his time talking with local communities about what climate change means for them. 'The greater our understanding of

climate change issues, the easier it will be for us to adjust,' he says.

While many scientists now regard climate change as a fact of life, they are less certain when it comes to predicting what is going to happen in the future at a regional scale.

'Climate change is not a religion or a belief system, it is scientific fact,' he says. 'It's just that we understand some parts of it well and others not so well.'

'We know for certain greenhouse gases are increasing because of human activity. We can see the increase from year to year.'

'It is also highly likely that temperatures will continue to increase, but we are uncertain by how much and where. We

are a lot less certain about what will happen with rainfall, but we know that rainfall patterns will change further.'

As well as giving the keynote address at the Brunswick Valley Nature Festival, Dr Meinke will take part in a panel discussion about local effects of climate change in our region.

The Nature Festival, organised by Brunswick Valley Landcare, will be at the Shearwater Steiner School in Mullumbimby on Saturday June 3. It is one of the region's principal activities for World Environment Day.

Organisers say it will be a fun day out for the family with entertainment and a wide range of activities. Entry will be by gold coin donation.

New waves in the anti-whaling campaign

Dean Jefferys

Two months ago a small group from Byron, representing the Byron Whale Action Group, Sea Shepherd and assisted by Australians for Animals, staged a demonstration at the Japanese consulate and airline in Brisbane to urge a boycott of Sealord and Japanese products and services.

A few weeks ago I received fantastic news about the whales.

These boycott actions and actions of Greenpeace, Sea Shepherd, Earth Island Institute and others worldwide forced Nissui (a 50% shareholder in Sealord) and Kyodo Senpaku (a 30% shareholder with Nissui and owner of the whaling fleet) to pull out of the whale killing industry and also stop distributing and selling whale meat.

This is a major blow for the whaling industry in Japan for many reasons, yet Kyodo Senpaku's seven whaling ships are essentially

being sold to the Japanese government. Unless Japan is stopped they will be heading down to the Antarctic this year to continue its whaling slaughter program under the disguise of 'scientific whaling'.

Some of the 50 humpback whales now targeted by their harpoons are likely to be ones we see and enjoy as they swim past Byron Bay. How is humanity allowing this inhuman activity to occur? Didn't we learn that one?

The Japanese government thinks it is untouchable. Yet if Japan is treated as a large company like Nissui and people around the world start boycotting Japanese products and services, then Japan, like Nissui, will have to capitulate to consumer power or lose lots and lots of money.

Many people and groups worldwide are trying to convince Japan, Iceland and Norway to stop this barbaric act of killing whales.

Some say governments have to take these countries to international courts or put trade sanctions on them, yet with trade and good relations with Japan a number one priority, these actions seem unlikely unless there is a lot of pressure put on governments.

Some say the change has to come from within the whaling nations themselves. If these nations and the people of the world could see and feel the magic in whales and the spiritual inspiration and gifts they freely offer humanity maybe that would be enough to stop the killing.

It was mainly to this end that a vision was given to me while I was listening to whale songs that were recorded

during a whale watching trip to Hervey Bay last year.

Put briefly, *Flight of the Humpback* is a story and documentary of a five month journey of mystery and adventure travelling in a 63 foot catamaran and tracking the migration route of the Humpback whale up and down the east coast of Australia. It will involve a rotating crew of celebrities, researchers, politicians, musicians, whale conservationists, children, aborigines and Japanese.

Some of the crew will continue, probably with the Greenpeace or Sea Shepherd's boat to the Antarctic, where for the first time in over 30 years these humpback whales may face Japanese whalers and their lethal harpoons.

Flight of the Humpback is both a feature length documentary and a fully integrated and interactive broadband website. A satellite dish mounted on the boat will send information directly to a server and website and allow these extraordinary interactive experiences with the whales to be broadcast live to people's computers around the world.

People will also be able to tune into the website at certain times every day to watch three to ten minute mini documentaries of the day's activities and listen to live whale and/or human songs. Large amounts of information about whales will be available on a huge data base including information to lobbying specific politicians and companies from various countries.

Flight of the Humpback will be launched from Byron Bay around the beginning of whale watching season in June/July 2006.

The catamaran currently being negotiated is the 63 foot *Pelican* which just finished a five week expedition surveying the Great Barrier Reef for the effects of global warming and coral bleaching. See <http://svpelican.com.au/>.

A pre-sale agreement with a TV network is still to be secured. Various production personnel for the film and website and journey are still needed.

I am also interested to hear from people who feel they have something special to offer the production as crew or technical support. I have an interim website up called www.flightofthehumpback.org where more details of the project and investment information is available. Private investment is also sought and a 10 BA provisional certificate for a qualifying Australian film guarantees investments are 100% tax deductible.

A meeting to talk about *Flight of the Humpback* and strategies to help the whales will be held at the Heart space above Santos at 7pm on May 11 or interested people could ring me on 6684 0002 or email shaman@byrononline.net.

In the drumming circle at Vision's recent funeral I felt confirmation that one needs to follow and believe in one's vision. His death inspired me to believe once again what many think is impossible.

That we can turn this crumbling global story around. Japan, Norway and Iceland will soon bow to international pressure and all whaling will stop and anything can and will happen, we just have to hold the vision.

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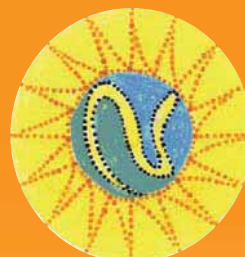
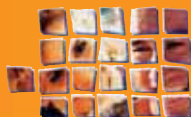
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Articles

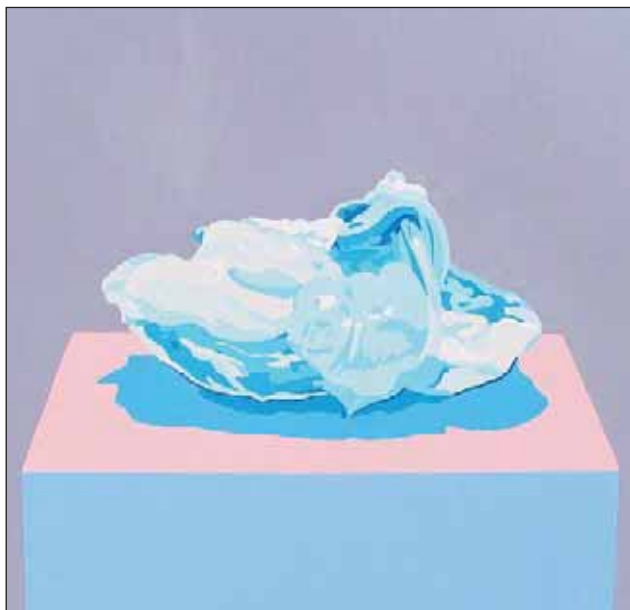
John Dahlsen a Sulman finalist

Byron Bay artist John Dahlsen's latest paintings have been given the seal of approval by the Art Gallery of NSW, with his painting *Light Blue Purge Painting 2006*, pictured, having been selected as a finalist in the Sulman Award, currently showing alongside the Archibald and the Wynne prizes.

Dahlsen won the Wynne prize in 2000.

During the latter part of 2005 and into 2006, Dahlsen has been creating a new body of work, a series of paintings on canvas and Belgian linen, based on the subject matter of plastic 'purges'.

Dahlsen said of the new work: 'The direction in this work which also incorporates sculpture and assemblage, is a natural evolution for me and further consolidates my



return to painting, which was my main medium for 17 years, prior to working for over eight years with found objects, based upon environmental themes.'

Having only just returned

from Europe, Dahlsen noted, 'Through my ongoing association with Austrade, I was introduced to gallery directors in Berlin, Frankfurt and Amsterdam and the response to my new work has been

amazing, with many projects in discussion and under way. Having such positive response really makes the transition so much easier, from being the artist who for a while exclusively worked with beach found objects into being a painter again.'

Dahlsen exhibited two artworks in the recent exhibition at the Lismore Regional Gallery 'Oceans 11', a group exhibition of north coast artists responding to the theme of the ocean and living near the ocean.

He is also again on show at the Lismore Regional Gallery with the exhibition 'Collections Northern Rivers', which opened on April 28 and continues to May 31.

The Archibald, Sulman and Wynne prizes will be on exhibition at the Art Gallery of NSW in Sydney until May 28.

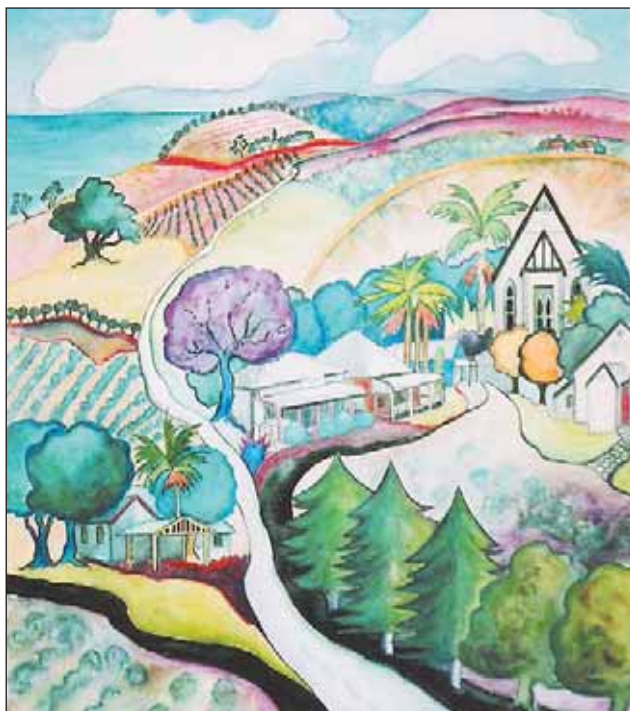
A new gallery for Newrybar

Christine Willmot

A recent addition to the North Coast art gallery scene is Nurybah gallery, the name being the aboriginal (Bundjalung) spelling of Newrybar. 'Nury' is thought to refer to the vines which were plentiful in that area of the Big Scrub, and were stripped and made into fishing nets.

The fishing theme is coincidentally relevant to some of the unusual offerings of this gallery, which is a restored wooden house nestled on a ridge above the Pacific Highway with views to the east. The permanent collection is a rich treasure trove of Asian art, especially that of Burma.

The director of the gallery, David Bennie, set the gallery up in February this year. He loves Asian art and plans to build the collection further, with the assistance of Chris Campbell, a local musician and psychotherapist, whose pieces, collected over years of travel, form the basis of the



material. They are getting ready for the arrival of a complete fishing boat in all its decorative glory. The gallery looks set to become a leader in the area for unusual Asian antique art. David also hopes to extend the veran-

dah, put in a teahouse and incorporate musical events and other small happenings to make use of the fantasy ambience created by the art works and to accompany the changing exhibitions.

Against the backdrop of

the unusual Asian pieces are, currently, the paintings of two local artists, Jocelyn Carmel and Anna Niblic Heggie, and their exhibitions will run till May 5. Jocelyn's water colours on canvas of some of the local villages, including Newrybar itself (pictured), are compact birdseye views in a whimsical naïve style using a palette of luminous pastels. Anna Niblic's oeuvre is very different - powerful, subtly surrealist faces based on the cold stares of mannequins. They capture a stillness of a moment in time and take us to the place of mystery and intrigue that the 'plastic enigma' - the mannequin - inhabits. They also challenge our thinking about idealised female beauty.

The gallery, at 16 Old Pacific Highway, Newrybar, with its current exhibition which finishes on Friday May 5, is well worth a visit and it is open from 10am to 3pm Sunday to Tuesday.

Sculptor's mermaid near completion



It began 25 years ago, and now it's almost over. Artist/sculptor John Virgona from Hastings Point has put the other love of his life up for sale. Weighing in at 1.2 tonnes and around four metres long, his mermaid sculpture entitled *Serenus Pacificus* is close to completion. Adorned with flowing

hair and beautifully figured face and body, the piece of art has been a constant companion for the artist for a quarter of a century.

'She's been with me everywhere I have been, since inception,' he told *The Echo*. 'I've always travelled with her - from Spain, France, Holland and around Aus-

tralia. I even had a specially made trailer for her.'

As an artist, he has been active for over 30 years ago, predominately based around the Gold Coast. Both his painting and sculpture style is self described as 'Symbolic Mysticism', where he employs special material that is both water and heat resistant.

Friends have called the mermaid 'a legacy of the insane', and John seemed ready to acknowledge that it has been an unusual relationship. Virgona hopes to sell the sculpture privately and those interested in this or any of his other work can phone him on 6676 0782.

Open garden at Tyagarah



What better way to spend the Mothers Day weekend of May 13-14 than visiting a beautiful subtropical garden at Tyagarah? 'Gail and Tony's garden' is located at Lot 10 Pacific Hwy, Fox Lane, Tyagarah.

An avenue of mature Royal Cuban Palms and a windbreak of dracaenas set the mood for this sub tropical garden. Mature trees form a canopy under which plants are chosen for their coloured foliage. Hibiscus, grevilleas, salvias, and bromeliads bloom among coloured foliage of iresine, coleus and maranta.

Sweeping lawns surround beds planted with sub-tropical plantings. Attractive use has been made of plants with

interesting leaf shapes including gingers, ferns and orchids. Inviting cool, shady areas are contrasted with pockets of colour.

To get to the garden take the Mullumbimby exit (Gulgan Road); turn left at Fox's Lane and immediately left again. Follow the yellow and green AOGS signs.

The garden is opening as part of Australia's Open Garden Scheme, a non-profit organisation promoting the knowledge and pleasure of gardens and gardening. Each year the Scheme opens the finest and most exciting private gardens across Australia to the garden loving public.

For weekly updates of open gardens phone 1902 261 026 (83c per minute).

CHESS by Ian Rogers

In one of the biggest upsets in recent years, the 2006 Doeberl Cup, held over Easter in Canberra, has been won by Melbourne's Igor Goldenberg. The 44th Doeberl Cup - Australia's premier Grand Prix tournament - featured a record field of 228 competitors, including more than half of Australia's team for the 2006 Olympiad in Turin next month. Goldenberg had been an unsuccessful candidate for the team - ranked tenth of the ten candidates - with one selector opining that it was inappropriate for a player of Goldenberg's strength even to apply for selection. Yet at the Doeberl Cup, Goldenberg exhibited the sort of form which made him one of Australia's most respected players in the 1990s, before his layoff of almost a decade.

Goldenberg started the event with 4/4 before crossing swords with both of Australia's grandmasters on a fateful Sunday. After drawing with Darryl Johansen in round five he then defeated the writer, Ian Rogers, in an epic struggle. A last round draw with another Olympian, Zhao Zong Yuan, enabled two other Victorians, Johansen and the tournament's surprise packet, Dusan Stojic, to catch Goldenberg, but he took the coveted cup on tiebreak.

Goldenberg appeared as surprised as anyone else by his victory in his Doeberl Cup debut and wished the Olympic team luck in Turin. With only three weeks to go before the opening ceremony, a reversal of form and fortune will be necessary

if Australia is to perform to expectations.

The 2006 tournament also saw a title going to a Byron Shire player, *Echo* publisher David Lovejoy winning the inaugural Fischerbooks Seniors section. In the critical game of this event, Lovejoy outplayed second place-getter Phil Viner.

Canberra Doeberl Cup Seniors

White: D Lovejoy

Black: P Viner

Opening: Ruy Lopez

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nd4 4.Nxd4 exd4 5.Bc4 Nf6 6.d3 More circumspect than 6.e5 d5 7.Bb3 Bg4! 8.f3 Ne4!! which led to a spectacular victory for Black in a famous 19th century game Anderssen-Lange. 6... d5 7.exd5 Nxd5 8.0-0 Be7 9.Re1 Be6 10.c3 If White wants to play for an advantage then 10.Rxe6!? fxe6 11.Qh5+ g6 12.Qe5 was necessary but this seemed too speculative to Lovejoy. 10...dxc3 11.bxc3 c6 12.Bb2 0-0 13.Nd2 Qc7 14.Qf3 Rad8 15.Rad1 Qd7 16.h3 b5 17.Bb3 Rfe8 18.Ne4 a5? Missing White's threat. After 18...f5 Black should be fine. 19.c4! Nf6 An ugly necessity but 19...Nb6 loses to 20.Qg3! g6 21.Qe5. 20.Nxf6+ Bxf6 21.Bxf6 gxf6 22.Qxf6 Qd4?! Only 22...Qe7 keeps the game alive. The rest is a massacre. 23.Re5! bxc4 24.dxc4 Qxd1+ 25.Bxd1 Rxd1+ 26.Kh2 Kf8 27.Rh5 Rc8 28.Rxh7 Ke8 29.Qf3 Rdd8 30.Qc3 Ra8 31.Qe5 Ke7 32.f4 Kd7 33.Qc5 1-0



White to play and win

Television schedule grid for Saturday 6, Sunday 7, Monday 8, and Tuesday 9. Columns represent channels: ABC, SBS, PRIME, TEN, NBN. Rows represent days. Each cell contains a list of programs with their start times and titles. Includes a legend for symbols like [s], [a], [n], [d], [v], [*], [h], [du] for content ratings and a list of abbreviations like [dr], [cl], [sr], [mp], [w], [st] for program details.

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MAY 3 – 9

ALL YOUR COASTAL ENTERTAINMENT

Volume 20 #49
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finding your Valentine



I remember the first time I saw Shirley Valentine. I was in my early twenties, and didn't have much interest in the ramblings of a peri-menopausal Liverpoolian. But somehow it was mesmerizing. Shirley's character is so beautifully drawn, that its gentle humour is compassionate, self deprecating and most importantly, entirely inclusive. It sounds corny, but there is a little Shirley in all of us – unabashedly trying to rediscover why we are here, and what we were supposed to be doing. Shirley Valentine reminds us to restore our passion, to take risks and to open our hearts. That's probably why it has remained such a timely piece for the past 20 years. Either that or the fact that it's a damned good text.

It's a bloody lot of text, that's for sure. The daunting task of Shirley Valentine absorption has been

taken on by actor Claire Wigley, under the Directorship of Sweet Whisper's Danielle Coleman. So how does one learn so many lines, without having a cerebral haemorrhage?

'I have been learning the lines for a year now, I have had to schedule in time when I learn two pages at a time – and learn it that way – it's a bit like the Sydney Bridge – you start at one end then have to go back – it sticks in your body and sometimes you just go on instinct.'

Shirley Valentine is legendary. It's not just what she says, it's how she says it. Shirley just wouldn't be Shirley without that accent. How hard is it to get it just right?

'I think I have always had a thing for accents, and the Liverpoolian accent, it's one of my favourites. It's not that hard for me, coming from England, and I grew up with

heaps of nationalities around me so I guess that's why I find doing accents fairly easy.'

Why Shirley Valentine? It's the Mount Everest of theatre, the play which must be conquered alone.

'I guess that's where the motivation came from. I was hungry to get back on stage again, and I always had a love for this play.'

At 38, Claire is only a few years shy of Shirley's early 40's. With so few meaty roles, particularly solo roles for women, Shirley Valentine is a beacon in the darkness. It's positive, wonderful and uplifting and offers women a time for complete and absolute visibility at middle age, the time of social 'invisibility'. Why are there so few powerful roles for women?

'I was looking and looking and there are so few positive role models for women and that's why we formed Sweet Whispers to find

positive images for women, and men...'

Are there any favourite scenes? 'The wonderful thing about the play is that she brings so many characters into the story. My favourite is when she meets her old school friend, Margory Majors, and finds out what she really does for a living... Shirley thought she was an air hostess, but it turns out...'

Is playing Shirley Valentine an initiation into secret women's business?

'In a way... there are parts in the play where Shirley has huge self doubt... I find it interesting working in play where I have almost mirrored that in my own life.'

'I am immersed in the play – it's not just a woman's story. It's about a person who comes to a point in their life and says what the hell has happened to me? What happened to my hopes and my dreams? And

then has the courage to try and do something about it. To take a leap of faith to walk away from what doesn't serve them anymore... I guess that's why a lot of people come to Byron. It's why I came to Australia – I packed my bags and did a modern Shirley Valentine.'

Twenty years on, is Shirley Valentine still relevant? 'It's still very pertinent – it's a timeless piece – the other thing is it's so funny – there's so many bits that are so hilarious – her view on life and her irreverence.'

I guess it's basically about meeting yourself again – you come back to yourself and there's a big sigh of relief that you haven't got lost!'

Shirley Valentine at the Byron Community Centre, opening Wednesday and then on Friday and Saturday at 7.30pm. Tix can be purchased at the door for just \$20 or booked on 6687 2583.

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THE SOAPBOX with Mandy Nolan

KEEP THAT UMBRELLA AWAY FROM MY KEYHOME

LAST WEEK I touched on a little of Freud's coke fuelled ramblings, namely his association of the spider with the vagina, and fear of such resulting in hysteria. (A condition he attributes solely to women). It seems somehow doomed to manufacture theories based on major studies from one particular group. Freudian psychology is deeply rooted in the conclusions he reached after about 20 lines and sessions with uptight middle class Viennese women. An afternoon with the peasant class would have produced an entirely different thesis. The women he chose to focus on were so paralysed by social conditioning, they couldn't even dress them-



selves. They needed assistance to get into their corsets, to assemble their bustle, and they needed assistance to be removed from them. They never did hard work. They took tea in the parlour, and exercised sexual frustrations through inane conversation and needlepoint (Oh my goodness Marjorie, have you just stitched a woman pleasuring her horse? Can I have the pattern?) Out of this maze of repression, dependence and meaninglessness came one of my favourite Freudian theories: penis envy. That's right girls. Our lack of power in the world, our neurosis and general intellectual and physical inferiority has been created, not by a lack of access to education, comfortable clothing and equal opportunity, but the apparent lack of cock. Now I have just come back from a short tour with Puppetry of the Penis, and I must admit that there was a moment when the boys were constructing burgers and enacting the antics of a sea anemone that I felt a pang of jealousy. We just don't have the range of tricks – once you've done the rose and the sundried tomato, there's not much else left on the list, except of course producing a brand new human. But

Penis Envy? Personally, I've never really experienced it. I've never been mid way through a task and thought damn I wish I had a dick. I just can't go on. I can't write another word until I've got a willy. If only I had a nob I'd be able to do stuff like put the bin out and program my telly. I'd phone up my friend Jules and lament 'I'd love to come out tonight, but I just feel so dickless. I really wish I had a phallus. I'm just furious about it. You know if I had a penis I'd be able to reverse park, I could drink beer and fart and light a barbeque. You can't do that stuff with a vagina. I'm so jealous.' Anyone who knows the psychology of women knows the last thing we have is penis envy. Don't get me wrong, as a piece of anatomy I think the pink schoolbus is a corker. There's at least one parked on any corner, and it's never too hard to hitch a ride. Freud got it so wrong. Women don't have penis envy, men have penis envy. Women have a much more complex and irrational condition. Shoe Envy. What I wouldn't do for 4 rock hard inches of throbbing heel.

INTERVIEW

According to Aria award winning singer songwriter, **Gyan**, there's a song in everyone. Even the unmusical! Gyan has developed an innovative new workshop titled 'Songwriting in the Round' that sources those secrets from deep within and that transforms poetry into the sublime with the magic of music. For Gyan, who's seen her talents recognised on an international level with Leanne Rimes singing her tunes at the American Country Music Awards, songwriting is an instinctual act that's as natural as breathing or sleeping. In her workshop she aims to share her creative processes to mentor participants in their metaphysical dig for the 'treasure'.

Gyan muses: 'I will be taking them into those unknown rooms that we all have, raiding the drawers, finding all those secrets at the bottom of the undies drawer.... You know I remember finding a beautiful sketch book of my Mum's from when she was doing jury duty on a murder trial. She had a secret desire to learn to sketch and taught herself to draw. She was an incredible artist, but was one of those people who kept it hidden.'

Gyan has been surprised by the enthusiasm for her songwriting course. After the success of her first foray into teaching at Summer-song Music Camp, she has been approached by Leigh

Carriage to teach music students at Southern Cross University and has been inundated with interest for her 6 week intensive.

A lover of poetry, art and with a penchant for the whimsical, Gyan admits that her first baby steps into songwriting were done with a poem in one hand and 3 guitar chords in the other.

'People want to know how to put it together... how do I marry these things? How do you put the book of poetry together with chords? Doing this in a group really raises the bar for everyone – it can make it tougher at times, but it ends up being really powerful.'

For a lot of the time, learning to be a songwriter is about being in touch with your deepest thoughts, uncontrived, disconnected, but always authentic.

'It's just a huge mystery. You end up pulling things out of the ethos. The magic is that you create something out of nothing... in a way you can kind of pre-empt your life. I suppose you become your own guide. It's one of those things that just happens, and it's something I just can't live without and I know if I'm not doing it that there's really something missing.'

Gyan suggests the best prerequisites for the workshop are passion and prose.

'I think prose is the biggest thing. I'm more of a poetry

THE WRITE STUFF

reader. I am a bit old-fashioned, but I love poetry because it's so broad, it's very open. I am currently writing and collaborating with people and recording at a really high quality. I am making it on the spot and finding that we don't have to edit anything. I don't want to touch it.'

Gyan is soon to release her extraordinarily beautiful collaboration with Michael Leunig, a sensitive and poignant musical manifestation of his poetry, entitled 'Billy the Rabbit'.

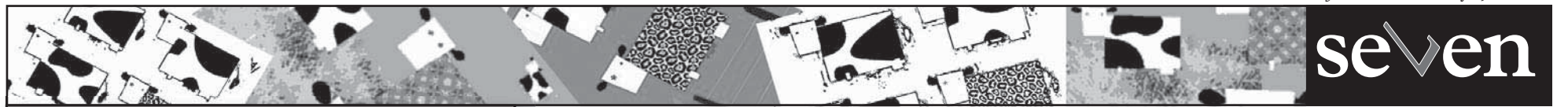
This six week course will see participants develop a basic understanding of rhythm, phrasing and sto-

rytelling. It will search for inspiration from one's personal human back catalogue and in the process create a group CD that will feature each person's new and fabulous creation.

This is the perfect antidote for any melancholy, you can take a pill, or write a song... and only one of those options will have your spirit dancing!

Numbers are limited.
Wednesday mornings 9.30am - 12.30pm. Starting 10 May. For registrations phone 6685 7584 / 0423 036 994 or email gyan@museagency.com





seven

LIVE MUSIC

▶ GOING BELEW

Back in the eighties, two of the standout musicians of the era were David Bowie and Talking Heads. **Adrian Belew** played with both of them. Discovered by Frank Zappa while playing in a cover band called Sweetheart at Fanny's in Nashville, Frank later takes Adrian on tour where he meets up with Bowie, Byrne and later King Crimson. He's a musical legend amongst the legends, he's played tracks for the Crash Test Dummies, Nine Inch Nails, and even appeared on the Simpsons. This is a rare opportunity to riff the light fantastic with one of the musical greats. **He is at the Beach Hotel on Sunday.**

▶ I SMELL A RAT

Fresh from their first tour of Tassie, local expats **Fatter Than Nusrat** are bringing their unique brand of uber-dance funk-rock to the **Beach Hotel this Thursday night and the Nimbin MardiGrass on Friday at 1pm.** Fatter Than Nusrat are primarily based in Melbourne now and are becoming increasingly well known on the Melbourne music scene for their ecstatic live shows. If you are dying to dance and all the recycled sounds of today's airwaves just aren't doing it for you, come and turn yourself loose to some original, exciting, cutting edge funk, born and bred in the Bay.

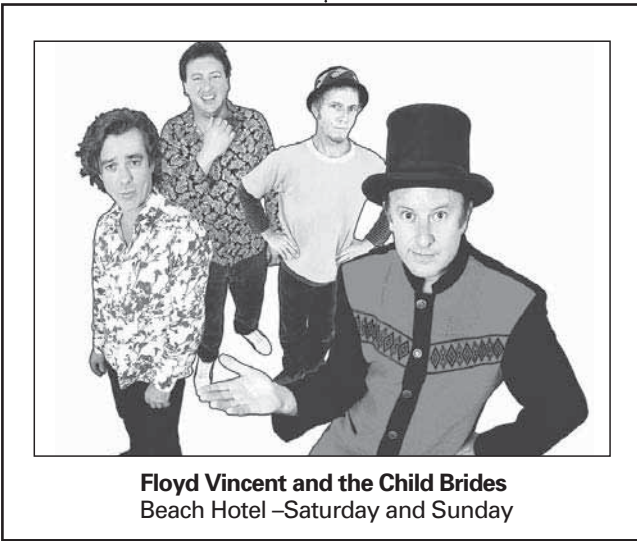
▶ A VINCENT AND A GOOD LIE DOWN

Floyd Vincent loves coming to Byron. In fact, he goes on to say: 'It's our fave gig in the world the Beach Hotel. It was the first launch show for the new Album MONKEY PUZZLE at the end of 2005. So this time we are celebrating the launch and commercial radio airplay of our track 'Yamba Samba', see told you we loved the area. It's not a first song dedicated to Northern NSW either. Many people are familiar with our tune Steak and Chips which features a particular location in Ballina which may want to remain nameless as it's not the world's best promotion.' **Floyd and the Childbrides hit their straps on Saturday and Sunday at the Beach Hotel.**

▶ ON THE UP AND UP

Five years ago tattooist **Gary Mooney** took out the coveted 'Back of the Year'. Once you hit a peak like that, it could be all down hill, but not for Gazza, he moved to Byron and pursued his other passion. Music. Of course, he did spend time pottering in his spiritual shed and knocking out a few personal development coffee tables. Gary met up with **Hugo Maree**, a child protege virtuoso violinist who dragged himself into a Ballina jam night after a nasty break up. It's love of music at first sight and the partnership begins. Later down the tracks the lads are joined by **Bill Bradney**, and they receive a standing ovation. The fellars chose a name for their beauti-

ful new creation, and it's 'Up'. Up has a wonderful vibing Celtic feel that electrified the Rails back on Paddies day. The Debut Album is ready to go and being launched at the **Rails on Friday.** They retain their original Celtic focus, with eastern, early Bowie, and good old pub rock influences in the mix. As Gary always knew it would, the world seems a better place already. Looks like all is going to plan.



Floyd Vincent and the Child Brides
Beach Hotel - Saturday and Sunday

▶ VIVA LAS LISMORE

Musica Viva's Lismore branch has a treat in store this Friday with **Trio Novalis.** Playing with their usual verve, passion and restless intensity, this well renowned piano, violin, cello trio will perform for us some late Mozart, early Brahms and sizzling Shostakovich. The Mozart trio in E Major was written when the composer's creative skills and outpouring were at their peak. And, as I am sure you are all

Bangalow Catholic Hall on Saturday. Tix are \$18/15 and are only available at the door. 8pm.

▶ LIOR AND IOTA ARE FOUR LETTER WORDS

Singer/songwriter **Lior** returns to the area with a show at the **Bangalow A&I Hall this Sunday.** Lior has just released his latest new live album, after 2005's successful Autumn Flow that saw him become a hot contender for best album at last year's ARIA awards. He's joined by **iOTA** in what is sure to be one of the best double bills of the year. Doors

open 7.30 for show at 8pm. **Tickets \$20 pre-sold /\$25 at the door if available.** For information: kupromo@bigpond.net.au

▶ VIEW TO A MUSICAL THRILL

The **Byron Vista Social Club** is just going from strength to strength. **Be at the Ewingsdale Hall this Sunday from 7.30pm** to witness the talents of **Elizabeth Lord** and **Leigh James** who bring



The Go Set
Hotel Great Northern - Thursday

aware by now, 2006 is the 250th birthday of this great musician and if the thawing down at the cryogenics plant goes according to plan, that crazy bastard should be there. **Lismore City Hall, with tickets at Dymocks and ABC Centres.**

▶ DON'T FORGET TO CATCH SARS

It's not something you probably thought you would ever want, but let me tell you it's not something you would ever want to do without. SARS is a **fiery flamenco-tango-jazz ensemble** which has been described as one of the 'most colourful and exciting groups in Australia today.' **They perform at the**

their highly-polished, much-travelled, greatly-appreciated craft-with-heart to the stage every time without fail. From Nimbin come **Doug and Bis-cuit**, kinky beyond-them-hills songs with fine harmonies and eclectic humour. Vasudha shines again at the piano or with guitar in hand, delivering strong, often quirky-but-positive songs with more than a touch of feeling and social sensitivity... a true pro. Highly recommended by a Vista regular comes **Guy Kachel**, described as folk, country, bluesy... someone new to look forward to... always exciting. **Tarshito and Paul Kimmel and Gabi Bliss** does their usual, never-fail-to-wow-'em set!

▶ GETTING VOCAL ABOUT BEING LOCAL

Vocal Locals is back on at the **Beach Hotel. Every Wednesday** you get the chance to shine by getting up and performing with the Sessionetts house band, solo, or with a group of your choice. Legends who jammed with the house band included Neil Murray [warrumpi band] Jim Moginie [Midnight Oil] Rick Fenn [10CC] and Steve Magnessen [Jazz Legend] among many others. Open to performers of all genres. To secure a spot bookings can be made by contacting George Kent on 0431 046 148 or email entertainment@beachhotel.com.au

▶ GO SET INTERVIEW

▶ PUNK POLITIKAL

by Hans Lovejoy
The Go Set's Justin Keenan is a man whose spirit has been rejuvenated and given a new lease of life. 'After years of trying to write songs that I thought people would like, this current band's popularity far outstrips any previous success I have had in other bands.' It's no secret either: people respond to meaningful lyrics. 'Politicians are an easy target - especially by punk bands, but the broader picture is that the media are just as responsible,' Keenan told The Echo.

Once described as a combination of The Clash, The Pogues and Peter Garrett all making a ruckus on a Friday night, The Go Set brings to audiences something fresh from the deluge of corporately spun soulless formula-driven pop music.

What sets them apart is the social sentiment of the lyrics, combined with the seven piece line-up. Their music sounds big - and they all play what would be described as a Celtic line up: bagpipes, tin whistle, violin, mandolin, guitar, bass and drums. Even though they drop into the occasional Irish jig or reel, the band stay committed to producing their own sound. 'Even though our instruments lend themselves to Celtic sounds, we are distinctly Australian,' Keenan added 'Our piano accordion player is from Weddings Parties Anything, and our latest album was produced by Rob Younger from Radio Birdman.'

They all hail from Victoria, but actually live miles apart. 'I live in Ocean Grove, and other members are scattered from Torquey, Bendigo and Melbourne. Rehearsals are hard, but we find that by the 3rd gig of the tour, we really have hit our straps. Generally we really only rehearse to tour or to record.'

When asked about influences other than music or art, Keenan responded 'Anyone who has attempted to create equality or has inspired social change. I guess I would describe myself as a Marxist.'

The Go Set's recent release debuted at number 10 in the Indy charts, and they play the Great Northern on Thursday from 9.30pm.



www.bayfm.org
almost perfect

<p>MONDAY 6am Stay Curious Brett Diemar 9am Head2Head, Heart2Heart Nyck Jeanes 11am Upstaged The Drama Queens 12pm Women Talk Di & Dr Jane 2pm Mondayitis Stuey 4pm Cruizy Beatz DJ Cruizy 6pm Planet Luv Glittergirl 8pm Jam not Jive Max Fowler 10pm The Underbelly Freegirl & Troy 12am Rooves & Grooves Melissa</p> <p>TUESDAY 6am Rising Sounds Dawn 9am Love, Life & Laughter Pavitar 11am Byron Business Phil Daly 12pm Cultural Awareness DJ Terra Nullus 1pm Technobabble Lee 2pm All That Jazz Peter Katims 4pm Bump & Grind Elsa 6pm Behind the Bikesheds Ben & Ant 8pm Radio Mundial Steve Snelgrove 10pm Long Strange Trip Ice Cream Kid 12am Skip-Hop DJ Buzz</p> <p>WEDNESDAY 6am Dawn Patrol Hudson 9am Travellers Tales Greg & Rebecca 11am Go Earthcare Ros Elliot 12pm Belly Bellysisters 1pm Byron Vista Social Club Mook & Paddy 2pm Suara Indonesia Dharma & Kirana 4pm Funkyard DJ Shuffle 6pm Your Choice DJ iPod 8pm Submerged Si Clone</p>	<p>10pm Life's A Boat Frank & Ernest 12am Midnite in a Perfect World Hopalong</p> <p>THURSDAY 6am Lift Sandra Davey 9am Arts Canvass Peter & Karena 11am The Generator Giovanni 12pm Juke Joint Tony Parker 2pm Mystery Train Mary 4pm Talking To A Stranger DJ She 6pm Shakin n Stirred Kerry 8pm Cruisin For A Bluesin The Honeydrinker 10pm Eclectic Lazyland Charles 12am The Bandwagon Mia & Jay</p> <p>FRIDAY 6am KB on the Remix KB 9am The Shakedown Red Terra 11am Shizamm! EM-TEE & Mimi 12pm Mixed Up Rasmus 2pm Who's Ear? Tone Broker 4pm The Roundtable Dan Cassidy 6pm Rub a Dub Crazy DayV & Lennox Dread 8pm Into the Unknown DJ XFakta 10pm Roots n Culture DJ Selector 12am Hard Garbage Day Frank Einstein</p> <p>SATURDAY 6am Musical Kaleidoscope Robbie McGready 9am Soundtrack to Life DJ Rapunzel 10am Cowboys Sweetheart Carrie D 12pm Red, Hot & Cool Ken & Anthony 2pm Whirled Music/Youth Show Phil/Amber 4pm Sliced Grooves DJ Madhu 6pm Rotation Pab 8pm Trance-Mission T-Learyus & Cam 10pm Ice Cream Truck Ruger & Fulton 12am The Graveyard Shift Matt & Nikki</p> <p>SUNDAY 6am Sunday Breakfast 9am Espresso Culture Rachel Cook 10am Jazz Moods Jean Brown 12pm Omnibus RG Pedicini/Les Schmidt 2pm Radio Latina Ceci & Yolanda 4pm Bay Lounge Aqua 6pm Fusion Martin B. 8pm The Chill Pill Mista Micha & Monsieur S. 10pm The Wonderful Thing Lewie JPD 12am All Over The Shop Wozza</p>
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<p>Thur 04</p>	<p>THE GO SET + VIOLENT SOHO + HY TEST 9.00PM</p>
<p>Fri 05</p>	<p>ZED LEPLIN 9.00PM</p>
<p>Sat 06</p>	<p>AUGIE MARCH + DAN KELLY & THE ALPHA MALES 9.00PM</p>
<p>Sun 07</p>	<p>JOSH PYKE + BOB EVANS + LAURA IMBRUGLIA 8.00PM</p>
<p>Mon 08</p>	<p>AUSTRALIAN POKER LEAGUE 6.00PM</p>

COMING SOON

THE GRATES WED 10 MAY
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14th NIMBIN MARDIGRASS



JUST SAY KNOW!

Welcome one and all to the 14th Nimbin MardiGrass gathering and rally for cannabis law reform this weekend May 6 & 7.

Nimbin Mainbeachers (Byronites) will have already made plans for the jaunt weeks ago, so for visitors we would just like to remind you that the MardiGrass Organising Body endeavours to keep The 'Grass accessible to everyone, but we need YOU to BUY A PASS to cover costs that support the future of the Festival and our efforts to bring Cannabis Law Reforms to everyone. And don't we need it!

A Full Weekend Pass costs \$20 and gives you access to all official activities, including those in Peace Park and the Nimbin Town Hall. A One Day Pass for either Saturday or Sunday costs \$15.

Alternatively, you can register as a volunteer at the Hemp Embassy. Four hours and twenty minutes (4:20) volunteering earns you a weekend pass. We need volunteers from as early as Wednesday, so if you want to be part of the preparations, come early.

Please remember to respect this small village that allows this festival and try to conduct yourself as a true ambassador for HEMP. Do not give our opponents free ammunition through bad behaviour. The whole world may be watching, possibly when you least expect it... Be your best self.



Boomerang Bus Byron Bay MARDIGRASS TRANSFERS

\$20 one way. To door negotiable.

Available for charter, group requests & airport transfers. Up to 12 passengers Fully accredited. Bookings recommended.

Mark 0429 461 342

You are welcome at the Nimbin Hotel



Fri 5th 4pm Fatter Than Nusrat

Sat 6th 2pm The Puddin Thieves

7pm Ming & Stu DJs

Sun 7th 2pm The Wright Brothers

7:30pm Aurora Jane Band

Proud to be part of the MardiGrass phone 6689 1246

Thursday May 4

7:00pm - Bush Theatre program starts: days of music and movies

4:20pm - World record attempt for 'greatest number of joints lit at once in the one place'.

3:00pm - Ganja Faeries - Parade Rehearsal, outside the HEMP Embassy

9:00pm - The Oasis Cafe - Comedy starring Alan Glover, Fiona McGary, Steve Davis, S Sorrensen and more.

PEACE PARK

10:00am - HEMP Expo. Entertainment by Medicinal Purposes Only, Spoken Word Music and Visual Arts, including the Knights of the Black Grail Sharing stories of Medicinal cannabis use. Everyone welcome to share in song or story, easy listening sounds for healing. Talking stick. Chalk board style.

11:30am to 12:00pm - 'Come With Your Drum' Raising the Vibration Drum Circle

12:00pm - Hemp Olympix

Hosted by Alan Glover, Cat and 'S' Sorrensen. Sign on for First Session of the Bong Throw & Yell, Growers Ironperson Event, and Joint Rolling

2:00pm - Diana Anaid sings. Also **Hannah Pearl**, on the first leg of her World Tour.

3:00pm - Hemp Olympix Second Session.

3:30pm - Kombi Konvoy arrives in Nimbin led by the HEMP Olympix Torchbearer carrying the Flame for the Victims of Prohibition

5:00pm till 9:00pm - Pickers Ball - 'Magical Music & Visual Arts' Charlie McMahon, Max White, Gabi Bliss, Intergalactic Blues Mafia, Pepper Rose and the Transit Band.

TOWN HALL

10:00am - music, films, food and chillspace

11:00am - Launch of Kog's new book - 'The Spirit Journey of Kog'

12:00pm - MardiGrass 'Just Say Know' Forum - M.C. David Hallet. This is the afternoon for anyone who has questions or answers to join the forum and make their contribution. Sharing our knowledge is one of the prime ingredients of the MardiGrass cake. Legal Advice Session with Steve Bolt, Sue Higginson, Kog and friends.

1:30pm - Industrial Hemp Discussion Dr Keith Bolton, Wadzy, Klara and friends

3:00 to 5:00pm - HempChoices Panel discussion on cannabis use today. Hydro or Bush, Psychosis, Pot Politix, New Laws - What message do we send to Canberra? With GottaGrow's Richard Hurley, Dr John Jiggins, Dr Harry Freeman, John Kaye (NSW Greens Senate Candidate), Dr Oscar Serrallach, Maxx Mango, Sue Higginson, Dr Paul Recher, Carol de Launey, Neil Pike, Lisa Yeates, Dr Bud & Justin.

5:00pm - Medical Cannabis Discussion Andrew Kavasilas from the Medical Cannabis Information Service, Graeme Irvine, John Kaye, Doctor JJ, and friends discuss the latest research, laws, news, and politics.

6:00pm - Music, Films, Food and Chillspace - The 'Blue Jays' HEMP Talk at the Town Hall Kitjin for dinner, and book signings, a chance to meet and talk to Kog, Doctor JJ, Carol, and the Goddess. The Goddess wants us to join the church of the Holy Smoke so that it shows up as a religion in the upcoming census.

7:00 to 9:00pm - Maddass Songwriters & Marijuana Music Awards. OPEN STAGE 'Marijuana Music Awards' Round One (to be recorded for entry to UK & US Marijuana Music Awards)

9:00pm - Psychedelic Circus with Pagan Love Cult, Mystic Beats, Blissmongers, Acrobats and Clownes, Elysian Punch, Bullshit, and Jellybeans.

Saturday Night - Bowlo entertainment, food and drinks.

Bush Theatre - Nimbin MardiGrass Garden Party II

Sunset - Euphorogenic Trancevursion

9:00pm - Dance for Drug Law Reform - Electric Corroboree & Dr Hoffman's Sport Club

Saturday Arvo & Night - Nimbin Hotel Entertainment

11:00am - The Hi-Story of HEMP - a puppet show with Genevieve and Dave www.gypsyrrollers.com

12:00pm - 'Just Say Know' Forum - Legal Advice and Cannabis Culture with Steve Bolt, John Jiggins, Richard Hurley, Kog, Carol de Launey and friends - bring your questions on sniffer dogs, saliva testing, new hydro laws and so on, followed by a wider discussion on cannabis use in the 21st century, including indoor/outdoor, psychosis and statistics and the new pot politics of PM Howard.

1:30pm - Industrial HEMP Dr Keith Bolton, Paul Benhaim, Wadzy and Klara discuss their latest projects and what's happening with hemp in Australia and overseas.

5:00pm - Hemp Olympix Joint Rolling Finals with Alan Glover and S. Sorrensen, comedians extraordinaire - the final session?

6:00 till 9:00 - 'Maddass Song Writers' Spoken Word, Visual Arts & Music. Robert Bruce, Gabi Bliss, George Scott, Martin Preedy, Bo Kahn & friends. 'Marijuana Music Award Finals' (to be recorded for entry to UK & US MM AWARDS)

PEACE PARK

10:00am - HEMP Expo The Knights of the Black Grail, a medieval performance group, will at times through the day, demonstrate the punishments of ages gone by, beheadings, garrottings, disembowellings, and burnings to remind us how it used to be long ago.

11:00am - Hemp Olympix Sign on for Third Session of the Hemp Olympix and Finals of Growers Ironperson Event and Bong Throw.

11:00am - Seed Talk

9:00pm - The Oasis Cafe - Comedy starring Alan Glover, Fiona McGary, Steve Davis, S Sorrensen and more.

THE MAIN EVENT

2:30pm - Begin to gather for Cannabis Law Reform Rally & Parade which will begin at top of Cecil st. Opposite the local Police Station.

3:00pm - Cannabis Law Reform Parade March proceeds to Peace Park for Rally. Sometimes the parade will stop for the Ganja Faeries. Beware of badly manoeuvring Big Joints; its a bit of a hassle to change direction. The Knights of the Black Grail will march behind the Ganja Faeries. At Peace Park speakers include Steve Bolt, Kog, Neil Pike, Lisa Yeates, Paul Benhaim, Richard Hurley, Paul Recher, and Andy Putnam. There will be an Official **Burning at the Stake of Ignorance** by The medieval Knights of Black Grail Productions.

Cannabis Cup raffle drawn at Rally. You must have a ticket, be there, and have a valid armband in order to be eligible.

14th NIMBIN MARDIGRASS

MAY 6 & 7

CANNABIS LAW REFORM RALLY & GATHERING

50 free passes to be won



- Who's about to introduce the National Cannabis Strategy?
- What year did cannabis become illegal in Nimbin?
- Who sent hemp seeds on the 'First Flee' to Australia?
- Name four ways people in Jesus' time used hemp.
- Which FBI cross dresser coined the word 'marihuana'?
- What cannabis cigarette was sold in Oz until 1923?
- Who controlled and shaped US drug policy for 33 years?
- Which relative of British PM Blair smokes cannabis?
- How many 15 gram pot cautions can NSW police issue?
- Is driver saliva testing by police legal in NSW yet?

THE FIRST FIFTY CORRECT ANSWERS BROUGHT TO MARDIGRASS HEADSQUARTERS AFTER 10AM FRIDAY RECEIVE A MARDIGRASS ARMBAND WEEKEND PASS! www.nimbinmardigrass.com • For help with the answers please see website.

Saturday May 6

KOMBI KONVOY

Midday - Byron Bay Kombis begin gathering at Beach Carpark

1:00pm - Byron Kombis embark, Lismore Kombis begin gathering at the carpark at the corner of Magellan and Dawson streets.

2:30pm - All Kombis leave Lismore

3:30pm - Kombi Konvoy arrives in Nimbin led by the HEMP Olympix Torchbearer carrying the Flame for the Victims of Prohibition.

All weekend - Rainbow-Coloured Nimbin Regional Art Gallery (Opposite the Oasis Cafe) Helen Rodriguez and Friends - **Local & Pot Art**

11:00am to 1:00pm - Pot Art Tattoo Entrant Registration

3:00pm to 5:00pm - Pot Art Tattoo Competition Run by Hemp Lore Australia

HEMP BAR

10:00am - ROLL UP, ROLL UP, and help **build the Big Joint for John**. Out front.



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MON 15TH
MAY

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GRINSPOON
DJ SHADOW
THE GRATES
TV ON THE RADIO
AUGIE MARCH
YOUTH GROUP
ATMOSPHERE
PAUL MAC
BRITTLE FEX
DEATH CAB FOR CUTIE
THE AVALANCHES DJ SET

SUNDAY 23RD JULY

BRIAN WILSON
WOLFMOTHER
SCISSOR SISTERS
YEAH YEAH YEAHS
JOSÉ GONZÁLEZ
SNOW PATROL
YOU AM I
DECODER RING
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MATISYAHU
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TICKETS ARE \$160 (INC GST) + B/FEE FOR A WEEKEND TICKET (INCLUDES \$2 FOR BELONGIL RESTORATION PROJECT). CAMPING TICKETS ARE AN ADDITIONAL \$99 (INC GST) + B/FEE PER PERSON AND INCLUDE ACCOMMODATION FOR FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY NIGHTS.

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DANCIN' NIGHTS

Welcome to Denzil Lloyd, our new dance writer! denzil@echo.net.au

What do you get if you combine the skills of DJ/producers Grant Smilie and Ivan Gough? TV Rock; a lean and keen dirty beat machine that pumps out electro booty bass house so fat it'd get your granny stepping.

OZ wide Ivan Gough is recognised as an excellent remixer and producer. It's a reputation he's earned through collaborations with a plethora of acts, from Ice House to Nubreed.

Grant Smilie is a well known and respected Melbourne DJ. His DJing career has been going for a while and in 2003 he made a foray into production. Soon after, around the bar at one of Melbourne's Onelove nights, the pair first decided to pool their abilities as a production duo. Smilie explains, 'We started with one remix, it went really well. We followed that with a bootleg that made it into the crates of DJ's like Sasha and Pete Tong. Last year we did 25 remixes. 5 of them went to no 1 in the ARIA club charts, so we were like - why are we doing all this for other people? We should be doing our own thing!' Thus TV Rock was born.

Now it seems that the long taxi down the runway is over



and it's all taking off. Their last release 'Flaunt it' has been shredding dancefloors across the globe. Smilie recalls 'It connected at clubs first and then slowly trickled through.' Featuring Seany B it's a dirty, sexy, house workout teeming with attitude that leaves you no choice but to shake what yo mama gave you, and shake it hard.

I asked Smilie if their rising international success has changed their game plan; broadened their horizons. 'Definitely. In July we're off to play at Passion in Ibiza, then we're going to the World Cup for OZ Vs Brazil and we're

gonna drop our new track; 'We got the Power' it's a collab' with Tom Novi and it's all in the green and gold spirit. The track will be released in the U.K. on the Data label and elsewhere in Europe on Little Mountain Recordings later this year. There's also talk of the song being released in the U.S but with those territories it's pretty much out of your control.'

Coming back a little closer to home Smilie said of Byron, 'man I love it. It's been at least 12 to 18 months since I last played there. Now La La Land has refurbished and it's all plush; it should be a great night. On top of the gig we've come to do a bit of work on our album which is planned for July, Byron's such a top spot for that, I can really focus. We've already got a lot of it done and we've got heaps of ideas so it's just a question of refining it back. While we're here we'll be doing a collab' with Steve Mac who's out in OZ at the mo.'

It seems as though Smilie is a very busy man. Perhaps the newly accrued aerodynamics derived from shaving off his iconic moustache might find him a few extra minutes in the day. But at what price? The loss of a potential trademark.... 'it had to come off because I was chasing this lovely lady and she didn't like moustaches but no doubt it'll be back when I return from Italy in November.'

TV Rock play at La La Land this Friday with Willjay.

► On Friday at Play catch N-Zed who'll be joined by resident DJ Nick Taylor and Jackie Onassid for a night of original tech-house and dirty grooves. Followed on Saturday by Sydney's scratch master of house Craig Obey.

► Slip into elsewhere on Friday when maestros Audun & Chef team up with Chicko (UK) to serve up their secret formula of disco nouveau, electro, and minimal. Or have a Royale Sunday with DJ Rock Hardson's deep bleeps, broken beats & busted up basslines.

► DJ Dave Basek, the maestro behind internationally renowned; locally based electronic band Junkbeats, shares some deep house treasures at the Buddha Bar on Thursday and on Friday DJ Aqua keeps the seductive cocktail hour stretching through the night. Meeooww!

► Dayranged, Sunday May 7, with N - Zed (B.E.E.F - Sydney), Phil Smart, Ben Abrahams, Ms Skye, Wallapalooza & Sarah Tonin rolling out nu-jazz, hip hop, crack house, electro & techy business. There'll be free bowls all afternoon and if you feel like dressing up, dress code is whites and wigs. At long last, a Sunday session in Byron Bay, where you can really get a good dose of fruity beats, whimsical waywardness & buffoonery!

Sunday 7th May, Byron Bay Bowling Club, from 2pm-10pm

THE JASONS COMMUNITY AWARDS NIGHT

The Echo's 20th Birthday and Awards Night

RICHARD NEVILLE

JONATHAN ATHERTON

MC MANDY NOLAN

JUZZIE SMITH

SUPERNOVA JADE

MISSION IGNITION + DJ DEL LARKEN & PASCAL

ROSS NOBEL

GREG SHEEHAN

NATIONAL LATIN DANCE CHAMP JARROD DAWSON

& lots more!

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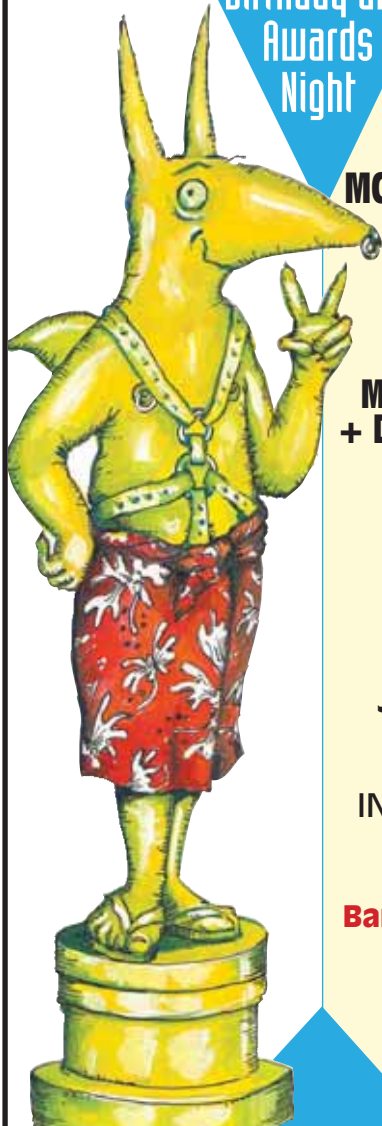
June 3rd Bangalow A+I Hall

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\$55 A POP

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CULTURE EVENTS

FUNDRAISING FIESTA - AMNESTY'S SUPER SHOW!

Attend the Amnesty Fundraiser and you will not only get that warm fuzzy feeling knowing that you have helped a fellow human in need, you will have the time of your life. This gig is a blockbuster and features headliners the Hottentots, A Fashion Parade by innovative designer, Judy Who and a number of tango, salsa and hip hop dance acts. There is a blistering live latin performance planned with Paul Barrett and the Samba Blisstas literally planning to take the roof of the place. Crazy Circus Cabaret are a kooky bunch of performers who are regulars on the circus circuit, including hell raising performances at Glastonbury Festival. May Day Fiesta is a field day of fun. Don't miss out. This Friday at Ewing-sdale for just \$15. There's great food and it all kicks off at 7pm. This is a heartfelt Latin Lounge promotion! Open your heart, your wallet and your fun chakra! BYO Alcohol.

OPERA - MEET THE DON

It's one of the classic operas - Don Giovanni. Based on the legend of Don Juan, that boozing sleazebag, there's some-

thing for everyone! Presented by The Acapelicans, it's a huge leap into the world of opera. These guys usually sing in four part a cappella arrangements, so it's going to be an exciting collaboration with Co-opera, an Adelaide based company whose mission is to bring the opera to the people, namely, us country folk. Thursday at the Byron Entertainment Centre, 17 Centennial Circuit, Byron Industrial Estate. Tickets can be booked by phoning 0431 291 321 or purchased on-line at byronentertainmentcentre.com.au Doors open from 6pm with show at 7.30pm pre show entertainment.

CABARET & COMEDY - GET A CURRY ON!

The irrepressible Sandhi Gandhi takes up the position at the helm of the SS Curry, steering the Indian mistress into exotic and turbulent waters. Featuring comedians Liam Holm our Triple J Raw Comedy Queensland Finalist and Jenny Wynter, a mother on a mission, who draws deep on her experience of motherhood to present a wacky wad of one liners. Pretty timely, seeing as the following day is Mothers Day. Rosie Lee returns to chan-

nel Dusty Springfield and also Michael Parkinson when she gives Russell Eldridge enough rope for a deep and imploring chat. Hans and the Lovejoys provide the music for the evening pumping out the jazz. Paul Solomon is a man with a song who takes to the floor, along with the curried crooner and pickle spooner, Mick Ayo. Mick's Fiery Foods will be doing the catering. Bookings to 6684 7476. The show is on Saturday 13 May at the Byron Beach Resort. Doors open from 5.30pm, dinner 6.30pm and show at 8pm. \$30.

ART: THINKING SMALL

All ideas start off small. Like a seed, sometimes the simplicity and the potential is where the beauty is. Waywood Gallery is having its group exhibition and is inviting artists to produce two new small works in any medium on any subject with any price. The only thing that must be adhered to is the size! Size really does matter. This year there is a theme of new beginnings. For the mount size contact Waywood. Entry forms are available now and entries close 26 May. Opening night: Friday 2 June.

DANCE - FEET ON THE FOOTPATH!

Get ready to dance in the street live performance and film this week when NORPA

Dance Action brings movement to the people. It's National Dance Week and time to shake that booty. Sunday sees over 20 different local groups indulge in many styles of dance, all MC'd by the lovely hula girl Suzy Leigh, who'll be inviting the audience to participate in a big finale featuring an African Workshop run by Cheze and some hot freestyling. Sunday from 2pm - 4pm opposite the Beach Hotel.

YOGA - A BUNDA A GENDA

Man, you ain't seen nothing yet until you've seen Simon Borg-Oliver. The man is bendier than a banana. He teaches yoga to Sydney Dance Company, Black Swan and Bangarra and this could be your opportunity to get up close and spiritual with a bloke who I reckon can get himself into all sorts of compromising positions. This Buttery fundraiser features the Bay's finest yoga instructors over two days and also includes a Laughter Yoga with Milli O'Nair! At the Byron Yoga Centre, Belongil on Saturday 13 and Sunday 14, fire up those bundas and make an instalment on your inner peace! Full program details are available at byronbayyogafest.org.au or by calling YogaFest Coordinator Peter Wood on 6687 1623.

PLAY NIGHTCLUB BYRON BAY

WEDNESDAY 3 MAY ► **PLAY EARLY**
Chill bar tunes 8pm to midnight

THURSDAY 4 MAY ► **PSY-TRANCE PARTY**
DJs MINDELIGHT > NIYAMA > TWILIGHT
Alkaloid Productions bring in Mexican headline DJ Mindelight for funky latin psy-trance with a morning-sound style : \$5/\$10

FRIDAY 5 MAY ► **PLAY DIRTY**
DJs N-ZED > NICK TAYLOR > JACKIE ONASSID
Sydney guest N-Zed adds an electro-tech edge to the night of sideways house, twisted tech and dirty grooves : \$5/\$10

SATURDAY 6 MAY ► **CRAIG OBEY**
DJs CRAIG OBEY > DAVE C
Mixing filtered house and tech breaks with soulful vocals and crazy scratches, Craig Obey is Sydney's scratch master of house : \$10/\$15

SUNDAY 7 MAY ► **PLAY ON**
After Dayranged 8pm to midnight

COMING UP
THURSDAY 11 MAY ► **HYPER & BASS KLEPH**

\$5 BASIC DRINKS BEFORE MIDNIGHT. \$6 AFTER.

DANCEFLOOR • CHILLBAR • TROPICAL TERRACE 8PM-3AM

PLAY ► JONSON STREET Woolworths carpark BYRON PLAZA CARPARK JONSON ST playnightclub.com.au



INSIDE MAN

Inside Man, directed by Spike Lee, retains all the elements of a traditional crime-caper film; it takes us through all the smarts of police hostage and bank heist procedures but by the film's conclusion it leaves us with something greater than the usual surprise plot twists and shoot-outs. The film begins with Dalton Russell (Clive Owen) informing us that he's planned the perfect bank robbery. Soon after, the First Manhattan Bank of NY is being taken over by a crew disguised as painters. Hostage negotiator Keith Frazier (Denzel Washington) gets the call with his partner, Bill Mitchell (the great Chiwetel Ejiofor). Frazier already has a cloud of suspicion hanging over him regarding some 140 grand missing from a check-cashing bust. Curiously though, other than asking for a jet and voluntarily sending out the occasional hostage with instructions, Dalton and his gang don't seem to want anything. They stare at the open vault of money, feed their captives and in no way entice the cops to make a move on the bank. Further complicating matters is the appearance of Madeliene White (Jodie Foster), one of those backroom deal-arrangers who has been retained by the bank's owner to look after his 'mysterious' interests. Like Lee's best works, Inside Man is very much a contemporary story. Anyone can do a cops-and-robbers tale and style it up, but few filmmakers will bring the flavor of its surroundings and make a statement about societal boundaries. Casual racism, profiling and the attitudes of minor characters all mix into the film's ingredients. The cinematography creates a gritty atmosphere with dark, saturated, burnished tones that are never quite real. A really interesting film!

Ross Goode



AMERICAN DREAMZ

Hugh Grant always plays the same character. Urbane, self-effacing and likeable with a pleasing hint of unwholesomeness. Here, as the host of an Idol-type show, his egomaniacal darker side prevails, and it's a real treat. Combining the biggest stories of our times - terrorism and reality TV - writer/director Paul Weitz has produced a jocular but lacerating critique of American popular culture. With much to cover, the movie seems shoddily constructed at first, with some scenes not working as well as they might, but the weave tightens as the threads are pulled together. The contest's finalists are Sally, a scheming faux bimbo, and Sam, an Iraqi sent to America to assassinate the President, whose PR guru has slotted him on to the show as its special guest judge. Mandy Moore as the blonde wannabe and Sam Gozari as the Arab who loves song and dance, are terrific, stalwarts Dennis Quaid and Willem Dafoe enjoy their comic outing and, as Omer's camp cousin, Tony Yalda is hysterical. This is a smart, laugh out loud farce with a climax that is unexpectedly disastrous - but not disastrous enough to stop the show from going on. Politics or pop stars, it's all on prime time.

John Campbell



SCARY MOVIE 4

It's a measure of the bottomless fall of Iron Mike Tyson that the once mighty boxer should turn up in this rank and terminally tired abomination. There is nothing wrong with catering to a particular market and no adult would expect to be thrilled by cinema aimed squarely at teenagers, but what is dispiriting here is the makers' contemptible and lazy disregard for its audience's intelligence. The writers have relied almost entirely on a dreary sequence of jokes centred on the groin, the bum and its emissions, and people getting clonked on the head. The kids surrounding me were amused, but only mildly, and their need for something more stimulating was palpable. It's a pity, because the set-up is loaded with potential. Telling its story through spoofing recent films, in this case The War of the Worlds, with references to others (The Ring, The Village, Brokeback Mountain, Million Dollar Baby, Fahrenheit 911 et al) there is ample opportunity to undermine Hollywood's preciousness and to nourish the healthy instinct of juveniles to be un-PC. Briefly unleashed as the naked US President, Leslie Nielsen goes close to genuine anarchy, but it's way too little too late.

John Campbell

Favourite Movie Quotation

Pedro: Man, what is in this shit, man?
Man Stoner: Mostly Maui Wauu man, but it's got some Labrador in it.
Pedro: What's Labrador?
Man Stoner: It's dog shit.
Pedro: What?
Man Stoner: Yeah, my dog ate my stash, man.
Pedro: Yeah?
Man Stoner: I had it on the table and the little motherfucker ate it, man. Then I had to follow him around with a little baggie for three days, man, before I got it back. Really blew the dog's mind, ya know?
Pedro: You mean we're smokin' dog shit, man?
Man Stoner: Gets ya high, don't it?
Man Stoner: I think it's even better than before, you know?
Pedro: Uhhh, I wonder what Great Dane tastes like, man.
UP IN SMOKE

MOVIE REVIEWS

MOVIE LINE 6680 8555
 108 Jonson St, Byron Bay, next to Woolworths
 www.byroncinemas.com

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 TUESDAYS ALL TIX \$7.50

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TOM CRUISE
M-111
 THE MISSION BEGINS 05:05:05
 NO FREE LIST
 TOM CRUISE
 VING RHAMES, PHILIP SEYMOUR HOFFMAN

SCARY MOVIE 4 (M) NO FREE LIST
 DAILY 11.15am, 4pm, 9.30pm
 BE VERY, VERY AFRAID - THE FOURTH AND FINAL CHAPTER OF THE TRILOGY

Love is the most complex equation of all
{proof} (M) DAILY 12.50pm, 5.30pm
 'Dazzling performances...' Empire ★★★★★
 Gwyneth Paltrow, Jake Gyllenhaal, Anthony Hopkins

Inspired by a true story
EIGHT BELOW (PG) DAILY 9.30am, 2.40pm, 7.20pm, ★★★★★
 '... terrific story... the dogs are fabulous' Margaret Pomeranz, At the Movies

In the harshest place on earth love finds a way
MARCH OF THE PENGUINS (G) DAILY 11.10am, 12.40pm, 6pm, ★★★★★
 '... totally unforgettable...' Leigh Paatsch, Herald Sun

THE SHAGGY DOG (PG) DAILY 9.30am, 2.10pm
 'A charming, furry tale... funny, engaging... paw-lickin' good' Urban Cinefile

'Fun for adults and belly laughs for the little people' Empire (PG) DAILY 9.30am, 4.15pm

THE WORLD'S FASTEST Indian (PG) DAILY 2pm, 7.25pm
 'Really awesome.' Chris Murray, Sunrise
 'Exhilarating!' Row Lowing, Sun Herald

THE INSIDEMAN (MA15) DENZEL WASHINGTON
 A SPIKE LEE FILM 'A brain teaser of a thriller.' Who Magazine DAILY 9.30pm
FINAL WEEK

o-sushi 寿司 SUSHI MOVIE DEAL See any film and receive 12% off at O-Sushi OR spend \$15 or more at O-Sushi and see any film for just \$10 (\$9 con). Conditions apply, just ask.

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Wed 3 May	4.45 Capote ★	7.00 I Know I Am Not Alone ★	9.00 V For Vendetta ★
Thurs 4 May	4.30 I Know I Am Not Alone ★	6.30 Walk The Line ★	9.00 Inside Man ★
Fri 5 May	4.00 Walk The Line ★	6.30 Inside Man	9.00 V For Vendetta ★
Sat 6 May	2.00 Walk The Line ★	4.30 I Know I Am Not Alone ★	6.30 V For Vendetta ★
	9.00 Inside Man ★		
Sun 7 May	2.15 I Know I Am Not Alone ★	4.15 Capote ★	6.30 Inside Man ★
	9.00 Walk The Line ★		
Mon 8 May	4.15 Walk The Line ★	6.45 Capote ★	9.00 V For Vendetta ★
Tues 9 May	4.15 Capote	6.30 V For Vendetta	9.00 Inside Man
Wed 10 May	4.30 I Know I Am Not Alone ★	6.30 Inside Man ★	9.00 Capote ★

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 ★ 11.10AM
 ★ 3.00PM
 ★ 6.50PM
 ★ 9.05PM

EIGHT BELOW (PG) THU 4 TO WED 10
 ★ 11.50AM
 ★ 3.45PM
 ★ 7.25PM

MARCH OF THE PENGUINS (G) LAST 7 DAYS
 THU 4 TO WED 10
 ★ 9.45AM
 ★ 1.30PM
 ★ 5.55PM

SCARY MOVIE 4 (M) LAST 7 DAYS
 THU 4 TO WED 10
 ★ 5.15PM
 ★ 9.30PM

THE SHAGGY DOG (PG) ALL TICKETS \$8
 THU 4 TO WED 10
 ★ 2.00PM

THE INSIDEMAN (MA15) TIM ALLEN
 LAST 7 DAYS
 THU 4 TO WED 10
 ★ 10.00AM

STARTS NEXT THURS * WORLDS FASTEST INDIAN * FAILURE TO LAUNCH *

seven



BEACH HOTEL

WEDNESDAY 3
9:00PM
VOCAL LOCALS

THURSDAY 4
9:00PM
FATTER THAN NUSRAT

FRIDAY 5
9:30PM
OZ HORNZ

SATURDAY 6
9:30PM
FLOYD VINCENT & THE CHILDBRIDES

SUNDAY 30
4:00PM
FLOYD VINCENT & THE CHILDBRIDES

9:00PM
ADRIAN BELEW
EX TALKING HEADS, DAVID BOWIE, FRANK ZAPPA, ETC

MONDAY / TUESDAY
9:00PM
BIG SCREEN DANCE MUSIC



**BAY ST
BYRON BAY
6685 6402**

WEDNESDAY 3

- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 9PM **VOCAL LOCALS**
- BUDDHA BAR, BYRON 7PM **COCKATOO PAUL LIVE + SOL CARROLL + STEVO EXTREMO FIRESHOW** BUDDHA BAR STUDIO 6PM **RED HOT SALSA**
- THE RAILS, BYRON 6.30PM **NINE MILE**
- BYRON COMMUNITY CENTRE 7.30PM **SHIRLEY VALENTINE**
- CHEEKY MONKEYS, BYRON 7PM **DIDGE SHOW**
- PLAY, BYRON **PLAY EARLY**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 7.30PM **MOVIE NIGHT 'WEST SIDE STORY'**

THURSDAY 4

- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 9PM **FATTER THAN NUSRAT**
- BUDDHA BAR, BYRON 7PM **DAVE BASEK**
- HOTEL GREAT NORTHERN, BYRON 9PM **THE GO SET + VIOLENT SOHO, HY TEST**
- THE RAILS, BYRON 7PM **GREG ARNOLD**
- BYRON ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE, 7.30PM **DON GIOVANNI**
- CHEEKY MONKEYS, BYRON 9PM **TALENT QUEST**
- PLAY, BYRON **PSY-TRANCE PARTY**
- MIDDLE PUB, MULLUM 6PM **PIANO BAR WITH ROSS NOBEL**
- THE CHINI HOTEL, MULLUM 7.30PM **THE MULLUMBERRY JAM**
- AUSSIE TAVERN, M'BAH 8PM **SOULMAN**

FRIDAY 5

- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 9.30PM **OZ HORNS**
- BUDDHA BAR, BYRON 7PM **DJ AQUA + DAVE C** BUDDHA BAR STUDIO 7.30PM **SALSA SOCIAL**

■ BYRON COMMUNITY CENTRE 7.30PM **SHIRLEY VALENTINE**

■ HOTEL GREAT NORTHERN, BYRON 9PM **ZED LEPLIN**

■ THE RAILS, BYRON 7PM **UP**

■ WHY NOT CAFE, BYRON 7PM **HANS & WILL**

■ CHEEKY MONKEYS, BYRON 9PM **BACKPACKER SPECIALS**

■ LA LA LAND, BYRON **TV ROCK + WILLJAY**

■ PLAY, BYRON **N-ZED, NICK TAYLOR + JACKIE ONASSID**

■ HOTEL BRUNSWICK, 4.30PM **JAMES BLACK (DUO)**

■ SUFFOLK PARK HALL, 7.30PM **DANCES OF PEACE**

■ THE CHINI HOTEL, MULLUM 8.30PM **ONE TOO MANY BAND**

■ BILLINUDGEL HOTEL, 8.30PM **JAM SESSION**

■ THE URBAN BANGALOW, 6.30PM **DAVE ADES TRIO**

■ EWINGSALE HALL, 7PM **MAY DAY FIESTA - THE HOTTENTOTS, SAMBA BLISSTAS, CIRCUS CABARET**

■ THAI GARDENS RESTAURANT, LENNOX, **SHELLEY HUGHES & GUY MALLABY**

■ LISMORE CITY HALL 7.30PM **MUSIC VIVA TRIO NOVALIS**

■ MARY GILHOOLEYS, LISMORE 5PM **ROMANIACS, 9PM BRIAN WATT**

■ AUSSIE TAVERN, M'BAH 8PM **HILLBILLY BLUES BANDITS**

■ CABARITA SPORTS CLUB, 8PM **WORDPLAY**

■ STOKERS SIDING HALL, **EPIPHANY ARTS WITH WILD HONEY & MURRAY KYLE**

■ NIMBIN HOTEL 4PM **FATTER THAN NUSRAT**

■ NIMBIN TOWN HALL, 7PM **THE LOVE BUS**

■ ELSEWHERE, SURFERS **AUDON + CHEF + CHICKO**

SATURDAY 6

■ BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 9.30PM **FLOYD VINCENT & THE CHILDBRIDES**

■ BUDDHA BAR, BYRON 9.30PM **DJ DAVE GRAVY**

■ HOTEL GREAT NORTHERN, BYRON 9PM **AUGIE MARCH & DAN KELLY & THE ALPHA MALES**

■ THE RAILS, BYRON 6.30PM **MARSHALL**

■ CHEEKY MONKEYS, BYRON 7PM **LADIES NIGHT**

■ COCOMANGAS, BYRON **DJS**

■ LA LA LAND, BYRON **LIVEWIRE**

■ PLAY, BYRON **CRAIG OBEY + DAVE C**

■ BYRON COMMUNITY CENTRE, 7.30PM **SHIRLEY VALENTINE**

■ HOTEL BRUNSWICK 6.30PM **IT'S PROBABLY US**

■ THE URBAN BANGALOW, 6.30PM **MATT SMITH TRIO**

■ BANGALOW HOTEL, 8PM **RUNNING BLUE & THE TELLING EFFECT**

■ THE CHINI HOTEL, MULLUM 7.30PM **JIM MCALISTER**

■ LU LU'S, MULLUM 11AM **WAZ PORTER**

■ MULLUMBIMBY RSL, 8.15PM **MIKE PRESTON**

■ HEARTSPACE, MULLUM, 7PM **BYRON ENVIRONMENT CENTRE PACIFIC HIGHWAY FILMS RAP**

■ NIMBIN HOTEL 2PM **THE PUDDIN THIEVES, 7PM MING & STU DJS**

■ AUSSIE TAVERN, M'BAH 8PM **WILDCARD**

■ ELSEWHERE, SURFERS **DJS**

SUNDAY 7

■ BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 4PM **FLOYD VINCENT & THE CHILDBRIDES** 9PM **ADRIAN BELEW**

■ BUDDHA BAR, BYRON **CYBERBAS LIVE**

■ HOTEL GREAT NORTHERN, BYRON 8PM **JOSH PYKE, BOB EVANS & LAURA IMBRUGLIA**

■ THE RAILS, BYRON 6.30PM **BIG BRASS BAND**

■ BYRON GOLF CLUB 4PM **BYRON JAZZ CLUB**

■ ZULA CAFE, BYRON 2PM **CHILL OUT SESSION, POB**

■ BYRON BAY BOWLO CLUB 2PM **DAYRANGED**

■ DJS **N-ZED, BEN ABRAHAMS, PHIL SMART, MS SKYE, SARAH TONIN, WALLAPALOOZA**

■ PLAY, BYRON **PLAY ON**

■ BYRON MARKET, 9AM **FLIPSIDE 45 & JUZZI SMITH**

■ BYRON APEX PARK, 2PM **DANCE ON THE FOOTPATH WITH BIG OR LITTLE FEET**

■ EWINGSDALE HALL, 7.30PM **BYRON VISTA SOCIAL CLUB**

■ HOTEL BRUNSWICK 6.30PM **ANDREW COX BAND**

■ BANGALOW HOTEL, 1.30PM **AMNESIACS**

■ BANGALOW A&I HALL, 8PM **LIOR WITH IOTA**

■ LENNOX HOTEL, 2PM **RESPECTFUL ANNIE JAZZ QUINTET**

■ NIMBIN HOTEL 2PM **THE WRIGHT BROS, 7.30PM AURORA JANE BAND**

■ SPHINX ROCK CAFE, MT BURRELL, 1PM **LOREN**

MONDAY 8

■ BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 9PM **BIG SCREEN DANCE MUSIC**

■ BUDDHA BAR, BYRON **LIVE ACOUSTIC & DJ BRAD VORTEX**

14th Nimbin Mardi's Grass this weekend 6 + 7 May

■ THE RAILS, BYRON 6.30PM **MATT SEABURG**

■ CHEEKY MONKEYS, BYRON **MEXICAN PARTY**

■ CHINI HOTEL MULLUM, 7.30PM **SALSA CLASS & FREESTYLE**

TUESDAY 9

■ BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 9PM **BIG SCREEN DANCE MUSIC**

■ BUDDHA BAR, BYRON 8PM **DJ DABBY**

■ THE RAILS, BYRON 6.30PM **FINTAN**

■ CHEEKY MONKEYS, BYRON **TEAM TRIVIA**

■ THE CHINI HOTEL, MULLUM 7.30PM **ROCK N ROLL DANCING**

DEADLINE

GIG GUIDE - 12 NOON FRIDAY
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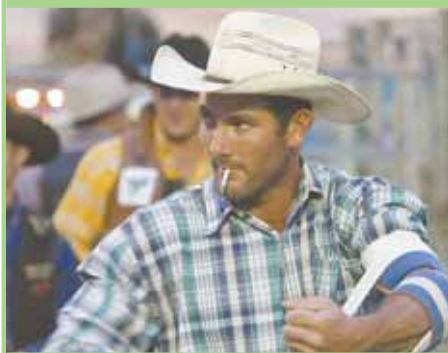
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FRIDAY 5th MAY - THE RAILS - BYRON BAY

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GLIMPSED

send pics to seven@echo.net.au please!



STARS



Lilith

On this week in 1967 Mohammed Ali refused to be drafted into the Vietnam war – for which conscientious objection he was sportingly relieved of his world heavyweight title... It's the kind of stand up for your rights week when if people don't want to do something, nothing's going to make them.

ARIES: You can either behave like an Aries unfamiliar with the fine art of getting along with others this week – or you could show those anti-fans who consider all Aries barbarians just how discreet and diplomatic you can be when you put your mind to it.

TAURUS: This week's astral aspects spotlight clutter and the terrible tendency we have to amass it. Yes, it's time to give yourself a life-style colonic again: to clear away workplace accumulations, domestic congestion, junk thoughts and general free floating mess...

GEMINI: This week's material-world energy works well for tightening up financial leaks, taking care of bills and all that business jazz. And if wide world concerns have been leaving little left over for those closest, a bit of quality TLC in the home zone won't go astray either.

CANCER: This week's Moon/Mars transit could have you extra sensual and sensitive – well, even more than usual. The tug of the domestic sector's strong – along with astral indications to do something utterly indulgent to soothe the frazzled spirit and nourish the gnawing soul hunger.

LEO: Pay more attention to people's feelings than the impression you're making and this could be an exceptional week. If friends or support you were counting on fall through, use it as an exercise in self reliance. And while you're doing that, look – other assistance has arrived!

VIRGO: A down to earthy, Virgo-friendly, taking care of business week auspicious for smoothing ruffled feathers, soothing offended feelings, massaging wounded egos, lifting troubled spirits, reviving tired minds and fluffing up the general atmosphere you operate in.

LIBRA: You don't need to try so hard to please people this week – you're pleasing anyway. And even though it's your natural inclination, you don't have to make everything right for everyone else either. This week's really designed to just enjoy the delight of being alive.

SCORPIO: Why get stuck in stubborn one-way standoffs this week when there's so many creative ways to solve problems. Think laterally, think big, think different. Don't keep score – take those price tags off what you've given or done. Forget fireworks, aim for grace. Good luck.

SAGITTARIUS: Your stars, in an attempt to protect you from being your own worst enemy, strongly advise against the full on approach – because this week's people will be touchy no matter what. And there's no harm in letting your sensitivity show...

CAPRICORN: Fiscal constrictions, financial constraints and similar material considerations are on this week's Capricorn storyboard. But don't let economic pressures get you in One Of Your Moods, or you won't benefit from this seriously sensual week's affectionate and aesthetic pleasures.

AQUARIUS: Fortune-attracting aspects aren't putting their hands up right this minute in the life of Aquarius, so generate your own luck by being generous, optimistic, ready to help – and willing to receive. A caustic quip could cut someone deeply, so keep your wit universal rather than personal this week.

PISCES: Tapping into the collective psyche is a particularly Piscean gift, and this week you'll not only understand people's irrationality – you'll know how to turn it around and work with it. And help others understand what doesn't come as naturally to them as it does to you.



FREESTUFF

SARS CD

Thought you'd never see it happen? SARS is now available on CD. The best Latin American in Australia today. A prelude to their performance at Bangalow Catholic Hall on Saturday 13, email mandypow@echo.net.au to win a cd.

HOTEL BRUNSWICK

Ph 6685 1236

MON & TUES
FREE POOL

WEDNESDAY 3
7:30PM
MOVIE NIGHT
WEST SIDE STORY
[PG]

THURSDAY 4
5:30PM
MEAT RAFFLES
6:00PM
POOL COMP

FRIDAY 5
6:30PM
JAMES BLACK
(Duo)

SATURDAY 6
6:30PM
IT'S PROBABLY US

SUNDAY 7
6:30PM
ANDREW COX BAND

Bruns

Daily specials, fresh fish, steaks, burgers, juices, coffee and cakes.

LUNCH & DINNER

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Latin Lounge

FRIDAY - 5 MAY 2006
7:00 PM - THE LAST
MUSIC BY DJ

MayDay
Proceeds - Amnesty International
Live Music Shows Dance DJs Music
\$12.00 COVER CHARGE (incl. Door Prize)

AMNESY >> 7.00 PM
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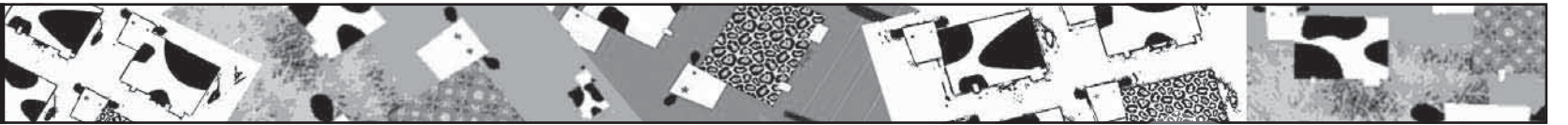
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In the red

Horatio Bitemark

'SANDERS, ARE we right to attribute the sandwich to the 18th century earl John Montagu?' asked Bosworth, himself inserting another slice of ham into his bread-and-meat concoction.

'Hardly, sir,' replied the knowledgeable butler. 'It is merely the predominance of the British empire then and in subsequent centuries which gave his name such prominence in relation to this popular comestible. We could go as far back as the first century BC rabbi Hillel the Elder, who reputedly began the Passover custom of sandwiching ingredients between two matzohs. The filling had greater religious than culinary significance.'

'Ancestor of mine knew Montagu,' chipped in Toggleneck. 'The earl was well known for his corruption when in charge of the navy but family reports suggest he also had a dungeon full of badgers bred for unseemly purposes.'

'The sandwich was around before Sandwich,' I said. 'It was generally known as bread and meat or bread and cheese.'

'The first written record of the word "sandwich" comes in the work of the distinguished Edward Gibbon, author of The History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire. He comments on the wealthy dining on sandwiches in the Cocoa Tree, a coffee room in St James's Street.'

'Sandwich himself dined on salt beef between two slices of toasted bread while playing cards. Not as appetising as something Chef might serve up.'

'Sir may also recall that the original attribu-

tion of the invention of the sandwich to the earl was in Grosley's Tour to London,' said Sanders. Here the butler quoted verbatim: "A minister of state passed four and twenty hours at a public gaming-table, so absorb in play that, during the whole time, he had no subsistence but a bit of beef, between two slices of toasted bread, which he eat without ever quitting the game. This new dish grew highly in vogue, during my residence in London: it was called by the name of the minister who invented it."

'Gossip by a travel writer,' said Bosworth. 'Hardly credible, I suppose.'

As every schoolchild knows, the sandwich was introduced to America by Englishwoman Elizabeth Leslie in 1840. In her cookbook, Directions for Cookery, she has a recipe for ham sandwiches as a main dish.

It was in the 1900s, with the invention of pre-sliced bread, that the sandwich took on its inevitable popularity, especially with harried mothers.

'Tried an absinthe sandwich once,' said Abbotsleigh, arousing himself from slumber. 'Fortunately the thick bread retained the liquid. Fell into a trance, don't you know, and had visions of Josephine Baker playing lawn bowls with Frida Kahlo. Most disturbing.'

It was a logical conclusion to the discussion, so we moved into the Charles Bukowski Memorial Cellar for a round of Byron Bay Stormworks Troubling Inundation Pinot Noir, peppered by a hint of capsicum and salty blocked drain.



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seven

All aboard the Orient Express

Victoria Cosford

ABOUT SMILES it is sometimes said that they light up a room; in the case of Tippy Heng no other metaphor is more apt.

Tippy had achieved status almost legendary by the time I arrived in Byron Bay. He was then Head Chef at dish restaurant but not for much longer; after a period teaching cooking classes around the Shire he accepted a position as Executive Chef in a five-star resort on a private island in the Caribbean, and that was to be that. I had never tasted his modern Asian food and believed I never would.

And now Tippy is back in town. Back in town and cooking in a little tea-room whose scarlet and yellow walls are lined with beautiful, original antique furniture and whose centrepiece is a bonsai Port Jackson fig tree. Orient Express is over the road from Main Beach and, despite only having been open a handful of days the night I visited with friends, had most of its 25 seats full.

Tippy trained in Sydney under Neil Perry and counts Kylie Kwong as one of his dear friends (he is her 'little Thai brother' to his 'big Chinese sister'); his inaugural menu, however, is playing it safe in terms of fairly traditional dishes, a situation he expects to metamorphose, eventually, into more cutting-edge and contemporary.

It could stay the same for all I care: everything we ate, save a somewhat indifferent Japanese Seaweed & Vegetable Salad, was fantastic. We shared the Salad and two other entrees: a Roasted Duck and Cashew Nut Salad with Sweet Sesame Dressing and the Steamed Pork and Water Chestnut Dim Sims with dipping sauces. For the mains - gorgeously presented - our enthusiasm shifted into a higher gear as we sampled tenderly pink lamb stuffed with Korean Hot Bean Sauce, the tongue-twister Bolalot of beef wrapped in betel leaves and served with a sweet pineapple sauce, and - to my mind the highlight - heavenly steamed Mango

Jack fish fillets in a delicate green curry of baby corn, basil and Thai apple eggplant. The desserts, for which we had no room, were wolfed down embarrassingly quickly - the chilled Banana Parfait in its pool of hot vanilla and star anise palm syrup an exquisite shock of contrasting temperatures and flavours and the Passionfruit Caramel Custard nothing short of sensational. There was classical music in the background and the long side bench lining one wall occupied by mostly solitary diners who, saved from the social awkwardness of facing an empty chair, were eating in uninhibited comfort.

After the two intense years in the Caribbean, during which Tippy decided to simply put down his head and learn as much as possible, all he wanted to do was come back to Byron Bay - one of the most beautiful places in the world, he realised - and open up a modest eatery, a casual tea-house. This he has done, in a prodigiously short amount of time; as we leave the last vision I have is of his radiantly white smile, a warm beam of happiness which seems to ignite the night air we step into.



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seven

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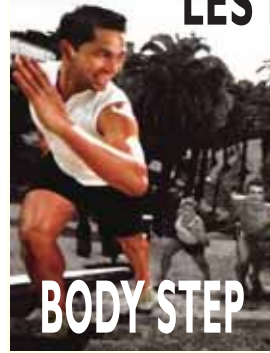
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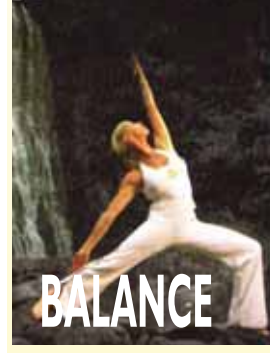
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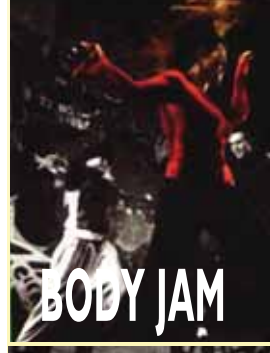
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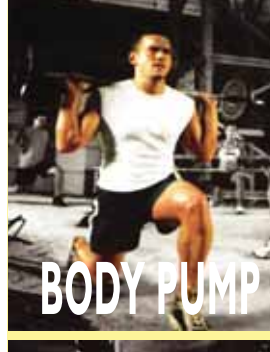
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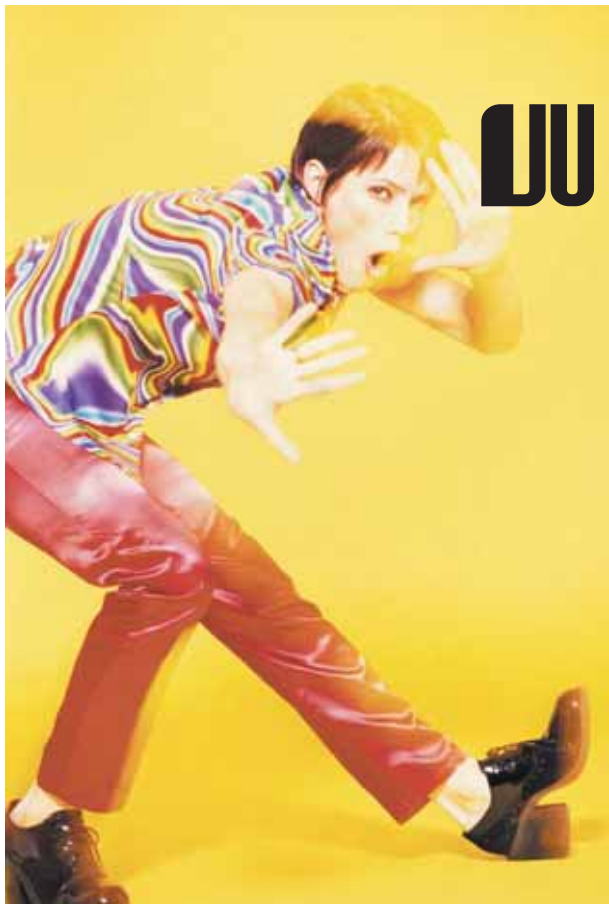
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Commencement of the Cape Byron Marine Park Zoning Plan

The Cape Byron Marine Park is a special place established to help conserve our marine environment for the enjoyment of present and future generations. The NSW Government announced the final Zoning Plan for the Marine Park on 30 November 2005 and the plan comes into force on **1 May 2006**.

The Cape Byron Marine Park extends from Brunswick Heads in the north to Lennox Head in the south. It includes all of the seabed and extends seaward from the mean high water mark to the three nautical mile limit of State waters. The Marine Park also includes the tidal waters of the Brunswick River and its tributaries, Belongil Creek and Tallow Creek.

Cape Byron Marine Park staff together with staff from the Department of Primary Industries (Fisheries) and Department of Environment and Conservation will be working to promote community awareness of and compliance with the Zoning Plan.

For further Information contact the Cape Byron Marine Park Information Centre on: (02) 6639 6200, email: cape.byron@mpa.nsw.gov.au For copies of the Zoning Plan visit: www.mpa.nsw.gov.au



Sports Roundup with Alex McAuley

Walsh takes off at Teahupoo trials



A select group of international surfers took on the world's most famous wave at Teahupoo in Tahiti in a quest to win two wild cards into the Billabong Pro starting May 4. Among the competitors was Lennox Head surfer Anthony Walsh (pictured) who flew through his round three and four heats to progress to the final 16. Walsh is familiar with the Teahupoo wave and has impressed many over the last two years but unfortunately was eliminated by one of the eventual wild card winners, Hawaiian father of three Liam McNamara. Photo Steve Robertson

More big wins for Brunswick Valley



A huge crowd turned up to support Brunswick Valley Soccer Club's fourth division team at Pine Ave on Saturday (pictured above) and was quickly rewarded as Vegetarian Mikey ripped through the Bangalow defence like slicing tofu to put the Valley in the lead.

Seconds later the boys were two up through inspirational play maker Mark Stephens. After the interval a goal from defender Mick

Hardie and yet another from Vegie put the Valley firmly in command. A late consolation goal for Bangalow saw the match finish at 4-1. Great performances from Mick Gregory and Simon Mulders.

The fifths were not as fortunate and went down 3-0, despite some great work in goal from the legendary Norm Hale. The defence was under pressure for a lot of the game and credit is due to Fritz, Quincey and Lucas Mott for keeping the deficit down to only three goals.

The unbeaten third divi-

sion team had a resounding 4-1 victory over Kyogle with some great approach work from Ben Wills. His neat passing set up all four goals, one each for Adam Mangleson and Leon MacLean and two for leading scorer Jackson Sweaney.

Second division had a solid 3-0 win over Bangalow featuring a breathtaking hat-trick from whiz kid Aaron Duffey. The midfield engine room of Shane Anderton and Adam Goodhand worked efficiently with great support from Heath Ogston.

Bangalow dominates in grand final replay

Bangalow recorded a strong 26-8 win over Kyogle in a replay of last year's grand final at Kyogle last weekend. Kyogle was first to score, but Bangalow soon took the upper hand.

Bangalow showed that they can play the game in the way coach Simon Balcon has been working towards: the forwards winning the ball and laying the foundations for the backs to run the ball

and score tries. The backs got going and a good try to speedster Chris Bleakley converted by Kerry Jennings took the score to 7-5. Another good try to newcomer Damon Jackson took Bangalow to 14-8 at the break.

In the second half, Matt Hill scored a great try to put the result beyond doubt, followed by another brilliant back line movement finished

Big names are back for Byron's big swim

The annual Beach Hotel Winter Whales Ocean Swim Classic, better known as the Big Swim is being held again this Sunday and competitors have come from far and wide to be part of this charity event. As usual, the swim has attracted a smattering of well known talent including Meagan Nay, winner of the recent national U17 women's surf race held on the Gold Coast recently, and four time event winner Ky Hurst, who won multiple gold medals at the nationals, will be back to defend his title.

Above all, this is a fun event designed to attract family, sporting, elite and recreational swimmers of all ages to raise money for local charities. In this capacity, it

continues to attract competitors from all backgrounds, and an example this year is 65 year old Roy Swan who is a member of the Bondi Icebergs. One of his club mates Terry McGee explained that Roy is just three weeks away from swimming a total of 3,000 km in the last seven years, a major milestone that is recognised by the Aussie Masters of which he is a proud member.

'At Easter, he had swum 2,966 km,' said Terry, 'so after this event he'll be within 15 km of his target. The incredible thing is, Roy had quadruple bypass surgery a few years ago and is now swimming faster than the surgeon who operated on him!'

On the way to his amazing achievement, Roy has swum from Cottesloe to Rottnest Island twice and from Bondi to Watson's Bay.

With over 600 entries already in, organisers are expecting that they will go close to last year's record number of swimmers at 1200 participants. Registration can be made at www.ocean-swims.com, by contacting Winter Whales on 0421 155 600 or picking up an entry form from the Beach Hotel bottle shop, the Byron Bay Pool, or Free to Ride in the Industrial Estate. Late entries can be made in person on Saturday May 6 at the Byron Bay Surf Club; no entries will be accepted on the day of the swim.

Byron loves Ewes all!

The last week has been a hectic one for Byron Bay starting on Anzac Day when both the premier men's and the women's first division teams contested the grand finals of their various cups.

The women played Richmond Rovers for the Callum McMillan Cup with the bare 11 players and put in an outstanding performance. The game started badly for the Ewes when Rovers scored in the first minute to lead 1-0. The score remained that way for the first half thanks to great goalkeeping by Chelsea and defence by Tanika.

The second half saw the Ewes take control and it wasn't long before Rose scored the equaliser. The game then went from end to end before Byron broke through and Rose made it 2-1. The girls then defended with poise as Rovers mounted numerous attacks, holding on to take the Cup 2-1.

The premiers played Goonellabah and were down 1-0 after the first minute but in a reversal of play the Rams were 2-1 up after four. Two great goals from Bruce Morhaus and Shaun Packham saw Byron take the lead in sensational circumstances. The Rams then went on to completely dominate the game for the next 15 min-

utes, but numerous missed chances were to cost them dearly. Just on half time Goonellabah equalised and the score was 2-2 at the break.

The second half saw Goonellabah take the upper hand and with 15 minutes to go they were 4-2 in the lead. But not to be denied, the Rams hit back with a goal to Jonathon Pierce. Time was against Byron, however, and Goonellabah finished 4-3 winners in an entertaining game. A special thankyou to Byron Direct Sports who sponsored the club's cup campaigns.

A large crowd watched the Rams play their first home game of the competition against Lennox Head, coming away with a 2-1 win; the over 35s drew with Ballina and the women had a convincing 6-2 win over Alstonville.

TIDE TIMES

PHASES OF THE MOON
 First Quarter 5th May 3.14 pm
 Scorpio Full Moon 13th May 4.51 pm
 Last Quarter 20th May 7.21 pm
 New Moon 27th May 3.27 pm

WED	High 12.46 pm	1.1	Sunrise 6.13 am
3rd	Low 6.49 am	0.5	Moonset 5.12 pm
	6.00 pm	0.7	Moonrise 11.29 am
THU	High 12.37 am	1.5	Sunrise 6.14 am
4th	Low 1.55 pm	1.1	Sunset 5.11 pm
	7.47 am	0.5	Moonrise 12.13 pm
FRI	High 1.37 am	1.4	Sunrise 6.15 am
5th	Low 3.05 pm	1.1	Sunset 5.10 pm
	8.47 am	0.5	Moonrise 12.50 pm
SAT	High 2.42 am	1.4	Sunrise 6.15 am
6th	Low 4.03 pm	1.2	Sunset 5.09 pm
	9.41 am	0.5	Moonrise 1.22 pm
SUN	High 3.44 am	1.4	Sunrise 6.16 am
7th	Low 4.49 pm	1.3	Sunset 5.09 pm
	10.29 am	0.5	Moonrise 1.51 pm
MON	High 4.38 am	1.4	Sunrise 6.16 am
8th	Low 5.29 pm	1.4	Sunset 5.08 pm
	11.09 am	0.5	Moonrise 2.18 pm
TUE	High 5.24 am	1.4	Sunrise 6.17 am
9th	Low 6.04 pm	1.4	Sunset 5.07 pm
	11.44 am	0.4	Moonrise 2.44 pm
			Moonset 2.20 am

Eastern Standard Time. Heights in metres.

Courtesy of NSW Tide Charts, Manly Hydraulics Laboratory, NSW Dept of Commerce - Brunswick Heads
 +6 min; Byron Bay -9 min; Billinudgel, Marshalls Creek
 +3 hr 55 min; Mullumbimby +1 hr 10 min



Giant Auction Ben King Appeal



Saturday May 6 at the Byron Bay RSL - the Byron Bay Boardriders invite you to this community event.

There's something for everyone at this auction. Viewing starts at 1pm and the auction starts at 4pm. Some of the great things up for auction include surfing memorabilia, new surfboards, football memorabilia, electrical goods, gift vouchers, artworks, holidays, local tours and much much more. There's a lucky draw for all registered bidders. All proceeds to support the family of the late BEN KING. Payment by credit card, personal cheque and cash. EFTPOS available at the Club. Live music after auction. Auction list \$10.

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2nd SUN	The Channon	6688 6433
2nd SUN	Lennox Head	6672 2874
2nd SUN	OShores Carboot ..	6680 2696
3rd SAT	Mullumbimby	6684 3370
3rd SUN	Uki	6679 5399
3rd SUN	Nimbin	6689 0000
3rd SUN	L'more Car Boot ..	6628 7333
3rd SUN	Ballina	6687 4328
4th SUN	Bangalow	6687 1911
5th SUN	Nimbin Market	6689 0000
EACH TUE	Organic L'more	6628 1084

FARMERS MARKET

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EACH SAT	8-11am Bangalow	6685 9792
EACH SAT	8-1 pm Uki	6679 5330

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9 Newes Road Coorabell Byron Bay



Auction

Saturday May 13th, 11.00am ON SITE

If you're looking for privacy this is the one. 40.38 Hectares (99.7 Acres), frontage to the Wilsons River, large dam & a truly magnificent swimming hole. The property consist of a rambling house, music room, open paddocks and serene natural forests. The current vendor has owned the property for over 20 years and is moving inland for a change of lifestyle.

Inspection by appointment only
Phone Robyne on 0431 792 972

**79 Burringbar St MULLUMBIMBY
6684 2200 • www.seankenny.com.au**

SCOTT HARVEY

REAL ESTATE - 0412 296 872



Classic Hideaway

With spacious living areas, cathedral ceilings, superb open plan kitchen and entertaining alternatives, this solid 3 bedroom brick home, featuring an ozone inground pool, double carport, wonderful 3 room with kitchen attached studio and small macca crop for interest.

Only 17 min to the beach, 15 mins both to Bangalow and Alstonville, "Tarra Rigde" is hidden on 8 north facing acres, with gorgeous meandering creek and elevated valley views is a haven of tranquility.



Great value at \$695,000
565 Houghlahan Creek Rd,
Pearces Creek
Open House Sat 2-2.30pm

Bungalow Bungalow "Glasnevin"

This delightful federation home is nestled onto a bigger than normal block of 1055sqm with well established, easy care gardens, nice tree frontage and privacy not normally offered.

The 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom 100 year old homestead has polished timber floors, traditional fireplace, spacious rooms, french doors and high ceilings making this delightful home very appealing.

You'll love the north facing, very private verandah. A carport, single garage together with a nicely appointed self-contained studio.



Correctly priced at \$758,000.
15 Rifle Range Road, Bangalow
Open House Sat 1-1.30pm

scottharvey1@optusnet.com.au • www.scottharveyrealestate.com.au

www.inrealestate.com.au

Family Home Near Steiner School



InRealEstate has just listed fabulous 8 flat acres near the Mullumbimby Shearwater Steiner School. The north facing home has high ceilings and timber floors in the living area and a large combined kitchen/dining area leading out to an 8x6 m deck overlooking the paddocks. There are four bedrooms whereby the master bedroom is air conditioned with an ensuite and built ins. Two single garages are built onto the house and there is a separate double garage next to the house. The property is newly fenced and there is plenty of room for a pool and some horses. This is an ideal home for the growing family. Call now for an inspection.



OTHER FEATURES INCLUDE

- Ilve gas stove
- New bathroom
- 2 air conditioners
- Combustion stove
- Registered bore
- 80 citrus trees
- 4 km to Mullumbimby PO
- 500m to Steiner School
- 15 min to the beach

\$650,000



InRealEstate
90 Robyns Road, Mullumbimby

(02) 6684 3600
Ernst Reisch 0428 842 387

Real Estate



BYRON BAY

FIRST NATIONAL REAL ESTATE 6685 8466 - 24 HOURS



Beachside Suffolk Park \$850,000



Shirley St \$315,000



Lighthouse Rd \$3,600,000



8 Cumbegin Park \$585,000

Open House
Thursday 3.00 - 3.45pm



Suffolk Park \$567,000



Cemetery Rd \$429,000

www.byronbayfn.com.au



Red Rose Realty

www.redroserealty.com

We give one fifth of our net proceeds to local & global humanitarian projects. Making a difference doing business differently.

Quiet country lane 10 mins to the Bay
Lot 12 benloro Lane, Myocum



OPEN HOUSE
Sat 6 May
11am - 12 noon

\$745,000
Myocum
• 5 acres gently sloping land, 2 dams & bore
• 3 bdrms, 2 bthrms, timber home, huge decks
• Separate home office plus approved studio
• Located in a quiet country lane, inground pool
• Central to beaches, Mullumbimby & Byron Bay

Tuscan Villa in the tree tops - 8 acres
23 Hamilton Lane, Byron bay



8 mins cycle to town & beach

OPEN HOUSE
Sat 6 May
1pm - 2pm

\$1,450,000
Byron Bay
• When position is everything, forget taxiing the teens
• This magic 8 acre property awaits a master's touch
• For the good life, grow vegies, have a horse
• 3 bdrm timber home, sep. extended dwelling
• All just a 8 min cycle to town and beach

Extraordinary opportunity
9 Glasgow Street, Suffolk Park



REDUCED

OPEN HOUSE
Sat 6 May
3pm - 4pm

\$665,000
Suffolk Park
• Great 3 bdrm renovated home on large block
• Large timber decks off family room & bdrm
• Central galley style kitchen, sep. LU garage
• Unique quality position in quiet street
• Extraordinary opportunity 500m to beach

A beach palace for the good life



\$3,100,000
Suffolk Park beachside
• Decadent luxury. Have the beach at your door
• Fall asleep & wake up to the sound of the ocean
• A home of true substance, spacious & private
• An elite address in an elite town, a VIP residence
• Owners serious about selling, all offers considered

Short walk to surf and canal



\$429,000
Sth Golden Beach
• Only 10 streets in small exclusive beach estate
• Bounded by canals one side, beach on the other
• Position & proximity to beach is everything
• 3 bdrm, 1 bthrm cottage surrounded by trees
• High ceilings, timber floors, covered decks

919m² vacant land in Byron



REDUCED

\$490,000
Byron Bay
• In the heart of Byron, easy walk to beach
• 919m² flat block, forested, bordering reserve
• A hard-to-find location in a quiet area
• Walk or bike track to town, close amenities
• An opportunity for you to build your dream.

Modern free-standing town house



\$444,000
Lilli Pilli/Byron Bay
• Quality 3 bdrm, 2 bthrm, modern & spacious
• Two individual living areas/parents' retreat
• 3 separate landscaped fenced garden areas
• Low maintenance, private, attached garage
• Within walking distance of Tallow Beach & town

Huge family home - 440m to beach



\$890,000
Suffolk Park beachside
• Brilliantly restyled 5 bdrm, 3 bthrm home
• Large living areas, luxurious wrap-around decks
• Oasis with established gardens, in-ground pool
• Contemporary style kitchen with quality fittings
• Stroll to pristine Tallow Beach & village shops

Rose Wanchap 0427 016451 • Oliver McElligott 0427 026922 • Eva Heath 0415 389803

5 Byron Street, Byron Bay 6680 9505



ljhooker.com



Canal Frontage

153 Shara Boulevard, North Ocean Shores
AUCTION 3rd May 2006,
5.30pm at Brunswick R.S.L Club

- A rare chance to purchase the best water view canal block.
- Facing due east with an area of 869sqm.
- Catch the sea breezes while you fish in the deep canal.
- Park the dinghy at the back or go for a leisurely sail across the canal.
- Level stroll to the beach and primary school.



Easycare Lifestyle

Units 1,2 & 3 /39 Rajah Road, Ocean Shores
AUCTION 3rd May 2006,
5.30pm at Brunswick R.S.L Club

- Located within an easy stroll to Ocean Shores Shopping Village.
- Architect designed and split level living with three bedrooms, two bathrooms.
- Residence captures natural light and fresh breezes from the generous deck area.
- Large kitchen offering European appliances and featuring polished timber floors.



The Options Are Endless

10 Goondooloo Drive, Ocean Shores
AUCTION 3rd May 2006, 5.30pm at Brunswick R.S.L Club

- Stroll to shopping centre, golf club and beach.
- Ocean views to Julian Rocks.
- Dual occupancy potential.
- Easy build in a quiet location.
- 841sqm block ready to build your dream home.



The Heart Of Brunswick Unit

3/9 Mullumbimbi Street, Brunswick Heads
AUCTION 3rd May 2006, 5.30pm at Brunswick R.S.L Club

- Freshly renovated 2 bedroom unit.
- Easy level stroll to the beach, river, shops and parks.
- Private courtyard offering fresh sea breezes.
- New stainless cookware features in the kitchen.
- Single garage and carport.



Blue Chip Beachside Investment

- 2 brick and iron roof duplexes, with fenced private north facing yards.
- Open plan living design.
- 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, separate toilet.
- Quiet street 300 metres to the beach and handy to shops.
- Each has a single lock-up garage.

\$560,000



Get In The Market

- 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom unit.
- Open plan kitchen/dining and lounge.
- Inground swimming pool.
- Close to the Brunswick River.
- Short walk to the Ocean Shores Shopping Village.

\$150,000

OPEN FOR INSPECTION

11 Orchid Place, Mullumbimby

Open for inspection
 Saturday
 10am til 10.45am

4 Teven Street, Brunswick Heads

Open for inspection
 Saturday
 11am til 12noon

10/10 Balemo Drive, Ocean Shores

Open for inspection
 Saturday
 11am til 12noon

2 Katya Court, Ocean Shores

Open for inspection
 Saturday
 1pm til 2pm

New Management of Residential Property – Earn 10,000 Reward Points

List and Sell Exclusively – Earn 20,000 Reward Points

nobody does it better®

Brunswick Heads 02 6685 0177

L.J. HOOKER®

Real Estate

east ON BYRON

Brand new, fully furnished, two bedroom, two bathroom apartments with premium finishes. Set amidst two acres of landscaped native gardens and featuring a billabong style lap pool, café and on-site management. Two penthouses available, one with its own private pool. All this less than 100m from the waves of Belongil Beach. Priced from \$1,080,000.



www.byronbayfn.com.au

BYRON BAY



Fabulous Position, B&B Potential \$790,000

- This is a bit of a secret location!
- Minutes walk to town, shops and beaches
- Approved plans for luxury 5 bedroom B&B designed by Christine Vadasz.
- 2 bedroom, 1 bathroom cottage currently rented
- Level 1,012 square metre block with rear lane

Michael Gudgeon 0419 495 494



Stunning Byron Duplex \$449,000

- Immaculately presented Torrens title duplex
- 3 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, single garage
- Spacious open plan living & dining area
- Timber floors, ceiling fans, downlights
- Large 440m² block, adjacent to council reserve
- Motivated vendors - moving closer to family

Janice Maple 0418 459 219



Views Over Byron Bay \$1,300,000

- Short walk to Byron's CBD, Clarkes Beach & the Pass
- Spacious home on 734sqm, 4 bed, 3 bath
- 1 bedroom, self contained guest accommodation
- Private entertaining area, low maintenance
- Tucked away, highly sought-after hilltop location

63A Massinger Street, Byron Bay

Kaye Wilkie 0412 856 208



Privacy & the Quiet Life \$299,000

- This over 55's unit, large air-conditioned open plan living/dining area
- 2 double bedrooms with BIR's
- Gorgeous, level, landscaped front garden
- 100 metres to shop, indoor pool, library etc

Stuart Aitken 0417 242 537



Ocean View Farm \$1,900,000

- 77 acres in prestigious Old Byron Bay Road
- Magnificent 360° panorama with ocean and valley views, 7 mins to Broken Head
- Gently rolling hills overlooking the Pacific Ocean
- Privacy with long frontage to Emigrant Creek
- Multiple home site options with power & phone

David Gordon 0418 856 222



5 Clean Acres, 5 Mins to Bangalow \$965,000

Privacy and seclusion, great views, magnificent gardens and a resort style pool are only a few of the features of this property set on 5 north facing acres at popular Brooklet. The 3 bedroom double brick home has been meticulously maintained and renovated featuring a new kitchen with granite bench tops and Smeg appliances and 2 new state of the art bathrooms. The location is peaceful and perfect being only 5 minutes to Bangalow, 10 to Broken Head Beach and 15 to Byron Bay. There is also a separate 3 car garage, workshop and office with loads of storage space.

Kaye Wilkie 0412 856 208



Your Own Space + Teenager's Retreat \$445,000



- Elevated home set high to capture the breezes
- 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom 2 storey townhouse
- Separate teenagers retreat inc. bathroom
- Set amongst leafy surrounds & wildlife
- Open plan living areas, covered timber deck
- Central to schools, shops and the beach

Stuart Aitken 0417 242 537



Downtown Commercial Strata \$477,000

- Fantastic opportunity to purchase a strata shop
- Located in the heart of Byron
- 40sqm, wide frontage
- Current tenant in place
- Showing 6% return
- Vacant possession can be arranged

David Gordon 0418 856 222



Stunning Designer Home \$795,000

- Gorgeous 3 bed, 2 bathroom Bush Pavilion home
- High ceilings, hardwood floors, covered decks
- Separate pavilion could suit home business or guest quarters
- Open plan kitchen design with granite/timber
- Extensive landscaping with lush tropical gardens

Michael Gudgeon 0419 495 494



Move The Family Straight In! \$569,000

- Set in a tranquil, leafy location over one level
- 3 roomy bedrooms, 2 bathrooms (ensuite with spa), low maintenance est. gardens
- Open plan design, timber floors, dug
- 631 sqm with reserve at rear
- Beaches, schools, parks and shops closeby

Stuart Aitken 0417 242 537



Position, Views, Potential \$595,000

- Rare vacant 881sqm parcel of land
- Popular Pacific Vista Drive address
- Elevated, battle-axe block ensuring privacy
- Expansive ocean views including Broken Head
- Build your dream home here
- Short stroll to Tallows Beach

Janice Maple 0418 459 219

Something Different

OPEN HOUSE LISTINGS

LJ Hookers Byron Bay p50

- 53 Belongil Crescent, Byron Bay. Sat 11am.
- 3 Lasandra Close, Suffolk Park. Sat 11am.
- 29 Armstrong St, Suffolk Park. Sat 11am.
- 63 McGettigans L, Ewingsdale. Sat 12pm.
- 114 Quarry L, Ewingsdale. Sat 12pm.
- 81 Alcorn Street, Suffolk Park. Sat 1pm.
- Lot 3 Pinegroves Road, Tyagarah. Sat 1pm.

LJ Hooker Brunswick Heads p51

- 11 Orchid Pl, Mullumbimby. Sat 10-10.45am
- 4 Teven Street, Brunswick Heads. Sat 11am-12pm
- 10/10 Balemo Drive, Ocean Shores. Sat 11am-12pm
- 2 Katya Court, Ocean Shores. Sat 1-2pm

Byron Bay First National p50

- 8 Cumbebin Park, Byron Bay. Thur 3-3.45pm.

Red Rose Real Estate p50

- Lot 12 Benloro Lane, Myocum. Sat 11am-12pm.
- 23 Hamilton Lane, Byron Bay. 1-2pm.
- 9 Glasgow Street, Suffolk Park. 3-4pm.

Scott Harvey p49

- 565 Houghlahan Creek Rd, Pearces. Sat 2-2.30pm.
- 15 Rifle Range Road, Bangalow. Sat 1-1.30pm.

AUCTIONS

LJ Hooker Brunswick Heads p51

- 153 Shara Bvd, North Ocean Shores. 5.30pm, May 3 at Brunswick R.S.L Club.
- Units 1, 2 & 3 /39 Rajah Rd, Ocean Shores. 5.30pm, May 3 at Brunswick R.S.L Club.
- 10 Goondooloo Drive, Ocean Shores. 5.30pm, May 3 at Brunswick RSL Club.
- 3/9 Mullumbimbi Street, Brunswick Heads. 5.30pm, May 3 at Brunswick RSL Club. Inspect Sat 12-1pm.

Sean Kenny Real Estate p49

- 9 News Road, Coorabell. Sat May 13, 11am on-site.



1 minute from surf to turf

Imagine the luxury of living so close to the beach in this 2 storey, 6 bedroom, 3 bathroom home set on half an acre (2023sqm) amongst peaceful gardens, palms, exotics and fruit trees. This substantial home also features front and rear verandahs, a private al fresco dining courtyard, guests' accommodation, sitting room, office, cubby house, and a second DLUG at rear. Attractive in position, location and lifestyle, take this opportunity to expand your coastal experience in the idyllic precinct of New Brighton.

Asking price \$ 895,000

Contact Will Sorrell @ Rhonda Browning Real Estate

For an inspection call 6680 1594 or 0417 653 312



Stylish private oasis

This property will be open for inspection this Saturday 6 May at 1pm. Tastefully renovated, this elevated four bedroom home makes the perfect retreat. Surrounded by mature gardens and exotic fruit trees, this home has endless features. There are gleaming timber floors, totally separate living areas, private parents' retreat and an enormous covered deck which is ideal to relax and enjoy the beautiful views across to the lighthouse.

There is ample room for three to four carparks underneath the house. Situated at the end of a no through road and located only 10 minutes from Byron Bay and 5 minutes to Brunswick Heads it is the perfect location.

For sale at \$845,000 through Sharon McInnes at L.J. Hooker Byron Bay on 0408 659 649 or 6685 7300.



Investment opportunity

Here is a unique opportunity for the astute investor and/or business operator to secure this premium site which can be utilized for almost any retailing. It is a development concept where Byron Bay's unique lifestyle has been captured in architecture, design and location, perfectly poised on the edge of main beach.

There is a blue chip tenant in place with a long lease and annual reviews on one of Byron's busiest promenades with high traffic exposure. It has a floor space of 68 square metres.

For sale at \$1,250,000 through Byron Bay First National Real Estate on 02 6685 8466.

www.byronbayfn.com.au



Seadrift, Byron Bay

Seadrift is conveniently located just eight minutes walk from Main Beach and Byron Bay's award winning restaurants and bars. Stroll down to the swimming pool and do some laps, lie on the sundeck and enjoy the forest setting or have lunch under the pool pavilion. Seadrift provides you with a relaxed, secure living environment in the heart of Byron Bay.

It is a gated community that offers you an ideal blend of classic and contemporary excellence not seen before in Byron Bay. These three bedroom, two bathroom townhouses combine the best ingredients of time-tested classical architectural design with all the contemporary comforts, security and technological advances.

Priced from \$535,000, they are available through Tony Farrell on 0417 212 692 or Peter Yopp on 0411 837 330 at L.J.Hooker Byron Bay.



Federation classic – sought after area

Nestled in beautiful Possum Creek, this classic Federation on 2.7 acres is the ultimate lifestyle retreat. Only five minutes to Bangalow, ten minutes to Byron, the delightful three bedroom, two bathroom home, plus self-contained studio has expansive decking for entertaining, groomed gardens and a very appealing water feature. Together with a large work shed, double garage, circular driveway and tropical surrounds makes this beautifully appointed old world homestead very attractive. The property is priced to sell – an inspection recommended.

Contact one of our experienced sales agents at Elders Bangalow on 6687 1500 or look on our website www.elders.bangalow.com.au



To advertise Something Different please call Amanda in Byron on 6685 5222 or Angela in Mullum on 6684 1777

OPEN FOR INSPECTION



53 Belongil Crescent, Byron Bay
Saturday 11am

Contact Liam on 0417 780 795



3 Lasiandra Close, Suffolk Park
Saturday 11am

Contact Andrew on 0421 914 054



29 Armstrong Street, Suffolk Park
Saturday 11am

Contact Sharon on 0408 659 649



63 McGettigans Lane, Ewingsdale
Saturday 12pm

Contact Liam on 0417 780 795



114 Quarry Lane, Ewingsdale
Saturday 12pm

Contact Andrew on 0421 914 054



81 Alcorn Street, Suffolk Park
Saturday 1pm

Contact Liam on 0417 780 795



Lot 3 Pinegroves Road, Tyagarah
Saturday 1pm

Contact Sharon on 0408 659 649



THE SANCTUARY

- 8 x Two Bedroom Townhouses
- Architect Designed
- High Quality Fixtures & Fittings
- Short Walk To Town & Beaches
- Purchase Off The Plan Now
- Completion Expected Early 2007

Contact
Tony Farrell on
0417 212 692
From \$420,000

SO! WHAT ABOUT THE VIEW?



- Extraordinary Panorama
- Quality Finishes Throughout
- Lush Landscaping
- 3 Spacious Bedrooms + Study
- Adjacent To The Golf Course
- Property Must Be Sold

\$1,195,000

TRANQUILITY



COMMITTED VENDOR

- 4 Bed Home, Timber & Marble Floors
- Hidden Oasis Close To Town
- Large Verandahs
- Separate Study Area
- Large Garden View Bathroom
- Big Double Garage & Storage Area

\$535,000

CAVANBAH STREET



- Fantastic Positioning
- Older Style Home
- 405 Sq. Metre Allotment
- Short Stroll To Town Centre
- 100m To The Beach
- Opportunity Not To Be Missed

\$1,500,000

STYLISH WITH OCEAN VIEWS



- Moroccan Style Home
- Fantastic Ocean & Rural Views
- Main Home With 2 Bed & 1 Bath
- Separate Studio With 1 Bed & 1 Bath
- 15 Minute Drive To Byron Bay
- Large 1068sqm Block

\$559,000

JUST FOR STARTERS



- 4 Bedroom, 2 Bathroom House
- Walk To Beach & Shops
- High Ceilings, Wide Decks
- Open Plan In Design
- Great North Aspect
- Perfect For The Family Or Investor

\$498,000

IMMACULATE FAMILY HOME



- Immaculate 3 Bedroom Home
- Open Plan Kitchen/ Dining Area
- Formal Living Room
- Elevated 635sqm Block
- Covered Outside Entertaining Area
- Easy Stroll To Tavern, Beach & Shops

\$475,000

NEW LISTING



THE ENTERTAINER

- 500 Metre Walk To Beach
- 5 Bedroom, 3 Bathroom Home
- Totally Renovated/Nothing To Spend
- Hugh Entertainment Decks
- Inground Pool & Landscaped Gardens
- Fabulous Kitchen With Stone Bench Tops

Contact
Andrew
Rose on
0421 914 054
\$890,000

SUNNY LARGE STYLISH HOME



- 4 Bed/2 Bath, Galley Kitchen, 2 Spacious Living Areas
- Light, Bright & Airy With North Facing Backyard
- Set On 700sqm Block
- DLUG + Storage Shed
- Undercover Outdoor Entertaining Area

\$545,000

IT'S A LIFESTYLE CHOICE



- Quiet Street In Suffolk Park
- Northern Rear Yard
- 4 Bed / 2 Bathrooms
- Open Plan Living
- Excellent For BBQ's & Entertaining
- Close To Bus Stops, Shops & Beach
- Great Family Home

\$540,000

EXCEPTIONAL PRESENTATION



PRICE REDUCTION!

- 4 Spacious Bedrooms
- 2 Bathrooms
- Immaculate Gardens
- Fully Fenced Yard
- North East Facing, Freshly Painted
- Close To Beach And Shops
- Ideal Family Home
- Great Area To Live In

\$465,000

SPOIL YOURSELF



PRICE REDUCTION!

- 3 Bedroom 2 Bathroom Home
- Covered Outdoor Area
- Quiet Neighbourhood
- Backs Onto Reserve
- Fully Secured Property
- Immaculately Presented

\$499,000

STYLISH FAMILY HOME



- Stylish 4 Bed Home
- Raked Ceilings & Tiles Throughout
- Outside BBQ Area
- Immaculate Grounds
- Large North Facing 920sqm Block
- Dual Occupancy Potential STCA
- Ample Room For Expansion

\$585,000

PERFECT START



- Located 4kms From Town
- 4 Bedrooms, 3 Bathroom Townhouse
- Separate Lounge, Spacious Dining
- Timber Flooring
- Easy Walk To Beach And Shops
- Air Conditioned

\$390,000

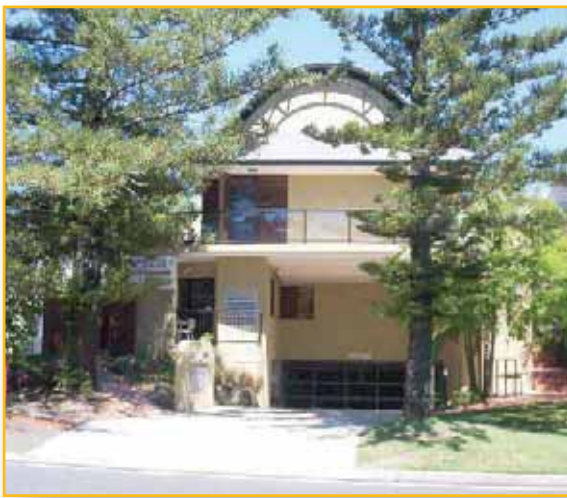
New Management of Residential Property
Earn 10,000 Reward Points

L.J.Hooker Byron Bay 6685 7300

List and Sell Exclusively
Earn 20,000 Reward Points

nobody does it better®

L.J. HOOKER®



▶▶▶ Stylish Beachside Apartment

Studio apartment, open plan, fully-furnished, quality appointments, Clarkes beachside location, refreshing outdoor courtyard, managed onsite, four-star. Enjoy current returns and wait for the longer term capital growth. The architecturally designed Julians Apartments building tucks in nicely to the surrounding seaside, beach-house location. This property attracts clientele seeking short-term accommodation. It is ideally located opposite the boardwalk to the town centre and to Brooke Drive at The Pass. Secure parking under. The rear boundary shared with the Cape Headland Trust National Park and the beach access is a two minute walk away via the Captain Cook Lookout carpark. Contact Madelyn Devlin 02 6680 9697.

\$539,000



▶▶▶ A Small Slice Of Paradise

This lifestyle/retreat three acre property near Laverty's Gap, Mullumbimby, offering exceptional views of the ocean and Mt Chincogan. The house is designed for outdoor living with three entertaining decks and has a large open plan dining, lounge and kitchen area, a separate study, two bathrooms, (one en-suite) plus three bedrooms in a separate wing linked by a covered verandah. All rooms have full length glass sliding doors overlooking the organic gardens, fruit trees, ocean and hills. Peace and tranquility are assured. Phone the owner on 02 6684 0424. \$715,000

\$715,000



▶▶▶ INVERNESS – Simply Stunning!

Gracefully situated on 25 acres in the Byron Bay-Lennox Head hinterland, this home of unparalleled distinction offers five elegant and gorgeous bedrooms and two sensational bathrooms. Hand-crafted by master stonemasons, sandstone is extensively featured throughout this beautiful residence that enjoys sweeping countryside views and a permanent creek. Inverness – a home for generations to come. For more information and photos, please visit luxuryhouse.com.au or contact Denise Burch on 0408 193 415.

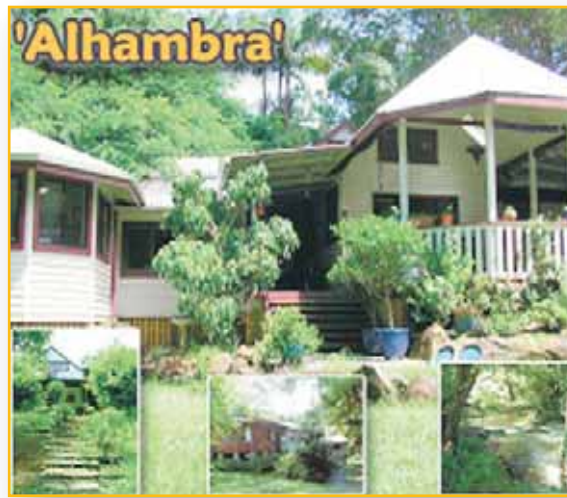
\$1.75M



▶▶▶ Federation Masterpiece

Crawford Lane, Rous Mill. This home has it all. Set on 100 private acres, it not only has outstanding ocean and rural views and the 12ft ceilings, large airy rooms with french doors and timber floors of the period, it has the modern touches of ensuite etc. With 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms and two studies, it would be ideal as a B&B or large family home with room for the horses. The landscaped gardens and pool are a special feature. While there are a few finishing touches required, this property deserves your inspection. \$1.5M. Contact Steve Blackmore on 6687 8899 or 0427 778 910.

S B P
STEVE BLACKMORE
PROPERTIES



▶▶▶ Alhambra

17 secluded Byron Bay Hinterland acres featuring two bubbling creeks, one spring, a charming timber home, self-contained yurt, a separate hall/dwelling, two double carports and some of the lushest gardens, grounds and swimming holes around! Located just 8km from Mullumbimby and under 20 minutes from Byron Bay, 'Alhambra' offers you privacy, ample flora and fauna – in short, the perfect north coast lifestyle. Offers over \$910,000 are seriously considered. Phone 0432 253 048 or alhambra@lifestyle-property.net. For more info see www.lifestyle-property.net

Lifestyle-Property



▶▶▶ Coastal Rural Acres

This 100 acre farm features undulating country ideal for cattle grazing. It has a spring fed well which is suitable for consumption. Included also is a windmill, electric pump, good fencing, nine internal paddocks, stock yards, loading ramp, 2 x 5000 gallon water tanks (one for house and one for cattle). It also has a well presented four bedroom farm house, 2 toilets and a bath & shower completes the package. The property is private and features a northerly sun drenched verandah. A small orchard of mandarins, pecans, oranges, lemons and mangos is an added bonus. \$995,000. Contact Janis Perkins on 0438 841 122 or John Brophy on 0438 878 465 at Ray White Byron Bay.

Ray White
BYRON BAY



▶▶▶ The Sanctuary

These eight two storey townhouses will be set just a 15 minute level walk to the Byron town centre and only a five minute walk to Tallow Beach. They will consist of two bedrooms and two bathrooms have a lock up garage with remote, a generous sized courtyard and are architect designed. Conveniently located, with high quality fixtures and finishes, these townhouses are expected to sell fast so purchase off the plan now. Prices start at \$420,000. For further information please contact Tony Farrell on 0417 212 692 or at L.J. Hooker Byron Bay on 02 6685 7300.

L.J. HOOKER
Byron Bay



▶▶▶ Old World Charm

This beautiful five bedroom, three bathroom home is situated on just under three acres of tranquil grounds featuring a mix of rainforest and tropical gardens. The home features brushbox timber floors, elegant arched hallways, both 10ft and 13ft ceilings throughout and cedar french doors. It also includes a separate parents retreat which is an absolute haven overlooking the tranquil setting. Generous verandahs create the ideal area for entertaining or enjoying lazy afternoons. This unique property is located only five minutes from Bangalow and 12 minutes from Byron Bay making it the perfect hideaway. Contact Sharon McInnes on 0408 659 649 or 02 6685 7300 at L.J. Hooker Byron Bay.

L.J. HOOKER
Byron Bay



▶▶▶ Buy Off The Plan, Now

These 10 double storey dwellings will be set in downtown Brunswick Heads within an easy walk to the beach, the river, local shops and the famous hotel. The houses will be built with timber floors, they will have large decks and be open plan designs with light filled balconies. A combination of modern materials will be used to bring an 'architectural feel' to this site. There will be nine homes with two bedrooms and two bathrooms, and one single bedroom, two bathroom home. Agent declares interest. Contact Gareth Donovan on 0417 237 559 or Glen Irwin on 0418 604 080 or at L.J. Hooker, Byron Bay.

L.J. HOOKER
Byron Bay

Showcasing the best of Byron
at 20 Fletcher Street
02 6685 7617



FRANCES O'CONNOR
real estate

Backlash

CLARKES BEACH LOCATION

- Large ¼ acre block
- Walk to Clarkes beach & town
- Some ocean views
- Existing cottage-2 street frontage
- Great development site



\$1.2 million
Neil Cameron 0419 274 798
6685 6588

SEAVIEW HILL

- Solid 4 bedroom home
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Anyone who is interested in attending the MS fundraising dinner at Fishheads and were wondering when it is, it's on Wednesday May 10. Please ring Marie on 6680 7514 or 0434 552 283 ASAP.

Last week we ran a story which pointed out that you need a one day or three day pass to get into the Byron Bay writers festival site at the Byron Bay Beach Resort. We'd like to emphasise that: You won't be able to rock up on the day and expect to get in, though you will be able to attend events at the community centre. The change has been made so that patrons are not overwhelmed by queues and crowding at the last moment, thus making for a more enjoyable festival. Get the full details at www.byronbaywritersfestival.com.au.

Those going to Nimbin for the MardiGrass (see feature page 26) should be aware that NSW drug laws will not be relaxed (or comfortable) for the day and police will enforce them. Information on the current law in NSW and your responsibilities and rights in dealing with the police are set out simply at www.nimbinmardigrass.com/legal.html.

TOOT, the lobby group for getting the local rail line back on track, has a website at www.toot.org.au. It also has an informative newsletter, which is worth subscribing to if you want to keep up on the railway news.

Backlash is thinking of observing the international Talk Like A Pirate Day (www.talklikeapirate.com/pirate-home.html) on September 19 this year. It will make the answering of phone calls more interesting and there's



Just washed my megaphone and can't do a thing with it. Byron Shire Councillor Ross Tucker found himself using this unusual device when addressing a protest by dog owners at Brunswick Heads last Saturday. Photo Jeff 'Fluffy Slippers' Dawson

nothing like saying 'Arrrrrr!' to cheer up your day.

Disappointingly the Cape Byron lighthouse, the continent's most easterly phallic symbol, fails to make it onto the five lighthouse stamps just released by Australia Post but we do learn it is the most powerful in Australia. It produces 2.2 million candles from a 1000-watt lamp. No wonder you can read by it at Myocum.

'Outside of a dog, a book is a man's best friend. Inside a dog, it's too dark to read.' – Groucho Marx. This is possibly the best beginning to a press release we've read, ever. It comes from the Centre for Youth Literature, State Library of Victoria, which has set up the website www.insideadog.com.au to encourage teenagers to talk about books and write their own reviews. There's also sample chapters of new books and giveaways.

Too late for this week's letters, young local woman Michelle Storey reports that

'On Radio National early this am,' recounts a reader, 'they broadcast the audio of a black southern [US] bishop holding a prayer meeting outside a "gas" station sincerely and passionately asking, pleading, begging "Jeezuz O hallalujah JEEEEZUZ, SEND AMERICA MORE OIL, thank ya Jeeezuz, thank ya Lord." He sounded like James Brown in *The Blues Brothers*.'

In another innovative move for the party formerly known for representing Australian workers, Bomber Beazley has signalled the policy on banning new uranium mines could be changed. 'This will help us seem even more like the Liberals and allow us to slip under the radar when an election comes around,' Mr Beazley reportedly told *Backlash*.

Thinking Real Estate? Think PRD nationwide



Tropical Setting

Charming, stylish in a quiet setting is this three bedroom home in South Golden Beach. Located in a cul-de-sac and walking distance to the Ocean Shores pre-school and primary school. Main bedroom has its own private balcony overlooking lush landscaped gardens. Second bedroom has its own entrance. One bathroom with external access, open plan modern kitchen, dining and living area. **\$440,000**

Elevated Family Home

This large three bedroom home is elevated to catch the summer breezes and overlooks the surrounding area. The bedrooms are all a good size with the main ensuite very large. New kitchen with casual dining room, formal lounge and dining room with fireplace to keep cosy during the cooler months. Verandahs on every side to enjoy the sun all year round. **\$425,000**



Cute Beachside Cottage

Highset timber home is walking distance to the surfing and fishing beaches of South Golden Beach. This three bedroom home has been fully renovated with one bathroom, timber floors and a large verandah for enjoying outdoor entertaining. Set on a 639m2, double carport, just move in and relax. **\$479,000**

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