



Echo

THE MOTHER OF ALL GIRLY EDITIONS

MOTHERS DAY



Pages 26&31

Council moves on youth issues

In the wake of a brawl in Byron Bay involving local youth, Byron Shire Council voted unanimously last week to institute a youth protocol.

'The development of a Youth Protocol creates an opportunity for developing cooperation and understanding between young people and the community, Council, police and businesses owners in the shire,' Mayor Jan Barham told *The Echo*. 'Its aim will be to encourage discussion about the needs of young people and their rights in public places but also to highlight the roles and responsibilities of the whole community and the need for respect for all community members and visitors.'

'It is another strategy in promoting community safety and will be

incorporated in Council's Community Safety Plan.'

Council also voted 9-1 at its meeting on Tuesday last week to have staff seek out sources of funding for a youth development officer (YDO). Council is also setting up a user group to help improve communications at the Youth Activities centre (YAC). As well as stakeholders the chamber of commerce will be represented and Crs Barham, Mangleson and Lazarus were voted onto the group.

Much of the debate on the YDO centred around the difficulty of finding money for the post. General manager Pamela Westing advised councillors they had just adopted a new budget and had 'very little left over for new projects or services'.

Coordinator of the Byron Youth Service Paul Spooner addressed Council in favour of employing a YDO.

The absence of a YDO meant that the Shire is missing out on the development of programs, Mr Spooner said. 'It is continually difficult for us.'

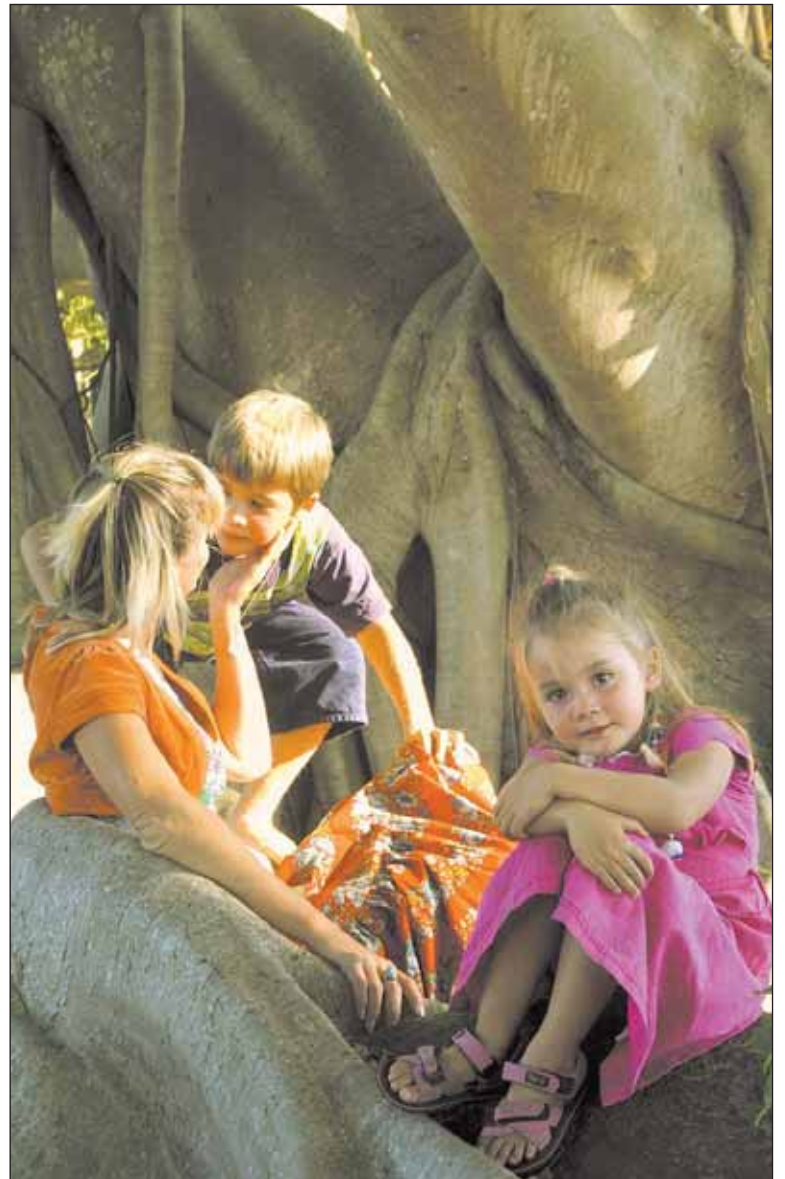
'Come June we will lose a contract worth \$100,000 - that's a quarter of our income. It means two out of ten staff will disappear.'

'The YDO can provide a voice for youth. I see it as a three day a week position.'

Mr Spooner said the BYS had not been consulted on a proposal to draw funding for the YDO from the service's rent rebate. 'That support

continued on page 2

Buy mum a rainforest



Tara Daptler and her children Pascal and Mila enjoy the shelter of a local rainforest tree. Photo Jeff 'Caught In The Canopy' Dawson

Many mothers these days would have a whole checklist of gifts they'd like to receive on Mothers Day - a new car, new washing machine, three days at a health retreat, a trip to Paris with a bottomless credit card. But for the mothers who feel that they are content with their material lot living on the North Coast and yearn for a gift of a happy healthy environment for their children in the future, think of buying mum ten square metres or two of the Daintree Rainforest this Mothers Day.

Over the past few years the Dain-

tree Buy Back and Protect Forever project has fully purchased eight properties and is well on the way to having the donations to buy back the ninth.

Your purchase of a special Green gift for mother this year could seriously enable Rainforest Rescue to finalise the purchase of a ninth property. You can purchase your Rainforest Gift Card from Santos Mullumbimby, the Green Garage Byron Bay, phone the Rainforest rescue office on 6684 4360 or go online and order at www.rainforestrescue.org.au.

continued on page 2

Grace's gourds go off for FEHVA



Performing artist and now artist Grace Knight, pictured here with FEHVA coordinator Dee Tipping, got into gourd painting by accident. She thought she was planting watermelons but gourds came up instead.

'Hundreds of the buggers inundated my garden, gourd city,' said Grace. 'It is my belief that anything that can grow by itself in my garden deserves the right to grow full term. So I left the gourds to do their own thing. I picked them, dried them on

my verandah, picked them up and looked at them almost on a daily basis, wondering hmmm, I could make something out of them, not quite knowing what that something was.'

continued on page 2

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Auction a top night for Kings

The Byron Bay Boardriders Club was overwhelmed by the response to the King family charity auction held at the Byron Bay Services Club last Saturday night. Almost 500 people turned up to show their support for the family of this local surfing icon who died suddenly during a regional surfing competition in March.

More than \$50,000 was raised on the night, with the biggest ticket item being a painting of the memorial paddle out by artist Neil Joseph. Gary Morgan, member of the Boardriders Club, felt that this was particularly fitting and summed up the spirit of the occasion.

'Neil has known Ben since he was five and Ben was three and has been a very close family friend for years,' said Gary. 'We [the Boardriders Club] are so



Surfing historian Dave (Mex) Sumpter inspects a few archaeological relics uncovered during recent digs in a number of local garages. Mex points out some of the finer points of this Mark Richards 'Twinny' which emerged during the early multiple fins era to assistants Kay Munn and Kaz Parkes. A huge array of both collectable and surfable memorabilia was auctioned at Byron Bay Services Club on Saturday. Photo Jeff 'Balsa Wood Heaven' Dawson

very appreciative of everyone who contributed to this event, both by donating

items and participating in the auction. I've lived next door to the King family for

eight years, and this has been a very touching time for all of us.'

Page raises preschool issues in Parliament

A rally held at Brunswick Heads last month to raise awareness of the diminishing affordability of preschools prompted Member for Ballina Don Page to address parliament on the issue. Community preschools in Byron and Ballina Shires are concerned that the current funding structure is grossly inadequate,

forcing preschools in NSW to charge the highest fees in Australia.

In his address to parliament, Mr Page pointed out that it has been well documented over the years that preschool education is of significant benefit to young children in their preparation for entering school and beyond.

'While preschools are important in the development of all young children, preschools are of particular importance in small regional communities where there are no other child care options,' said Mr Page. 'Importantly, it has been found that for every dollar invested in a child's early years, the community saves \$7 in other

social services. However, less than 60% of children in NSW attend preschool, excluding long-day care, prior to attending kindergarten. Other states such as Victoria, Queensland and South Australia have participation rates of above 90%, and in Western Australia and Tasmania participation rates are close to 100%.'

Grace's gourds

From front page

'As it happened friend and fellow performer Bernie Lynch came to Byron to do some vocal tracks with me for our new Eurogliders CD and loved the family of gourds so much that he suggested I somehow use the critters for our CD cover. I had a lot of fun trying to incorporate my gourds in the construction of that CD cover.

Eyes are something I have doodled for as long as I can remember, I don't know the

significance of that but I love the outcome !'

Grace's family of gourds are mixed media ink, water based paint, gold leaf paint, varnish and each gourd took a few weeks to complete.

Dee Tipping said that she was thrilled that the FEHVA art auction now had this special family of Grace's gourds to offer up to the highest bidder. To view all preselection submissions visit the gallery on www.fehva.com, and to purchase tickets to the FEHVA art auction Saturday June 24 phone 66871 623.

Youth issues

From front page

is even more critical than ever. It would be robbing Peter to pay Paul.

'For the \$15,500 rent Council gives to us, the return to the Byron community in services to youth represents \$451,000.'


In favour of hiring a YDO, deputy mayor Peter Westheimer said, 'We owe it to the youth of the Shire to support them to the hilt. Youth are feeling swamped by tourism.'

The voting went through

several stages. Cr Ross Tucker sought to have the matter deferred until funding for a YDO could be found, then an amendment by Cr Westheimer to have the money taken from the First Sun Caravan Park infrastructure levy was lost 6-4, and the successful amendment by Cr John Lazarus to investigate funding got up 6-4, Crs Tucker, Tardif, Woods and Kestle opposed.

Only Cr Tucker voted against when the amendment became the substantive motion.

billy dalton's ART SHOW
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Local News

Teachers face a close shave head on



St Finbarr's teachers Greg Flint, Jen Seymour and Kerry Wills, lost their locks for Leukemia last Thursday. The students who raised nearly \$13,000 to pay for these prized scalps certainly appeared to get their money's worth in entertainment terms. Photo Jeff 'Hell Razor' Dawson

Affordable housing in 'freefall'

Affordable housing in the Shire is in freefall, according to Tina Hadley, a member of Byron Shire Council's affordable housing committee. Addressing Council's meeting on Tuesday last week, Ms Hadley was distressed to find only half an hour before a scheduled meeting that the committee was not meeting any more chiefly because there was no affordable housing officer.

'I'm curious to know what commitment Council has to affordable housing,' Ms Hadley told councillors. 'I feel disrespected as a volunteer.'

'I'm watching a community in so much stress. They don't know what to do and there is nothing for them to do.'

'A group of people are getting really angry and frustrated. There is talk about protesting and it is reaching critical mass. They want to start squatting on crown land.'

Mayor Jan Barham apologised to Ms Hadley for the oversight. 'We need to get an information sheet out to the community,' Cr Barham said.

'Council has put a lot of energy and money into affordable housing. Other things are happening separate to the committee, costing real time and real money.'

Council's community services director Elisabeth Brown advised councillors that the program for an affordable

housing officer was 'intermediate' and that 'three year funding is lined up for a new appointment'.

Planning director Ray Darney said the work of former housing officer Margi O'Connell-Hood had been completed.

Cr John Lazarus, who has taken an ongoing interest in affordable housing, said he was 'extremely concerned at what's happening on the street. It's very hard to allocate resources.'

Council adopted an affordable housing strategy for urban areas in 2002. It recognised the high cost of houses in the Shire and the low level of government subsidised housing.

■ "Homeless' article, page 14

Council gives Jarjum \$100K

Byron Shire Council voted last week to give \$100,000 towards the construction of the Jarjum Playground next to the Clarkes Beach carpark. The money will come from an infrastructure levy, now totalling \$254,000, built up from revenue from Council's First Sun Caravan Park.

Council is also hoping the Department of Lands will come to the party with matching funding. The total cost of the playground is expected to be \$467,000, which includes \$100,000 in artworks.

Jarjum Playground Association president Laurel Judell told *The Echo*, 'We're absolutely delighted and very grateful to Council for its support. We have now raised more than half of the budget and this decision by Council allows us to seek additional state and federal government funding. Jarjum Playground will be something the whole of Byron Shire can be proud of.'

In her address to councillors last week Ms Judell said the project 'now hangs in the balance. We have raised \$165,000 of the budget of \$500,000. We believe we can raise additional funding from private donations and also from state and federal government grants, but that will only happen if we get a substantial funding commitment from Council.'

'The \$100,000 from Council with an additional \$100,000 from the Department of Lands would make it possible, we believe, to raise the extra \$150,000 this year and get on with building the playground.'

A petition of 800 signatures had earlier come to Council in support of the playground project.

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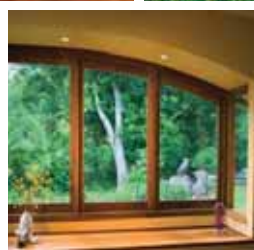
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Local News

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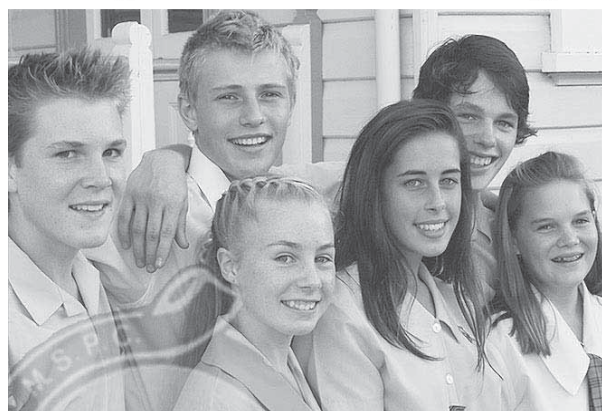
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Bands wanted for Pocket Rocket

The Byron Youth Activities Centre is set to take off with the biggest battle of the bands in Byron Bay – the 2006 Pocket Rocket competition. Heats are being held on Saturdays May 20 and 27, with four bands going through to the final on June 3.

Prizes this year include the chance to play at Splendour in the Grass, studio time at SAE, studio time at Fracas, \$500 cash from the Beach Hotel, a paid support gig at the Great Northern, rehearsal time at Byron Sound Lounge, a \$200 voucher from Byron Music, 20 t-shirts with your band's artwork from PMD Screenprints and online distribution and promotion from Sound Foundation.



Young band 50 Lions in action. Photo Molly Armstrong

All styles of music are welcome, says coordinator

Andy Parks. 'We have had quite a lot of response from hard rock bands which is great, but those who also bust rhymes, dabble in hip hop or anything dance orientated are encouraged to apply.'

'The only criterion is that the average age of band members must be 25 or less.'

Entry forms are available at the Youth Activities Centre, Byron Music, Fracas Studios and SAE, or you can download it at the Byron Youth Service website www.bys.org.au under 'upcoming events'. Entries must be received at the YAC by Friday May 12.

For more information contact Andy Parks on 6685 5775.

Principal moves on from Mullum High

After three busy and productive years as Principal at Mullumbimby High School, Toni Hughes has gained a promotion to School Education Director of the Wilson area in Lismore and has moved on. During her time at the school, Toni achieved a great deal, including the building of a school culture based on core values and beliefs and a focus on teaching and learning, and her contribution to the school community is widely recognised.

Deputy Principal Richard Heazlewood-Ross, pictured, has stepped up to act as Relieving Principal until the position is permanently filled. Richard is very enthusiastic about his new position and is looking forward to continuing the work that Toni has started.

'The school is really well positioned at the moment,' said Richard. 'Toni has done a great job and made some very positive changes in the past few years which I hope to build on. We worked together very closely during her time here and I will continue to pursue the direction already



established. I am looking forward to working with our experienced staff, great stu-

dents and parents represented by the very supportive P&C team. We have established a clear direction and will continue to concentrate on quality teaching and learning, consolidating the many projects which support this.'

Relieving School Education Director for the Southern Cross Network David Silcock said the recruitment process would involve convening a local panel including a Princi-

pal representative, a parent, a teacher and an Aboriginal community representative to draft a job description.

This would then be advertised through the Department of Education job network for expressions of interest from current Principals at the same level. Should there be no suitable applicants, then the job would be advertised in the state and national press.

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Local News

Small school scores \$150,000 from feds

The Upper Coopers Creek Public School community almost cannot believe its luck. They have just learned that they were successful in their application for a \$150,000 grant from the federal government's 'Investing in our Schools' program.

Bordering the Nightcap National Park and nestled on the slopes of the Upper Cooper's Creek Valley, the small two teacher school plans to spend the money on providing a much needed outdoor learning environment for its students. The 21 students have been without any play structure since their old and dearly loved 'cubby' was removed in 2004 due to Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) requirements, prompting the P&C to source funding opportunities for a new playground.

The children have worked with the P&C, teachers and playground designers to come up with a plan that reflects their ideas for the perfect school playground. The result is a play area that incorporates a multi purpose play/fitness structure; an outdoor amphitheatre/classroom; native gardens and a creative arts and performance space.

Funds will also be used to



Imogen Ryan and Kiya Doig, secretary and president of the Upper Coopers Creek School Student Representative Council in the soon-to-be transformed school playground. Photo Jeff Dawson

improve OH&S issues in the school grounds, including the provision of shade sails and a school entrance upgrade.

P&C president Matt Corbett explained that winning the grant was a major coup, not only for the school but also the wider community.

'Being such a remote rural

school, we tend to be forgotten by bureaucrats in the cities,' said Mr Corbett. 'The outdoor learning space will not only benefit the students, but it will also be available to the general community as a performance space, as well as being available to community groups such as Landcare and the fire brigade.'

This outdoor learning environment is part of a whole school plan that focuses on making Upper Coopers Creek Public School a more sustainable school with future plans for waste reduction, minimising water use and the provision of more green energy alternatives.

A new supermarket at Sunrise



Service with a smile: Jess Singh gets the royal treatment as one of IGA's first customers on opening day last Thursday from store manager Peter Chounding, assistant manager Lisa Chounding, grocery manager Kim Baber and the front end manager Elaine Smith. The Sunrise Beach supermarket should make life much easier for those northside residents who've had to fight the traffic bottleneck to get into town. Photo Jeff 'Aisle Be Back' Dawson

FOL meeting

Friends of the Library's next meeting is on Wednesday May 17 at Byron Bay Services Club commencing at 10.30am. New members welcome.

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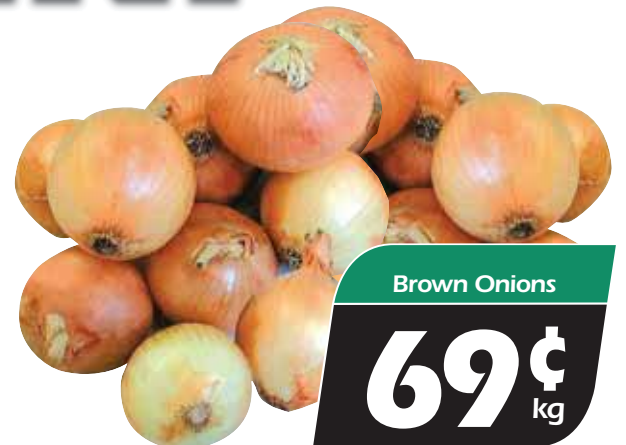
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Local News

Echo turns 20, celebrates with awards

To celebrate its 20th birthday this year *The Echo* is staging a party and community awards night.

Called 'The Jasons' after the long running satirical cartoon by Geraldine Searles, the evening honours the often unseen individuals who make lasting contributions to our community, whether through environmental compassion or just good old fashioned eccentricity. Hosted by comedian and *Echo* entertainment editor Mandy Nolan, the evening will feature special guest speaker Richard Neville.

Famed for his foray into independent media back in the 70s and the subsequent Oz trials, Richard Neville has found himself back in the media again, this time with his controversial anti-John Howard website. A champion for the basic democratic ethic of freedom of speech, Richard is an inspiring, funny and powerful speaker.

Also performing is the hysterical Jonathon Atherton.



Jason Smythe, trophy for Echo award winners.

An international comedian with growing celebrity, Jonathon finds himself in constant demand throughout Asia and the UK and has only recently returned from

a stint working in the States. Political, irreverent and operating at a maniacal pace, his career has spanned the globe and included a walk on role in *Good Morning Vietnam*. 'Working with Robin Williams was a real trip. He's a very positive person and encouraged me to think seriously about comedy... which is why I opened an Afro-Caribbean night club in the South China Seas.'

The Jasons also include Ross Nobel tinkling the keys in the luxuriously appointed piano bar, performances by the winner of the Tamworth busking competition, Juzzie Smith, a collaborative performance between Mission Ignition, Del Larkin and singer Pascal, a swinging house band featuring the vocals of Supernova Jade, a Latin dance performance by the winner of the South Pacific Championships Jarrod Dawson, a virtuoso percussive explosion with master drummer Greg Sheehan and much more.

The evening is black tie (or rainbow) and includes complimentary champagne, an Indian Feast by Mick Ayo from Fiery Foods and decadent red carpet arrival. This is a licensed event with the bar proceeds going towards Pathways to Manhood. Hire your stretch Kombi because you don't want to miss out. These events always sell out very quickly, so it's advisable to book your table now. It's on Saturday June 3 at the Bangalow A&I Hall from 7pm. Tickets are \$55 and can be booked on 6684 1777.

Local charged on child assault

Police have arrested and charged a 21 year old local man for the sexual assault on a five year old boy at Ocean Shores Shopping Village last week. The young boy had gone into the men's toilets at the shopping centre late on Tuesday afternoon while his mother waited for him outside. She became concerned after he had been in the toilets for a considerable length of time, so asked a male passerby to check on him. The man went into the toilets, found the child crying and brought him out to his mother.

Inspector Greg Jago of the Tweed/Byron Local Area Command said that police still want to interview the man who retrieved the boy from the toilets as he may well be able to help them with their enquiries.

'Fortunately, the young

boy didn't sustain any physical harm, but there is no doubt that he was sexually assaulted,' said Inspector Jago. He went on to urge anybody who may have any information either about the assault or relating to the so far unidentified witness to contact police at Ballina Joint Investigation Response Team on 6681 8642 or Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

Following this incident, a review of security at the shopping centre will be carried out in order to establish if it can be improved in any particular areas. All of which would most likely be welcomed by the Ocean Shores Community Association (OSCA) which recently met with newly appointed Tweed/Byron Local Area Commander Superintendent Michael

Kenny to discuss the rising incidence of crime in the area.

Donna Hammond, secretary of OSCA, said that the meeting had been very productive, with both Supt Kenny and community representatives at the meeting learning from each other.

'The most important thing to come out of the meeting was the need to report every crime, no matter how petty,' said Ms Hammond.

'Supt Kenny presented statistics which did not properly reflect the local crime rate because people are reluctant to report incidents as they feel it is a waste of time. Unless every incident is reported, statistical evidence will not support our claims that we need a stronger police presence.'

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Comment



Vol 20 #50

May 9, 2006

Tourist town tremors

Youth unrest, homelessness, and New Years Eve – they're all connected in the tourism pressures which affect Byron Bay.

Apart from those who come to be seen in coffee shops, visitors love Byron Bay for its beautiful natural environment and its balmy climate. So do itinerants – if you have to sleep rough, under a bush by the beach is better than in a Darlinghurst lane. And if you hadn't intended to sleep rough but wanted some cheap accommodation, tough luck – the demand for rental flats and caravans from visitors has meant that those on a tight budget miss out.

Byron Shire Council through its affordable housing strategy is trying to address the issues for the homeless and those on low incomes, but patience on the street is wearing thin. Affordable housing committee member Tinah Hadley expressed some of that frustration at last week's Council meeting (see news pages) and Hans Lovejoy captures the views of some of the homeless and local social workers in his comprehensive article on page 14. Designated houses, affordable camping grounds – all require an injection of money greater than Council has at its disposal. Both state and federal governments have to recognise the needs of seachange towns in dealing with this issue. As Council's own 2002 affordable housing strategy points out, 'Only 1.2% of Byron Shire housing stock is government rental housing, well below the North Coast (3.7%) and the NSW (5.5%) averages (Byron Shire Council Community profile 1998). Public housing in Byron Shire has been below the NSW and North Coast average for the past two decades.' And as councils are required under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act to consider affordable housing issues in the development of council policies, then the state government needs to come to the party.

As tourism affects the housing market, so too it puts the squeeze on the local youth community. Some local youth feel squeezed out of their own town, unwanted, and feel rightly or wrongly the town has devoted itself to pleasuring visitors rather than caring for its own. This is not entirely true, as organisations like the Byron Youth Service through providing services such as Street Cruise aim to make a difference, but it's understandable that sometimes frustrations will boil over into violence as happened recently at the weekly ritual gathering of youth in Apex Park. Residents can familiarise themselves with the work of BYS, itself struggling with underfunding, at www.bys.org.au and consider what they can do to make a difference for local youth.

At the squalid end of the tourist profile, there are those who would seek to plunder the Bay on New Years Eve. Attempts to keep the town safe have been made famous (or notorious) in the national press. And contrary to the view of some of our correspondents, the original notion was to protect the town, not have a party at the rest of the Shire's expense, and much volunteer work went into making it so. Now that Council has withdrawn its funding, and local business looks unlikely to kick the can to any great degree, then we might expect a police lockdown to protect shopfronts if violence erupts, if the police can spare the officers. We might kiss the amenity of the beachfront goodbye if there is no voluntary team helping Council workers pick up litter.

The Byron Shire Echo (established 1986)



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1948–1996
Founding Editor

Publisher **David Lovejoy**
Editor **Michael McDonald**
Deputy Editor **Lesley Patterson**
Photographer **Jeff Dawson**
Advertising Manager **Geoff Williams**
Accounts Manager **Simon Haslam**

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Finley Peter Dunne 1867-1936

© 2005 Echo Publications P/L
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.

Unsolicited contributions are welcome but, given the volume of material we receive, not all submissions will be acknowledged. Email to editor@echo.net.au is the preferred means of receipt.

Trade unionist upstages PM

John Howard must be spitting chips. After finally laying Private Jacob Kovco to rest last week with a ceremony which would have seemed ostentatious if it had been accorded to the Emperor Charlemagne, he has been blatantly upstaged by a bloody trade unionist – one being touted as a future Labor leader to boot.

By setting himself up as official spokesman at the long-running Beaconsfield saga, Australian Workers Union secretary Bill Shorten has become one of the best-known faces on television and moreover, one who can venture where our Prime Minister fears to tread.

Howard has wisely stayed well away from the mine disaster and the subsequent rescue efforts; he has declined even to join his frenzied workplace relations minister Kevin Andrews in attacking Kim Beazley's commonsense observation that unions are now banned from giving safety courses for their members, and this could well make workplaces – including mining operations like Beaconsfield – still more dangerous.

Andrews accused Beazley of trying to make political capital out of a disaster, and spluttered that workplace safety remained the responsibility of the states, which is true but irrelevant. In the past the unions have rightly involved themselves on behalf of their members, but the whole aim of the brave new world of Work Choices is to reduce their role to a bare minimum before eliminating them altogether.

Shorten's daily appearances are an uncomfortable reminder of what the loss will entail and the whole rescue effort has been a demonstration of worker solidarity at

odds with the Howard/Andrews vision of a bleak industrial landscape in which individuals care only for themselves and negotiate with employers for personal, rather than collective, advantage.

Even the mine's bosses accept that it is a time for whole-hearted co-operation; manager Matthew Gill has promised to keep paying all the men on his payroll for at least a month while the mine is shut down. Ironically, this may in itself be a breach of the draconian regulations under Work Choices.

The whole rescue effort has been a demonstration of worker solidarity at odds with the Howard/Andrews vision of a bleak industrial landscape...

by Mungo MacCallum

Andrews may mouth pieties about Beaconsfield being beyond politics, but it is his own legislation which has ensured that it has become a new focal point.

And, for Howard at least, a maddeningly frustrating one. Under normal circumstances it would be a ready-made photo opportunity for him: front page every day and television news lead every night, a dramatic human tragedy with the hope of a wonderfully pictorial outcome. Howard would be there with the exhausted rescue teams and the anxious families, face set in that characteristic frown of worry and concern, muttering comforting platitudes and hugging everything that came within camera range.

But he knows only too well that in this tightly-knit community he might not be entirely welcome – and to be

rejected by the said rescue teams would not be a good look. Instead, he must keep his distance, murmuring the odd word of encouragement and chipping in with a tribute to the deceased television personality Richard Carleton, who fittingly ended his career as collateral damage.

Beaconsfield has many messages, some tragic, some inspiring. But the enduring political memory will be the stark demonstration of just how brutal and divisive Howard's Iron Dream has already proved to be.

securely indexed against inflation.

Also gone is Medicare Gold, Julia Gillard's lamentable attempt to institute an unaffordable two-tier system favouring rich geriatrics who wouldn't change their vote anyway: this was always indefensible on economic, social and political grounds and will not be missed.

But the other pillar of Lathamism seems to have been quietly retained: Labor's policy on Iraq is still to get our troops out as soon as possible, or as Howard used to put it (but hasn't much lately) cut and run. Labor's true believers have always maintained that, as they were eventually proved right about Vietnam, so it would be with Iraq. With a little help from Private Kovco, the tide just might be turning.

This column is being written before the budget, but it is a safe bet that by the time it appears the Murdoch press will have gone ape about the missed opportunity for what it calls "real" tax reform, by which it means a massive reduction in the top marginal rate for its best paid executives and their friends.

The editorials will be less vocal about the real problem: the distortions produced by the absurdly inefficient and over-generous system of family allowances and the tax traps they produce. To be fair to treasurer-for-life Peter Costello, he would probably have liked to try for real reform, but Howard ruled it out: the family allowance system is his personal pet, and one that will only be tampered with over his dead body.

Costello no doubt sees this as a wonderful, but alas unattainable, bonus. Oh well, back to the abacus.



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Letters

Letters to the Editor

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 Deadline: Noon, Friday
Letters longer than 200 words may be cut; letters already published in other papers will not be considered; pseudonyms not acceptable. Please include your full name, address and phone number.

Where's A-Z?

Hi, my name is Hayden. I'm 11 years old and my favourite part of *The Echo* is the A-Z of collective nouns.

H is for Hayden.

W is for where have they gone!?

I want it back!

Hayden Whealing
 Wilsons Creek

■ You'll be pleased to know, Hayden, that the A-Z page is back this week, on page 20. - Ed

More needed

I'm a Shire boy living and working overseas. I look forward to my lunchtime every Tuesday when I read *The Echo* online to keep up-to-date with happenings back home. However, this week I was really disappointed when I found that your coverage of Anzac Day celebrations across the Shire consisted of only one photo with a brief caption.

I understand you are restricted for space but I would have thought that one

of the most important and popular days in the Australian calendar deserved more photos, and at the very least, an article detailing local servicemen and groups who participated in these marches.

Gavin Ottery
 Hong Kong/
 Mullumbimby

Youth crisis

I'm writing in to show that this does affect the youth and households of the community, not just the police and media.

We've grown up in this town, our families are in this town, but by all the exaggerated accusations, we're thinking that our futures have nothing to do with it.

When the kids are given no venues to just be kids, we make our own fun.

If there is a better path into the world our parents had in mind for us when they moved here, then why not show us.

Arika Mcelroy-Lakosta, 15
 Suffolk Park

Basil's pleasures

I have never protested about anything in my life, however since moving up here from the big smoke about four years ago due to a health scare I realised that life is too precious and so I feel very strongly about this issue and would like to be able to stop and smell the ocean. So, my ten year old border

collie Basil and I have been able to do that while exercising and meeting locals on (in my view) the most beautiful beach on the Northern Rivers.

In this day of obesity and mental illness, surely walking your dog along the beach without tripping over each other in a 500m stretch of beach can only be a healthy and positive thing?

Please don't take these small pleasures away. Think of what the consequences could be.

Tricia Pontin
 Brunswick Heads

Human rights

The online magazine newmatilda.com.au has launched its campaign website for a Human Rights Act for Australia www.humanrightsact.com.au, and a handsome read it is, too. The proposed Act is written in plain English for all to comment on, and when passed will bring Australia into line with all other OECD countries, protecting such freedoms as those we take for granted, as for example, 'freedom of speech'.

That many rights are being constantly whittled away under the Howard government is apparent upon reading a couple of items in the Latest Campaign News column of the

website for the Human Rights Act. For example: 'Government announces changes that breach the Convention Relating to the Treatment of Refugees 1951 by removing people arriving by boat to another country to be processed.'

It has also rushed through another piece of legislation allowing 'the Government to read private emails, text messages' etc, without our knowledge. That the Telecommunication (Interception) Amendment Act allowing this to happen was passed despite concerns from both within government ranks and those of a Senate committee is hair-raising stuff.

The website covers all aspects of the campaign and includes articles and answers to frequently-asked questions by those like myself, whose understanding is essentially intuitive.

Jill Keogh
 Federal

Ah, Hannah

Ah, Hannah Grace (Letters, May 2), with the greatest honour to you I wonder why is it that numbers ease the conscience, mostly?

One woman who builds a weapon, joins an army to kill an enemy is supporting the energy you are apportioning mostly to men, I agree with the facts, but if we are all

continued overleaf

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Letters

continued from page 9

connected, true recognition of self is seeing all on an equal basis.

Absolution from this only supports the current separation, not that I am suggesting you are Hannah mostly, however without comparison, the feeling of this separation or blame has no ability to move forward. As 'community', local or global we can get out of it, one by one by many.

Ian Morton
Bangalow

■ And in the hour that the ship comes in, Hannah Grace, who'll be there to greet it at the dock? No, I don't mean Bob Dylan's long awaited peace ship, lost without trace somewhere between 1965 and now. I mean the USS Armageddon America, bigger than many Pacific island nations (and with more hard cash) laden with weapons of planetary annihilation (WPA) and enough randy sailors to inseminate Sydney. There'll be the die-hard protesters of course, but sadly, over the fence, a throng of sinuous goddesses, purring expectantly.

Dispiriting. Enough to make a peace chap let his proud placard droop to the dust and race off to hire a sailor suit. For women created and control the most powerful binary code ever to come into existence; goddess says 'yes' or goddess says 'no'. It's the bloke who drags home the biggest mammoth who gets the most jiggi-jiggi, even if he whacked over the head the

bloke in the cave next door to do it. And the weirdo out the back who did those amazing paintings of the hunt probably went as mad and rootless as Vincent van Gogh. The men and women here now have been co-selected by generations of mothers and fathers back to the African savannah of two million years ago.

But all is not lost, Hannah. Biology is not the only hand to write a part in our unfinished script. The meek could get to pass on more genes than the mighty. In Euripides's play, *The Trojan Women*, the women deny the men sex until they stop their futile war. So goddesses unite, the way to no war is no sex. Next time bloke sidles up with 'How about it?' respond with 'Goddess says "NO!" - until all Australian troops are out of Iraq.' Spread the word. Give Janette Howard a call.

Adrian Gattenhof
Mullumbimby

A truly Byron scene

On my way home from town last week, I drove along the old highway. Halfway along the road a mob of horses appeared. Two young ponies and a couple of older ones. They were distressed and panicky. Clearly, their presence was going to cause an accident sooner or later unless help could be found.

I raced down to a nearby stable where two women were already gathering bridles and halters to catch the horses which were not theirs. We all rushed to our cars and drove along the road looking for the run-



aways. I was blown away by what I saw. At the top of a small hill, a group of cars were blocking the road. Down my end, drivers had also blocked the road so the horses were corralled between. People were trying to keep things calm so the horses could be caught.

It was just amazing to witness people's willingness to help. Everyone mucked in to save the horses. A truly Byron scene. And very Australian, helping animals.

Which brings me to another uniquely Australian animal icon. A ritual which is so much a part of the life of many of us. Walking the dog on the beach.

As someone who has run an international environment group for 25 years, I have not heard one single logical argument to support restricting dog walking to a miserable 500 metres area on the beaches in the newly created marine park.

Save a few irresponsible dog owners, everyone I see on the beach each day picks up their dog's shit. So what is the problem that will be caused by dogs walking along the beach? Paw prints might cause erosion? Dog pee in that big bath? What? Someone please tell me how walking the dog on the beach is going to damage a marine park.

Walking along the beach with my dog I often give thanks for the community I live in and the fact that people are so animal conscious. The way people moved to save those horses was testimony to that vibe. It's worth fighting for. So if you enjoy walking your dog on the beach, get annoyed and do something. Our very way of life is being threatened by this ridiculous regulation.

And thanks to everyone who helped the horses.

Sue Arnold
Australians for Animals

Stealth bummer

The current trend of the government promoting the idea of ID cards as a tool against terrorism doesn't make any sense if analysed by what they are telling us; the only possible way it would make sense is if they are intending to use them as stealth tracking devices for every citizen.

Technology and computing power having increased to the point where such an operation is totally feasible, and given the mindset thus far demonstrated by the chief players in the war against terrorism (think 'by any means necessary'), probably just what they would love to do.

It would of course be in cooperation with American

backing and data would be sent to American data-collection centres - as they feel they have the most to lose and therefore the most justification for such a set-up - thus setting the stage for their vision of a benevolent worldwide totalitarianism.

See, isn't paranoia fun? And it gives one a glowing sense of self-righteous outrage that is better than coffee, and just as addictive. The only problem is that the high of being able to say 'I told you so' is somewhat offset by the negative reality of what it was that you told them so about. (This is of course just an unresearched intuition; I'll leave the actual research and evidence part of it to the ever upbeat Mr Peter Olson.) Time to immortalise the eschaton!

David Brauchli
Brunswick Heads

The shopping news

The new Byron West (is Sunrise really west or north of Byron?) Shopping Fair (it does not reflect 'fair' in any sense of the word) has created the image of Sunrise Beach into an urban wasteland. And I live here, thank you!

It's not funky, it has no character and reflects nothing of the Sunrise community. Why not a McDonald's, a Kentucky Fried and

Towards an autonomous region

Having attended the Follow Our Vision Or Take What We Are Given meeting last night (May 4) at the Byron Community Centre, called in response to the State Government's Draft Regional Strategy, I came away all the more convinced that we need to take on a more proactive and unified stance across the whole Northern Rivers region in determining our own future, not one foisted upon us.

Hats off to Valerie Thompson of the Total Environment Centre for organising, and to

Mayor Jan for attending and addressing the meeting, despite illness. There was a strong consensus that this draft falls far short of what is required, is lacking in detail, and largely ignores the many years of concerted input from concerned citizens right across the region. The draft has glaring omissions, many of which were alluded to by speakers Tim Childs, CEO Northern Rivers Social Development Council on the social sphere, and by Andrew Murray on environmental issues. In the area of public transport alone

the draft is sorely lacking, hardly mentioning our rail corridor while making the Pacific Highway our entire life support system.

While many will not have seen the draft and now with the submission period ended we can't wait on this Sydney centralist government to finalise and impose this regional strategy on us. We need to work together to draw up our own detailed plans incorporating all the good work already done and the inspirational visions that will take us forward.

Towards this end the Autonomous Regions Coalition is holding forums right around the region, meeting next at the Pioneer Hall, Gordon Street, Mullumbimby, at 7pm on Thursday May 18. ARC is working towards the creation of self-reliant and self-governing regions across Australia, starting here in the Northern Rivers, and the realisation of a true grass roots democracy through community governance. For further information ring 6688 2220.

Garth Kindred
Rosebank

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Letters

another cheap clothing chain store? Not good. It could be anywhere, Ballina, Campbelltown, Lismore, need I go on?

The cultureless face of capitalism at its boring worst. Who was responsible for this lovely piece of architecture and community development planning? Change the name, some funky murals, an organic fruit and veggie shop, more trees and some atmosphere please!

Jenny Pandava
Sunrise Beach

■ A supermarket at Sunrise Beach at last: fantastic! As I made my first excited forays though the new aisles I was impressed. This adventure was only clouded by the foul stench of the Sunny-brand chicken factory that permeated the checkout area and parking lot. How long do we have to stand

the fowl odour? It spoils our evenings.

Fasha Steen
Sunrise Beach

Black is back

Painting the Bruns public library bright, lurid colours raised a few eyebrows. Not everyone appreciated the aesthetic beauty of turquoise, burnt orange and lime green!

It did encourage home renovators to be brave and bold and some have broken the bland barrier and moved gaily beyond the neutral hues.

Over recent months a new trend is emerging in Brunswick Heads. Black is back! Three commercial makeovers have all chosen shades of dull, mournful black. Perhaps it's the pile-driving at the bridge, the death knell ringing has permeated the palate, the psyche of these new renovators.

Didn't anyone tell them Bruns is a beautiful, tranquil, cheerful place, not a bleak, dismal, black hole!

There's over a million colours in the Dulux paint charts and these guys came up with black. It's almost as creative as white!

Sure some aesthetics might think it stylish and trendy but to us unfashionable folk, it's just black and boring, and sheepish!

Throw away the mags! Think for yourself! Get a Dulux colour chart and go wild! Help brighten up our world instead of painting the town a grim shade of black despair!

Michele Grant
Ocean Shores

New life for cat

To the Animal Welfare League, thank you so much for your kindness and understanding in saving my young cat from being euthanased

due to an unfortunate accident which has resulted in having her eye removed. My two young daughters also thank you for saving their much loved child's pet which they have had since a kitten. Our loved cat will now live a fulfilled life with the family she has always known. Please keep up the marvellous work your organisation does for the community and for our homeless pets.

Thank you so much.

Renae, Shanon & Marnie Quinn
Billinudgel

No Splendour

I was so looking forward to Splendour this year. After not being able to go last year due to the ticket selling debacle I thought I'd prepare early. No work on Sunday, baby-sitter ready to sit and looking for somewhere to spend the night (we live in Ocean Shores.) Organised!

Start to hear the rumours: no one day passes! Check it out and it's all true. We are so disappointed. There is no way we can afford to pay for two weekend tickets, food and drinks, somewhere to stay and a babysitter. I understand that people that are coming from afar will be here for the weekend and going for the two days, but we live here and want to go for one day. It's too expensive and too hard with little ones for two days. Please look after the locals, too. It's in our backyard.

Mandy Rachman
Ocean Shores

Christian mysteries

The *Echo* article on the dismissal of a Catholic teacher by the Catholic Education Department because of his infidelity to vows taken under the aegis of the Church in the Sacrament of Matrimony revealed a general ignorance of Christian-

ity. Christianity is a process of elevation as 'in' Christ mankind is elevated from the sub human (nature) to the Humanity of God and so vows under that aegis are a Covenant with God as Man 'in' Christ and infidelity to those vows is not only immoral but sacrilegious.

If the Catholic Education Department allowed this to be part of the system it would be conforming to the values of the world. Conforming to the values of a world which is unable to see that freedom is a paradox and that rights not balanced by responsibilities are abuses causes many problems even on the social level notably in the area of mental health.

The Church leadership itself has in a way been affected by this as we've seen in recent scandals, these scandals happened

continued overleaf

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Public access at Brunswick Heads

■ If the folks writing the diatribes about the proposed concrete cycleway along the riverbank in Bruns really give a damn about the disabled, try lobbying for disabled access to all shops, decent public toilets for the disabled and getting something done about the street guttering that makes it almost impossible for a wheelchair to mount the pavement. Oh yeah, and try getting the restaurants to leave enough room for wheelchairs to pass by their outdoor tables.

We all know it's a beat-up by a small section of the community who seem to think they know what's best for Bruns and are intent on foisting their 'vision' on the town. We don't have much say in the ugly-fication of the town, those who can afford it will continue to build concrete boxes and paint them black, almost black and really black (the new building next to Yami's, the Breakers and the old Pink Dot). They'll continue to raze trees, rip up grass and lay pavers.

Our river is beautiful without a ring of concrete around its neck. For disabled access to the riverbank all we need is a short path from the old housie shed (which is in need of a makeover) directly across to the river.

As to Michele Grant, she's the only person I know who has the guts to ask the hard questions, do the research and speak out in defence of public lands and the protection of public assets. Just because many people who have lived here over the last 20 years are being pushed out of Bruns township to Ocean Shores by exorbitant

rents doesn't stop them caring for what many of us see as one of the last truly family-friendly coastal holiday towns left in NSW.

Marie Stewart
Brunswick Heads

■ There must be something in the water in Brunswick Heads. After rereading Michele Grant's light hearted and humorous letter highlighting the impact of the proposed multi-use cycleway along the river foreshore, I'm struggling to find the bit where she insulted the aged/disabled readers!

The vitriolic response from letter writers is appalling and totally unwarranted. I appreciate being informed of the cycleway proposal and like Michele I feel there are a number of important safety issues to be considered, particularly in Banner and Terrace parks near the children's play areas.

Young children may run out in front of cyclists, skateboarders or elderly or disabled people in 'battery powered pedestrian aids' or scooters. It's a bad mix, not a reflection of an individual's driving skills! It will inevitably create a few problems. Erecting fencing along the riverbank or around the children's play area is not an attractive option.

The problem area is in Banner Park opposite the pub where the rock walls have caved in and the ground is very rough and uneven beneath the pine trees. It's very narrow and access is difficult for everyone but Council has recently undertaken repair works and re-turfed the area. Regular mainte-

nance of the lawns would improve access for all.

There are so few open grassed spaces left to enjoy and the parks are small and well used particularly on weekends and during the holiday season - surely there's a better place for a concrete cycleway!

Ms Grant is not alone in voicing her concerns about the cycleway proposal and many people applaud and value her ongoing efforts to inform the community of yet another totally inappropriate 'development' proposal along the river foreshore in Brunswick Heads.

John Helman
Ocean Shores

■ Years of community consultation and Byron Shire Council's committee worked sited bicycle tracks in Brunswick Heads along appropriate road reserves. They have been presented in sundry Council documents.

In 2005 a BSC staffer, with a history of personal involvement in that process and in full knowledge of these routes prepared the exhibited map relocating these tracks within the foreshore parklands. They were now morphed into 'shared pathways' with the devious spin that Councillors had to choose between exhibited options in order to access \$80K funding.

Thus, what BSC did in exhibiting these options was reprehensible. Funding was neither tied to these nor the site recommended in their report to Councillors for February 28, 2006. In addition that report, summarising submissions was partial and misleading in fact. Then,

without reason, the item of cycleways was subsequently withdrawn from Council's agenda.

The route recommended to councillors was in the main, parallel to the riverbank in the nominated parks. Such siting demonstrated a determination to concentrate or aggravate moving traffic of all types amongst sedentary users of the foreshores.

Worse, staff's recommendation, deliberate or otherwise, ignored proposed development plans for the parklands held by BSC. These had been prepared through due process by the Brunswick Heads Progress Association. Those plans had been worked up from an intimate understanding of the character and function of each park. They focus on the provision of appropriate picnicking facilities for all. The site of the recommended bicycletrack is in blatant conflict with those plans.

BSC staff must bear responsibility for ignoring process prior to late 2005 and explain why they are prepared to take from people, including the elderly and disabled, the most prime passive recreational locations within each park?

Personally, I strongly object to the siting of any 'tracks' that will encourage the development of Brunswick Heads' precious foreshore parklands as a circuit for bicycles, skateboarders and the horrors of the speed of these new scaled-down 'toy' motor-bikes capable of speeds up to 80kmh! Road reserves still remain the most appropriate place.

Patricia Warren
Brunswick Heads

continued from page 11

because of the leadership's attempts to protect the Church as an institution rather than as the mystical body of Christ.

A theological process too is at work where teachers who are commissioned by the Church to be what they teach are involved. The Catholic Church is not based upon emotional rationalisations, she deals with logic thus the annulment process which seeks to determine not only whether social impediments existed but also whether those undertaking a covenant with God were emotionally and psychologically mature enough to know what they were undertaking. My view is that few are.

Neither is Mr Cronin mature enough now in those areas - if he was he would gracefully retire and so would not need to be sacked.

E Roche
Copacabana

Water mindset

We all hear politicians talk about water shortages. It's about time they realised there is no such thing. There is the same (average) amount of water falling on this continent as there ever has been for at least some thousands of years and probably will be for the next few thousand.

When are polities going to wake up to the fact that it's not a shortage of water, it's an overabundance of water consumers, overpopulation for the carrying capacity of this country that is the problem?

But then, must keep the developers happy, many of whom are responsible for the overcrowding/overdevelopment of our cities and coastal areas and don't live in this country anyway, so what do they care as long as the profits roll in.

The government mindset seems to be that economics is more important than the

health and wellbeing of the populace.

Peggy Balfour
Mullumbimby

KBR debacle

Having selected US war profiteer Kellogg Brown & Root (Vietnam, Iraq etc - a subsidiary of Dick Cheney's Halliburton Inc) to build the Bangalow sewerage works Byron Shire Council might like to know how other KBR contracts have fared. *The New York Times* reports that, having been contracted to restore an oil pipeline across the Tigris river in Iraq, KBR entirely failed to do the job but did manage to spend all US\$75 million that was allocated for it.

This on top of auditors finding that US\$200 million of KBR's other claims were questionable. Council officials might also like to bear in mind that the officers who contracted KBR were scathingly criticised for their failure to properly inform

themselves of what KBR was up to. Seems they should have pulled the chain long ago.

And the good news? An Australian company has now been given the contract to fix the pipeline properly.

John Weiley
Byron Bay

Way forward?

Is there a better way forward for society than our adversarial political and judicial systems? Totalitarianism has proven a failure around the world and raffiawork, though popular, presents misgivings. Jelly wrestling as a means of settling national and international disputes may be the answer. It is both soft and nutritious.

R Bentock
Ocean Shores

■ Letters acknowledged from Jon Jenkins MLC, Parliament House, John X Berlin, Maclean, S Briskey, Burum Heads.

Council Roundup with Michael McDonald

Contemplate the signs of the profits

'Sign, sign, everywhere a sign, blocking out the scenery, breakin' my mind'* - at its meeting on Tuesday last week Byron Shire Council made an attempt to tackle the proliferation of tacky signs in Byron Bay.

Before we got to the first vote, however, the public gallery - admittedly only three people at the time - and this reptile of the press had to wait twenty minutes for the meeting to start, as some of the councillors were off elsewhere in another meeting. 'Being late is the height of rudeness,' my mother might have said. (She was not given to fashionable entrances but she knew which side of the plate the fish knife went and turned up at airports two hours before the plane was scheduled to depart.)

The sign reform - which got up on a 6-3 vote - will be gentle at first, with Council talking to the chamber of commerce and putting out an information leaflet on the requirements of the town's development control plan. Some of the complaints have come from business owners, annoyed by having to compete with multiple signs on adjoining businesses or over-loud expressions of the invitation to consume.

Of those opposing mayor Jan Barham's notice of motion, Cr Ross Tucker felt it would be seen as anti-business and Cr Bob Tardif objected to Byron Bay being the sole target. Cr Diane Woods rightly noted that Council should get its own house in order first, pointing to the local government sign frenzy in the streets of Brunswick Heads. Everyone agreed that Bangalow is a shining example of how to deal with signs.



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Cr Tardif wanted Dr Ian Goodwin's review of long-term coastal behaviour - the sea, not schoolies - to go up on the Council website but lost out 5-4 to an amendment which will see it looked at first, assuming it's okay by Dr Goodwin, by the state government's coastal boffin Prof Bruce Thom and Council's about-to-be-formed coastal management committee. The report runs contrary to Council consultants WBM Oceanics' advice, but it was a tad precious not throwing it up on the website for the purposes of public debate; as Cr Ray Kestle pointed out, you could hedge your bets with a disclaimer.

Most of the interested residents at Belongil who helped pay for it would have access to the report anyway, and for anyone else Dr Goodwin has the report in PDF format so you could email him at Ian.Goodwin@newcastle.edu.au and ask for a copy.

Mayor Barham had an

embarrassing moment when trying to raise a 0.5% rate increase on Byron Bay businesses for the 'orderly management' of the next New Years Eve. Council's finance manager Jim Bolger had calculated the funds raised on the entire rate base, which came to \$60,000, but when it was recalculated on just the Bay CBD business base it came to only \$6,000 and Cr Barham withdrew her motion. At this stage it is in the lap of the gods what will happen on NYE in the Bay.

Questions Without Notice from councillors proved informative. We learnt from planning director Ray Darney that Sunnybrand plans to eventually leave its Ewingsdale Road site, and that the Department of Planning intends to inspect Becton's North Beach site on May 11. Mr Darney was less than sanguine on Council's chances of getting back costs incurred while working on the Becton DA from the state government.

Seeking leave of absence first thing to attend a funeral, Cr Jan Mangleson returned to the fray after lunch. Public access and public submissions saw passionate addresses from Paul Spooner of the Byron Youth Service, Laurel Judell of Jarjum Playground, and Tina Hadley of Council's affordable housing committee, all of which are dealt with in the news pages. Also, Peter Wegner followed up on progress (or not) on the Suffolk Park sportsfield. In addition it emerged that a roundabout is planned for the Ewingsdale Road juncture of the entries to the new sportsfields there and to the Island Quarry. IQ and the sports venue are likely to have a quid pro quo in relation to car parking.

One would assume that all councillors, like most Shire residents, have their little eccentricities. Mayor Barham's is collecting corks, and with Cr Ray Kestle it seems to be sticking his head down at desk level and interjecting during the mayor's turn to speak. Playing the kibitzer is nothing new to Council: former councillor Bob Higgins used to interject regularly but in a far more subtle manner. Kestle's habit does nothing for public debate but he may be in training for a role in a Labor backroom faction.

Councillors failed to get through the whole agenda and they tackle it again Tuesday afternoon this week following the planning meeting. If the aphorism 'no rest for the wicked' (paraphrasing Isaiah 57:21) holds true, then our councillors must have done a bad, bad thing.

* 'And the sign said long haired freaky people need not apply' - from 'Signs' 1970 by the Five Man Electrical Band www.fivemanelectricalband.ca.

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Good morning Professor. How are my 'scapebots' coming along?

AWB

Articles

Homeless with a million dollar view

Hans Lovejoy

Craig Pevy is homeless and has lived in Byron Bay for five years. Pevy is an ex-professional boxer and has represented his country sixteen times. His sparring partners have included Jeff Fenech and Kostya Tszyu. Yet Craig lives with prejudice on a daily basis. 'We feel prejudiced against all the time in Byron,' he told *The Echo*.

Craig feels this has everything to do with greed. 'We all cry, we all bleed: we are all human.' Craig says the rents here are too expensive. 'An unpowered tent site in Byron is \$21 per night. It's just a patch of dirt. That's around \$140 per week. Where I come from in Newcastle I can rent a three bedroom house for \$160 per week. It's a tourist town that doesn't seem to care about locals.'

There is a small provision in the Byron Council LEP for affordable housing, yet nothing for the homeless. It seems that passing the buck ends with the state and federal government when it comes to the homeless, and the NSW government's emergency housing assistance only applies if you are drug and alcohol free.

Queensland efforts

The Queensland government has tackled homelessness on the Gold Coast. The newly refurbished Burleigh International Motor Inn is a 21 room hotel that is designed to provide long term accommodation for homeless people. A similar motel for the homeless already exists in Miami on the Gold Coast, and according to the Queensland government website, \$235.52 million will be spent over four years to address homelessness. Specifically, the money will respond to the misuse of drugs and/or alcohol, will meet the mental



health needs of homeless people and help residential services stay open.

Ballina has an accommodation placement service for homeless people. RABS – Regional Accommodation Brokerage Service – covers the Richmond River region, including Lismore, Byron and Ballina. 'We are a community based and government funded organisation,' says RABS coordinator Michael Borenstein. 'We place those who are homeless and in need of crisis accommodation into a refuge, caravan park, hotel or motel.' He added, 'People are not eligible for accommodation if they present to the service intoxicated.'

Similar to this is BEAP – Byron Emergency Accommodation Project – and it is funded by DOCS through their SAAP initiative (Supported Accommodation Assistance Project). 'We offer case management and emergency accommodation,' says Damian Farrell of BEAP.

'We only offer placement to those who are drug and alcohol free – and are not de-toxing – which means we end up servicing less than

10% of the people in need. We provide the only generalist refuge [for men, woman and children] between Grafton and the Tweed border. We also have a network of three other managed houses/units offering shelter to people in different situations. There's a two unit duplex for women who are escaping from domestic violence, a medium term youth exit house and medium term housing for those in early recovery from drug or alcohol issues. It is very important that these houses are drug and alcohol free.'

Proclaimed place

When asked what is needed, Farrell said, 'We need a proclaimed place – a designated house where people can access accommodation if they are intoxicated. Realistically that house/refuge needs to be supervised by health care professionals and there just isn't the funding.' According to Farrell, there was a proclaimed place in Lismore which closed, with nothing to replace it.

There is a consensus among social workers and volunteers about solutions.

'A hostel that is managed and has access to a full time social worker would be ideal,' says Gwen Gould, coordinator of the Wednesday morning Community Centre breakfast. 'We need to solve the problems before they happen.'

Gwen spoke of the Sandhills Estate, a camp area set up by the homeless on crown land near Tallow Beach. Last year the Lands Dept, Council rangers and the police forcibly moved them. 'There was nowhere to go,' said Gwen, 'they had to sleep on a crowded verandah and were being moved from place to place by security every night. They become irritable and unpredictable. The less agitated they are, the less of a threat they are to society. That's why I feed them.'

The recent passing of Aunty Jude, a homeless Aboriginal woman, in Byron Bay last month highlights their situation. Her case is perhaps not uncommon among indigenous people who live on the street, especially those who are perhaps older and grew up in traditional communities in the outback. She refused repeated offers of shelter, preferring instead to live under a tarp, with a simple bed and side table. It would seem reasonable that provisions must be made for the right of an individual to live as they want, yet there is no mechanism within our system for that support. Everyone *The Echo* spoke to within the homeless and support/volunteer community spoke highly of Jude's dignity, humility, humour and of her sadness at being ejected from the Sandhills Estate. Aunty Jude never recovered from losing her home.

Spider's story

Gwen also told the heartbreaking story of 'Spider' – a local homeless man with two children. To gain access to his kids he needs a house. The Dept of Housing will assist in paying for accommodation – but only for six weeks. Gwen drove Spider to Brunswick Heads to look at housing and the real estate agency wanted 100 points of ID and rent references. 'This is a guy who lives on the street!' Gwen said. 'The real estates don't want to have to

deal with these people after the six weeks of assistance runs out.'

A few months ago 'Whitey', a homeless man, came into a council meeting and demanded a solution to homelessness. The job was handed to Councillor John Lazarus – with no council support – and since he has held two forums and has put motions forward to utilise council land for camping grounds and low cost accommodation.

'Council is not set up to offer assistance and we were recently refused a grant from the State Government to address the problem,' Lazarus told *The Echo*, 'however the proposed LEP will perhaps help address the problem.'

'Granny flat style buildings will be permitted on land with houses – with enough space – so we could find it easing, though it is a major problem for the shire (affordable housing).'

■ There is food provided at least once a day in Byron Bay, sometimes twice. The Uniting and Adventist Churches, The Hare Krishnas, Brumby's and the Byron Community Centre all donate money, food and time. A nurse is available for consultations on Wednesday mornings at the Community Centre breakfast. For more information about emergency housing call BEAP on 6685 8477.

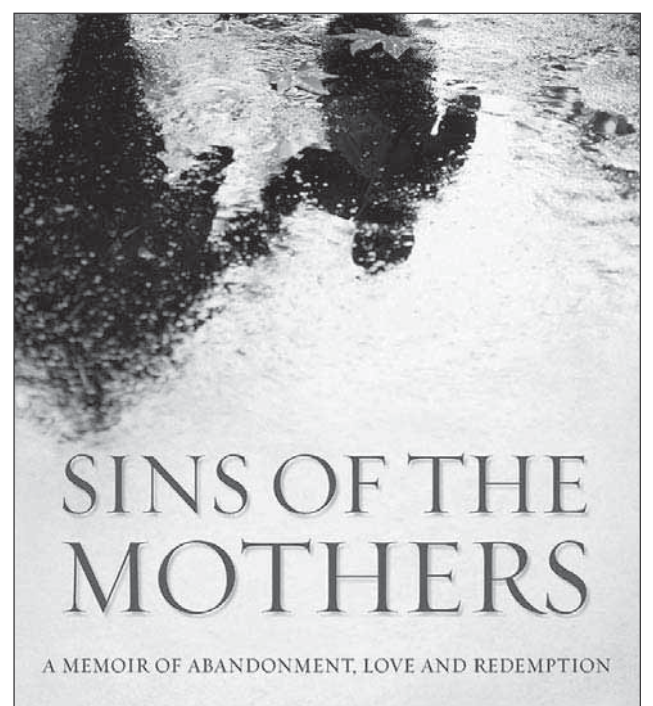
Donna's memoir takes off

Byron Bay resident Donna Davis has found her memoir *Sins of the Mothers*, written with Amy Willesee, among the best sellers for her publisher Pan Macmillan Australia.

The memoir traces Donna's remarkable and traumatic life. According to the publisher's synopsis, 'Little Lois Davis [later to be known as Donna Davis] barely knew her mother. First placed in an orphanage at the age of three months, her childhood featured too many institutions and not enough nurturing.'

'Determined that her past wouldn't decide her future, Lois changed her name and, as Donna, became an international model and the mother of two beautiful children. At last she had the financial security and love Lois could only have dreamed of.'

'But Donna's happiness wasn't to last. After the break-up of her marriage, she became involved with a charismatic young man who



asked her to do the seemingly unthinkable – smuggle drugs into Australia from India and, in so doing, risk everything she had worked so hard for. Emotionally vulnerable, Donna reluctantly agreed and found herself a criminal. Pregnant and alone, she would nearly have to pay

the most terrible price of all – the loss of her children.'

Donna's co-author Amy Willesee is also a journalist and the co-author of *The Road to Mount Buggery and Love and Death in Kathmandu*. The book is available in paperback at a recommended retail price of \$33.

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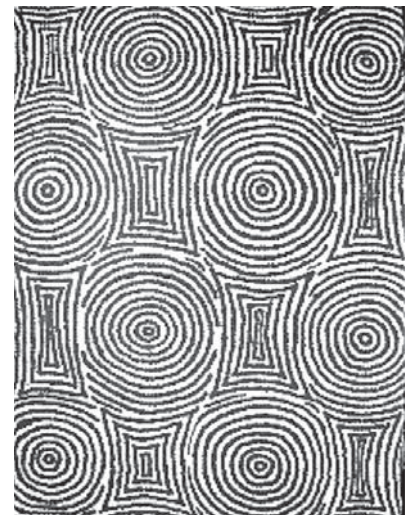
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Articles

Schools unite in variety review

This year in September heralds the fourth biannual performance of the Brunswick Valley Combined Public Schools Musical Extravaganza.

This performing arts extravaganza was commenced in 2000, under the baton of musical director and producer, local primary school teacher Lyndell Bussa, who felt strongly, because of the wealth of talent in this area, there was a need to develop, highlight and showcase the talents of our children in drama, vocal, instrumental and dance. In the past, schools in the Brunswick Valley and the surrounding areas took part in concerts held elsewhere.

The first concert held in



2000 at Mullumbimby High School was a great success, with 525 children involved and it has grown continuously over the past five years with this year involving 15 schools and around 800 children from Burringbar and Bogangar Pri-

mary schools in the north and to Coorabell and Wilsons Creek in the south.

The main feature of the two evenings is the Combined Mass Schools choir, totalling 600 children performing 15 songs, with individual schools complementing this choir, presenting distinctive items of dance, singing, instrumental or drama performances.

Soloists from the local primary schools and Mullumbimby High are given the opportunity to sing in front of a huge audience. For some children, this will be for the very first time.

There has been months of organisation and preparation, paperwork, song selecting and recording by Lyndell Bussa for this show and in the last two weeks of Term 1 and this first week of Term 2, auditions were held and 135 children from all the schools involved participated in this event, auditioning for only 40 parts each night to be performed over the two nights. The youngest child who auditioned was only seven years old and the oldest 14.

Mrs Bussa and her small team have worked very hard to select the chosen few for soloist roles and these will be announced at the first combined schools rehearsal this week on May 10 at Mullumbimby Public School and next week May 17 at Ocean Shores Public School.

Learn to write short stories

What kind of writer are you? Do you see, hear or feel an idea inside? When you have an idea, how do you begin to turn it into a short story? Writer and creativity coach Candida Baker, pictured, will answer these questions and more during a one-day workshop in Bangalow on Saturday May 27.

'Short stories remind me of beautiful gems,' says Candida. 'In their raw state they look just like stones, but once they are polished their true nature is revealed – and each story, like each gem, is unique.'

Candida draws from a deep well where writing is concerned. She has spent



many years as a journalist and magazine editor as well as being a published and prizewinning writer of novels and short stories.

Candida's award-winning collection of short stories, *The Powerful Owl*, has been

widely used in anthologies since its publication ten years ago. Film rights to her latest novel, *The Hidden*, have recently been sold.

Candida's workshop will examine the framework that great short stories are built around and encourage students to find and develop their individual writing voice. A Fine Balance – Short Story Writing will be held on Saturday May 27 at the Anglican Church Hall, Ashton Street, Bangalow, from 10am to 4pm. The cost of is \$45 for NRWC members and \$60 for non-members. For bookings and info, call NRWC on 6685 5115 or email susie@nrwc.org.au.

Restoring Lennox Point Headland

Ballina Shire Council and Environmental Training and Employment (EnviTE NSW) have almost completed six months of work restoring remnant vegetation on the headland at Lennox Point. Work has been undertaken by Ballina Shire Council workers, EnviTE professional bush regenerators, and EnviTE Work for the Dole teams over a six month period, and the works are coming to a close.

'Initial works which began late last year, included the eradication of Bitou Bush, Lantana and other weeds infesting the site,' said EnviTE supervisor Saul Hondow. 'Works continued on east of the remnant to the access path, where spraying took place before the site was slashed by Ballina Shire Council workers.'

Professional EnviTE bush regenerators then carried out hand weeding along the eastern edge of the remnant primarily controlling Corky



Passionfruit, which had the potential to invade the cleared areas. Fencing of the site was then undertaken by EnviTE Work for the Dole teams; this involved the digging postholes, putting the posts in and threading the wire between the posts.

'The team worked really hard undertaking this task, and the Council was very impressed with their completed work,' said Mr Hondow.

Juvenile Bitou Bush saplings which had reemerged before planting began were

sprayed. If not sprayed, they can restrict native species from reestablishing at the site. The EnviTE team planted 2,000 mixed native littoral species over an area of 3,500 square metres in order to buffer existing vegetation, as well as to expand habitat and improve ecological diversity. Ballina Shire Council supplied the materials, machinery and plants for the project.

Contact EnviTE on 6686 5540 if you are a non-profit organisation which requires assistance with your project.

Get some good advice for free

The Northern Rivers Community Foundation and Westlawn Finance, Insurance & Financial Planning will present a free seminar for professional advisers that aims to improve their client relationships and benefit the region. The presentation has been developed in response to a recent US survey that revealed overwhelming numbers of donors expressed the wish that their financial advisers would become more involved in their philanthropic giving by providing sound advice.

The Northern Rivers Community Foundation and principal sponsor Westlawn Finance, Insurance & Financial Planning are inviting accountants, financial planners, lawyers, investment and tax advisers to hear how the

Foundation can benefit their clients, by offering a cost effective and efficient way to put something back into the local community without the administrative burden of setting up a charitable trust.

The seminar will be held on Friday May 19, 10am-12.30pm (light lunch and refreshments provided) at the Ballina Beach Resort. RSVP essential (spaces are limited). Call Peter Wood on 6684 1552 or 0432 158 527 or email peter@nrcf.org.au.

David Gibbs, principal partner of Melbourne accounting firm McInnes, Graham & Gibbs, will present Giving Good Advice. David has served as a Director of the Resolute Investment Advisory Services and the Hancock Family Companies, and has been the Victorian State

Chairman of the Institute of Chartered Accountants.

Claire Brunner will join David as a guest speaker offering her insights into the benefits of charitable foundations and what they can achieve. Claire was the co-founder of r.u.MAD (Are You Making a difference), a program aimed at encouraging young people to become actively involved in making a difference in their own lives and those of others. Claire also co-facilitated the National Youth Roundtable in 2005.

NRCF Chair, Christopher Dean said, 'The Foundation views this free seminar, which has been made possible through the generous support of Westlawn, as a smart way to promote philanthropy.'



10pm Life's A Boat Frank & Ernest
12am Midnite in a Perfect World Hopalong

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 Honeydripper
10pm Eclectic Lazyland Charles
12am The Bandwagon Mia & Jay

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

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/Generation Youth 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

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

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 Freerigil & Troy
12am Rooves & Grooves Melissa

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

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

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Articles

How Koa survives in the bush

Alex McAuley

Being considered a 'mistake' by his father is one of several influences that helped to shape Koa Windsong's life. Because he was a 'mistake', Koa was sent to live with his Native American grandmother on her self sufficient farm in North America, where he was born. It was the start of his communion with nature that has led him to become an authority on survival in the Australian bush.

Koa's grandmother died when he was 12, so he returned to his parents and went to high school, earning a gymnastics scholarship at a college in California. It was there that the second major event to influence his life occurred: he was accidentally shot and as a result was paralysed from the waist down.

'I was told by the doctors in the hospital that I'd never walk again,' said Koa. 'My wife at the time introduced me to a physical therapist who had recently had his licence revoked for his "hippy ways" and the fact that he told people who were paralysed that he could help them to walk again without medical treatment. He told me that he would work with me free of charge if I would give



him a chance. Three months later, after a regime of isometric exercise and swimming, I was walking.'

Koa's association with Australia started when he married an Australian girl in the early 70s. He has been living in Australia for the last

12 years and has devoted most of that time to learning about survival in the Australian bush. He feels that Native Americans and Aboriginals share many strengths, including their connection with their environment.

'I think I have inherited an

instinct for understanding the natural environment from my grandmother,' said Koa. 'I taught myself about the Australian bush by reading archival observations of Aboriginal life written by the first settlers which recorded what the Aboriginal people ate, how they made shelters etc, and put it into practice.'

Koa has spent the last ten years literally immersing himself in the bush lifestyle. He estimates that he has spent 90% of that time alone in the bush, living with nature. Despite the loneliness, which he says is the biggest challenge, Koa says that his 'joy and happiness come from living in nature, watching a spider build a nest or seeing the sun rise'.

Koa has been living in the bush on the western side of the Daintree National Park, building shelters and planting bush tucker plants between watering holes. It is his dream to retire to this environment, and make his way from camp to camp, hopefully in the company of other like minded nature lovers, but first he has a goal to fulfil.

'I'd like to establish a non-profit organisation setting up schools to teach people natural living skills,' said Koa.

'There are lots of people who are passionate bush walkers, interested in nature and needing bush survival skills so they can continue to pursue their interests.'

Koa has never wanted money; the little he needs he has earned over the years from handicrafts he learned from his grandmother – mostly basket weaving and making musical instruments. A few years ago, Koa broke his hand in a car accident and wasn't able to continue with his craft, but as fortune would have it, local filmmaker Mark Jago asked him if he would be interested in making a DVD on bush survival. So he did.

This will be the first of a series of documentaries and is entitled 'Walking Softly in the Australian Bush with Koa'. He is launching the series at Ewingsdale Hall on Monday May 15 at 6.30pm. Entry costs \$8.

He will also be conducting a weaving workshop gathering and using local natural fibres on Sunday May 14, cost \$57. For workshop bookings, contact Rani on 6684 7000. All money raised will go towards the establishment of Koa's bush survival schools.

Photo Jeff 'Bushed' Dawson

Leaf collectors wanted

Friends of the Koala has cared for a record number of sick and injured animals over the last year, and right now numbers in the Koala Care Centre are climbing as the breeding season gets under way. At this time of year koalas are on the move looking for mates and this makes them most vulnerable to accidents.

Koalas in care need a daily supply of fresh leaves from the few species of tree they find palatable. Volunteers are needed to keep the leaf supply going – people with just a couple of hours a week to spare are needed to help out.

Leaf collectors are given training so they can identify the correct food sources, and can use Friends of the Koala's van and equipment to harvest the leaf. For more information phone the Koala Care Centre in Lismore on 6622 1233.



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J The A to Z of Collective Nouns

As Hayden Whealing (11) of Wilson's Creek would point out, J is not a good letter for collective nouns. However, up his way he would have a **JUDDER** of creek crossings, a **JAMBOREE** of King Parrots, a **JUNCTION** of three ways, a **JOLLY** of colourful characters and perhaps a **JABBER** of wockies. In Byron we might find a **JANGLE** of wind chimes and a **JIG** of Irish paddypackers, whilst at Spaghetti Circus we can enjoy the **JUGGLE** of tumblers and a **JITTER** of nervous mothers.



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Phone: 6680 9398 or 0418 453 057



jewellery for mum

Just for Mum, Mullumbimby Watchmakers & Jewellers is having a 15% off purchases store wide sale this week. Under new management this historic shop has an extensive range of new stock now available and you will only find real quality jewellery at great prices. Diamond engagement & dress rings, crystal, solid gold jewellery, sterling silver jewellery, opal, pearls, natural stones, watches, clocks, gifts and repairs are all here. Come on in and discover for yourself the best value little jewellery shop in the universe right here in Mullumbimby.

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creative_female@hotmail.com



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Volume 20 #50
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ALL YOUR COASTAL ENTERTAINMENT

seven

• SARITAH • SEVEN • LOCAL VOCALS • THE DIRTY THREE • LISA MOORE • YOGA FEST • TOMMEE •

Good Vibes at the Vista



Last Sunday saw the Byron Vista Social Club celebrate its first year of operation. A clarion call to singer songwriters of our region, the vision of founding member, Mook Bahloo and his partner Shanto, has been to bring artists together, creating a network of original talent.

According to Mook, 'it's been spiritually uplifting and inspiring for the musicians and people that go to the club. With our wider exposure we are hoping to bring a major lever to an artistic renaissance here, and to really get tourists here for the arts. We could lead the way. As Jack Thompson (the patron of the Vista Club) said: "this is the music of your community". It makes everyone sit up and take notice.'

'We bring people together, we get a lot of kudos for that. In unity there's strength. If we go out there with a lot more talented people we are more likely to make an impression.'

In a town full of music and performance, it's the sleepy location and the fact that audiences are invited to a live recording session, rather than a straightforward gig as such.

'It took off right away because audiences and performers both love it. Performers love performing their pristine music in a pristine environment. There's a lot of respect. Where people are really listening and allow people to soar to great heights. Sometimes people are nearly in tears.'

In just 12 months the Byron Vista Social Club has unearthed almost 60 artists. Every performance is recorded, and the sessions have found themselves on compilation CD's, two of which were launched last year at the Byron Community Centre by Jack Thompson. The recordings are now finding their way onto the airwaves via the Byron Vista one hour of power on Bay FM Wednesdays at 1pm, there is soon to be a third CD release, and a DVD is in the pipeline,

they are just awaiting finance for the post production.

It's an immense and organic project, one which seems to be gathering momentum by the week.

'We record around 33 songs of a night – and we play 12 on the radio. So we have a huge back log of songs...'

For those who might want to be part of the artistic renaissance that is the BVSC, it's not an open chalkboard, the sessions are pre-programmed and have been selected from live performance or CD application. So what are they looking for?

'We are looking for a certain accessibility in a songwriting style which we seem to be getting.'

Is there a Byron sound?

'Not as such. What makes Byron music is not a style or a sound. I have taken the CD to Melbourne and Sydney and the first thing they always comment on is the vibe and I'll go on about the voice or the recording quality or the lyrics and they are like, where do you get a vibe like that?'

You can catch Emerald, Rebecca Ireland, Marty Breen, Janie Conway, Nathan Petersen, Vista Crue and Gabi Bliss at Ewingsdale Hall on Sunday from 7.30pm. Tea, Coffee and Gourmet cakes available from Let Them Eat Cake.

That's the comment I get more than anything. So where do you get a vibe like that?'

'We have a pretty intense audience performer relationship. It's naked, the quiet listening audience is in the artist's face. Some die-hard performers can get quite nervous because they don't have all their usual props, like close up mikes, foldback and stuff, and after artists go back home and listen

to their performance and come back again and again... they get real good

at being themselves onstage...and getting their essence over to the audience.'

So how does a crew of Byron singer songwriters end up with Jack Thompson as a patron? Isn't he a Coffs Hinterland resident?'

'He just loves the CD's. He's probably Bob Dylan's greatest fan. he loves singer-songwriters with a passion.'

There has certainly been a re-emergence of singer-songwriters, the ballad has found itself a fresh new ear. The Byron Vista Social Club plans to spread its wings a little wider this year with a Bangalow SongFest at the A&I Hall on October 28 with workshops and concerts planned throughout the village. Submissions are open for participants and workshop facilitators. Contact Mook or Shanto on 66847037 or email mookshan@australis.net

In the meantime, dip your toe in the ocean of talent at the Byron Vista Social Club this week.

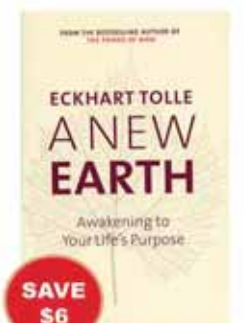
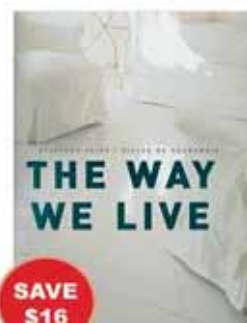
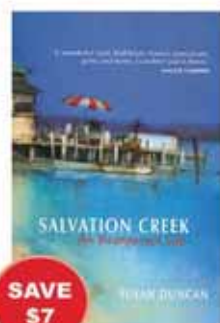
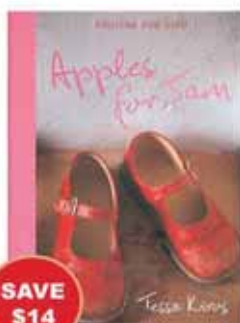
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THE SOAPBOX with Mandy Nolan

KILLER CROCS

THEY'RE EVERYWHERE. Every time I catch a glimpse of a foot these days it's covered in a large plastic resin repository. It's Croc season. And they are out to kill. These rubbery predators don't just take your life, no that would be far too simple. Instead, they attack the fashion sense, and within a period of weeks any chance of rehabilitation is hopeless. Twelve months down the track and you're likely to find the victim deeply embedded in a pair of polyester track pants pushing a cart in K-mart, or dancing in Uggies outside the local bottleshop. Those caught wearing Crocs suffer instant delusion. As soon as the shoe hits the foot all rational and analytical thinking stops. Independent studies have shown that Crocs affect the frontal lobe, which in time, will take on the same colour and consistency of the aforementioned footwear. Who needs reason, when you've got resin? Fashion impaired, Crocverts start to think they look good. And then they start to think they can team the Crocs with any outfit. This devilish infiltration by the evil footwear sees victims turning up in gorgeous designer frocks and giant orange flippers. Like smokers, the Crocs addict feels driven to justify the unattractiveness of the shoe with a mildly aggressive outburst: 'But they are so comfortable!' Yes, and so are flannelette pyjamas, but I wouldn't be wearing them out. My mother finds extreme comfort without her teeth and I'd prefer to grow a moustache than be waxed. Comfort doesn't always equate with a pleasant aesthetic. Sadly I've seen many of my once fashion conscious friends fall prey to the Crocs. Their tender little tootsies, cruelly malformed by the propaganda of the technicolour paddle. Middle aged adults suddenly donning the footwear of a toddler. It's obscene. They are Crocs of shit. Crocs are expensive, ugly and comfortable. As were Birkenstocks. (The rye bread of the shoe market). I wonder whether it's the comfort that sees them so market friendly or the simple fact that they seem to have become a fashion fad. I predict that in two years, the proliferation of the paddle will dwindle, and not because it is any less comfortable, but simply because it's no longer Crocs season. There is sure to be an even uglier, even more expensive comfy shoe ready to hit the market. Until then, my friends, it seems the Crocs won't be happy until there's a pair on every Byron prayer mat. For god's sake people, you look like giant ducks. The Crocs not just a shoe, it's a cry for help.

LIVE MUSIC

▶ PLAYING DIRTY
They're one of the best live acts you will get to see. **The Dirty Three** are drummer Jim White, violinist Warren Ellis and Mick Turner on guitar. Live, these guys are a cacophony of sound. A hypnotic energy harnessed only by the band's innate sense of how far to go and when to pull back. There really isn't a better band on the planet. If you caught them at the Island Quarry, about 7 years ago, you'll know what I am talking about. It's so good it's dirty. Dark, twisted, noisy and abrasive, this is music that really gets under your skin. The Dirty Three kick off their first national tour in three years at the **Hotel Great Northern on Thursday.**

▶ MOORE MUSIC
The New York Times described Australian born pianist **Lisa Moore** as 'lustrous at the keyboard'. Her colourful way with the keys sees her traverse everything from ragtime to rock music, Chilean folk songs to American spirituals, Aretha Franklin to Stanley Kubrick, and William Blake to contemporary politics. In this sensational show, cabaret meets music in a sonic showdown of tone and tongue. **Byron Community Centre Friday at 8pm.**

▶ GEORGE ON JAZZ
If you are feeling all strung out or your life is in the spin, then wash away those every day blues with **George Washingmachine**. From delicates to normal, George is sensitive to your cycle. He's a virtuoso violinist and doesn't play second fiddle to anyone. George Washingmachine is infamous and has spend the last few decades working the jazz traps of Sydney. He is a long time member of what he calls the 'Bonzer Vista Social Club', up there

with legendary lights such as Grahame Bell, Don Burrows, James Morrison, Bob Barnard, Ian Date, and Monica Trapaga. George can woo his audience with his fine fiddling and velvet vocals, taking them through Grappellie-esque workouts, to Dixieland romps right through to seductively smoochy vocal numbers. **George is a featured performer at the Bangalow Jazz Festival, June 9 – 12.**

▶ WINKEL WINKEL LITTLE STAR
Diverse, dynamic, hard-hitting, free-thinking. No it's not an episode of the Chaser, it's the **Ben Winkelman Trio**. A contemporary jazz piano outfit who draw on diverse influences ranging from Herbie Hancock to Jelly Roll Morton, Brazilian music, Afro-Cuban, gospel and Bartok. The trio's repertoire consists entirely of original compositions, some of which are modern reinterpretations of stride and early jazz; while others are based on Brazilian and Afro-Cuban rhythms incorporating elements of Argentinean tango and contemporary classical music. The result is a dynamic and exciting meeting between the traditional and the innovative, and a balance between the structure of arrangements and the freedom of improvisation. The trio's sound is diverse without being overly eclectic. The diversity of influences in the compositions is also reflected in the way the group improvises. These elements come together to form a sound that is unique in Australian jazz. **One of the treats in store at the Bangalow Jazz Fest!**

▶ SWEET SARITAH
Perth-based singer songwriter **Saritah** brings a potent blend of melody, message and groove to the **Rails this Wednesday evening.** Motivated by her belief that music is a tool through which positive change can be inspired, Saritah's songs combine conscious lyrics with music that incorporates many influences from around the



WEDNESDAY 10 MAY ▶ PLAY EARLY
Chill bar tunes 8pm to midnight with DJ RASMUS : FREE ENTRY

THURSDAY 11 MAY ▶ INTHEMIX IS SIX
DJs **HYPER & BASS KLEPH** > Pob
Pioneering UK breaks from Hyper, the Fabric favourite : \$15

FRIDAY 12 MAY ▶ PLAY DIRTY
DJs **NICK TAYLOR > SARAH TONIN > BASEK**
Twisted tech with sideways house for dirty grooves : \$5/\$10

SATURDAY 13 MAY ▶ IN-HOUSE
DJs **DAVE C > SCOOTA > CP MILES**
Dancefloor fillers from funky disco to electro house : \$5/\$10

COMING UP ▶
WEDNESDAY 17 MAY : **ROC RAIDA (Grandmaster DMC Champion)**

\$5 BASIC DRINKS 8PM TO MIDNIGHT. \$6 AFTER.

DANCEFLOOR • CHILLBAR • TROPICAL TERRACE 8PM-3AM

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



globe. Whether performing solo or with a band, Saritah's live shows are delivered with a sincere, raw energy and with such passion as to captivate the listener, young or old. This is one young woman who has the mojo to make the whole world her home.

▶ SPREADING SARS

Some music is so damn good, it gets into your blood. **SARS** is a celebration of the diverse musical passions of its members. Shenton Gregory on violin brings amazing, wild and beautiful improvisations; Andrew Veivers is one of Australia's most accomplished Spanish guitarists; versatile dancer and percussionist Simone Pope provides an innovative, cross-artform approach to the fusion within SARS, while renowned bassist Andrew Shaw blends intellectual precision with raw emotional musical outbursts. Audiences will be gripped by SARS' interpretation of the rich harmonies of Argentine tango, the wild improvisations of gypsy jazz, and the fire and grace of flamenco. Expect blistering string solos and perfectly compatible collaborative playing. Then just add a twist of flamenco dance and you have SARS!!! One other thing. They still haven't found a cure! **Bangalow Catholic Hall on Saturday at 8pm. Tickets are \$18/15 and are only at the door!**

▶ HAPPY KAYE

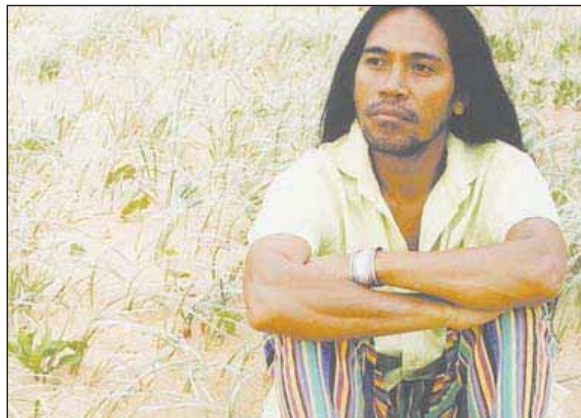
Byron's good vibed, slide didgin, human beat boxing song smith, the irrepressible **Nathan Kaye** sidles up to the mike this week at the **Lennox Point Hotel**. He's a multi-instrumentalist that will get your blood pumping and your feet thumping. He's an emotional boy, and has that knack of being able to engage an audience into musical conversation. **Sunday from 7pm.**

▶ RETURN TO SPLENDOUR

I can't believe it's that time of the year again! It seems that we are just awash with festivals, bringing the best music, art and culture on the planet to our seaside village. Who needs to travel,



SARITAH
Rails ~ Wednesday



TOMMEE AND THE NEIGHBOURHOOD
Currumbin Soundlounge - Friday



SEVEN
Hotel Great Northern - Friday

when it's all right there on an organic platter? Mark your diaries for **July 22 and 23** to experience acts like Sonic Youth, Brian Wilson, Grinspoon, Wolfmother, the Yeah Yeah Yeahs, Snow Patrol, You Am I, The Grates, The Avalanches and a whole host more. Last year the tickets sold out in a

ridiculous one hour, but this year they've extended the numbers, and so there should be a little more sugar for your tea. Still, if you want to get a spot, I would be pulling my finger out and getting online on Monday. **On your mark, get set, frigging GO!!!** www.splendourinthegrass.com

▶ SOUNDS LIKE SEVEN

Seven are a success story. Originating in Byron, it wasn't long before this heavy rock outfit decided to get serious and pack up their riffs, their lead breaks and their dreams for a shot at the big time in Melbourne. Since that time, they have firmly established themselves as one of the city's best live acts and a breath of fresh air in the genre of heavy rock. They fuse their dynamic cocktail of rock, metal and melody and feature the awesome vocal acrobatics of frontman Pete Hayes. Be prepared to experience fresh new music that bites. **They play the Hotel Great Northern on Friday**

▶ THE PEOPLE IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

The **Currumbin Soundlounge** fires up again after a few months hiatus. Tommee and the Soundlounge bring their warmth to the venue when they get the place dancing with their earthy happy tribal grooves. **Friday from 8pm.**

▶ HIROSHIMA RADIATES

Beat Magazine has called them 'off kilter pop that slowly creeps into your consciousness, leaving a pleasurable sticky residue once it's been asked to leave.' Gees, that journalist is obviously a one hand typist, I can only guess what the other hand must have been doing. But I think what they are trying to say, is that Sekiden is pretty damn good. I don't think that necessarily means that attending a gig is going to leave you standing in some sort of icky goo. Only a kind of pleasant metaphysical one. Anyway, it's certainly got me damn curious. **Bring some goo protection and enjoy this cool new Brizzy band at the Hotel Great Northern on Wednesday.**

▶ VOCAL LOCALS

Don't miss Vocal Locals this week at the **Beach Hotel**. If you have a song in you, or a little residue talent that keeps rising to the top, get down to the Beachie on **Wednesday evening from 7pm.**

Enjoy Dinner 'n' music Every Saturday starts 6.30pm

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Check out our wines of the month

THURSDAYS - The Mullum Berry Jam	
FRIDAY 12 THE SCORE	SATURDAY 13 GROOVY TUNES
FRIDAY 19 ROLL LIKE THAT	SATURDAY 20 PLATEAU

BIG FIGHT NIGHT!
MUNDINE VS GREEN
WEDNESDAY MAY 17 @ 5PM

\$4.95 ROAST LUNCHES 7 DAYS

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SPECIAL ALL WEEK PURE BLONDE **\$3.50**

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music from 9pm till midnight every weekend

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Thursday Piano Bar Night
with Ross Nobel

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MOVIE REVIEWS

FAVOURITE MOVIE QUOTATIONS

Wrong, sir. Wrong. Under section 37B of the contract signed by him, it states quite clearly that all offers shall become null and void if – and you can read it for yourself in this photostatic copy – “I, the undersigned, shall forfeit all rights, privileges, and licenses herein and herein contained,” et cetera, et cetera... “Fax mentis incendium gloria cultum,” et cetera, et cetera... “Memo bis punitor delicatum”! It’s all there, black and white, clear as crystal! You stole fizzy lifting drinks. You bumped into the ceiling which now has to be washed and sterilized, so you get nothing! You lose! Good day sir!

WILLY WONKA AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY



TSOTSI

Tsotsi is a film of deep emotional power. It tells the story of a young killer whose cold eyes show no emotion, who kills unthinkingly, but who is transformed by the helplessness of a baby. The movie, which just won the Oscar for best foreign film, is set in Soweto. There is poverty and despair here, but also hope and opportunity. How the story develops has to remain a surprise for the viewer but we can say that it leads toward hope instead of despair.

Ross Goode



PROOF

According to Hollywood, all great artists and scholars are unhinged. So it is here, with the cracked genius being mathematician Anthony Hopkins. Daughter Gwyneth Paltrow suspects that she has inherited his affliction. She also claims that his posthumous, groundbreaking paper was, in fact, written by her. But she can't prove it. The transferral to the screen of David Auburn's play has not been entirely seamless, for there are wordy, static moments and clumsy time shifts but, as a story reliant on what the actors make of it, it gets there in the end. Paltrow tends initially to the histrionic and fragile but, rather than seek pity, she does not shy away from portraying her character's rude and moping side, with the relationship between her and her less gifted but domineering sister, Hope Davis, providing the backbone of the film. Hopkins is not required to do more than what is for him a bread and butter job and Jake Gyllenhaal is perfectly geeky as as the student whose obsession with the math is eclipsed by his feelings for Gwyneth. Dense, but with a decent problem to be solved and an honest look at how love works, or doesn't. **John Campbell**



M:I:3

Tom Cruise – boy, can that little bloke run! He has also got intensity down to a T and, like the Eveready rabbit, he never stops with it. Mind you, you'd be intense too if you had an explosive device planted in your brain and only four minutes to save yours and wife's life before it is detonated. The plot is Byzantine but of secondary importance and there are probably a couple of dozen more windows and cars smashed up than is absolutely necessary, but then again, the producers are catering to the playstation crowd that needs the superimposition of 'Berlin' to be followed by 'Germany'. And, brilliant as the sfx are, the location sequences are what impress most. From a wonderfully conceived and executed raid on a function at the Vatican (Italy), with Tom scaling the Renaissance wall and, after a quick change, entering the palace in priestly cassock, to some breathtaking nocturnal shots of Shanghai (China), this is glossy travelogue at its most intoxicating. As a state of the art blockbuster, the movie is fast and furious and fiendishly tricky. I enjoyed it immensely and had almost entirely forgotten about it by the time I got home. **John Campbell.**

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

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TUESDAYS ALL TIX \$7.50

candy (MA15+)
HEATH LEDGER, ABBIE CORNISH, GEOFFREY RUSH
NO FREE LIST
Tickets \$20 on sale now for Gala Premiere of CANDY, Wed May 24th. Introduced by Luke Davies, Writer, and Neil Armfield, Director. Drinks from 5.45pm Film starts 6.45pm.

MATCH POINT (M)
Scarlett Johansson, Jonathan Rhys Meyers
'Woody Allen at his scintillating best.' Who Weekly
'Intensely compelling.' The Movie Show
MON-FRI 2.45pm, 5.25pm, SAT&SUN 2.45pm, 7.15pm
NO FREE LIST

TWO FOR THE MONEY (M)
A DRAMA OF HIGH STAKES. AL PACINO, MATTHEW McCONAUGHEY, RENE RUSSO
'Big, loud, glossy and entertaining.' San Francisco Chronicle
MON-FRI 1pm, 3.10pm, 9.30pm, SAT&SUN 1pm, 3.10pm, 7.20pm

SCARY MOVIE 4 (M)
BE VERY, VERY AFRAID – THE FOURTH AND FINAL CHAPTER OF THE TRILOGY
DAILY 10.55am, 9.30pm

{proof} (M)
The biggest risk in life is not taking one. 'Dazzling performances...' Empire
Gwyneth Paltrow, Jake Gyllenhaal, Anthony Hopkins
MON-FRI 11.10am, 3.20pm, 7.40pm, SAT&SUN 11.10am, 3.20pm, 5.25pm

EIGHT BELOW (PG)
Inspired by a true story... 'terrific story... the dogs are fabulous!' Margaret Pomeranz, At the movies
MON-FRI 9.30am, 11.40am, 7.20pm, SAT & SUN 9.30am, 11.40am, 9.30pm

MARCH OF THE PENGUINS (G)
In the harshest place on earth love finds a way
'... totally unforgettable.' Leigh Paatsch, Herald Sun
DAILY 9.30am, 1.50pm

THE WORLD'S FASTEST Indian (PG)
'Fun for adults and belly laughs for the little people' Empire
DAILY 9.30am

THE WORLD'S FASTEST Indian (PG)
'Really awesome.' Chris Murray, Sunrise
'Exhilarating!' Row Lusing, Sun Herald
DAILY 5.10pm

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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\$6.90 Tickets All movies on TUESDAYS!

You can see any movie marked with a star ★ for only \$7.90
Movie Info: www.loungecinema.com

Wed 10 May	4.30 I Know I Am Not Alone ★	6.30 Inside Man ★	9.00 Capote ★
Thurs 11 May	4.15 Capote ★	6.30 V For Vendetta ★	9.00 Inside Man ★
Fri 12 May	4.30 I Know I Am Not Alone ★	6.30 V For Vendetta ★	9.00 Tsotsi ★
Sat 13 May	2.15 Tsotsi ★	4.15 Capote ★	6.30 Inside Man ★
Sun 14 May	2.00 V For Vendetta ★	4.30 Tsotsi ★	6.30 V For Vendetta ★
Mon 15 May	4.15 Capote ★	6.30 Inside Man ★	9.00 V For Vendetta ★
Tues 16 May	5.00 Tsotsi	7.00 I Know I Am Not Alone	9.00 Inside Man
Wed 17 May	4.30 Inside Man ★	7.00 Tsotsi ★	9.00 V For Vendetta ★

For Movie Hotline Call 6685 5828

FEDERAL Films

'The Year of Living Dangerously'
Sat. May 13
7pm for delicious Indonesian food
8pm for the movie

1982 Australian film of love and drama set in Indonesia in 1965 just prior to the fall of Sukarno.

6684 9313 for details

FULLY AIR-CONDITIONED EVERY WEDNESDAY ALL SEATS ALL SESSIONS \$8.00 ONLY

BALLINA FAIR CINEMAS

THURS 11TH TO WED 17TH

EVERY WEDNESDAY ALL SEATS ALL SESSIONS \$8.00 ONLY

TOM CRUISE M:I:3 (M) THU 11 TO WED 17 ★ 2.30PM ★ 4.45PM ★ 7.00PM ★ 9.10PM	ANTHONY HOPKINS THE WORLD'S FASTEST Indian (PG) THU 11 TO WED 17 ★ 10.00AM ★ 5.20PM	failure to launch (M) THU 11 TO WED 17 ★ 9.45AM ★ 1.25PM ★ 7.35PM
DENZEL WASHINGTON INSIDEMAN (MA) THU 11 TO WED 17 ★ 2.30PM ★ 9.20PM ONE WEEK ONLY	PHILIP SEYMOUR-HOFFMAN capote (M) THU 11 TO WED 17 ★ 11.25AM	EIGHT BELOW (PG) THU 11 TO WED 17 ★ 3.10PM ALL TICKETS \$8 FINAL 7 DAYS

STARTS NEXT THURS * DA VINCI CODE * SHE'S THE MAN *



DANCIN' NIGHTS

with denzil

This Thursday sees champions of the breakbeat sound – DJ Hyper and Bass Kleph come from opposite ends of the globe to combine their sounds under the roof of Play as part of the 'inthemix is six' national tour. I summomed my super sonic hearing to get the low down on these rhythm addicts while they did a club sound check...

Rising from the ebb and flow of the international breaks scene is the UK's Guy Hatfield, a.k.a DJ Hyper. An artist who has established himself as a key player in the emergence of premium breakbeat through seminal releases such as the Y3K series I and II. Guy's plan to take breaks into the realms of forward thinking electronic music has seen him divide his energy between the creation of a band 'Hyper' with Leeroy of 'Prodigy' fame, the running of his label Kilowatt as well as producing and DJing.

With such a strong background in DJing what was your impetus to form a live band? While recording my album I had guest vocalists and musicians and we just sort of realised that we worked well together. It was a really organic process but we wanted to make sure we did it right. Ultimately the band is a labour of love with money very much secondary to

passion. The sound is defined by more than just breaks; it takes in punk attitude and energy, lots of electro tints and more than a nod to the 80s sound.

Describe your creative process for writing. I build tracks from



the ground up. I go in to the studio with ideas and samples and push them as far as they need to go until I can ascertain

whether they work or not. Then I focus on those that do.

From the perspective of a record label owner and artist what are your views on digital music downloading? I think it's the future of music if I'm honest and realistic about it. I really think it needs to be regulated though. I think it's great that places without access to good record shops (who would usually have to pay through the nose for vinyl) now have the option of buying music online, and it getting out there is a good thing. I have a problem with people bootlegging the tracks and making them available for free though. People who make this music struggle hard enough to make ends meet without more people taking money out of their pockets this way too! If you've ever climbed the proverbial bell tower and cried "Where's the party at!" a better idea might've been to ask Stu Tyson a.k.a Bass Kleph, he practically lives on or near a dance floor. 17 out of Stu's 25 years on this planet have seen him involved in music; drumming his way through various bands on the live circuit, a deal with a major record label and playing resident at some of the countries hottest clubs.

Describe your music. In two words: break beat or breaks. It's kind of a blur between hip hop, house and drum 'n' bass, then flavoured with musical influences from almost any other style of music. There's

not many rules, so we get along well.

Why Bass Kleph as a name? It's the medical term for leaving a watch inside a patient... and also a musical symbol to define all instruments in the lower frequency region.

How do you combat writer's block? In my case, turn off your computer and don't touch it. Go back to basics. Write some lyrics on paper, and come up with some parts on guitar or keyboard. Do this for about a week. It really comes down to change. If you want to write new music, you can't do everything the same way every time.

Check DJ Hyper and Bass Kleph plus DJ Pob at PLAY this Thursday.

ROUNDUP

- This **Thursday** scope some Hip Hop Party Breaks bumped out by **DJ's Kristin & Quality Control at Coco's.**
- Get off your trolley (responsibly) to the sounds of the **Trolley Boys & Willjay this Friday at La La Land.**
- On **Saturday** be dazzled by **Crazy Circus Cabaret** followed by the liquid flavas of **DJ Dave Gravy at the Buddha Bar**

denzil@echo.net.au

HEAT 1: SAT MAY 20TH . HEAT 2: SAT MAY 27TH . FINALS: SAT JUNE 3RD

POCKET ROCKET 2006

BYRON BAY'S BATTLE OF THE BANDS AT THE YOUTH ACTIVITIES CENTRE

ENTRY FORMS AVAILABLE AT BYRON MUSIC, FRACAS, SAE, THE SOUND LOUNGE & THE YAC.

ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED AT THE YOUTH ACTIVITIES CENTRE BY **FRIDAY 12TH MAY**. THE AVERAGE AGE OF BAND MEMBERS MUST BE 25 OR UNDER. ALL STYLES OF MUSIC WELCOME.

PRIZES INCLUDE :

- THE CHANCE TO PLAY AT SPLENDOUR IN THE GRASS
- STUDIO TIME AT SAE
- STUDIO TIME AT FRACAS
- \$500 CASH FROM THE BEACH HOTEL
- A PAID SUPPORT GIG AT THE GREAT NORTHERN HOTEL
- REHEARSAL TIME AT SOUND LOUNGE
- A \$200 VOUCHER FROM BYRON MUSIC
- 20 T-SHIRTS WITH YOUR BANDS ARTWORK FROM PMD SCREENPRINTS
- ON-LINE DISTRIBUTION & PROMOTION FROM SOUND FOUNDATION



CULTUREEVENTS

▶ FILM IT'S UNREAL!

The inaugural **Byron Youth Service Reel Fest**, The Northern Rivers Youth Short Film Festival, is set to roll this **Thursday at the Byron Bay Community Centre**. The evening commences at 6.30pm with live entertainment and the films will start rolling at 7pm. There are great prizes up for grabs with \$1000 cash first prize, a scholarship to the prestigious SAE college valued at \$3500 and a work contract valued at \$2000. The objective of Reel Fest is to stimulate the creation of short films by young people, with the festival slogan 'film is the voice of our generation.' Says Mark, 'Short filmmaking is a collaborative process that brings people together and requires a balance of creativity, co-operation and organisation to get the film made. Reel Fest is going to be a fantastic evening, with some great entertainment and there are going to be some very happy young filmmakers at the end of the night.' Tickets to Reel Fest are available for only \$5 from 5pm at the Community Centre on the night. Doors open at 6.30pm.

▶ LIVING DANGEROUSLY

Reel Films presents **The Year of Living Dangerously at the Federal Hall this Saturday**. This Peter Weir film stars a very young and spunky Mel Gibson, before he came over all fundamentalist Catholic on us. This is a flawless film, set in Indonesia about the relationship between an ambitious but naive journalist and a diminutive cameraman. Plus delicious Indonesian food. Bring your own booze and a cushion to put your tush on. Doors at 7pm, movie at 8pm.

▶ FIESTA MULLUM HOSTS THE PINNACLE OF TERROR!

You thought you'd seen it all, but never before seen in Mullumbimby we are talking about the **Pinnacle of Terror**. Offering 2 activities, one being **The Leap of Faith** where participants leap from a small platform 9 metres from the ground to a trapeze bar 2 metres in front. They hang upside down before releasing their grip and being lowered on the mat below. The Pinnacle of Terror is this year's 'unique' attraction of the Brunswick Valley Fiesta. Other events this year will be a children's **Pet Parade**, The Search for **Brunswick Valley's Brainiest Kid**, Demonstrations by many of our community services, Computerised Age/Health Assessments, Life Education's Healthy Harold as well as live entertainment including bag pipes, hip hop, contemporary and a Fashion Parade and Puppet Show. There will be a Jumping Castle, Whizz Kids Bikes, Face Painting and Plaster Painting. If you're hungry there will be a selection of international food dishes and if you're looking for a bargain we have a live Auction and an all day garage sale. **The Brunswick Valley Fiesta is on Sunday in the picturesque grounds of the Mullumbimby Adventist School grounds and runs from 9am to 3pm. There will be free giveaways all day. Registrations for the Pet Parade are at 9am, Parade at 9.30.**

▶ COMEDY – FUNNY GIRLS

Just being a girl is enough to make you have a giggle. It's ridiculous. Being a stand up comedian can be a challenging occupation, and one that is very under represented by women. In fact, there are very few women working on the circuit. This is ironic. Women speak something like 5 times more words a day than men, at least

some of those should be funny! Standing up on stage and being funny is about breaking the mould of what it means to be a girl. It's liberating to make fun of your beliefs, about how you think you should look, or think or feel. Women bring a whole new fresh perspective to comedy. Funny Girls brings Raw Comedy 2002 winner Fiona McGary head to head with Renee Searles, Ellen Briggs, Sikim Wan and Kimberly Davenport. Of course I'll be there as MC and general comic relief! **Monday 22 May at the Byron Bowling Club. Tix are \$15/20 and can be booked on 6685 4045.**

▶ LEARNING TO LAUGH

You can learn how to be a stand up comedian, and who knows where it may lead! Just last year Hannah Gadsby did the Ace Stand Up Comedy Course with me and only a few nights ago she took out the trophy for Raw Comedy, the Melbourne International Comedy Festival search for emerging talent. Hannah now finds herself on a plane heading to Edinburgh. Just 6 months ago she was learning how to craft a punchline. Now she's got an international career! Way to Go Girl! That could be you! **The Stand Up Comedy Ace course starts this Wednesday. You can enrol by ringing ACE on 6684 3374**

▶ ABORIGINAL PHOTO EXHIBIT

A documentary exhibition of photographs by **Elaine Pelot-Syron will be held at Southern Cross University Art Gallery** (nextart).

'In Focus' is an installation of selected documentary photographs taken by Elaine Pelot-Syron. Elaine has documented Aboriginal rallies, marches and gatherings for the last 25 years. Her commitment to documenting this history was motivated by what she saw as a governmental and media whiteout in the early 1970's to Aboriginal rallies and marches organised to give voice to issues such as land rights and

Aboriginal deaths in custody. **Opening is Tuesday May 9 at 6pm.**

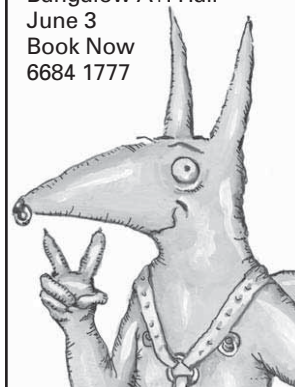
▶ YOGA MEET MR STRETCH

It's time to shake those chakras out with a dynamic double dipping of Yoga this weekend. **Yogafest** is a **Buttery fundraiser** and includes an inspiring music concert, exotic food, raffles and prizes and of course non-stop yoga classes. Building on the 2005 YogaFest which impressively raised several thousand dollars for the Buttery, the weekend will include classes from John Ogilvie (including a special workshop for those contemplating becoming a yoga teacher), Liz Costigan (108 Sun Salutes), Lisa Finkenauer (the ever popular Yagalates) and Maggie Robertson (yoga for the 40 plus) – to name just a few! The Concert Event on the evening of Saturday will include renowned musicians Peter Davidian and David Fernandez offering Full Moon Bliss a Sitar and Tabla recital. **A prelude to the concert will be a fascinating advanced yoga demonstration by Simon Borg-Olivier. www.byronbayyogafest.org.au or by calling YogaFest Coordinator Peter Wood on 6687 1623.**

COMING UP...

THE JASON AWARDS

Bangalow A+1 Hall
June 3
Book Now
6684 1777



Hotel Great Northern Premier Entertainment Venue

- | | |
|---------|---|
| Mon 08 | AUSTRALIAN POKER LEAGUE
6.00PM |
| Wed 10 | THE GRATES + PANDA BAND
8.30PM |
| Thur 11 | THE EXPLODERS + SILENCE
9.00PM |
| Fri 12 | MARSHALL
9.00PM |
| Sat 13 | NATHAN KAYE + THE DREAMSEEDS
9.00PM
+ FA CUP FINAL
11.30PM |
| Sun 14 | SEKIDEN + ZOOBOMBS + THE WHATS
8.00PM |

COMING SOON

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| SEVEN..... | FRI 19 MAY |
| GERLING..... | THURS 25 MAY |
| THE PRESETS + DIGITALISM | SAT 10 JUNE |
| THE DIRTY THREE | THURS 15 JUNE |
| BUTTERFINGERS | FRI 23 JUNE |
| THE BUTTERFLY EFFECT | WED 19 JULY |

Hotel Great Northern
6685 6454

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Try our delicious woodfired pizzas

Sunday 14th May

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Simple Abundance

SPECIALISTS IN FINE COUNTRY STYLE

18b Burringbar St, Mullumbimby 6684 3193
Open Mon-Fri 9.30am-5pm
Sat 9.30am-1pm

NEW

'Liberty' by Robert Gordon \$22.95

Commercial Hotel

Enjoy Mothers Day at the Middle Pub in Mullumbimby next Sunday. Start her day from 8am with croissants and coffee or book for Mothers Day lunch from 11.30 with choice of Roast Lamb or Chicken for just \$10. A blackboard menu is also available and a complimentary glass of champagne for all mums on arrival. Bookings on 6684 3229.

Gaia Retreat and Spa

Nestled amongst green valleys and undulating hills in the subtropical hinterland near Bangalow, just minutes from Byron Bay, Gaia Retreat and Spa is the ideal place to renew, refresh and restore your mind, body and soul. Gaia is all about choice – you have the freedom to choose your own experience, whether it is total relaxation, time to refocus or simply rebalance your wellbeing. Make this your Mothers Day destination and treat – it is all you deserve.

The Freckled Lounge

Our mothers are often the most influential women in our lives. What better way to acknowledge their contribution to our lives than to give them the rich and meaningful gift of art. Drop into The Freckled Lounge on Fletcher Street, Byron Bay or phone 6680 8444.

This year's best Mothers Day gifts...

- A genuine French market basket hand-made in Morocco using traditional methods to create a simple, stylish and multi-functional basket that your mum will never want to be without!
 - An oversized soup mug and saucer new from Robert Gordon.
 - Jewellery from local designer Caroline Gollan.
 - Crabtree & Evelyn rosewater hand therapy.
 - A beautiful scented heat pack to beat the winter chill.
 - An exquisite cane and linen parasol.
- All available from Simple Abundance 'the experts in Mothers Day gifts'.

SPECIAL EXCLUSIVE MOTHERS DAY LUNCH and or PAMPER TREATS

as you surrender to the breathtaking views of the Bangalow hinterland.

Mothers Day Lunch- enjoy a wining and dining experience with a 2 course lunch and a complimentary glass of champagne \$75 per person

Pamper and Indulge at the Amala Day Spa... the Pure Heart of Gaia

Give mum a gracious gift voucher so she can relax and unwind in lush tranquil gardens with full use of outdoor Spa, Sauna and Heated Swimming Pool.

Visit www.gaiaretreat.com.au for extensive spa menu. Packages over \$150 will receive a further 20% discount just for Mum ...

Go on spoil her... she deserves it...

Bookings and enquires – Phone: 02 6687 1216

Red Ginger

Byron's most beautiful store is a great place to shop this Mothers Day. Enchant mum with a fabulous teapot or a teawarmer basket, or maybe an old-style Chinese thermos flask, or perhaps some gourmet goodies from our huge range. There are fine teas, knicknacks, homewares and yummy yum cha, and of course the cosy streetfront alcove to simply sit, sip and enjoy!

Why Not?

There are at least four good reasons why you should take your mother to this popular local spot in Byron Bay on Mothers Day, and not least the delicious champagne cocktail upon arrival! For lunch there is a fantastic \$18 special for two courses and for dinner four courses for only \$45. If all she feels like is a plate of oysters and a glass of champagne the special price is \$20. Come and experience the comfortable, friendly atmosphere of Why Not on this special day – is there any reason why not?

THE Middle Pub Est. 1904
The heart of the Hills for 100 years

MOTHERS DAY LUNCH

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

- 8-11.30am Croissant & coffee \$3.50
- From 11.30am \$10 Roast lunch: lamb or chicken
- Coffee and cake \$4.50
- Blackboard menu

All mothers receive a complimentary glass of champagne on arrival

SKY - FOX - TAB - ATM - EFTPOS 46 Burringbar St, Mullumbimby. Ph: (02) 6684 3229

IF GAMBLING IS A PROBLEM FOR YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW CALL THE G-LINE TOLL FREE 1800 633 635

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Celebrate Mothers Day...

Free champagne cocktail for all mothers at booked tables:

- 2 course lunch \$18**
- 4 course dinner \$45**
- 1 dozen oysters & champagne \$20**

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The COASTAL CONNECTION



Don Page MP
Member for Ballina
 Electorate Office:
 Suite 1,
 7 Moon Street,
 Ballina
don.page@parliament.nsw.gov.au



May 2006

Ballina Electorate health services update

Health services in the Ballina Electorate are set to expand in the future.

The North Coast Area Health Service recently opened Expressions of Interest to acquire land for the new \$40 million 54-bed Byron Shire Central Hospital. The NCAHS is seeking interest from landowners willing to sell a suitable site on a minimum of six hectares.

The new hospital will include an accident and emergency department, an outreach rehabilitation unit, maternity services and private and public same day surgery arrangements.

Planning for this project has been underway since 2003 and I'm pleased that at long last the NSW Government has allocated funding to acquire the Byron Shire Central Hospital site.

Following the acquisition of a suitable site the project will move into the construction design phase and undergo a procurement study.

The Byron Shire Central Hospital is part of the 'one coastal hospital on two campuses' concept and will complement the planned expansion of services at Ballina Hospital.

Meanwhile, at Ballina work has commenced on the new \$4.8 million 18-bed transitory care unit at Ballina District Hospital.

This is jointly funded by the State and Federal Governments. At this stage it is expected the work will be completed by August this year.



The transitory care unit will provide home-like units that cater generally for people aged 60 to 70 years old who have had an acute care episode but can avoid moving to a nursing home through transitory care prior to returning home.

Initial planning for the \$7.4 million 24-bed rehabilitation unit also in Ballina is complete. I understand the North Coast Area Health Service is awaiting approval to progress this project.

The transitory care and rehab beds will satisfy an increasing need in the area, with Ballina's 65-plus aged population forecast to increase significantly in the future.

These important additions to health services on the North Coast will significantly enhance the health care facilities available to North Coast residents.



Inside our Ballina Electorate:

- Roads
- Woman of the Year
- Land Tax
- Pre-schools
- Lot 107
- Water
- Policing
- Electricity
- Happy 100th
- State Govt Grants
- Justice of the Peace
- New Boundaries



The

COASTAL CONNECTION



"The central point is that if we sustainability values I mentioned...
Extract from the Occasional Address delivered..."

Policing on the North Coast

Police numbers on the North Coast is an ongoing issue of great concern and one that must be immediately addressed.

I recently attended a meeting in Ocean Shores with community members and the newly appointed Tweed/Byron Local Area Commander Superintendent Michael Kenny to discuss policing in the coastal town.

Ocean Shores is a large community of about 6000 people but local residents are complaining about a lack of police presence. Residents have to rely on nearby Brunswick Heads Police Station that has five officers.

A number of residents have contacted my office expressing concern about the level of crime in Ocean Shores, namely vandalism, and car and alcohol related incidents.

I understand the Tweed/Byron Local Area Command is to receive nine additional officers this month for allocation throughout the Command at the discretion of the Area Commander. It is anticipated roughly half of these additional officers will be positioned in the southern area of the Command and the other half will be in the northern area.

I have written to the NSW Police Minister conveying the sentiments of Ocean Shores residents.

Police numbers at the Ballina Station is also an issue I have raised with the NSW Police Minister. In 1988, 18 years ago, successful community lobbying resulted in the Ballina police station becoming a 24-hour station. At that time the station was allocated 26 officers.

In the past 18 years the strength of general duties officers at Ballina has increased by only one, yet the population of the area serviced by Ballina police has increased by some 15,000 people. In reality Ballina needs about 36 officers.

I have called on the Minister to reassess the authorised strength of the Ballina police station with a view to allocating another nine officers to that station. Moreover, the strength of the Ballina highway patrol has not been increased in the past 15 years. Traffic on the Pacific Highway, which passes through Ballina, has increased and consists of B-doubles and other heavy vehicles.

There is serious concern among road users that heavy transport and local traffic on inferior roads is not a good mix.

Adequate policing is vital to an ordered and safe community as are crime prevention measures.



Pre-schools funding

I recently attended a rally in Brunswick Heads to protest the state of pre-schools in NSW and on the North Coast. Pre-schools are an integral part of the educational process yet in NSW we have the lowest participation rate of all the States, with only 60 per cent of children attending pre-schools. NSW also has the highest fees which is causing financial stress for many NSW parents with children of pre-school age.

The Liberal/Nationals Coalition's pre-schools policy will invest an additional \$362 million in NSW pre-schools over four years.

The funding boost will reduce fees for parents, increase participation for children and improve the quality of NSW pre-schools.

The policy provides that of the \$362 million, \$217 million will be allocated to those pre-schools currently funded through the Department of Community Services. This will be in addition to existing funding.

A further \$115 million will be spent to enable more four year olds to attend pre-school at least two days a week.

The final \$30 million will be used for capital upgrades to improve the quality of pre-school facilities across the State.

This policy would also transfer the administration of pre-schools from the Department of Community Services to the Department of Education and Training to ensure better long term funding. This move will not jeopardise pre-schools' autonomy or the 'feel' of our 800 community based pre-schools.



Roads... across

Ballina Bypass

- Tenders for pre-construction work have been called. Pre-construction work would include planning, land acquisitions and the construction of embankments over the soft floodplain soils in areas along the bypass route. Significant settlement is expected in some areas and trial embankments have been constructed.
- In December 2005 the Federal and State Governments announced the Ballina Bypass was fully funded and construction would start as soon as possible
- The Federal Government committed to funding half of the cost in 2004 but the State Government refused to match it
- Ministerial approval for the selected route was given in May 2003
- Route selection occurred in the late 1990s with the Environmental Impact Statement put on public display in 1998
- Length: 12.4km
- Cost: \$271 million (2005 figure)

Alstonville Bypass

- Detailed design work, property acquisition and other pre-construction activities have been completed
- The Liberal/Nationals Coalition's policy is to fast track the construction of the Alstonville Bypass
- In October 2005 the NSW Labor Government announced the construction of the bypass would be delayed until 2010
- Former Premier Bob Carr visited Alstonville on 18th March, 2003 and gave a written commitment that construction would begin late in 2003 and the project would be completed by the end of 2006
- Project approved in February 2003
- The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was placed on public display in 1998
- In 1996 the formal route selection and environmental assessment commenced
- Length: 6.6km
- Cost: \$60 million (2005 figure)



Meet Kaye Hall

I recently had the pleasure of announcing Kaye Hall, of Bangalow, as this year's Ballina Electorate Woman of the Year.

Kaye received the award due to her never-ending dedication to the Bangalow community despite her battle with serious health issues.

Kaye has devoted countless hours to the Bangalow Chamber of Commerce, Bangalow Lions Club, the Heritage House 355 Committee of Management and the Bangalow Fire Brigade.

She is also the primary organiser of the Bangalow Christmas Eve Carnival, the inaugural Byron Shire Relay for Life held recently in Bangalow and the Bangalow Billy Cart Derby.

Kaye is also involved with the Bangalow Soccer Club committee, is a former president of the Bangalow Cricket Club and relentlessly promotes Bangalow and its community through her work as a journalist for Bangalow's Heartbeat, The Byron Shire Echo and The Northern Star.

Kaye is an inspiration and is overwhelmingly deserving of being named the Ballina Electorate Woman of the Year.



Grants

Ballina Shire programs. Under the Es Council has The plan will Crown Land) Ballina Shire Management detailed des facilities arou Under the M has received Canal Boat R The Council at Emigrant boat ramp up In all instanc

can move away from the high-mass consumption model, focus more on renewable energy and put a premium on the new
 earlier, we will not only address key issues like global warming, we are likely as individuals to be happier.”
 by Don Page MP at the Southern Cross University Graduation Ceremony on Saturday 29th April. The full speech is available on the website, www.donpage.com.au

...and you can quote me on that!

s the North Coast



Woodburn to Ballina

- The preferred route for the Woodburn to Ballina section of the upgrade of the Pacific Highway was announced in November 2005.
- It is a modified version of advertised route 1C, 2C, 2E & 3B
- Public submissions on the preferred route closed on 31st January this year
- Length: 36km
- Cost: Estimates between \$589 million and \$646 million (2005 figure)

Tintenbar to Ewingsdale

- Expected announcement of preferred route by the end of June 2006
- Route options were announced in October 2005
- Public submissions closed 2nd December 2005
- The study area was expanded in April 2005 to include additional areas to the east
- Original study area announced in November 2004
- Length: 17km

Brunswick Heads to Yelgun

- Construction underway
- Scheduled for completion by February 2007
- In February 2005, Abigroup was awarded the contract to construct the road project
- Following community consultation the route was modified and planning approval for the modified route was given in December 2003
- Original planning approval given in August 1999
- Length: 8.7km

t funding for Ballina Shire Council

e Council has been successful in receiving funding under State Government

stuary Management Program managed by the Department of Natural Resources, the received \$15,000 for the preparation of a Richmond Riverside Plan of Management. provide an overall Plan of Management for the Council's public reserves (including along the Richmond riverside between Burns Point Ferry and North Creek, Ballina.

Council was also awarded \$20,000 for the further development of the Lake Ainsworth Plan and more recently, the Lake Ainsworth Masterplan. The grant will allow the gn of infrastructure improvements such as stormwater, roads, paths and recreation and Lake Ainsworth, but external to the caravan park.

aritime Infrastructure Program managed by the NSW Maritime Authority, the council a \$35,000 grant towards the improvement of boating access at the Fishery Creek Ramp. This will include modification and addition to pontoons.

has also been granted \$95,000 under this program for the improvement of facilities Creek Boat Ramp, West Ballina. Improvements will include riverbank protection, upgrade and parking enhancement.

es Ballina Shire Council is required to match the grants dollar for dollar.

Happy 100th Birthday Jessie Pennefather



Ballina resident Jessie Pennefather recently celebrated her 100th birthday with a morning tea at the Ballina RSL Club. Congratulations on this special milestone.

Land Tax

The NSW land tax system is a very significant issue facing residents in the Ballina Electorate and I have called on the NSW Labor Government to urgently reform how land tax is administered to take into account escalating land values. While I welcome the NSW Government's decision to increase the tax-free threshold from \$330,000 to \$352,000, this move does not go far enough to alleviate the economic and social problems caused by land tax.

There are 5000 people in the Ballina Electorate who own an investment property and the land tax rate of 1.7 per cent on land valued above the threshold is resulting in skyrocketing land tax bills. In turn, some property owners are forced to sell the property or increase the rent. As a result, Ballina's 8000 renters are in for higher rents. Also as fewer people see rental property as a desirable investment because of land tax, there will be less stock to rent, further exacerbating the affordable housing crisis.

Land tax reform is urgently needed if we are to provide an incentive for people to purchase an investment property, particularly in the Ballina Electorate, and to be self sufficient in their retirement years.

Ballina Zone Substation tour



With Graham Carr & Craig Murray from County Energy

I recently had the opportunity to tour the newly opened \$4.2 million Ballina zone substation which will meet the energy needs of the Ballina Shire residents for the next 20 years. It will increase Ballina's energy capacity by 50 per cent.

The substation will secure the power supply and we will be unlikely to see another large-scale, lengthy power failure, like that which happened in 2004. Most of the substation equipment is housed

indoors where it will be protected from the hazards of a coastal location, such as salt corrosion.

In addition to the Ballina zone substation, a second new \$4 million substation will be built in Lennox Head and \$6 million substation is planned for Lismore by 2008.

Lot 107... an issue in limbo

Ocean Shores is in desperate need of more sporting fields. Yet Lot 107, which was earmarked to become a playing field, has now been set aside to be sold to the RTA and converted to National Park.

During a recent session of the NSW Parliament, I strongly urged the NSW Roads Minister to ask the RTA to hold off on the purchase of Lot 107 until the full implications of its sale are investigated.

I have asked the Minister to closely scrutinise the impact the sale of Lot 107 would have on the Ocean Shores community.

I also highlighted the fact that correspondence I received from the then Minister for Public Works and current Premier Morris lemma stated 'Lot 107 was mostly cleared and therefore has no potential as an environmental facility site'.

This statement seemingly contradicts the proposed use for Lot 107.

It is so important the repercussions of the sale of Lot 107 on the Ocean Shores community are thoroughly investigated and I will be keeping a close eye on this issue.

Emigrant Creek water comes on-line

I recently attended the official opening of the new \$7.5 million Emigrant Creek water treatment plant. The state-of-the-art treatment plant will improve water quality and taste for more than 25,000 residents in Ballina and Lennox Head. It is a much-needed boost to water supplies in the region as it will take considerable pressure off the Rocky Creek Dam water resource, especially as water quality from this dam is now so reliable.



With Ken Parr the former Regional Director of Public Works

The COASTAL CONNECTION



NSW Remembers Certificates

Last year we celebrated and commemorated the 60th Anniversary of Victory in the Pacific and the end of World War II.

To acknowledge such an important event in our history every World War II veteran can receive a special commemorative certificate. These certificates are available from my office and can be obtained posthumously. Widows of veterans are eligible for a certificate.

State Government grants

Details of a range of NSW Government grants are available through my office. They include:

- Area Assistance Scheme - provides grants to local councils and non-government organisations for projects that improve community well being and how communities function. Applications will open 5th August 2006 and close 6th September 2006.
- Capital Assistance Scheme – assists Local Government Authorities and not-for-profit organisations to develop community orientated local sporting and recreational facilities. Applications are currently open and will close on 31st May 2006.
- Country Athletes Scheme - assists talented young athletes from country areas of NSW to gain access to training, coaching and competitions similar to those enjoyed by athletes from the city. Applications open 30th September and close 31st December each year.
- Country Coaches and Officials Scheme – assists coaches and officials from country areas of NSW access opportunities to participate in educational courses that assist them gain or maintain required accreditation. Applications open 30th September and close 31st December each year.
- Regional Sports Facility Program - enhances the range, availability and quality of sport and recreational facilities throughout NSW, that meet the needs of both talented and elite athletes and the general community. Applications generally open later in the year.
- Capital Infrastructure Program – assists with the capital costs of buildings and other facilities for the arts and the cultural life of the State. Applications close 2nd June 2006.
- There are also a range of grants for various elements of the arts and other Government Departments.

Justice of the Peace update

Following amendments to the Justice of the Peace Act by State Parliament, JPs appointed prior to 8th December 2003 are required to reapply for the status of a Justice of the Peace before 31st August 2006. Reapplications must be received by this date in order to be processed by 8th December when the three-year transitional period to allow existing JPs to reapply ends.

Under the amendments to the Justice of the Peace Act, lifetime appointments have been abolished and appointments are for five-year terms.

No action is required from a JP who decides not to renew their appointment and it will automatically lapse on 8th December this year.

There is no fee involved in the reappointment process and reappointed JPs will not have to re-swear the oaths of office.

The reapplication process does not have to be endorsed by a Member of Parliament.

Reapplication forms are available from my office.

Members of the community wishing to become a Justice of the Peace can obtain application forms from my office. In NSW, a Member of Parliament (MP) must endorse applicants seeking appointment as a JP.

The Member of Parliament will then submit endorsed applications directly to the Attorney-General's Department.

All JPs appointed or reappointed under the new system will be issued with a new registration number free of charge and will be listed on the on-line public register of JPs at www.lawlink.nsw.gov.au

Members of the public can search for a JP by postcode on the on-line register. A JP's registration can also be checked at this website using a name or a number.

New boundaries for the Ballina Electorate



Under the State Constitution Act, electoral boundaries must be reviewed after two elections have been conducted using the same electoral boundaries.

As a result, the NSW electoral boundaries including the Ballina Electorate have been redrawn to take into account population movements and growth.

There are currently 4,276,695 electors in NSW and 93 seats in the Legislative Assembly.

The new boundaries have therefore been redrawn to contain approximately 48,344 electors and will take effect in March 2007 at the NSW general election. Until this date the Ballina Electorate will remain as it is currently.

Generally, the northern boundary of the Ballina Electorate has been moved southwards to just north of Ocean Shores so that Pottsville will become part of the Tweed Electorate. The southern boundary has been moved further south so that Wardell will once again be part of the Ballina Electorate.



Information and services available from my office

As a State Member, my office is able to provide a range of services and detailed information on a variety of topics, including:

- NSW Seniors Card applications and NSW Seniors Card Discount Directories
- Justice of the Peace application and reapplication forms
- Congratulatory messages for certain birthdays and wedding anniversaries
- How to correctly prepare a petition for tabling in State Parliament
- Details of Government grants and funding opportunities
- Enrolling to vote and changing your address on the Electoral Roll
- Details of public holidays and daylight saving
- Supply of State Flags to approved community organisations
- State Representative Certificates for people who represent NSW in various competitive fields
- NSW Remembers Certificates for World War II veterans
- Information and assistance with any State Government matter

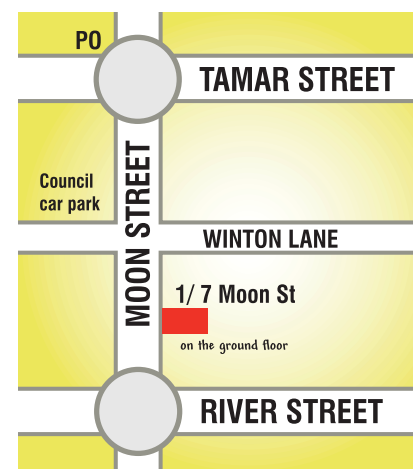
AS YOUR NSW PARLIAMENTARY REPRESENTATIVE

I can assist you with matters administered by NSW State Government Departments. The following are just some of the areas of responsibility of the NSW Government.

- Aboriginal Affairs • Ageing and Disability Services
- Agriculture • Arts • Community Services • Energy
- Fair Trading • Fisheries • Gaming and Racing
- Housing • Main Roads and Transport • National Parks
- Natural Resources • Planning • Police (Law and Order)
 - Public Hospitals • Regional Development
 - School Education and TAFE • Small Business
 - Sport and Recreation • State Forests • Tourism



Contact Don Page and his staff, Toni and Bree, by calling 6686 7522 or email: don.page@parliament.nsw.gov.au or dropping into Suite 1, 7 Moon St Ballina or writing to PO Box 1018 Ballina, NSW 2478





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Massage & Beauty Therapy

Treat mum to a wonderful massage which relaxes tight muscles, relieves pain, boosts the circulation and de-stresses the whole body. As a beauty therapist trained with Madame Korner, I look forward to pampering you with a stimulating or relaxing facial treatment that will improve the general appearance of your skin and leave you feeling rejuvenated. Gift vouchers are available, and a one hour massage plus a one hour facial is only \$75. Phone Jenny on 6685 8775 or 0438 176 805 because every day is a good day to be pampered!

Vast Interior

Surprise your one in a million mum with an exquisite gift from Vast Interior this Mothers Day. Your mother is one in a million, so why not treat an exceptional lady to a unique gift from Vast Interior, Ballina.

'At Vast Interior, we believe your mum is important, so we have sourced a collection of exquisite finds from across Asia so you can give a gift that reflects how special she really is,' said Garry. 'Each gift range is limited to 200 pieces to maintain the exclusiveness of the collections, so you know that you are buying something unique.'

The Mothers Day gift collection is exclusive to Vast Interior in Australia and prices range from as little as \$7 to \$199. Visit the Vast Interior at 15 Sheather Street, Ballina or call 6686 8802.

Orientique

Come to Orientique and discover a lush opulence of colour and fabrics this winter to indulge yourself or the special woman in your life. Whether it's a vintage influenced velvet jacket to wear with jeans, a stunning Nobue dress in Japanese fabric for your special occasion or a cosy jacket or cardi for a morning walk on the beach, there is always something special or functional to be found. Kids, Orientique has Mothers day gifts from \$10.

Spirit Health & Fitness

Spirit Health & Fitness has long been renown for looking after the health of the Byron Shire locals who want the best from their fitness regime.

We'll look out, Spirit has just launched a great new range of classes to satisfy everybody's fitness needs. Pilates, indoor, outdoor and women's only boxing, a fitness program specifically designed for the over 50s and introducing Spirit Gutbuster program for men. Combined with Bodypump, body-combat, circuit and abs classes, your club membership at Spirit will have you in the most spectacular shape of your life. So don't delay, take advantage of our great half price offer, or Spirit PT3 (three personal training sessions for \$50). Spirit Health & Fitness, the locals' choice. Phone 6685 7129.

Pamper your Mother this Mothers Day. Select from our range of treatments, Aveda products, gift packs and gift vouchers.



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Azabu

Azabu is a haven of tranquillity far from the crowds of busy Byron Bay, and the perfect place to take your mother on Mothers Day. Here she will be utterly indulged with a large range of treatments, spas and Aveda products. Ring about the great gift packs and vouchers currently available on 6680 9102.

Eden at Byron

Eden at Byron has a beautiful selection of living gifts including flowering orchids and bromeliads, African violets, potted herbs, and easy-care succulents. And now the Eden at Home team can work their magic at your place, providing professional and personalised gardening and landscaping services.

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In the red

Horatio Bitemark

IT WAS a mistake to allow Abbotsleigh to go to the Nimbin MardiGrass, but what could we do? Under most jurisdictions he is regarded as a grown man – a debate on the distinction between a ‘grown man’ and an ‘adult’ occupied an entire afternoon at the clubhouse – and no amount of entheogenic inducements could stay his departure from Myocum.

His troubles began when his 1977 puce Rolls Royce Corniche II came to a halt in the street parade. His chauffeur, Popinjay, was distracted by a cunning stoner in a false parking ranger costume while the notorious Ganga Faeries removed Abbotsleigh from the back seat. He was conveyed by way of rolled-up kilim through the exuberant crowd and into the judging of the Cannabis Cup. A large spliff was passed to him by a police constable in mufti and that was, essentially, the last thing our chap reliably remembers, if the word ‘reliable’ could be at all associated with Abbotsleigh. However, our cunning network of spies, the Myocum Mavens, modelled after the famous Baker Street Irregulars, reported that Abbotsleigh

then wandered into the Hemp Olympix where, after being hit by a well-thrown bong, collapsed into a pile of gumboots. A middle-aged woman by the name of Tahini Minerva Moonbeam retrieved him from said pile and spirited him away in her 1974 Toyota Corona station wagon – famed for its durability – to her eccentric shanty in the hills.

The Mavens advised that Miss Moonbeam operated under an unusual delusion: she believed herself to be the Celtic witch Nimue, and any man she managed to entice or coerce from drug den, hostelry or dance hall became her latest Merlin. Her hovel she took to be the thorn bush under which her magician was enchanted, and she would dance about her conquest clad in besmeared rainbow samite in a lurching version of seduction to the music of the Incredible String Band, most notably ‘When The Music Starts To Play’. Most men ran away screaming after an hour or two but Abbotsleigh found the environment and his companion to his liking. They engaged in sexual congress for several hours with the aid of a calf sling and a one litre bottle of patchouli oil, and afterwards Abbotsleigh believed himself to be the famous wizard, gesturing dramatically out the window at the cows in the paddock in order to turn them into dragons.

Three days passed before we considered it advisable to kidnap Abbotsleigh and return him to the bosom of his chums, regrettably at the expense of Miss Moonbeam’s enjoyment. The chap’s clothes were filthy, his parts were wearing out and besides, Chef had prepared his favourite: Rack of Emu garnished with Lemon Myrtle Relish and a side salad of Bitou Bush, accompanied by the classic 1954 Main Beach Groyne Erosion Shiraz.

‘I say, chaps,’ said Abbotsleigh after a couple of vivifying glasses, ‘being a magician is a splendid lark but there’s nothing like a drink on the deck with one’s chums.’

Several days later Abbotsleigh’s Corniche turned up in a paddock out the back of Kyo-gle. It was the home of a cattle dog named Emma and her six puppies, who defended it fiercely. Along the driver’s side, scratched into the puce duco in a copperplate script, were the words, ‘This is the dawning of the Age of Aquarius.’ Popinjay never returned to the clubhouse though there were reports of someone resembling him, albeit with shoulder-length hair and front teeth removed, picking pears at Mildura.



Ballina

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A long slow lunch at the club

Victoria Cosford

SOME WEEKEND afternoons are designed to be spent indoors indulging in food and drink. Especially a Sunday whose morning promise of sunshine was swished away by the sweeping blades of windscreen wipers in a bus which climbed through the heights of the Byron to Lennox run to Ballina, a bus bearing a group of Slow Food members to the RSL Club. In this unexpected venue was to be held a long slow lunch, a degustation of six courses with matching wines, cooked by the Club's Executive Chef Gerhard Spatz. About Gerhard I had heard and read much, most notably regarding the culinary medals and awards he has won throughout a career in mostly stellar hotels and resorts around Australia; this knowledge, combined with several prior visits to the Club when the utter loveliness of the location successfully shifted my focus from the predictably hectic carpets, was preparing me pleasantly for the experience. The softly falling rain seemed yet another lucky sign.

At the Club there was the standard signing-in to be dealt with before gliding up to the top floor by escalator. Spinnakers is the restaurant within the Club, a smart and comfortable space whose great feature is the expanse of glass which separates the river from the diners. That ever-changing body of water with its bird life and its vessels was our misty wistful backdrop throughout the pampered afternoon. A Yarra Valley Sticks Pinot Noir welcomed us in and warmed us up as we circulated and nibbled on crostini with shards of good Parmigiano and capsicum salsa, and then it was to the table. Gerhard in his whites emerged smiling from the kitchen to introduce himself and the menu we were about to experience. Cute as a button, he not only explained each course and its cooking methods most interestingly but also swept us up into the fire of his enthusiasm with self-deprecating humour and the sort of personality that would make him ideal as a cooking show host.

The first course to arrive was Soft Shell Crab in a Saffron Tempura with a Shallot Salad and Red Curry Butter. Having been assured that each dish would be small, we were all impressed by the generosity of this dish, a glorious crunchy golden tangle of crustacean in a double circlet of saffron-bright butter and spicy amber mayo. Few of us had

ever tasted Soft Shell Crab – in this case it was a very young mud crab – which, as its name suggests, was shell and all, and quite heavenly; the accompanying Pinot Grigio an effortless match. Next came Confit of Duck on braised Wom Bok, sticky and fragrant with star anise, orange and cardamon – again quite perfectly matched with a Basedow Cabernet/Mouvedre. My favourite was the next course, a chock of Atlantic Salmon wrapped in prosciutto with spinach and pinenuts, a little base salad of sweet potato and goat's cheese, a dollop of Salsa Verde; a Tasmanian Pinot Noir helped it down beautifully. Next followed a tiny cutlet of pink Mandalong lamb on a bed of artichoke risotto and a quite gorgeous Jacob's Creek Grenache Shiraz. The afternoon out the windows darkening gradually, gently, from soft grey to deeper grey. Almost dark for the final course, an exquisite Nougatine Praline, a mouthful of sweet happiness and a Brown Brothers sticky to partner it. It was a most impressive performance, and it won a lot of Slow Food hearts, and made us all wish that Gerhard could be offering this calibre of food more than the one night a week at the Club that he currently does (although he is available for special events such as ours). The one night he offers it? Saturday nights. I'll be back.



Chef Gerhard Spatz at work

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VOCAL LOCALS

THURSDAY 11 9:00PM
CURLY

FRIDAY 12 9:30PM
CURLY

SATURDAY 13 9:30PM
DIRTY LAUNDRY

SUNDAY 14
MOTHERS DAY
1:00PM
BYRON BAY PUBLIC SCHOOL CHOIR
4:00PM
THE DETONATORS
9:00PM
DIRTY LAUNDRY

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WEDNESDAY 10

- 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**
- HOTEL GREAT NORTHERN, BYRON 9PM **THE GRATES + PANDA BAND**
- THE RAILS, BYRON 6.30PM **SARITAH**
- COCOMANGAS DJ'S **GOODWOOD AND DOUBLE D**
- CHEEKY MONKEYS, BYRON 7PM **DIDGE SHOW**
- PLAY, BYRON **DJ RASMUS**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 7.30PM **MOVIE NIGHT 'FORREST GUMP'**

THURSDAY 11

- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 9PM **CURLY**
- BUDDHA BAR, BYRON 7PM **DAVE BASEK**
- BYRON COMMUNITY CENTRE, 6.30PM **YOUTH SHORT FILM FESTIVAL**
- HOTEL GREAT NORTHERN, BYRON 9PM **THE EXPLODERS + SILENCE**
- THE RAILS, BYRON 7PM **THE WRIGHT BROTHERS**
- LA LA LAND **MOVIN' MARTY**
- COCOMANGAS DJ'S **KRISTIN & QUALITY CONTROL**
- CHEEKY MONKEYS, BYRON 9PM **TALENT QUEST**
- PLAY, BYRON **HYPER BASS KLEPH & POB**
- MIDDLE PUB, MULLUM 6PM **PIANO BAR WITH ROSS NOBEL**
- THE CHINI HOTEL, MULLUM 7.30PM **THE MULLUMBERRY JAM**
- AUSSIE TAVERN, M'BAH 8PM **CASEY DEAN**

FRIDAY 12

- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 9.30PM **CURLY**
- BUDDHA BAR, BYRON 7PM **DJ DAVE C** BUDDHA BAR STUDIO 7.30PM **SALSA SOCIAL**
- BYRON COMMUNITY CENTRE 7.30PM **LISA MOORE**
- HOTEL GREAT NORTHERN, BYRON 9PM **MARSHALL**
- THE RAILS, BYRON 7PM **ROLL LIKE THAT**
- CHEEKY MONKEYS, BYRON 9PM **BACKPACKER SPECIALS**
- LA LA LAND, BYRON **TROLLEY BOYS & WILLJAY**
- PLAY, BYRON **DJS NICK TAYLOR, SARAH TONIN + BASEK**
- COCOMANGAS **VOODOO & GOODWOOD**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK, 6.30PM **SNAP SHOT**
- THE CHINI HOTEL, MULLUM 8.30PM **THE SCORE**
- BILLINUDGEL HOTEL, 8.30PM **JAM SESSION**
- THE URBAN BANGALOW, 6.30PM **HANS + WILL**
- STAR COURT THEATRE, LISMORE, 8PM **CONTEMPORARY INTERNATIONAL DANCE FILM**
- AUSSIE TAVERN, M'BAH 8PM **NAMASTE JAKE**
- CABARITA SPORTS CLUB, 8PM **DEAN HAITANI**
- SOUND LOUNGE 8PM **TOMMEE & THE NEIGHBOURHOOD**



SATURDAY 13

- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 9.30PM **DIRTY LAUNDRY**
- BUDDHA BAR, BYRON 9.30PM **CRAZY CIRCUS CABARET & DJ GRAVY**
- HOTEL GREAT NORTHERN, BYRON 9PM **NATHAN KAYE & THE DREAMSEEDS**
- THE RAILS, BYRON 6.30PM **TIMBAH**
- CHEEKY MONKEYS, BYRON 7PM **LADIES NIGHT**
- COCOMANGAS, BYRON 11PM **GOODIE**
- LA LA LAND, BYRON **LIVEWIRE**
- PLAY, BYRON **DJS SCOOTER, CP MILES + DAVE C**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 6.30PM **BABY FACE**
- THE URBAN BANGALOW, 6.30PM **TOBEY DAVIS**
- BANGALOW CATHOLIC HALL, 7.30PM **SARS**
- THE CHINI HOTEL, MULLUM 7.30PM **GROOVY TUNES**
- LU LU'S, MULLUM 11AM **SLIM PICKENS**
- MULLUMBIMBY RSL, 8.15PM **DEEP CREEK**



- BYRON YOGA CENTRE BELONGIL **BYRON BAY YOGA FEST**
- BYRON BAY BEACH RESORT, 8PM **THE FULL CURRY WITH SANDY GANDHI**
- AUSSIE TAVERN, M'BAH 8PM **MESCALITO BLUES**
- STARCOURT THEATRE, LISMORE, 5PM **GLOBAL DANCE SHORTS**
- GRAND PACIFIC HOTEL, 9.30PM **SUPERCHEESE**

SUNDAY 14

- MOTHERS DAY**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 1PM **BYRON BAY PUBLIC SCHOOL CHOIR** 4PM **THE DETONATORS** 9PM **DIRTY LAUNDRY**
 - BUDDHA BAR, BYRON **CYBERBAS LIVE**
 - HOTEL GREAT NORTHERN, BYRON 8PM **SEKIDEN & ZOOBOMBS & THE WHATS**
 - THE RAILS, BYRON 6.30PM **OLD SPICE BOYS**
 - ZULA CAFE, BYRON 2PM **CHILL OUT SESSION, POB**
 - EWINGSDALE HALL, 7.30PM **BYRON VISTA SOCIAL CLUB**
 - HOTEL BRUNSWICK NOON **BARRY FERRIER, 6.30PM CATH SIME BAND**
 - MULLUMBIMBY ADVENTIST SCHOOL, 9.30AM **BRUNSWICK VALLEY FIESTA**
 - SPHINX ROCK CAFE, MT BURRELL, 1PM **LIGHT ACTIVATION**

MONDAY 15

- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 9PM **BIG SCREEN DANCE MUSIC**
- BUDDHA BAR, BYRON **LIVE ACOUSTIC & DJ BRAD VORTEX**
- THE RAILS, BYRON 6.30PM **DENNIS WILSON SOLO**
- CHEEKY MONKEYS, BYRON **MEXICAN PARTY**
- CHINI HOTEL MULLUM, 7.30PM **SALSA CLASS & FREESTYLE**
- COCOMANGAS **FUNKIN RETRO & VODOO**
- EWINGSDALE HALL, 6.30PM **FILM LAUNCH 'WALKING SOFTLY WITH KOA IN THE AUSTRALIAN BUSH'**

JAZZ FESTIVAL BANGALOW JUNE 9-12



TUESDAY 16

- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 9PM **BIG SCREEN DANCE MUSIC**
- BUDDHA BAR, BYRON 8PM **DJ DADDY**
- THE RAILS, BYRON 6.30PM **BIRDY**
- CHEEKY MONKEYS, BYRON **TEAM TRIVIA**
- THE CHINI HOTEL, MULLUM 7.30PM **ROCK N ROLL DANCING**
- COCOMANGAS **ANTHEMS & KRISTIN**

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A NIGHT AT THE OPERA

Don Giovanni at the Byron Entertainment Centre last Thursday. Photos Caroline Desmond



STARS



Lilit

With Mercury joining the Sun in sensual Taurus and Venus in volatile Aries, this week's flamenco antics are likely to include passionate flouncing and dramatic attitudes. Ole! Highly entertaining – unless you start taking it too seriously...

ARIES: When they've thought something through, impetuous Aries are usually so on fire to express it they don't necessarily pay a lot of attention to finesse. This week your ideas really do deserve some work on the fine art of elegant delivery.

TAURUS: Besides celebrating the birthdays of lots of Taurans, this week the Annual Furry Dance is held in Cornwall. And your stars suggest lavishing your own furry person with as much celebratory nurturing as you can possibly pack in. Soak up the love.

GEMINI: Don't go making promises or commitments you figure you can reschedule your way out of later on, or claims you really aren't able to back up either – because this week people will take you at your word and you'll definitely be expected to follow through.

CANCER: It's probably going to be necessary to bend the rules a bit this week – before they end up bending you out of shape. Be extremely discreet about it though, because the red tape police and their dreary minions are out in force.

LEO: This week's the anniversary of the premiere of Andrew Lloyd Webber's phenomenally popular *Cats*, Belgium celebrates its annual Cat Parade – and what's happening here? People having a go at you – cats hate that. Don't get too miffed, Majesty – it is attention after all.

VIRGO: There's absolutely no need to wear yourself out doing everything this week – not when others are willing to help, would love to be involved and are just waiting for you to ask. And how much more fun will that be than doing it all on your lonesome?

LIBRA: This week's citizens are *opinionated* and not exactly diplomatic – getting them to lighten up will be no small feat, but that's your week's challenge. And if something that looked promising ends up being more trouble than it's worth, cut your losses while they're still small and walk.

SCORPIO: This week commemorates the birthday of singer Sid Vicious, whose definitive version of *I Did It My Way* completely blitzed the original. If you must do things your way (and when aren't you inclined to?) make sure that's enjoyable for everyone else as well.

SAGITTARIUS: Don't get so totally caught up and engrossed in this week's mundane plans and practicalities there's no time for small, important joys: spending time with friends, doing something you hadn't planned, indulging in something luxurious for yourself and someone else...

CAPRICORN: It's never easy for Capricorns to acknowledge they've made a mistake – oops, let's rephrase that – an inappropriate choice. But if you're able to do that – and learn from it – the opening you're looking for seems much more likely to manifest this week.

AQUARIUS: Be open and receptive to the creative input of others this week, because it's teamwork that's going to make the dream work. Though a certain amount of ego clashing seems inevitable, the stars are still ripe for a wonderful wallow.

PISCES: This week celebrates the anniversary of Fred Astaire's birthday and the marriage of Shiva, Lord of the Dance. Pisces is the sign of dancers, and when you're skating on thin ice this week may you channel the dancing deity as elegantly as the inimitable Fred.

FREESTUFF

FUNNY GIRLS A GO GO



How would you like a double pass to Funny Girls – a fabulous line up of side splitting women comics performing at the Byron Bowling Club on Monday 22 May? Featuring moi, Mandy as Mc and Fiona McGary as headline, Renee Searles, Ellen Briggs, Sikim Wan and Kimberly Davenport, you'll be getting a whole lot of laughs from the ladies! Email mandypow@echo.net.au

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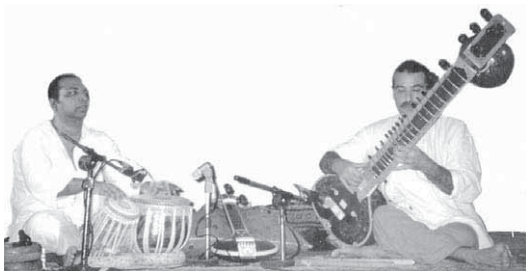
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WEDNESDAY 10

7:30PM

MOVIE NIGHT
FORREST GUMP
[M]

THURSDAY 11

5:30PM

MEAT RAFFLES
6:00PM
POOL COMP

FRIDAY 12

6:30PM

SNAPSHOT

SATURDAY 13

6:30PM

BABY FACE

SUNDAY 14

6:30PM

BARRY FERRIER

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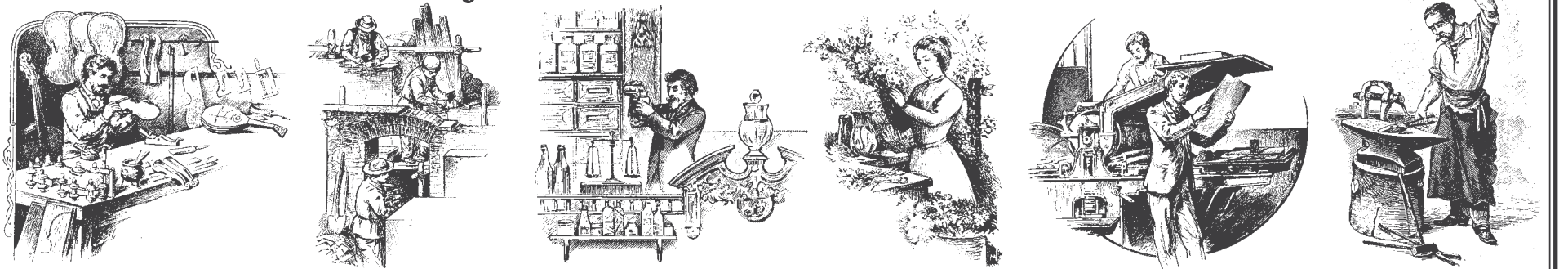
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Sports Roundup with Alex McAuley

More to gliding than just hanging around



Ashley Wilmott from Suffolk Park taking off on his hang glider on a cross country flight. Ashley recently won the inaugural Northern Rivers Cross Country League competition.

The Northern Rivers Hang Gliding and Paragliding Club has recently completed its inaugural Cross Country League competition. Held over the last six months, pilots from both disciplines were scored on their best five flights of the season.

The emphasis was on long distance flying in the local area from any of the club sites, with a handicapped points score for open distance, out and returns, triangles and flights to a declared goal. A maximum of two flights from out of the club area anywhere in Australia were allowed to be scored.

The competition was kicked off in November and over the summer Yamba's

Geoff Ward and Ashley Wilmott from Suffolk Park scored some great flights in the mountains of northeast Victoria near Mount Bogong, with a memorable 79 km triangle around the Kiewa Valley. Lennox Head's Peter Aitken flew his hang glider to an incredible 160 km declared goal west of Dalby in Queensland after being towed aloft behind an ultralight to 2000 feet.

The next day Ashley and Pete flew a triangle flight of 130 km returning to the airfield at Dalby after nearly five hours battling with huge thermals and massive dark clouds on the course.

Locally the paragliders were revelling in fantastic

conditions from the Coorabell ridge in March. Cedar Anderson, Lindsay Wootten and Che declared a 50 km goal from Montecolum to Wiangaree, and all three achieved it setting a site record in the attempt.

The best paragliding flight of the season went to Cedar for his flight from Possum Shoot to Tabulam, a distance of 96 km that saw him fly past Lismore and Casino to the ranges in the west, landing late in the day for another site record.

Final results were: 1 Ashley Wilmott, 2 Peter Aitken, 3 Cedar Andersen; best female pilot was paraglider Jan Smith; best novice went to paraglider Tina Clemens.

Rams' win takes them to top of the table

On Saturday the Byron Bay Soccer Club's premiers and premier reserves travelled to play Richmond Rovers in two top of the table clashes.

The premier reserves played the previously unbeaten Rovers side and with a depleted side and came away victors to the tune of one goal to nil. The Rams were dominant from the onset and repelled all of the Rovers attack. The goal that clinched the match came from new player Keith Ryan when he chested a cross and

volleyed the ball into the goal. The best for the Rams were Kevin Justice, Mark Shepherd, Joel Bradford and Ryan Gray in goals.

In premier division the Rams needed a win to stay at the top of the table and after Rovers scored early in the half things looked bleak for Byron Bay. But spurred on by great goalkeeping from Kai Connell and vintage performances by Bruce Morhaus and Joel Rudgely the Rams came back. A wonderfully hit shot from Eden Robinson

ensured the teams went into the break 1-1.

In the second half the Rams' superior fitness and general play started to create chances and Tom Ruhl pounced on a rebound to take the Bay to a 2-1 lead. Tom Ruhl was on the spot again when he pressurised the Rovers defence and capitalised on an error to make the final score 3-1 putting the Rams on top of the ladder.

Next week the premiers are at home to Ballina; kick off at 1pm.

End of winning streak for Byron Rugby

Matt Alexander

Byron Bay Rugby Union Club played Kyogle on Saturday in a tight and physical encounter. Kyogle used their large forward pack to control early possession and took a quick 5-0 lead. Byron used mobility and speed to address the balance with Connor Crichton scoring after some excellent lead up work from the forwards.

Byron went to the break 8-5 up but started the second half as they had the first by letting the Kyogle for-

wards have things their own way. The score remained 10-8 to Kyogle until Andrew Rayward scored in his final game for the Bay, dragging half the Kyogle team over the line with him.

It was not to be Byron's day however as Kyogle scored again a minute from full time, and Byron failed to score from a penalty in Kyogle's quarter on the bell, finishing with a 17-15 loss.

Byron Coaches Warren Fisher and Ian Melhuish praised their players' efforts,

and made particular note of captain and hooker Mick the Wombat Leece, Andy Rayward at prop and halfback Dre Smith. The club's success for the day was a terrific turnout for the Golden Oldies and our Sponsors and Ladies Day; thanks to all who supported this great event.

This week the Bay will travel to Malanganee for the first time in many years with a big bus trip planned for anyone who is interested. To join the bus call Matt on 0437 656 984.

Hogan leads Giants to a scrappy victory

Despite injuries to some key players, Mullumbimby Giants managed to get away with a scrappy win over Tweed Coast Raiders in their Northern Rivers Regional Rugby League Group 1 game over the weekend. Missing Paul Latta, Joel Christie and Corey Windle, the Giants were a little under strength, but coach Paul Latta didn't use that as an excuse for the teams' poor handling.

'The Raiders are a new team to the comp and are something of an unknown quantity,' said Latta. 'I think we were a little

under prepared, and when they came out so hard, we panicked and lost our control over the ball.'

Scott Hogan proved to be instrumental in keeping Mullumbimby on track as he used his experience to keep the game from slipping from their hands. He, along with Murray Brown and Mitch Morris were standouts for the Giants, but Latta also mentioned Cody Nelson who came up from U18s to play reserves and firsts and did a great job.

'We need to battle hard

over the next couple of weeks when we play Ballina and Murwillumbah,' said Latta. 'Ballina aren't playing their best at the moment, but they'll still be tough to beat, and Murwillumbah are one of the strongest clubs in the competition.'

Despite the poor ball control and general scrappiness of the game, Latta was pleased with the two points against such a physical side.

Final scores Mullumbimby 23 d Tweed Coast 16; reserves Mullumbimby 34 d Tweed Coast 22.

Goals keep coming for Valley's golden boy

The goals keep coming for Brunswick Valley Soccer Club's wonder boy Aaron Duffey. Following his hat-trick last week, he kept up his extraordinary record by bagging two more goals for the division two side in their win over Ballina.

A further two goals from man of the match Terry Partridge completed a comprehensive 4-0 victory. The tough-as-nails striker was switched to midfield for this game and excelled in his new role. Great performances from Shane Anderton, Damien Kearns-Stokes and Heath Ogston.

The third division boys

were unlucky to finish on the wrong end of a nine goal thriller at Weston Park, Goonellabah. Despite going 3-0 down early, they fought back to 3-2 with two goals from the experienced Ben Wills.

A further strike from Dean Treveton and a net-busting rocket from dazzling midfielder Jason Loewenthal kept the Valley in the match, although Goonellabah hung on to win 5-4. The McLean brothers were outstanding in midfield, especially Tim, whose energy and commitment, along with his striking resemblance to Mick Jones from the Clash,

caused problems for the opposition all afternoon.

The fourths had a field day at Ballina winning 8-1. Nearly everybody scored, although special mention must go to Vegetarian Mikey, and defender Mick Gregory who scored with a stunning Beckham-style 30 metre effort.

The fifths had a tough time at Ballina and were soundly beaten. Despite a penalty save from man of the match Norm Hale and some good work from both Jake Fenwick and new signing Steve Gort, the opposition proved too strong. The only consolation was a goal scored by Dan Barr.

Classic conditions for Ocean Classic



An absolutely stunning autumn day set the scene for this year's Big Swim which once again attracted a new record number of competitors. Photo Jeff 'Head Me Off At The Pass' Dawson

Swimming conditions were absolutely perfect on Sunday for the running of the 19th annual Winter Whales' Ocean Swim Classic.

Clear skies, no breeze, no swell and no seas allied with clear, warm water made it a memorable event for the first-timers to the Bay and for the many repeat contestants in the Big Swim. With swimmers from France, USA and England as casual walk up entries and touring teams from Frankston in Victoria, the dolphins which joined the women as they paddled across the bay were the icing on the cake.

Nearly 1300 competitors took to the water this year, continuing the trend of each year's swim attracting more entries than the previous year. The Winter Whales were extremely pleased with the turnout and the way the swimmers conducted themselves but then again, the conditions could only make for happy campers.

The open men's division was won by Josh Santacaterina who finally broke through for his first win after a few minor placings, in a time of 22 minutes 28 seconds. Second place went to Cameron Smith with Ky Hurst coming

in third. The open ladies winner was defending title holder Melissa Gorman in a time of 22:28.0; second was Kate Brookes-Peterson; third Megan Nay.

Josh Santacaterina made it a double for the day when he took out the open men's race of the Beach Hotel Dash for Cash, while Megan Nay won the open ladies.

The money raised from the swim will be distributed to various local charities and the Whales would like to thank their sponsors, supporters, workers and the swimming community for their involvement in a great event.

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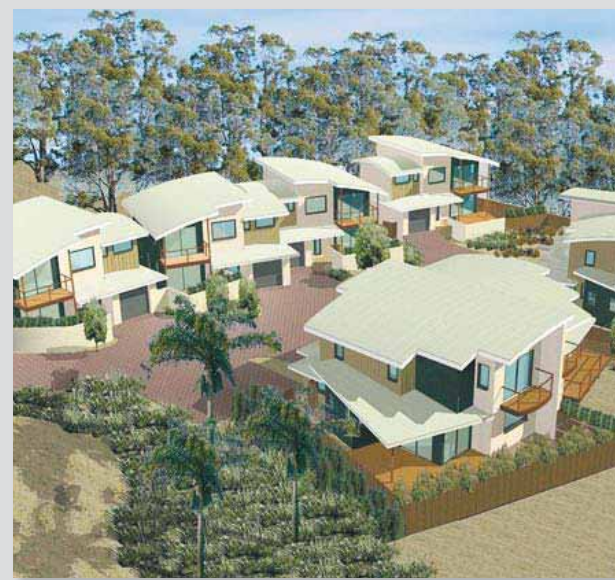
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Business & Freehold \$1,220,000



Industrial unit \$220,000



Oasis unit \$429,000



Corkwood Cl \$545,000



1/4 acre block \$699,000



Byron Hills \$499,000

www.byronbayfn.com.au

www.inrealestate.com.au

First Home Or Investment



Located in a quiet street in walking distance to the town centre this three bedroom brick /vener home is perfect for the first home buyer or the investor. The light filled timber kitchen has a north aspect and from the dining area you walk out to a small covered patio and to the backyard. The living room has a view over the paddocks with a beautiful Poinciana tree in the front yard. The place is fully fenced and measures 475 sqm with an easy to maintain garden. It is currently rented and the tenants are happy to stay on. Call now for an inspection.

\$350,000

Hard To Believe



Solid weather board home on three quarters of an acre with plenty of rain water tanks, sheds, studio and a swimming pool. The house features 3 bedrooms + study, an airconditioned master bedroom with walk in robe and ensuite, a functional timber kitchen with a 1200 mm stainless steel La Germania stove, timber floors and 9 ft high ceilings. The 9x6 metre shed is a dream for every bloke to have and there is a separate studio which can be rented out. Top it up with a swimming pool and a dozen of mixed fruit bearing trees then it is hard to believe what you get for your money. Owners are moving to Sydney and are keen to sell. Call now for an inspection.

\$529,000 Reduced To \$499,000

5 Acre MO Share In Main Arm



Roll up your sleeves, let the work begin. This 5 acre share is part of a 350 acres property with ten shares. The shack needs a good handyman to restore or one goes ahead and builds something new. Electricity is on site and there is a creek flowing through the property. There is certainly some clearing to be done around the house but this would make a great property for the right person. It is totally private and all you can hear is the sounds of the forest. The owner is committed elsewhere and has the property priced for a quick sale. Do not hesitate; call now before it is too late.

\$140,000

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, 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.

\$650,000

InRealEstate
90 Robyns Road, Mullumbimby

(02) 6684 3600
Ernst Reisch 0428 842 387

Something Different

OPEN HOUSE LISTINGS

LJ Hookers Byron Bay p54

- 83 Massinger Street, Byron Bay. Sat 11am.
- 48 Shirley Street, Byron Bay. Sat 11am.
- 19 Beech Drive, Suffolk Park. Sat 11am.
- 9 Bottlebrush Cr, Suffolk Park. Sat 11am.
- 19 Corkwood Cl, Suffolk Park. Sat 12pm.
- 53 Belongil Crescent, Byron Bay. Sat 12pm.
- 10 Coogera Circuit, Suffolk Park. Sat 12pm.
- Lot 3 Pinegroves Road, Tyagarah. Sat 2pm.
- 7 Hoop Pine Lane, Suffolk Park. Sat 3pm.

Scott Harvey Real Estate p50

- 565 Houghlhan Creek Road, Pearce's Creek. Sat 2-3pm.
- 15 Rifle Range Road, Bangalow. Sat 1-1.30pm.

AUCTIONS

Gail Fuller Real Estate p51

10 Byron Creek Road, Coopers Shoot. Sat June 10th, 1pm on-site. Inspect next Sat & Tue 12-1pm.

Sean Kenny Real Estate p59

9 Newes Road, Coorabell. This Saturday 11am on-site.
140 Yankee Creek Road, Mullumbimby. June 10th, 11am on-site.



Waterfront serenity

Situated at Pottsville Beach this very presentable 12 year old home sits on 790sqm block backing right onto the canal with bush land reserve on the other side. The retired owners love the quiet and privacy and having swims on those hot summer days.

The hours are happily spent fishing and crabbing or just relaxing under the shaded outdoor entertaining area watching the tidal ebb and flow and listening to the birds from the reserve. The house has three bedrooms two bathrooms and great outdoor entertaining areas.

Reasonably priced at \$495,000, for more information contact Lynda Rose at Gail Fuller Real Estate on 0407 098 993 or 02 6685 5285.



A resort style hinterland hideaway

With ocean and rural views and just ten minutes from Ballina, you'll be impressed with this exceptional rural estate. Approx eight hectares, it will suit any agricultural mix with paddocks suited for either horses or cattle.

The modern air-conditioned, quality home has four bedrooms (main with ocean outlook, ensuite with spa, walk-in robe and study), two additional bathrooms, kitchen with island bench, living area with ocean views and bi-fold doors opening onto the wet deck pool area. The 16x7m heated pool and spa is complemented by white sandstone surrounds, a thatched roof pool hut with pool room, bar, toilet and shower. A must see!

Contact one of our experienced Sales Agents at Elders Bangalow on 6687 1500 or look on our website www.eldersbangalow.com.au



Broken Head acreage

With coastal acreage in the Byron Shire not getting any cheaper it is making it harder for those who would like to enjoy rural living on the eastern coastline.

Located five minutes from Broken Head this great rural alternative, comprising 9.3Ha of vacant land that offers great rural views and is elevated to catch those refreshing sea breezes. A sea change is not far away.

To inspect this great coastal property please contact Glen Irwin on 0418 604 080 or Peter Yopp on 0411 837 330 or at L.J. Hooker, Byron Bay.

The property is for sale at \$1,125,000.



Estate wants sold

This property has a natural rainforest with creeks, dam and springs with 22 acres level, perfect for horses. The home consists of 4 bedrooms with glass sliding doors off all rooms, leading out to a large covered entertaining area. This property would be perfect for the growing family, with plenty of room to move and many nature adventures to be discovered.

Burringbar is a cute country town offering town and country living. Close to all amenities schools, day care, cafes and hotels with only a 10 minute drive to beaches and a 20 minute drive to Coolangatta airport and 30 minutes to Byron Bay.

WOW! WAS \$560,000 NOW \$498,000

To arrange an inspection of this property please call Sean Kenny on 6684 2200 or 0419 624 024. Sean Kenny Real Estate 79 Burringbar Street, Mullumbimby.



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

PROPERTIES OPEN FOR INSPECTION



83 Massinger Street,
Byron Bay
Saturday 11am
Contact Sharon
on 0408 659 649



53 Belongil Crescent,
Byron Bay
Saturday 12pm
Contact Liam on
0417 780 795



48 Shirley Street,
Byron Bay
Saturday 11am
Contact Liam on
0417 780 795



10 Coogera Circuit,
Suffolk Park
Saturday 12pm
Contact Andrew
on 0421 914 054



19 Beech Drive,
Suffolk Park
Saturday 11am
Contact Andrew
on 0421 914 054



Lot 3 Pinegroves Road,
Tyagarah
Saturday 1pm
Contact Sharon
on 0408 659 649



9 Bottlebrush Crescent,
Suffolk Park
Saturday 11am
Contact Gareth
on 0417 237 559



59 Teak Circuit,
Suffolk Park
Saturday 2pm
Contact Peter on
0411 837 330



19 Corkwood Close,
Suffolk Park
Saturday 12pm
Contact Gareth
on 0417 237 559



7 Hoop Pine Lane,
Suffolk Park
Saturday 3pm
Contact Peter
on 0411 837 330

NEW LISTINGS



"CALINDA SOL"

- 3 Bedroom Townhouse
- 100 Metres To Clarkes Beach
- Fully Landscaped Grounds
- Ideal To Live In Or Holiday Let
- Outdoor Living Area
- Popular Holiday Complex

Contact Andrew Rosee on
0421 914 054
\$820,000



FIRST TIME ON THE MARKET

- Immaculate 2 Bedroom Home
- Perfect For The First Home Buyer Or Investor
- Open Plan Living
- Backs Onto Reserve
- Land Size Is 582 Sq Metres
- Committed Vendor

Contact Peter Yopp on
0411 837 330
\$435,000

FAMILY LIVING AT ITS BEST



- 4 Bedrooms + Huge Media Room
- Quiet Positioning In Quality Area
- Expansive Formal/ Informal Living Areas
- Wrap-Around Balconies
- 798sqm Corner Block
- Easy Care Living

\$580,000

PACIFIC VISTA



- 2 x 2 Bed Duplex
- On One Title - To Be Sold As One
- Walking Distance To Tallow Beach
- 871sqm Block
- Highly Sought After Area
- Great Investment, Rare Opportunity

\$835,000

SUNNY UPSTAIRS APARTMENT



- Centrally Located
- Upstairs 2 Bedroom Apartment
- Tastefully Refurbished
- Being Sold Fully Furnished
- Excellent Opportunity
- Moments Stroll To Beaches/Cafes

\$415,000

THE ENTERTAINER



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

\$890,000

LAND IN BAYWOOD CHASE



- Residential Land In A Popular Area
- Some Of The Last Land Available
- Close To Shops & Beaches
- Build Your Dream Home
- Lot Size 1178sqm

\$285,000

"SEADRIFT" BYRON BAY



- Stunning Fittings & Finishes
- Superior Design, Construction & Interiors
- Stroll To Beaches And Town Centre
- Gated, Secure Complex With Inground Pool

From \$545,000

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

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

LUXURY 'LINKS' APARTMENT



- 3 Bedroom 2 Bathroom Luxury Apartment
- Highest Quality Furniture/Fittings
- 17m Inground Pool, Championship Tennis Court, Lush Tropical Gardens, BBQ Area
- Adjacent To Golf Course
- Minutes Drive To Town
- Investment Or Lifestyle Opportunity

\$560,000

New Management of Residential Property
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L.J.Hooker Byron Bay 6685 7300

List and Sell Exclusively
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▶▶▶ Beach Just A Sand Dune Away...

You will always feel on holiday in this three bedroom, two bathroom home just metres away from one of Australia's best beaches. This home has its own private pathway over sand dunes to Tallow Beach. Absolute beachfront is increasingly rare and this is the perfect house for any lifestyle, all year round. This attractive home has three levels all with high ceilings and generously sized rooms. The main bedroom is elevated with a high balcony designed to catch the summer breezes. Shops and tavern are a short walk away, and with the beach as your backyard you can have a lifestyle that all will envy. Priced at \$970,000. For more information call Ian Daniels at Byron Bay First National Real Estate on 6685 8466, 24 hours, open 7 days a week.



▶▶▶ "The Perfect Five"

This property has privacy and seclusion with great mountain and hinterland views and resort style pool. Meticulously maintained 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom double brick home set on 5 north facing acres. There is a separate 3 car garage /workshop and office as well. A rare small acreage minutes from Bangalow. \$965,000. For inspection or more details contact Morag Page on 0403 498 648 or Brian Grant on 0408 899 555. George & Fuhrmann Bangalow 6687 2833. www.gnfrealestate.com.au



▶▶▶ Pogel's Wood Award Winning Restaurant

To be auctioned on site on Sunday 28th May, 2006. Business & Freehold. Located in quaint village of Federal with consistent recommendations in the Sydney Morning Herald Food Guide. Also included is a well appointed 3 bedroom residence on 1,400sqm block. Vendors are very keen and open to offers prior to auction. For more details contact Morag Page on 0403 498 648 or Brian Grant on 0408 899 555. George & Fuhrmann Bangalow 6687 2833. www.gnfrealestate.com.au



▶▶▶ Stylish Private Oasis

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.



▶▶▶ 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 ensuite) 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



▶▶▶ Family Playground

This roomy and comfortable double-brick home on one acre in a quiet part of Mullumbimby is custom-made for family living. With four good-sized bedrooms, a rumpus room, office and lounge room with fire, a huge flat section, outdoor patio area and swimming pool, there's a room for all. Set among other large blocks, it is private but with a safe community feeling, and all a few minutes' drive from pool, shops and schools. Extras include orchard, cultivated gardens, double garage, resealed and repainted roof and new septic system. \$795,000. Contact Frances O'Connor Real Estate on 02 668 7617.



▶▶▶ Calm With Added Charm

Delightful older home on two parcels in a quiet street in Mullumbimby. Opening off the central hallway are two double bedrooms, then open living/dining spaces and a modern, stylish kitchen and TV room. Wide decks on three sides add to the sense of space. There is character in every detail, from gleaming blond timber floors to high ceilings and art deco glass doors. The 809sqm block is private and cool, and contains a new, one-bedroom studio. There is also rear-lane access and a lockable carport. \$598,500. Contact Frances O'Connor Real estate on 02 6685 7617



▶▶▶ Dual Occupancy Ewingsdale

Rare home-and-income opportunity on 4050sqm in the leafy heart of Ewingsdale. This delightful timber and rendered brick home is lined with Western red cedar and features rosewood fittings. It is surrounded by forest and meadows. Built on multi-levels, the house features a private loft-like area and a downstairs living space with fire, three bedrooms and large bathroom with spa. Separate from the 24-year-old house is a large building with its own patio, with DA approval and some work done towards conversion into a second living quarters. \$815,000. Contact Frances O'Connor Real Estate on 02 6685 7617.



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



FRANCES O'CONNOR
real estate

Backlash



o-sushi 寿司
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NEW WINTER SPECIALS
Come and try our modern fusion Japanese cooking, with a new selection of wines.

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The place for locals to eat and meet
Don't forget the sushi movie deal

These chill evenings will be a little warmer for many homeless due to the great response we have had to our winter appeal. If you have any blankets, scarves, socks or beanies to donate, they can be left at either of our offices until this Friday for distribution next week. Many thanks for your kindness.

Local comedian and cartoonist Brendan Lovechild got some excellent publicity on TV series *Thank God You're Here* when fellow comedian Akmal Saleh wore one of Brendan's Mullumbimby Madness cartoons on his t-shirt. It was in fact one run in *Backlash*: the three-lensed spectacles for the enlightened.

Recycling made gorgeous – local artist Helen Adams has collected the little cardboard rolls from eftpos registers, painted and decorated them, inserted a blank paper scroll inside, and is selling them as miniature 'message sticks'. You'll find them at The Bookshop in Mullumbimby.

Those new resident parking stickers for Byron Bay – ever have one fall off your windscreen? Apparently this happened to Cr Ray Kestle a couple of days after applying it. Quizzed on the sticker's unreliability, Brett Lee (director of Council's asset management services, not the fast bowler) said there were 22,000 of the little blighters they were not happy with and the response from the supplier, which also contracts to the RTA, is unsatisfactory so far. *Backlash's* own sticker has curled up very nicely and provides a fine example of mobile origami.

Speaking of parking, many thanks to the effwits in the yellow sedan and the blue



MardiGrass stalwarts Rusty Harris and Michael Balderstone echo the sentiments of many of the police officers who swarmed over the Nimbin festival last weekend. While police praised crowd behaviour in general, festival organisers thought the large police presence to be overkill.

Photo Jeff 'Assuming The Position' Dawson

van who last Thursday managed to park opposite each other on both sides of McGougans Lane next to Dennetts in Mullumbimby, thereby blocking traffic access altogether. You give new meaning to the shallow end of the gene pool.

The similarity between the words Becton and BEACON got us confused last week. Simon Stockfeld, the development manager for Becton's North Beach proposal, should of course have been saying 'We haven't seen BEACON's legal advice but we would be interested in seeing it. I believe BEACON also made these claims several weeks ago.', rather than 'Becton', his own company.

Byron council staff reports are usually dutifully dull but in most cases comprehensible. However, deputy mayor Peter Westheimer pointed out at last week's meeting a paragraph which he was unable to decipher in a report on commercial signage: 'It is noted that there are some signs on our local roads that include the name of a business. This is in error and should not be continued. At this stage it is an error that

should await correction at the time of replacement and if the business advises that they have had the name on the sign in the past, the advice should be that an error was made, but they are only paying for what they get.' Anyone game to try a translation?

Funny things happen in press releases. One in support of Surf Life Saving Australia was headed, 'Flags come down on beaches in Mullumbimby, but money comes in for lifesavers.' Must be major climate change on the way.



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1/35 Banksia Drive Byron Industrial Estate 6685 6722



shannon debreceny welcomes you to satiate restaurant tuesday to saturday bar open from 4pm extensive wine list degustation fr \$55 p.h

33 byron st bangalow phone 66871010

'WE'VE STOOD THE TEST OF TIME'

\$495,000 **VIEWS TO PACIFIC**

- Centrally located, beautifully presented
- 3 bedroom home with built-in robes
- 2 with ensuites, perfect for guests
- East-facing verandah captures ocean views
- 2 separate private & peaceful courtyards
- Single car garage with automatic door

ON THE RIVER, BY THE BEACH **\$590,000**

- Circa 1950's New Brighton home
- Ideal for extended family, holiday getaway or investment opportunity
- 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 living areas over 2 levels on 1172m2 block
- 1 minute stroll to the beach in New Brighton
- Direct access to North Arm of Brunswick River
- New kitchen and flooring downstairs

\$595,000 **SURFSIDE**

- Spacious 4 bedroom, 3 bathroom home
- Master with ensuite + large walk-in-robe
- Open plan living, raked ceilings
- Downstairs separate rumpus/ office
- Approx 300 mtrs walk to surfing and fishing at South Golden Beach
- Undercover parking + storage area
- Beautiful landscaped gardens

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