THE BYRON SHIRE Echo

Volume 28 #29
Tuesday, December 31, 2013

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23,200 copies every week CAB AUDIT

GRAMMAR IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN KNOWING YOUR SHIT AND KNOWING YOU'RE SHIT

evolve yoga festival
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Bruns caravan park plans 'ignores' locals

Luis Feliu

Brunswick Heads residents long opposed to any cut in public access to the foreshore by the managers of the town's three state-run caravan parks say new grand plans for the parks and public reserves ignore local input on vital issues such as boundaries.

Plans to upgrade the three parks, including well-used foreshore reserves such as Torakina, were placed on display by the NSW Crown Holiday Parks Trust (formerly North Coast Holiday Parks) and Council just before Christmas. The public are invited to comment until February 21.

It's the fifth attempt since 2000 to prepare such plans by the secretive state-run body charged with running the parks after their takeover from Council by the state almost eight years ago.

Totalling more than 800 pages, the four separate documents include drawings and photos to reflect the scale of the proposed improvements, such as a new network of wide footpaths linking the caravan parks and other reserves.

Plans also propose to improve public facilities and new playgrounds at Banner and The Terrace parks.

But residents and members of the Foreshore Protection Group (FPG), which has long monitored the running of the parks, say the new plans still ignore Byron Shire Council licensing conditions on park boundaries, use of foreshore and encroached lands. The new conditions were adopted by Council on August 9, 2013.

FPG convener Michele Grant says the plans do not reference Byron

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Cowboys and lizards

Freaks! Space Cowboy and Texan oddity Lizard Man were seen disturbing the peace at Woodford festival in QLD on Sunday night. The pair will be doing the Monster Sideshow in the Byron Entertainment Centre, January 4 and 5. Tickets available at www.ticketor.com/thespacecowboy. Photo Jeff 'Meek Not Freaked' Dawson

Massive Lennox bushfire contained

Smoke bellows from Sunday's fire – about 40 rural fire service (RFS) volunteers stayed on the job all night to monitor the situation and extinguish spot fires. Photo Neil Campbell

Around 200 homes in and around the Linnaeus Estate and Bundaleer Road in Lennox Head were saved by firefighters on Sunday night.

Sixty residents were evacuated to Byron Bay High School after a massive bushfire threatened to sweep north towards Broken Head.

Sixty evacuated

A lightning strike is suspected to have started the blaze. The Coast Road between Byron Bay and Ballina remains closed as a result of the fire, which jumped the road at around 7.30pm. The blaze has burnt through around 200 hectares of bushland and there have been no reports of property damage at this stage.

Rock wall go-ahead

Cr Wanchap again votes against her own party

Belongil beach looks set to get its 'interim' rock wall after Greens councillor Rose Wanchap crossed the floor to immediately approve the works.

The decision was made at a Council extraordinary general meeting on Thursday December 19, and brought a rebuke from Greens Byron mayor Simon Richardson.

The Byron Bay real estate agent has regularly broken ranks with her party colleagues since being elected last year.

But Cr Wanchap has defended her position, telling *The Echo*, 'I do have a difference of opinion with my fellow Green councillors on a couple of key issues but the majority of the time we are in agreement.'

'What was approved at Council's last meeting was a planning decision on the design and application, which doesn't mean final approval has been granted. This will depend on the funding options and other relevant issues being addressed.

'It was simply another step in the process of which I am currently in agreement with.'

At the meeting, a report from the engineer who provided the design

continued on page 2 ➤

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Maca Castle upgrades the fun

Knockrow's Macadamia Castle recently opened a $500,000 convention centre.

Facilities include a conference room, a large 85-seat covered outdoor education 'pond' stage and a covered family barbecue area. The move is part of a proactive strategy to help deal with the possible loss of traffic because of the highway upgrade, which will bypass the Castle's front door.

The project was jointly funded by the Castle's owners and the federal Tourism Industry Regional Development Fund.

The Macadamia Castle's resident wombat celebrates the opening of a new convention centre. Photo Eve Jeffery

Belongil rock wall gets go-ahead

➤ **continued from page 1**

for the rock wall and a study of environmental effects were presented to Council with a staff recommendation that they be accepted.

Despite Greens' policy being against rock walls, Ms Wanchap sided with councillors Ibrahim, Cubis, Woods and Hunter to overturn a motion by councillor Paul Spooner and seconded by the mayor that would have seen a decision at least delayed.

Instead, an amended motion by Crs Ibrahim and Woods called for the works to proceed independently of a presentation on February 14 by the NSW Coastal Panel.

It also called for staff to develop a project plan, to be presented at the next Council meeting in February, 'outlining the steps forward'.

Mayor Richardson said the engineers would now give Council a report on cost, 'and that will basically be what the staff and engineers will be working towards'.

Cr Richardson's criticism of Cr Wanchap's decision to cross the floor was that it is a longstanding Greens party position.

'My point is [managed retreat] is a very strong election promise; people were voting for Rose Wanchap as a Greens 'representative who supported managed retreat,' he said.

And while Cr Wanchap agreed The Greens' policy is for 'managed retreat', she had a different interpretation.

'I agree that we do need to "manage" our retreat. However, I do not think having a half a dozen homes dangling from a cliff with all of their contents, building materials, asbestos etc being added to waste in our oceans is managing our retreat very well. Nor do I believe managing our retreat entails relocating dozens of homes to another site in the hills or otherwise.

'Expert advice from the UNSW Water Research Laboratory was that for a short seawall between two existing longer seawalls there would be minimal incremental difference in alongshore erosion, therefore shorebird roosting and nesting sites would be minimally affected. The main advantages of rock seawalls are that they offer a higher level of land protection and have a longer life and lower maintenance. Specialist engineers agree that the effect on the beach is the same whether the protection works are sand bags or rocks. What is environmental about floating hessian bags negatively impacting on our bird and marine life?

'I believe there are many more Greens supporters who would agree with me once they looked at the facts.'

Mullum Showground Trust looks to boost income

Should the Mullumbimby Showgrounds become a 'primitive' camping ground to increase its revenue?

It's just one suggestion that was made in a new draft plan of management (POM), available at www.mullerenterprise.com.au.

Ballina marketing company Muller Enterprise, representing the Mullumbimby Showground Trust, is inviting the public to comment.

Set on 24.2 acres on Main Arm Road, it's the home to the Spaghetti Circus and holds weekly farmers markets as well as the yearly Mullum Show.

Public comment

Its amenities include stables, rodeo yards, a beer and food hall, a circus building with containers, a Rotary Club storage shed and pavilions.

While the 77-page document cites ageing infrastructure as a need to improve its financial viability, a master plan also suggests six precincts and 'four environmental priority areas' that would develop on existing infrastructure.

The grounds are classified as Crown lands, although through the *Local Government Act 1993* Council administers this reserve.

Hard copies of the draft plan are available at Byron Shire Council and the Trust Office, Mullumbimby Showground. Submissions close February 14, 2014.

Fed cuts threaten EDO

The organisation that educates and helps the public defend environmental and planning laws against corporations and governments has had its funding axed by federal attorney-general George Brandis.

The Environmental Defender's Office (EDO) have run a number of landmark court cases for community groups across Australia, including the recent court challenge on behalf of the residents of the Hunter Valley village of Bulga to the expansion of a coal mine operated by a subsidiary of Rio Tinto.

The EDO has also been of significant assistance to residents facing the coal seam gas expansion across the nation.

Without warning

The federal government announced 'without warning' that it would be ending $10 million in funding over four years for its offices across Australia, EDO NSW executive director Jeff Smith said.

He said those cuts threaten closure for the ACT, Northern Territory, North Queensland, Tasmania and Western Australian offices.

For other EDOs in NSW, Queensland, South Australia and Victoria, the federal funding reductions will see a cutback in legal services to those communities, and also follow a series of state funding cuts.

The Law Society of New South Wales contributes to EDO NSW with grants.

'Many Australians who care about protecting the environment will be alarmed about losing their EDOs,' said Mr Smith. No reply was received when comment was sought from attorney-general George Brandis by AAP.

Bruns caravan plans unveiled

➤ **continued from page 1**

Council's new licence conditions, which included new 'negotiated' park boundaries.

'Once again, park management [under Jim Bolger] has sought to maximise park encroachments and ignored the legal requirement to implement a three-metre foreshore buffer zone in Terrace Park.

'This would enable public access along the riverbank,' Ms Grant told *The Echo*.

Meanwhile mayor Simon Richardson told *The Echo*, 'Council has been negotiating with the North Coast Holiday Parks to ensure that public access along the foreshore and riverfront areas are maintained. This has been achieved, including maintaining public access through Massey Greene. Early in the new year I, along with the residents of Brunswick Heads, will be going over the plans of management with a fine-tooth comb to ensure it provides the best outcome for our residents and visitors. If it does not, we will be fighting to ensure our voices are heard.'

Utter contempt

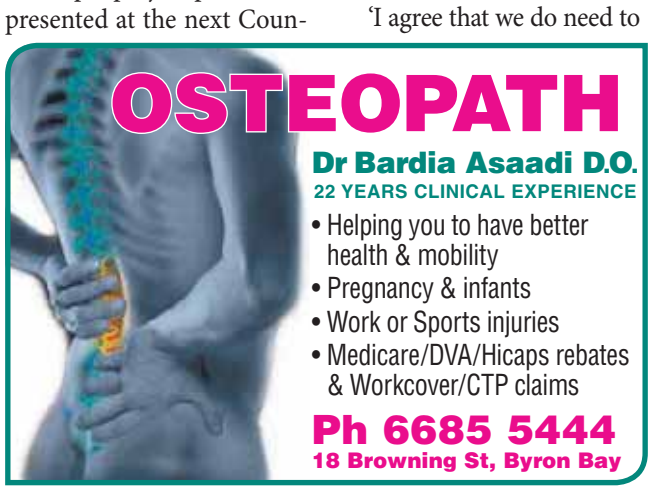
Longtime Brunswick Heads resident Patricia Warren also says the new plans show the 'utter contempt' the NSW government has for Byron Shire Council's resolutions on the parks' agreed operational boundaries. '[Under this plan] it will be left to the Reserve Trust to determine whether or not a member of the public can continue to use the public boat ramp.'

As for an amicable resolution between park management and the community, MP Don Page told *The Echo*, 'When conflict arose between Council and NCHP a year or so ago regarding plans, I told both parties I would not sign off on the leases as local government minister until the two parties sat down and tried to resolve their differences. I asked Mike Pearce from the premier's and cabinet office to act as facilitator.

'My last report indicated all issues except one have been resolved. No doubt the public consultation process will help inform outcomes further and I would expect the community's views to be taken into account.'

To view the plans, visit www.northcoastholidaypark.com.au and click on 'About Us' then 'Documents on Exhibition'. Hard copies are available at the Brunswick Heads Library. Ms Grant said a public meeting would be held later this month to discuss the proposed plans and prepare public submissions.

■ **See letters page 9**



Development plans submitted over holidays

Bangalow Station Street and Byron Woolies south carpark are back, baby

A major development is before Council, which would see a massive two-storey retail complex replace the existing south carpark at Byron Bay Woolies.

An atrium is planned, which would extend from the existing shops below Palace cinemas, and behind that would be a ground-floor supermarket. Retail shops would take up a second level and underground parking for 160 cars is also proposed.

The applicant is Global Centres Australia Pty Ltd, and the development would be called Mercato on Byron.

According to the DA, the estimated cost of development is $17,555,000 and the area is 5134m². The DA, along with 21 supporting attachments, is available at Council's website. Public comment is open until January 17, 2014 and the DA number is 10.2013.587.1.

Meanwhile, a development application (DA) adjacent to the Bangalow A&I Hall that caused community concern earlier in 2013 is back before Council.

Previously, Sydney developers Gordon Highlands Pty Ltd sought to build eight apartments, three shops and basement car parking for 18 vehicles at 9 Station Street.

Apartments reduced

But in the current application, town planner Paul De Fina describes it as 'a two-storey development comprising a mix of uses with both retail facilities and one- and two- bedroom apartments with basement car parking.'

To achieve this, the existing dwelling would be partially demolished and relocated, and the four-car garage demolished. Two street trees and three palm trees would also need removing. According to the DA form, the estimated cost of the development is $4,285,100 and the floor area proposed is 1,098m². The DA number is 10.2013.570 and is on Council's website for public exhibition until January 17.

A major facelift would see the rear carpark at the southern end of Byron Woolies replaced by a two-storey retail building, supermarket and underground parking.

An artist's impression of the newly submitted plans for 9 Station Street, which would be next door to the Bangalow A&I Hall. The previous design was rejected by Council because of its 'bulk and scale.'

Regional transport plans announced: northern rivers largely ignored

Hans Lovejoy

The NSW government has failed to include the northern rivers in a recent statewide press release spruiking its commitment to regional transport.

The western, central west, Murray and Murrumbidgee, New England and north west and central coast regions of NSW were all promoted as areas worthwhile of infrastructure investment.

But not us.

However, a document was released by the coalition on December 19, entitled *Northern Rivers Regional Transport Plan*.

Fastest growing region in NSW

It was among eight other NSW transport studies released just before the holiday break, and is available at www.transport.nsw.gov.au.

Surprisingly, the omission of our region in government promotions comes despite the report admitting that the northern rivers is the fastest-growing region in NSW, 'at about 0.9 per cent per year.'

Additionally, the 52-page document lifts material from the previous Casino to Murwillumbah Transport Study, released early in 2013.

Disadvantaged

As for statistics, the report says approximately 48 per cent of the northern rivers population is concentrated within the four centres of Tweed Heads, Ballina, Lismore and Casino. And we are an ageing bunch, as 'the proportion of the population aged 65 or over is expected to increase from 19 per cent in 2011 to 28 per cent in 2031.'

Not only that, but our region 'has an above average level of social disadvantage compared to the NSW median.'

And while the report points to the Lismore and Byron Bay road corridor as continuing 'to see the most demand for travel,' there were no plans to improve that road except 'Road safety works relating to decommissioning of fixed speed cameras at Bangalow Road, Clunes.' The report claims that cost is $381,900.

The disused railway line that runs from Casino to Murwillumbah – and which also runs between Lismore and Byron – was barely touched upon, but mention was made of developing 'service plans to encourage public transport use to connect to festivals in the northern rivers region.'

A future high-speed rail corridor was also vaguely referred to, but no plans as yet: currently the government only wants to 'identify and protect a future high-speed rail corridor between Brisbane, the northern rivers region and Sydney.'

Gripping stuff

Wow, gripping stuff huh?

Statements such as 'We will work' were repeated 17 times. There are endless unspecific costings, time-frames, locations and commitments. I wonder how much this report cost?

For example, there is, 'ongoing investment in maintenance to improve safety and reliability on the rail network.'

But where and how much?

There was the introduction of NSW TrainLink, however, which 'operates services to the northern rivers region, and for the first time provides a dedicated organisation focused on improving services for our rail customers in regional NSW.' The report claims $389 million will go to 'support and improve rural and regional bus services.'

As for the Byron Shire, the report claims a total of $1,721,136 was spent improving our roads, yet our Shire did not benefit from grants that were awarded to other shires for boating, transit centres, interchanges and cycleways. In contrast, Ballina received $3,136,645 in funding for all that.

However, we should probably be thankful we have a huge highway that we can soon barrel down.

Call me cynical, but reading such repetitive guff reminds me of BBC's *Yes Minister*.

Roads are used because the railways have long been abandoned by governments who are beholden to fossil fuel and transport corporations. So the focus is of the report is, you guessed it, roads.

The two people that are presently responsible for this are minister for transport, Gladys Berejiklian, and minister for roads and ports, Duncan Gay.

Sunday at the Bruns Housie…

Mullumbimby-ites Damo, Abbey and Michelle Lang were among dozens of families who braved Sunday's stormy weather to make the pilgrimage to the Housie Tent in Brunswick Heads. The annual fundraiser for the VRA is a holiday bucket list must. Photo Eve Jeffery

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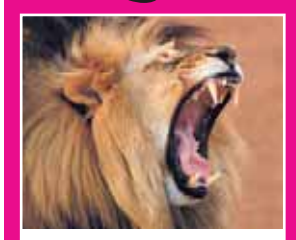
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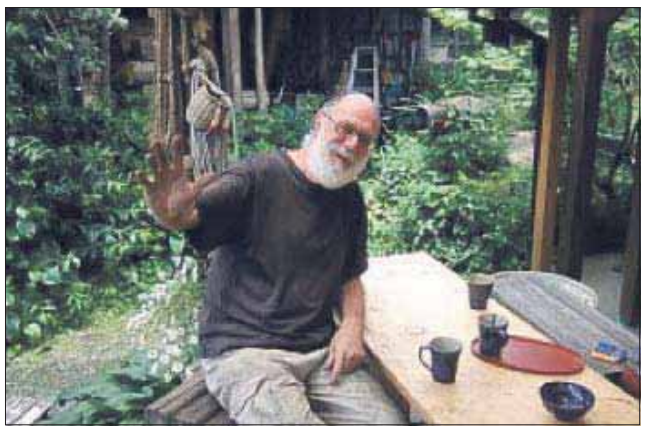
Master potter Bob Connery passes



David Cross

Stokers Siding Pottery has for the past 30 years been an icon of the northern rivers art scene.

And sadly, its creator Bob Connery has died.

The master potter, musician, scientist, teacher and visionary died peacefully at Murwillumbah Hospital on December 12 as his daughters sang his soul on with a rendition of *Six White Horses*.

Along with his partner Julie Rainow, who managed the Stokers Siding Pottery Gallery, they showcased arts and crafts from the northern rivers and all over Australia, including the work of Indigenous artists. They have nurtured and helped develop the careers of dozens of other artists and craftsmen and women.

Bob's own work was internationally acclaimed and recognised, particularly in Japan where his lustreware ceramics were so highly regarded that he was given 'signing rights' by Grand Tea Master Sen Shoshitsu, effectively guaranteeing the quality and worth of his work. Bob was only one of two westerners to have been accorded such recognition and was accorded the right to have a kiln in Japan.

Descended from Irish rebels who were transported in the 1830s, Bob was born in 1941 in Sydney to relatively poor working-class parents. Schooled by the Marist Brothers, he received an academically rigorous but narrow education which placed heavy emphasis on sport but none at all on art.

Nevertheless, he developed an early interest in art, singing and dance, winning an art competition at the age of 12. It was characteristic of Bob that he pursued, from an early age, a broad range of interests and was an intensely curious observer of the world around him. Bob studied science at the University of NSW and obtained a Diploma of Education. In 1961 Bob married Mary-Lee and, over the next few years, they had three children.

Love of jazz

His love of music drew him into the Sydney jazz scene of the early 1960s, playing with the likes of Geoff Bull and Dick Hughes. Later he branched out to the blues scene, establishing his own band but also singing. Bob also blew a mean blues harp and played flute, sax and clarinet. The move to the far north coast was an outcome of a vision Bob had of creating an arts community along the lines of Monsalvat.

Along with a number of friends, he bought a run-down old dairy and banana farm at Stokers Siding and Duck Palace was born.

Whether throwing pots, playing music or cooking for friends, Bob was a passionate perfectionist. Sometimes a hard taskmaster, he was a loyal and generous friend, a devoted family man and a respected community elder.

Pocket school unveils mosaic

The Pocket Public School and the local community recently worked together on a major art project.

The students were inspired to create a striking piece of artwork to be hung on the library wall, for all to see as they entered the school grounds.

The school was lucky to have the support of community members Pauline Ross, Gay Allison and Nick Comer, The Pocket families, Kass, Liz, Lisa and Mona and donations from Tweed Heads Bunnings Warehouse and Ocean Shores Art Expo. All students contributed to creating the magnificent giant mosaic.

The mosaic represents significant features that flow from the school to the ocean.

This work of art will remain in the school for many years to come.

Some of the comments from excited and very proud students: Daina – 'It's fantastic', Tiki-Rose – 'It looks beautiful', Poppy – 'It's very colourful', Amelia – 'I think it's totally amazing and so are the colours', Chung – 'Epic!', and Seth and Jack – 'It was a fun, new challenge and looks really good up on our wall!'

New council suspension laws used by MP Page

Hans Lovejoy

A NSW shire council roughly the size of Tasmania and with a population of only 2,000 has had its councillors suspended by local government minister and Byron Bay resident Don Page.

Councillors in the Central Darling Shire, located in the state's far west, were suspended just before Christmas.

It's the first use of new 'early intervention' legislation which was introduced in NSW parliament earlier in 2013.

The suspension only affects elected councillors, not staff, and comes after NSW Treasury claimed the council was in a 'very weak and deteriorating' financial position.

Mr Page says he 'bypassed the option of giving the council an order to improve because of the dire state of the council's finances.'

But mayor of Central Darling, Ray Longfellow, told *The Echo* that despite clear and early warnings of financial difficulty to Mr Page's department, support was not forthcoming.

'Nothing came out of the meetings we had with the department of local government,' he said, 'despite all meetings being instigated by us.

'Our suggestion was instead of getting in an administrator, we needed advisers. With an administrator, you sit on the outside rather than being involved,' he said.

But Mr Page told *The Echo* that the Central Darling councillors told him in June this year, 'they were budgeting for a surplus of over $1m for 2013/14.' In September they told me they would break even. In late November they told me they wouldn't be able to pay their wages prior to Christmas.

'They had no plan to manage their finances, despite employing very highly paid external consultants, other than for some other tier of government to bail them out.

'Their bank would not extend further credit so we had no option but to appoint an administrator.'

Funding insufficient

However, the issue is about state and federal funding, says Mr Longfellow.

'Over a period of time, the funding by both the federal and state governments have become insufficient. We have a huge network of roads to maintain. The money has being drying up over the last ten years. We can't increase our rate base; we rely heavily on grant money to operate.'

Mr Page added that Central Darling Shire Council's case was unique, 'and the government is not currently considering the use of the temporary suspension powers on any other council at this time.'

According to www.governmentnews.com.au, a number of other local governments are also understood to be 'skirting close intervention on the ministerial watch list.'

ATO withdraws GST proposal

The Australian Tax Office (ATO) announced it would not extend the Goods and Services Tax (GST) to include mobile-home park site rentals, a move which would have added ten per cent to the cost of site rentals. On the north coast, where many pensioners live in mobile-home parks, this could have added up to $50 a week to their rents.

The issue crossed party lines as both the ALP Richmond MP, Justine Elliot, and Nationals Page MP, Kevin Hogan, backed calls by the Affiliated Residential Parks Residents Association (ARPRA) to have the proposal scrapped. Ms Elliot raised the issue in parliament and Mr Hogan wrote to the ATO and assistant treasurer Arthur Sinodinos asking them to drop the idea.

The ATO said it had 'considered comments on its draft ruling'.

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Resistance now more prepared at Bentley

Story & photo Mel Hargraves

Preparations for a coal seam gas (CSG) blockade and campsite are underway by residents at Bentley, 12km north-west of Casino.

Metgasco plan to drill 2,100 metres at the Rosella wellsite located at 1480 Bentley Road, but they have met with fierce community opposition with protectors saying they are now more prepared than those in Glenugie and Doubtful Creek.

One protector who stands to be affected is neighbour David Scarrabelotti and his family. He has lived in the district since the end of World War I, and owns the Green Mountain group of companies that operate farming enterprises in the northern rivers and New England areas.

Additionally, he owns a meatworks in the Brisbane valley and his companies export all around the world.

Mr Scarrabelotti told *The Echo* the wellsite will directly impact on his business.

'Our property is downstream from the proposed drilling and there are a lot of unanswered questions in relation to the threat to the water table and the environment,' he said. 'This is a people area; we have houses around here, the noise and the visual impacts will also affect us all.'

Mr Scarrabelotti said there was no consultation from government or Metgasco and believes the industry doesn't offer any value to the Australian public. Having observed the impacts from the mining industry in other regions, he says the local area will not benefit, particularly in the long term.

'They will use minimum local contractors – you go to Roma and the average person can't afford the rents, the people who do the ordinary jobs need to be driven in and driven out,' he said.

Metgasco not food producers

He added that the mining industry doesn't have the 'same level of stringency' as food production, 'because they are not producing food for a start; they are a step back in the chain of where people get their food from.'

The campsite for protectors is being set up on Bungabee Road, off Bentley Road, and will have a kitchen, cafe, information stall, composting toilets, hand basins, water, parking and camping.

Vale Robyn Trewartha

Byron Bay has lost a well-known community volunteer with the passing of Robyn Trewartha.

Affectionately known as 'Miss T' to the St Finbarr's students, Robyn died on December 19 after a short fight with cancer. She was 62.

After moving from Sydney to Byron in the late 90s, Robyn established a new life in the community and had a willingness to lend a hand whenever possible. For Robyn, the word 'no' didn't exist.

Robyn's funeral service was held last Friday at Melaleuca Station crematorium and was attended by family, friends and representatives of the many organisations she volunteered for. Two of her closest friends spoke of her humour, love of life and how she would have been miffed that there was a lot of fuss being made. Robyn gave so much and was embarrassed when she was recognised for it.

Her volunteer work extended to providing administration support to the Byron police, fundraising for the Pink Ladies, Byron Hospital Auxiliary, NSW Rural Fire Service and assisting families who needed support through Family First.

More recently, she had been spending countless hours covering books and providing support in the library at St Finbarr's School.

The staff and students will miss her. Robyn had a huge heart of gold and will be sadly missed by many but forever remembered.

Greedy tax grab by govt: NSWLG

It's not even up and running yet, but the newly formed department that will manage rural land in NSW is under fire from the peak body that represents the state's councils.

A proposal to tax all NSW properties under two hectares by the Local Land Services Board of Chairs (BoC) has been slammed by Local Government NSW (LGNSW).

'Extremely alarming' is how president of LGNSW, Cr Keith Rhoades AFSM, described the plans.

'It essentially recommends subjecting property owners who do not use Local Land Services to yet another tax, separate from their council rates.'

Mr Rhoades says their submission recommends that councils collect the new tax on behalf of Local Land Services, and are therefore 'trying to pass the buck and get councils to do their dirty work and collect their rates.'

'This is not on!' he said.

Little consultation

'The presumption that councils have the capacity and administrative resources to collect another tax for the government highlights just how little consultation the Local Land Services BoC has carried out on the issue.

'Councils across NSW are sick of having state government responsibilities foisted upon them and oppose being the government's tax agent.'

Mr Rhoades is calling on the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) and the NSW government to reject the Local Land Services BoC submission.

Meanwhile, a website that will replace the previous Catchment Management Authorities and Livestock Health and Pest Authority sites has been launched by the Local Land Services.

And yet locally, Livestock Health and Pest Authorities (LHPA) is under fire from some north coast land-owners who are refusing to pay their rates due to what they say is a lack of value for money.

Local Land Services launches in January with eleven regions throughout NSW, and the sub-region for the north coast runs from Tweed down to Port Macquarie-Hastings.

For more visit www.lls.nsw.gov.au.

New GM for Tweed Council

The man who steered Tweed Shire Council for the past nine months as acting general manager (GM) has been selected as the new boss.

Troy Green, 42, is the council's former technology and corporate services director, and replaces former sacked GM David Keenan.

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Echo

Volume 28 #29 December 31, 2013

Powerful tools in PR

He said he is a 'powerful tool', in the media and yes, he is a tool.

'I have an article on drink driving that I reckon would fit great on the pages of *The Echo*,' was the email opener, and that seemed innocuous enough.

It was a 'cold call' email from an Australian public relations company spokesperson, and he offered at first glance what looked like a news item. And when I checked his website, the penny dropped. I had wasted my time: the opening paragraph said they spread 'a brand's message through creative and colourful content strategy'.

Indeed one of the 'articles' posted gushed in support of the fossil fuel industry. So I asked, 'Are you shilling a product in the guise of it being "content"? Just a thought – no accusations here, just curiosity.'

While it seemed slightly antagonistic to keep questioning his integrity (he eventually had enough of me), it is reasonable to be fiercely protective of information. After all, we live in an age where there are more employed in the public relations sector than journalism. It's a recent tipping point, and one that many people would know. But not everyone.

Which leads us to the US news and entertainment website, *BuzzFeed*.

The Guardian last week reported that it is swimming in cash, raised primarily from presenting advertorial, or advertising that looks like news editorial. It strikes at the heart of 'old' news media because the two have always been separated. And for good reason: journalism that operates without fear or favour is the most valuable.

Anyway, the point is that there is a push, through newly discovered social media principles, to encourage us to interact with products so we might end up buying them. It's a clear departure from traditional news gathering and makes the credibility of news unclear.

On the bright side, a new journalism venture worth a reported $250 million has been launched between eBay founder Pierre Omidyar and former *Guardian* journalist Glenn Greenwald. Greenwald is one of the few voices that question the powerful and elite, so let's hope he has the courage to ask whether eBay should be taxed more in light of the effect eBay has on traditional 'bricks and mortar' retailers.

Hans Lovejoy, editor

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Mullumbimby: Village Way, Stuart St. Ph 02 6684 1777 Fax 02 6684 1719
Byron Bay: Level 1, Byron Community Centre, 69 Jonson St. Ph 6685 5222
Printer: Horton Media Australia Ltd Reg. by Aust. Post Pub. No. NBF9237

In the freedom bunker with Tim

That Tim Wilson has not been offered a gig hosting Play School *is a clear indication of the ABC's bias.*

by Mungo MacCallum

The appointment of Tim Wilson, a senior warrior from the right wing think tank and lobby group the Institute of Public Affairs, as a Human Rights Commissioner (HRC) has come as an understandable shock to the public.

After all, he had barely drawn breath since demanding that the HRC be abolished, destroyed, expunged from the face of the Earth.

But the money was good, so as a convinced free enterpriser, he would have been morally remiss if he had failed to grab it. The argument of the attorney-general, George Brandis, that Wilson's presence was necessary to redress the balance away from human rights and in favour of free speech sounded a little like sophistry.

After all, unlike most other HRC's present clients, free speech already has plenty of high-powered defenders: a year ago the media proprietors secured the rejection of the reform package proposed by one of Brandis's predecessors, Nicola Roxon, and in the same week that Brandis announced Wilson's appointment the High Court rejected the New South Wales Liberal government's attempts to ban corporate donations to political parties on the grounds that it would infringe the right to free speech.

However, fairness dictated that we should give the other side of the argument a hearing, so after prolonged negotiation I was granted an exclusive interview with the incoming commissioner.

It took place in the headquarters of the IPA – not the Institute's public office, but the secret underground bunker in which the IPA stashes its supplies of propaganda and firearms against the day the Left attempts to regain power and the forces of right (and Right) are needed to restore public order.

Naturally I am not allowed to divulge the exact location, but I can say that the bunker is located in one of Sydney's more expensive and salubrious suburbs, handy to shops, transport and a turbo-charged luxury cruiser in case of the need for evacuation.

It is furnished simply and tastefully in stainless steel and black leather, and staffed by a team of devoted retainers who are, for obvious reasons, never allowed to leave the premises – even freedom must have its limits. Around the walls are shelves lined with remaindered copies of the IPA's numerous publications – Capitalising Civilisation, The Equality Myth, Give Feudalism a Chance, Brainwashing for Fun and Profit and A Child's Garden of Advertising Jingles, among others. And at an imposing desk sat Tim Wilson, checking the proofs of his latest monograph – The Iron Fist in the Carbon Steel Glove: a tribute to Margaret Thatcher.

In the flesh (or at least I assumed it was flesh) Wilson is a shy and retiring man, devoted to his researches, his writing and some occasional S and M.

His rare forays into public life have included 1,832 pieces of printed polemic and 2,624 appearances on the electronic media, including 37 as a panellist on the ABC's notoriously left-wing Q&A panel. But he has not, he complains, been offered a gig hosting *'Play School* – a clear indication of the national broadcaster's bias.

'The figures speak for themselves,' Wilson avers. 'Surveys show consistently that the ABC is the most loved and trusted media outlet in the country. This is clearly unfair to the private broadcasters – I mean, how can you have real free speech if people don't love and trust Foxtel?'

His logic was, as always, impeccable, but I still felt a shade of unease. Surely the point was that the ABC provided services and points of view that the commercials did not because they found them unprofitable?

'Precisely,' rejoined Wilson, 'that's what's unfair about it.'

If the commercials had the money the ABC spends on the left-wing arty farty nonsense, they could use it to provide even more of the stuff that is profitable. Free speech in action.'

So moving right along, I asked Wilson how he saw his new role as Human Rights Commissioner. He drew himself to his full height, and then improved it by climbing on the desk. 'I,' he proclaimed, 'will be the representative of the forgotten people.

'The huddled masses yearning to breathe free. People ignored by the elitist latte-sippers, by readers of the Fairfax press. Those striving to be heard above the politically correct left-wing clamour of *The Monthly*. People like…' he paused reverently '… Andrew Bolt. Piers Akerman. Alan Jones. Ray Hadley.

'The homeless, tempest-tost. Or should that perhaps be tossed? Never mind, you get the drift.'

I said that I did, but didn't those people already have their own grandstands in the media?

They were hardly short of a voice. 'Up to a point,' conceded Wilson, 'but there are still many misguided folk who don't take them seriously, who treat them as clowns and bullies.

'I intend to make sure they are seen as the philosopher kings that ratings assure us they are. That is free speech.'

I asked him if these were his own thoughts, or were they at all influenced by the IPA, which was, after all, his paymaster. And anyway, who were the people behind the IPA? Were they actually the ones calling the tune?

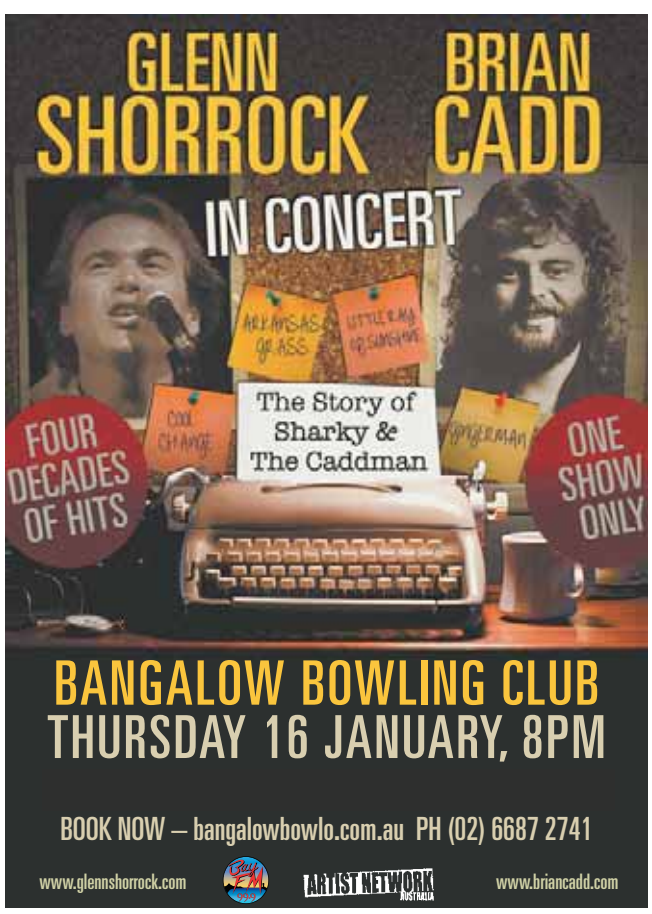
Wilson looked scandalised. 'You aren't asking me to reveal their identities,' he gasped, 'to invade their privacy. That would be totally unethical and besides not only would they stop paying me, they would probably send a hit man after me.

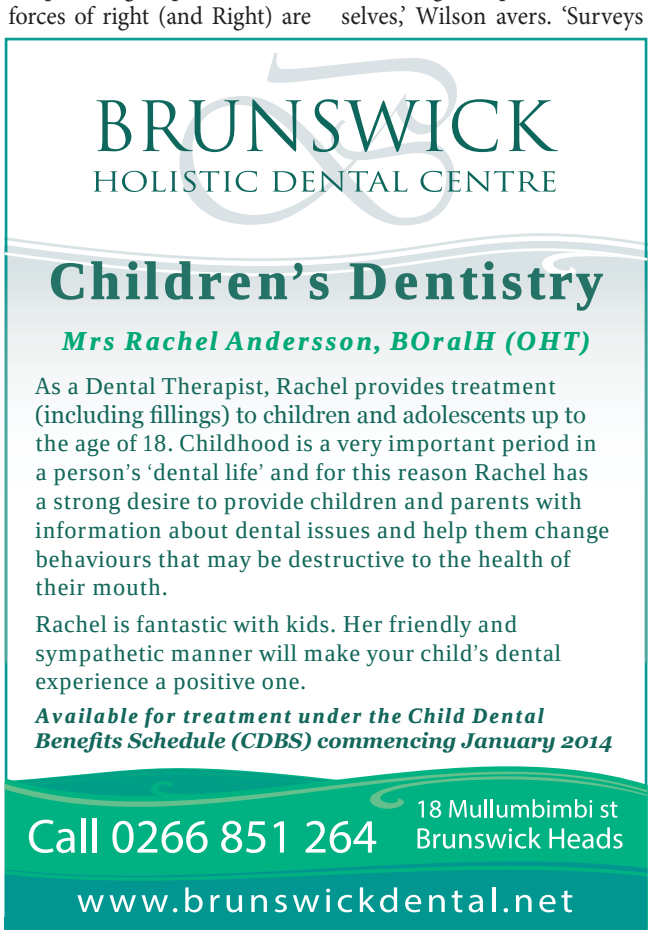
'After all, the right to free speech includes the right to speak not freely, or to not speak freely, or to freely not speak, or something.' He looked genuinely agitated. 'I mean, I can tell you, the IPA's sponsors are just ordinary Australians like you and me. Mining conglomerates. Gigantic monopoly cartels. Media barons. Tobacco companies. Arms dealers. Australia's unsung heroes.'

Not wishing to upset him further, this reporter made his excuses and left, realising that he had never before appreciated the plight of those Wilson rightly sees as his forgotten people.

The lonely, the misunderstood and the criminally insane. Now, finally, they will have a voice. And if they use it to attack, denigrate, defame and put the boot into those who are already down and out, well, that's just exercising their human rights. That's what George Brandis and the government he represents really mean by freedom of speech.

■ See Mungo's video at Echonetdaily.net.au





There is MO

I am very concerned about Adrian Gattenhof's criticism of my nascent half-MOvement (Letters, December 17). I would prefer that he was more considerate of the fact that there is at present only one member up against the entire fossil fool industry.

Nonetheless I am confident that half-MO will grow. When one in every 30 monkeys changes their ways, the rest follow. Even Adrian will one day feel compelled to a facial display of his distaste for the nasty imbalance of our planetary thermodynamics.

However, one is left to wonder whether half-MO will be enough to save our world. No worries, it will be a piece of piss. This year we can, should, and will transfer our banking to more caring and gentle institutions (ref marketforces.org.au). We will also invest in more solar panels and electric transport.

But can the fossil fools stop the Arctic divesting its methane into the air? Can we keep those atoms of fear out of the atMOsphere? Stay tuned, there's MO.

Sapoty Brook
Mullumbimby

Instant death

For many years I have been distressed by the fact that if we do have to poison feral animals (and in some cases unfortunately we do have to) why did we have to use such a barbarous method as 1080 baits, which cause such an agonising death, as mentioned in Howard Furness's letter of December 17? Why can't we use something that gives animals an instant stroke or heart attack? I used to think.

Then some time ago I was watching a program on Prof Rick Stein of the CSIRO who was experimenting with luring cane toad tadpoles into traps so they would be removed from the environment. In the course of an interview he proclaimed in relation to the action of toad venom, 'It gives them (predatory animals) an instant heart attack'. I wrote to Prof Stein in regards to using toad poison in baits but I didn't receive a reply. Surely this is a possibility. We have plenty of specimens we could 'milk'.

It needs research, which is unlikely to be funded under the present government, but if the idea worked it could in fact create a whole new industry and the product could possibly even be exported.

David Gilet
Byron Bay

Dodgy costings

I refer to the costings of the recent rail feasibility study for the Casino to Murwillumbah line. The restoration of the rail line from Byron Bay to Mullumbimby is estimated to cost $202 million.

This is a 16km long stretch of rail track. It has approximately 25 wooden underbridges, of which 13 are less than 15m long, a total of approximately 600m. These underbridges have been estimated to cost $61 million. That is $100,000 for every metre of wooden underbridge.

A recent condition report, released with the feasibility study, requested all underbridges to be replaced. None of them had been physically inspected and it was acknowledged in a 2004 inspection report 15 of the 25 underbridges were considered to be in good or fair condition.

There are preliminaries and contingencies and overheads and unknowns and profits, but costing estimates of $200 million for this part of the track look to me as if it is intended not to go ahead – to say it politely.

Jens Krause
Byron Bay

Last act in Belongil rock saga?

From a gallery populated by two observers (no media) at Council's last meeting for 2013 I witnessed what was probably the last act in the saga of the Belongil rocks.

In a report of very dubious quality (does the GM ever vet his staff's work?) councillors were invited to 'endorse' a draft Review of Environmental Factors (REF) on the building of rock revetments on Belongil Beach access points and to 'agree' that that works would pose no 'significant' threat to to the environment including any fauna or flora. This decision was required to allow the progression of a consultant's plan for the works to commence.

On the basis of the staff report the recommendation was very hard to sustain as the REF had been extensively criticised by most of the reviewing agencies including the Coastal Panel (the preeminent state coastal scientists), Fisheries NSW, Trade and Investment Crown Lands, Office of Environment and Heritage and Cape Byron Marine Park. When questioned about this apparent dissociation, staff replied, in essence, that it was all okay as they were of the opinion that there was no environmental impact likely. And yes, their staff ecologist had been consulted but only on the matter of noise impacts in the construction phase.

On the basis of the extensive gaps in the staff work Cr Spooner moved that the Coastal Panel be invited to confer directly with councillors on the basis of their comments on the REF before the works were sanctioned. This was immediately countered by Cr Ibrahim with an amendment that they accept the staff recommendation. Three hours of predictable rhetoric then ensued.

As has been the case in all debates on this issue (remember that rocks were already approved in some form) the division was between the Greens/progressive independents and the Woods/Ibrahim pro-rocks faction with their fellow-travelling Green(?), Cr Wanchap. In this instance Cr Wanchap initially indicated that she may be in favour of prior consultation with the Coastal Panel but then became very confused.

In a strange dissertation in which she claimed to have consulted widely (never says with whom) and offered the opinion that the rock environment would probably be more beneficial to the wildlife than the beach, she convinced herself to once more give her 'casting vote' to the rocks faction.

The Belongil Lobby can be very pleased with whatever assistance they may have provided in the election of the Woods/Ibrahim faction, which has been unremittingly focused on their agenda. On the other hand the estimated cost of the project is already exorbitant and will escalate (as all council projects do), so financing will have to come from state, federal or private sources – not very likely in the current fiscal climate.

Should the project tend to flag it is likely that the Belongil Lobby will be once more looking to their lawyers as this is the precedent they need to rebuild all their currently crumbling walls. In this instant the Rock Faction may be glad they reluctantly supported the mayor's motion to get the legal advice that council staff had decided was unnecessary.

Tom Tabart
Bangalow

Defusing bombs

Up here in the valleys behind Mullum, in Wilsons Creek, Huonbrook and Wanganui, we are obliged to drive a slalom course around ever increasing potholes every time we go out in the car. It takes months for our over-worked council to get around to filling the holes with hot-mix.

The trouble is, avoiding potholes means we have to meander all over the road and when we meet a vehicle doing the same thing coming the other way there are some really close calls.

On top of this there is a deadly cocktail of speed, kids, trucks, joggers, stoners, school buses, distraction, dementia, booze and dizzy Sunday drivers. So it's only a matter of time before someone is killed or badly injured.

I understand there are public liability insurance issues around non-council people filling the potholes, so, maybe a solution would be to allow local contractors who live up these valleys to fill the potholes with a temporary hot-mix (circled with yellow paint) until the council gets around to doing it to spec. This would be a better solution than leaving them open like time-bombs waiting for accidents to happen.

Michael Balson
Upper Wilsons Creek

Misguided Mungo?

He may know his politics, but he hasn't looked closely at the science of fluoridated water.

continued on page 11 ➤

Govt contempt for public land

The current plans of management for the caravan parks now on exhibition are evidence of the utter contempt NSW Crown Holiday Parks Trust (NSWCHPT) and NSW Trade and Investment Crown Lands (NSWTICL) have for Byron Shire Council's resolutions on the operational boundaries for the caravan parks. Those critical resolutions are 12-627 of August 9, 2012, 12-995 of December 20 and 13-25 of February 14. Their attitude puts deputy premier Andrew Stoner (Crown Lands) and minister for local government Don Page in opposing camps.

The document also states that the trust manager may enter into the commercial leasing of the caravan park under s102 of the *Crown Lands Act 1989*. The notion of commercial leasing is consistent with the recommendation in Deplan's confidential report September 2005 to the then Department of Lands.

In the context of Ferry Reserve caravan park, approximately 1.2ha of land were compulsorily acquired to expand the Crown reserve to include the old Pacific Highway and the old Fins building. Development is proposed on land zoned E2 which at this stage prohibits caravan parks.

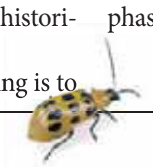
Potential revenue raising land has been given over to 'recreational facilities' as opposed to vacating the foreshore land between the paved former road reserve and the river and using it as recreational land for members of the public and caravan park clientele. This would have returned that land to its historical use as parkland.

The old Fins building is to be reconfigured as dormitory-style accommodation on the ground floor, with self-contained units on the second floor, shared amenities, a common room and guest lounge. The document labels this as 'group accommodation.' It is a hard to imagine this as anything other than backpacker accommodation.

It will be left to the Reserve Trust to determine whether or not a member of the public can continue to use the public boat ramp. Such discretionary power in the hands of any manager prone to a short fuse and poor public relations skills would be devastating for those who have conventionally used the boat ramp to launch their tinnies.

Long-term sites will be phased out.

Patricia Warren
Brunswick Heads



Letters to the Editor

Send to Letters Editor Michael McDonald, fax: 6684 1719 email: editor@echo.net.au Deadline: Noon, Friday. **Letters longer than 200 words may be cut**. Letters already published in other papers will not be considered. Please include your full name, address and phone number for verification purposes.

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Our Big Night Out™ with the twins at Comer Bem®

David Lovejoy

It was the twins' birthday last week. They were ten years old. Before the event they surprisingly came to one of their rare agreements, and wanted to celebrate in a child-friendly restaurant. Nothing crappy like a KFC®, which they knew their mother would never allow, but the new Brazilian chain, Comer Bem®. Portuguese is their father's native tongue and they already speak it rather well.

As the Vovô (grandpa) in charge of special events – that was news to me too – I had to organise this outing. I thought I had got all the ducks in a row, but it was a trying experience.

The nearest Comer Bem® in the city is situated about five miles away from the twins' home, so I had to drive there to make the arrangements. I don't like driving in the city because of all the billboards encouraging me to smoke. I have a medical certificate which allows me to prohibit smoking in my own house and car, but I have never really got used to the new laws.

They came in a few years after Australia signed the Trans Pacific Partnership™ agreement. It was during Tony Abbott's government – the prime minister who said on winning an election, 'Australia is now open for business.'© Nobody at the time realised what he meant. Anyway, one of the clauses of the agreement, kept secret until it was enacted, allows multinational corporations to sue governments that make regulations affecting their profits. Australia's laws against cigarette advertising and smoking in public were among the first targets of big tobacco, and the government had to capitulate.

When I got to the restaurant and explained to the manager about our intended birthday party, he was very helpful. In fact, he had a printed tariff covering such events and I was able to choose from the items that were within our budget. Unfortunately there were not many we could afford.

Bringing in a Birthday Cake™ and singing *Happy Birthday*© were right out. McDonald's® have registered a trademark over 'all cake and pastry products designed for use during birthdays or other significant celebratory events' and the Disney® Corporation owns copyright on the song. It would have been much too expensive to go the traditional way. Some parents of course cannot bear not to give their children what they had free in the days before the trade legislation, so there are cases of birthdays causing bankruptcies and rumours of illicit home performances of *Happy Birthday*© being discovered by the Intellectual Property™ police.

Most people are law-abiding, and don't even know

what the penalties are for breaching Intellectual Property™ rights. I'm not sure if I'm up to date on them, but I know that they have got steadily more severe since the original 'negotiations' were made by Andrew Robb with the US corporations on behalf of the Liberal Party. Back then the IP™ issues were things like pirated music and movies, and five-figure fines were considered sufficiently intimidating. But some people are incorrigible and have no sense of economic responsibility, so the penalties had to be strengthened. I think ten years' jail for a first offence is in the current statute.

Mind you, IP takes in a lot more these days than it did when Mr Robb was conducting his secret sessions with the multinationals. Then he only needed to ensure, for example, that the pharmaceutical giants got to write clauses in the draft agreements banning cheap generic drugs and that the media companies were comfortable with extending copyright protection by 100 years. Now the protection of corporate rights is much more comprehensive, and constitutes one of our government's key responsibilities.

Anyway, I chose what we were to eat and drink, and what we were allowed to sing, negotiated a price and on the appointed day the family turned up to celebrate the twins' birthday.

The first thing we did, of course, was find coins to unlock the stack of IKEA® chairs that had been reserved for us to rent. Unfortunately, after we had settled down we had an argument with the waiter.

It was my fault, as I hadn't looked at the tariff carefully enough. I had turned down the manager's suggestion of Nestlé® bottled water and said that tap water would be acceptable. Now I found that Nestlé® also owned all the artesian water in the ground beneath us, having been assigned the rights in return for dropping their TPP law suit against the government. Everyone agreed it was an example of corporate civic generosity as they were almost certain to win. After all, breast-feeding does severely affect the sales of powdered milk, and many people look on the practice as trying to get something for nothing. Despite Nestlé®'s public-spirited gesture there is still a lobby of magistrates and churches trying to outlaw breast-feeding, so the corporation may end up with the legislation it wanted as well as all the potable water in the state.

In short we had to pay for our drinks, which I wasn't expecting, but I was able to balance the budget by quietly deleting the Nestlé® chocolate mousse dessert from the menu. You may be wondering why we, of all families, were drinking water rather than alcohol. Alas, the twins in their innocence when they made their choice of venue did not know that Comer Bem® is affiliated with Coca-Cola®, which only allows the serving of water or sugared water in its restaurants. We have a family rule against taking more than ten teaspoons of sugar in any one drink, so for once the adults, like the children, had to make do with water.

Despite this, and my clumsiness with the menu, we had a good time. The Brazilian food was tasty, the twins loved the out-of-copyright carols we sang, and the Party Hats™ we put on, purchased in advance at Wal-Mart®, which has taken over all the familiar Woolworths® and Coles® stores, lent our group such an air of desperate frivolity that the other restaurant patrons gave us a wide berth.

On the way home we encountered long traffic delays as emergency crews dealt with another fracking gas rig explosion in a nearby suburb, but we were too tired and happy to worry about it.

➤ LETTERS
continued from page 9

There is virtually no science behind it, and what there is doesn't support the myth that fluoride is good for us.

I may not know politics like Mungo, but as a Boston-trained physician, specialising in preventive medicine at Johns Hopkins, with six years as a commissioned officer in the US Public Health Service, the founder of the first wellness centre in the US (1975), and published in the *American Journal of Public Health*, *The New England Journal of Medicine*, and the *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, I believe I can assess the science (or lack thereof) more accurately than Mungo has.

Fluoridation was actually grandfathered during the same era that doctors were advertising Camels, irradiating children's thymuses with X-rays, and lobotomising those with mental illness.

No hard research was ever done and I challenge him to show me any science behind his statement, 'the evidence was, after all, overwhelming: huge improvements in children's teeth at a minimal cost with negligible, if not non-existent, side effects'. The improvements in children's teeth were across the board in fluoridated and non-fluoridated areas.

His most grievous error is that he, like so many others, have it backwards. The burden of proof of the effectiveness of any intervention lies with its proponents. This has never been accomplished with fluoridated water.

What's backwards is that untainted-water proponents are not required to prove that it's dangerous (although this is being done because of the negligence of the authorities pushing fluoride).

Evidence of the dodgy 'science':

1. NSW Health's November 2013 report, distributed to Council last month, asks on p. 11: 'Do randomised controlled trials support the fluoridation of the water supply? A: ... Although there are no randomised controlled trials of fluoridation of the water supply.'

They then proceed to compare it to topical fluoride treatments. This comparison is not scientifically sound. Topical treatment does not begin to compare to systemic dosing via water – they are two entirely different mechanisms. By their own admission, there is no science to show fluoridated water's effectiveness.

2. 97 per cent of western Europe does not fluoridate and their decay rates are comparable to fluoridated countries.

3. A 2012 Harvard University meta-analysis of about two dozen studies in a peer-reviewed US federal journal

continued on page 12 ➤

London's confusing cops and inverted houses

Story & photos Daniel Sage

A new recruitment campaign by the Metropolitan Police has killed about eight birds with one stone. All over town young officers beam from posters above a tagline that reads: *'Being you means we can be us*. No-one is sure what it means, although the small print says a job is on offer.

There was a time coppers broke up fights on a Saturday night and kept yobbos at bay with a burly walk about the neighbourhood and kindly words for the vulnerable. Now it's all CCTV and computer profiling. And sometimes riot work if the plebs get rowdy.

But, being you means we can be us is a new turn in the game. They are messing with our minds. It's a phrase of such calculated precision it perfectly blends meaning and nonsense. Raised eyebrows and a mass shrug from the street have obliged the police to explain the poster's message is about making the force as diverse as the public it serves. A noble wish made awkward for being a bit creepy and incoherent.

Teams of writers of every nationality must have taken half the summer drafting versions. Being us means you can be you. Being we means him can be I? The website of the Metropolitan Police is itself a paragon of diversity,

accessible in 65 languages including Hindi, Swahili, two Chinese dialects, Afrikaans, and Yiddish. Will it have got the quirky phrase right in its many translations, balanced to attract the diverse sorts they're after? We shall see. The future safety of London rests on it.

Perhaps the new police force will have better luck in finding out who's been turning houses upside down around the capital, a phenomenon as topsy-turvy as the advert. Or, if not who – since that's easy, it takes months of building work to do it – then why? Not to make them harder to break into, surely. The most recent example was unveiled this week in Blackfriars.

Every tiny detail is inverted, from the lace curtains to the antenna to the bricks and upside down floors and furniture. 'I'm not against architecture,' explains proud builder Alex Chinneck, who, although he has visited Australia, does not plan to live in the house. 'It's a sculpture. And one this size,' he says, perhaps hitting an artist's bullseye, 'is impossible to ignore.' The house will remain until demolition in 2016 for a conventional office block.

It's a leap from his last art project, a house remodelled in the summer in Margate to look as if it was melting into the road. Title: *From the Knees of My Nose to the Belly of My Toes* (of course.) Next year he plans a house made entirely of melting bricks.

It could all be a case of architects behaving badly. A cry against the ugly towers rising up everywhere that bulge with unnatural shapes and stabbing profiles. Small, super-wacky buildings help people feel we're not alone and dwarfed by the corporations.

Nearby along the river, and now in its third year, the roof of the Southbank centre has a boat perched on top. It's an awesome folly, half fishing vessel, half art hotel. You can rent it for the night to sleep in. And if there's a superflood, you'll be laughing.

Alex Chinneck's upside-down house in Blackfriars.

Meanwhile, for the Christmas season, the middle of Piccadilly Circus has been enclosed in a snowdome. Every now and then, snow is blown around by hidden fans. It's all very festive. They should make one for the whole city. We're only one step away from the *Truman Show* anyway. We have by far the most CCTV coverage in the world, close on two million cameras and counting, dangerous psycho-police who speak 65 languages, a sky so silver grey it could be metal… There would need to be holes to let Santa in and our unused New Year resolutions out, and a big engine underneath to shake it all up once in a while.

And maybe, without knowing the true reality, we would be placed high up on some giant's mantelpiece in another dimension to live long and peacefully. If we aren't already.

■ One-time resident of the Belongil, writer Daniel Sage misses taking his coffee on the dunes and sharpening his pen under the watchful eye of tree frogs, but now he's back in his home town London where he works on Fleet Street and writes about the comings and goings of that bustling, bursting metropolis. His novel *Fall Curve* was published in 2011.

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➤ **LETTERS**
continued from page 11

(*Environmental Health Perspective*) showed that fluoride exposure at only modestly raised levels significantly decreases the IQ of the children exposed to it.

4. Studies to prove fluoride is *not* harmful are prohibitively expensive because controlling for all the variables is close to impossible. That's why there are none to speak of. That, coupled with the absence of solid evidence that fluoride is even effective, should put the issue to rest, except that it seems to threaten people's worldview that our government is actually looking out for our best interests. Hence the necessity for people to stand up for themselves against the onslaught of vested interests in the status quo.

America, the most fluoride-fooled country, is waking up to the illusion. The largest city in Oregon voted to end fluoridation last July, with many other smaller cities doing the same, including Wichita.

Let's get rational and focus on the real issues – excessive sugar in children's diets, inadequate affordable dental care, and poor dental hygiene. Medicating a population cannot replace personal responsibility.

John W Travis
Byron Bay
Adjunct Prof, Wellness Studies, RMIT University, Melbourne

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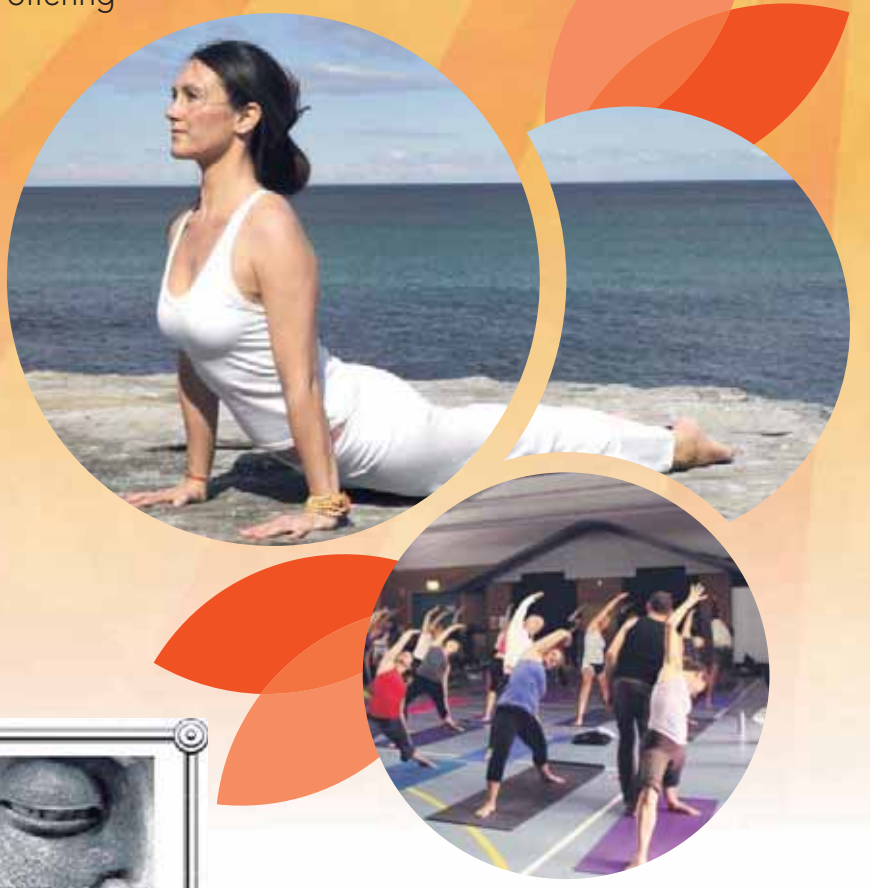
Evolve is coming back to Byron Bay on Saturday January 11 at the Byron Bay Public School. On offer this year is an inspiring line-up of more than 60 teachers and artists in yoga, wellness and music sharing their wisdom and art. The Evolve Yoga Festival is a celebration of all things yoga with a smorgasbord of workshops, classes and talks on a range of yoga forms, meditation, wellness, chanting and dance.

The packed program of more than 60 sessions across eight rooms caters for all levels of yogis – even first-timers. For the first time at Evolve, we have a fantastic music program all day under our very own majestic Bodhi tree, and a new night concert in our Sarasvati-inspired temple (which is sometimes called the school hall). The festival also features a marketplace, a range of healing therapists offering their services, delicious vegetarian food and talks to engage the mind, body and spirit.

Local yoga teachers and artists join with others from around Australia and the globe at this inspired event. There are also sessions for the kids, with free entry for children younger than 12.

Are you ready to Evolve?

Online presale tickets are just $40
– online sales close Thursday 9 January
Tickets $55 at the door
www.evolveyogafestival.com.au



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Festival Program

Byron Bay Primary School – January 11, 2014

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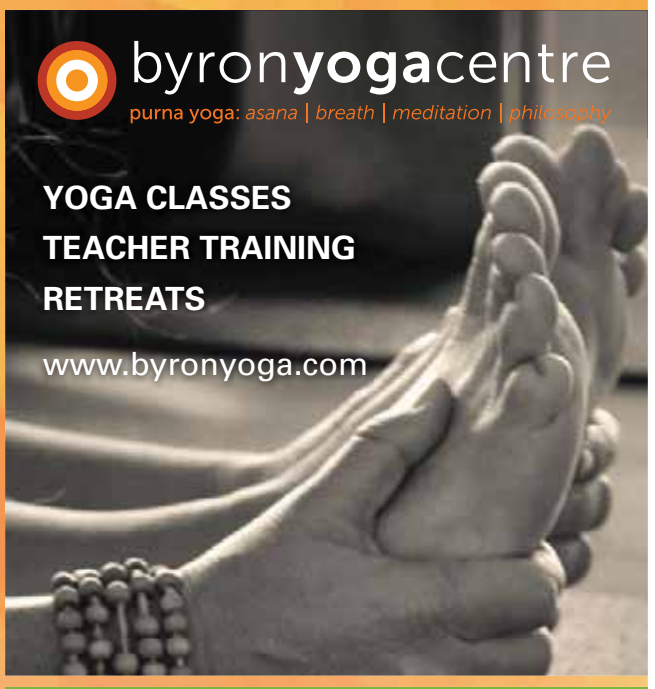
			ROOM 1	ROOM 2	ROOM 1	ROOM 2			
8:00		8:00-9:00 Devotional yoga through powerful mantras Seriya Cutbush & Tanya Wester		8:15-9:15 Anuraki yoga: An expression of truth Samantha Trueman	evolve yoga festival	8:00-9:00 Sound Wave Vinyasa Yoga with Kaya Slater Chisholm, and Healing Sounds from Stace Callaghan	8:15-9:15 Shamanic trails of yoga: A preventative exercise program Uta Weidemeier		
9:00									
9:15		9:15-10:15 Zen Aerial Yoga Josie & Tracey	9:15-10:15 Inspya Yoga Lance Schuler	9:30-10:30 Prana Flow: The synergy of breath and movement Delamay Devi		9:15-10:15: Energising holistic yoga to live Sanskrit mantra Nick and Radha, Shiva Shakti		9:00-10:00 Dharana: Concentration practice and guided relaxation Davina Kruse	9:00-10:00 Yoga in daily life Swami Shivjyoti Puri
9:30	9:30 - 10:30 Café Mantra Music with Jo Kelly				10:00-11:00 FREE FOR KIDS Freedom for all yogis big & small Angel & Gopala, Rainbow Kids Yoga		9:30-10:30 Partner yoga: Massage bliss-out Lila Kirtana & Nadine Jayne		
10:30		10:30-11:30 PURNA yoga: The integration of asana, breath, philosophy and meditation to make yoga complete John Ogilvie, Byron Yoga Centre	10:30-11:30 AcroYoga Tanya Zappala	10:45-11:45 Mudras for your Mukti Doug Whittaker		10:30-11:30 Kundalini yoga & the power of mudra & mantra Vita Rafaela	10:45-11:45 Flying dragon to sleeping swan Melanie Mclaughlin	10:15-11:15 It's Your Choice: The power of intuitive eating Jane Holland	10:15-11:15 Karma, Death and Dying Swami Pujan , Byron Yoga Centre
11:00	11:00 - 12:00 Chad Wilkins				11:15-12:15 FREE FOR KIDS Kids yoga for 8-12 yr olds Renee Aquilina Wisdom Yoga for Kids				
11:45		11:45-12:45 Sex, yoga and the kundalini experience Swami Pujan	11:45-1:00 Sivananda yoga to nourish your body, mind and soul Seriya Cutbush	12:00-12:45 Gitam's Garden Sattvic wisdom & recipes from the Byron Yoga kitchen		11:45-12:45 Community Yoga Angel & Gopala, Sun Moon Partner Yoga	12:00-12:45 Creating space for your personal practice Davina Kruse	12:00-12:45 Can yoga really save the world? a talk with John Ogilvie	11:30-12:30 The unconditioned: Love, happiness and freedom Nadine Jayne
12:00	12:30 - 1:30 Tim Stokes								
12:45	Lunch break	Check out the marketplace during your lunchbreak!				Check out the marketplace during your lunchbreak!			
1:15	Tim Stokes	1:15 - 2:15 Joyful Bollywood Dance The Bollywood Sisters, Zerina and Shamila	1:15-2:15 ISHTA Yoga: Understanding the internal mechanics of the body Danielle Davis	1:15-2:15 Zen Ki Yoga for specific digestive problems Janie Larmour, Zen Ki Yoga	1:30-2:30 Purna Yoga with Byron Yoga Centre Brieann & Anna, Past BYC Teacher Trainees	1:15-2:15 Sound shower: Healing sound therapy Avishai Barnatan	1:15-2:15 Shavasana: One of the first poses we learn, but one of the last to master Tara Fitzgibbon	1:15-2:15 Demystifying the 8 Limbs a talk with John Ogilvie	1:15-2:15 The art of breathing Bodhi Whitaker
2:15	2:00 - 3:00 Elias Harmony								
2:30			2:30-3:30 Kundalini: Experience the power & grace Harjiwan	2:30-3.30 Embracing the expression of experience: Zenthai shiatsu flow Paulie Harrold	2:30-3:30 So you want to be a yoga teacher? Question time with BYC graduates	2:30-3:30 Kundalini LIVE Harjinder Kaur and Songdahla	2:30-3:30 Yin bliss: Heart openers, sweet songs & surrender Kirsty Nugent	2:30-3:30 The Ayurvedic thought reveals faulty Western mindset Jay Mulder	2:30-3:30 Panel discussion: How is yoga relevant today? John Ogilvie, Swami Pujan, Davina Kruse
3:00		3:00-4:00 Chocolate Yoga Sjhara & Shaa							
3:30	3:30 - 4:30 Murray Kyle		3:45-4:45 Bhakti, hatha, mantra Kaya Slater-Chisholm	3:45-4:45 Poo poos on the mat: The fun side of yoga anatomy Maria Kirsten			3:45-4:45 Integrative restorative yoga nidra Dr Lauren Tober	3:45-4:45 Be a love song: The yoga of chanting Sangeeta Lavin	3:45-4:45 Ayurvedic cooking demonstration Christina Covington
4:00									
4:30		4:15 – 5:15 5Rhythms ecstatic dance							
5:00	5:00 – 6:00 Outdoor Asana Gather on the oval to connect with your fellow festival-goers in this fun and flowing class.	EVENING PROGRAM							
5:30									
6:00		6:15 - 7:15 EnCHANTed Kirtan Soul-full Chants Lila Kirtana & The Enchanted Band							
7:30		7:30– 8:30 House of Bliss: Kirtan & Sacred Chant Sangeeta & Friends							
8:30									



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- Elizabeth Gilbert – *The Signature of All Things*
- Donna Tartt – *The Goldfinch*
- Tim Winton – *Eyrie*
- Alex Miller – *Coal Creek* (this book was my 2013 winner)
- Christos Tsiolkas – *Barracuda*

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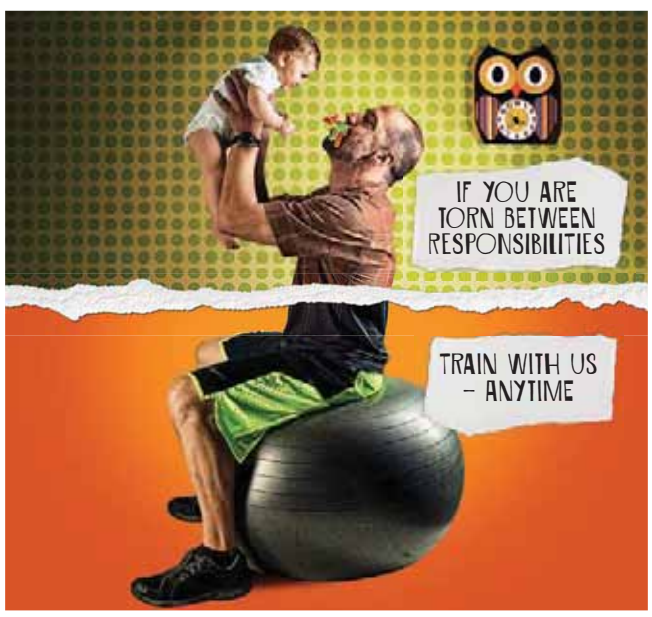
New Year Resolutions



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Hello SUMMER

Reflected Impressions exhibition at Lone Goat Gallery

When living in Sydney, Wendy's very first exhibition was opened by Lloyd Rees, who described her paintings as very exciting. Her last exhibition before moving overseas and then to Byron Bay was favourably received by the SMH critic.

Candy's love of textiles has led to a passion for eco-dyeing on silks and Merino wool, using foliage collected in the local area.

They have now collaborated to exhibit a wonderful collection of their art. Wendy's studio overlooks Tallow Lake and her paintings portray the moods and the seasons of this area. Each of Candy's dyed works are individual and unique pieces, imprinted with natural materials.

There is something for everyone in this exhibition, from paintings to silk scarves, cushions, Merino tunics and beautiful handmade journals and cards.

2–15 January at the Lone Goat Gallery in the Library Complex, Lawson St, Byron Bay. Open every day 11am–5pm, Friday and Saturday until 7pm.

Red Ginger

With the right ingredients, the alchemy of talent and passion can transform an idea into a business and magic can happen. Walking through the doors of the Red Ginger stores in Byron Bay and Bangalow is like stepping into the lanes of old Shanghai and finding your senses come alive to the sights and smells of Asia.

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It's All About You

Merry Christmas to one and all from the talented team at Salon 35, the funky new salon and beauty bar based at Salt. We are open over the Christmas and new year period as well as our usual extended hours until 9pm Thursdays and Fridays and 9–12 on Sundays (by appointment). Check us on Facebook for our latest deals. We believe the most important thing in our hairdressing salon, before we do amazing hair, is our customers. It is all about you!

Shop 3, 1–25 Bells Boulevard, Salt Village, Kingscliff | 6674 1135

Wear some Summer Sunshine

What better way to enjoy the big blue skies, soft sea breezes and hazy sun this summer than an outfit from our playful and great quality selection at Karly Sunshine!

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Toy Kingdom Magic

For children, toy stores are magic places. For adults, toy stores always bring up sweet memories of their own childhood. That is the case of toy kingdom, located opposite Woolies on the corner of Jonson and Carlyle streets.

You'll find everything you need to make these school holidays the most memorable ever in Byron's biggest little toy shop. Toy Kingdom has a huge range of toys, board games, art and craft, kites, beach and pool toys, scooters and ride-ons, dress-up costumes and face paint, and heaps more.

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EXHIBITION
Reflected Impressions
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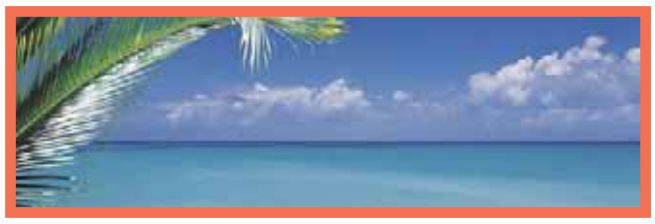

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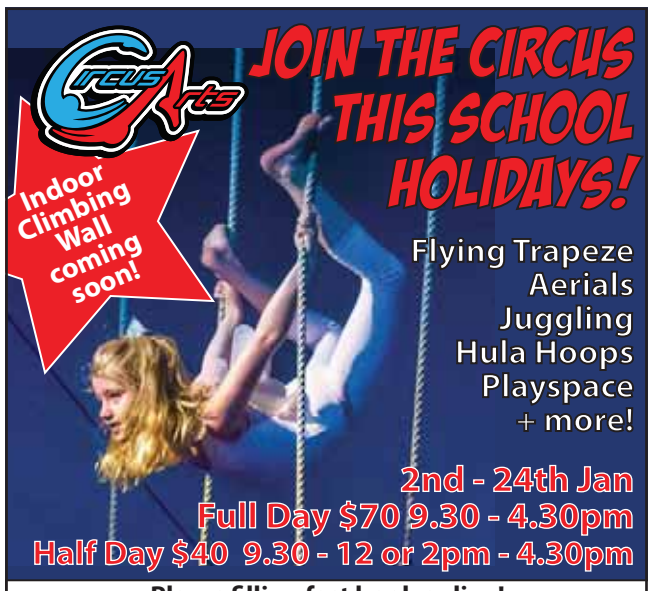

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Trash Recycled Retro/Vintage and Designer Clothing, 95 Jonson Street, on crossing opposite Woolworths.

seven

Volume 28#29

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Gambia comes to you

GAMBIAN MUSICIANS YUSUPHA NGUM (VOCALS), AMADOU SUSO (KORA) AND AUSTRALIAN GUITARIST STEVE BERRY ARE BREAKING BOUNDARIES AND CAPTURING HEARTS AND MINDS WITH THEIR GLOBE-SPANNING FUSION OF TRADITIONAL AND CONTEMPORARY MUSICAL BACKGROUNDS AND INFLUENCES. TOGETHER WITH A RARE APPEARANCE BY LOCAL FAVOURITES THE DURGA BABIES, JAALEEKAAY WILL BE PERFORMING THEIR LAST LOCAL SHOW AT THE BANGALOW BOWLING CLUB ON SATURDAY. *SEVEN* SPOKE WITH STEVE BERRY ABOUT THIS VERY SPECIAL SHOW:

Can you tell me a little about your work with Jaaleekaay and how you came to be playing with them? For me Jaaleekaay is first of all a wonderful opportunity to play with two incredible musicians and experience the joy of being in the middle of the music when it's at such an inspiring level. Yusupha and Amadou are truly masters of their craft, and sharing the stage and studio with musicians like that is one of those things I always dream of. Yet beyond that Jaaleekaay also answers a calling I've had to use music as a vehicle to connect with communities far removed from my own, and use those connections to help other people realise some of their own dreams. It happened that way with Music Outback, where music helped create some wonderful experiences for Indigenous communities and kids in remote Australia, and when I travelled to Gambia last February the same sort of thing seemed to flow naturally and happen there. I had been invited to visit Gambia by an Australian-based Gambian percussionist named King Marong, who had been working with Music Outback over here, so I stayed with King in his compound in Gambia and through him I met a lot of great musicians. My guitar was always with me, and only a few days before I was leaving Gambia I met Amadou at a rehearsal for a traditional concert where he was playing Kora – which is the African harp. It took less than a minute of jamming with him for us both to know there was something special there, so he introduced me to Yusupha and together we all recorded a track that I was able to use to get some festivals interested in us over here.

What about the players… where are they from? How are they finding playing in Australia? Yusupha and Amadou are both from The Gambia, which geographically is a tiny west-African country but one with a huge history. The country is basically a fence around the Gambia River on the western tip of the continent, and was one of the main African ports for the British slave trade. Kunta Kinte, known from Alex Haley's book and series *Roots,* was from The Gambia, and the British slave forts are still there – though I couldn't bring myself to visit them. So there's a dark history to the country but the culture and spirit of the place and people is incredible. Australia is a special place too, but very different, and it's amazing to see how comfortable Yusupha and Amadou are being here. When the music is really happening I think the cultural boundaries and differences dissolve away. We had some great shows at the Mullum Music Fest and Uplift, so through those experiences the fellas experience a real connection with the people here, and that helps them feel at home in a way.

What do the musicians plan to take back to Gambia? I'm hoping some money! That's partly a joke, but it's true that a big purpose of this tour is to provide an opportunity to connect these guys with western economies for the benefit of what are very economically disadvantaged communities back home. There would be a lot of community expectation that they come back with an increased capacity to contribute there, so the pressure is on! Beyond that though, we're all hoping this tour is just the start of a bigger story for Jaaleekaay. For me, developing a sustainable international career for these guys to return home with would be a big and important achievement.

Is community consciousness, and a sense of doing something to better a whole community rather than just an individual, a part of life in Gambia? Community life in Gambia is rock solid, and that strikes you the instant you land in it. Family compounds are the norm – large blocks of land with extended families sharing the space – and they have big families! In the sense of how life is structured there, and how family relationships are defined, we could certainly take a leaf out of their book. There's an underlying commitment to look after your brethren, and just like Aboriginal Australia there's a kinship system that keeps people connected at a profound and practical level. As for individual aspirations, those are often tied in with a desire to increase the capacity to contribute to community. Yusupha and Amadou share a vision of music being a vehicle for community betterment, and they're helping me form links with Gambian schools and other groups over there so we can raise funds for badly needed support while Jaaleekaay is touring.

How have you both learnt from each other? I'm learning heaps – about music and culture on both micro and macro levels. Experiencing the Gambian perspective on families has been eye opening and heart warming. I have an instant extended family having made these friendships, and it's made me think a lot about how much more time I could spend

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Gambia comes to you cont...

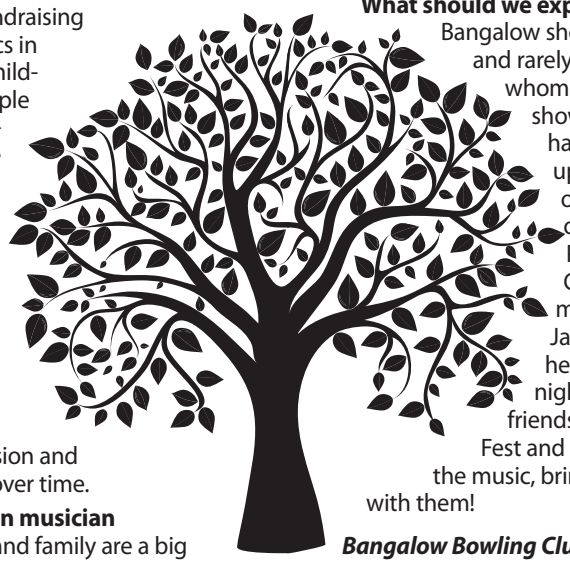
connecting with my own extended family here. (More to come from Yus and Amadou later.)

How is the work you are doing now an extension of the Music Outback Foundation? Music Outback developed with a framework of music-based education at the heart of our work, which was natural for the vision because our main opportunities for access into remote communities happened to be the schools on those communities. However, music is a flexible and creative beast, and in Jaaleekaay's case we're working at the professional performance level, as that's clearly the level that these musicians are at. Creating opportunities for these guys professionally reflects the heart of Music Outback's charter, which is to use music as a means of benefiting disadvantaged communities. Although my partner Jennifer and I have largely funded this project ourselves, MOF has played an active role and acted as the sponsorship organisation for their visas. The band has also now visited a few remote communities out west where we worked with Aboriginal kids, made connections and shared culture through performances and workshops. We'll be doing more of that work before the fellas head back to Gambia in May.

Can you explain in more detail your vision in action? It's important when kicking off a project like this to have a long-term vision, because to reach its true potential things will inevitably take time. Right now the most important thing is to make the Jaaleekaay project sustainable, as without long-term sustainability it won't have a long-term effect on peoples lives. The bigger-picture potential is huge, and connecting Jaaleekaay with countries around the world through our music creates relationships that will in turn create ongoing opportunities for positive development back in Gambia. Links between schools in Australia and schools in Gambia, fundraising to increase the capacity of health clinics in remote villages to service women in childbirth, leadership development for people like Yusupha to act in his own community to improve things back home. The list is a long one. But in this case the vehicle for that bigger picture is the ability to fly these musicians from Gambia to the various countries in the West where these opportunities lie. Unfortunately it's not economically viable to do it when relying on festival fees alone, so we're looking for sponsorship for airfares and visa expenses so that we can continue the project into the future, building the vision and increasing the community outcomes over time.

What can we learn from our Gambian musician brothers and sisters? Again, kinship and family are a big one for me. But when I was in Gambia I was also struck by how creative and expressive people could be without the need for substances like alcohol! As a Muslim country alcohol is not commonly used in Gambia, though it certainly isn't illegal. And yet while in Australia people often need several drinks under their belt to dance, sing and have a good time – in Gambia it's just not the case. People have loads of time for music and culture there – they dance, drum, play music and gather in celebration as a natural part of life, and like a lot of poor countries seem to have an overall level of happiness that we often struggle for here. And that's without alcohol to fuel things! It was a real eye opener, and it certainly made me see our society differently.

Why do you see music and education as things that link so naturally? Since the dawn of history we've used music as a vehicle for educating each other and holding knowledge. Even in the West we still sometimes use it that way, though nothing like what happens around the world in indigenous cultures. But by recognising the links and using music as a vehicle for our communication, we create immediate and deeply felt pathways for connecting with others, and it's through those connections that education in both directions will happen. My experiences connecting with both Amadou and Yusupha and the mob in Central Australia keep confirming that for me. It's truly a universal language, despite the cliche of my saying that!



What should we expect for your local gig? At the Bangalow show we're teaming up with local and rarely seen favourites The Durga Babies, whom we've played with at a couple of shows earlier in the tour. We'll also have some special guests jumping up with us, which with such a wealth of talent in this area has been one of the highlights of the tour so far. People such as Greg Sheehan and Cleis Pearce have joined us and made a wonderful contribution to Jaaleekaay's music since we've been here. It will be a great and varied night, and I'm hoping lots of the friends we've made at the Mullum Music Fest and Uplift will come along and share the music, bringing those extended families with them!

Bangalow Bowling Club, Saturday.

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GYPSY JAZZ JAMMING

Creative Action Group celebrate the new year with **Gypsy Jazz Jamming**, dance, art and imaginative expressions of our deeper capacity to pursue love, truth and justice. Mullum Forums meet weekly for participative discussion of global issues with local impact. Please bring instruments, paints and creativity.

Thursday at the **Uniting Church Hall**, Dalley St, Mullumbimby, 7pm.

SHINING THE DARKLIGHT

Rob Yeatman brings his ballsy band **DarkLight** to perform a selection of powerful originals and popular covers. Local solid bassist Jeremy Whitehead (Mullumbimby) and witty drummer Benny Robinson (Melbourne) complete the band's lineup. This is Darklight's first gig in Byron Shire – great songs fuelled by Rob's street-cred voice and stunning amplified 12-string guitar.

JOE ROBINSON ENTERTAINS US AT THE BREWERY ON FRIDAY

He has been described as a classic songwriter with powerful delivery and stage presence. Rob has developed his unique approach to songwriting built around open guitar tunings and hypnotic sounds reminiscent of Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers and Led Zeppelin.

Friday at the **Nimbin Hotel.**

FOR ALL THEY'RE WORTH

GORDIE MACKEEMAN AND THE RHYTHM BOYS SERVE US SOME THIS SUNDAY AT BYRON THEATRE

Allensworth, the soul funk rock quintet hailing all the way from Southern California, are currently touring Australia promoting the new album *Against the Grain*. Over the last 10 years Jamie Allensworth and Anthony Gonzales have received great recognition for their contributions to southern California music, taking home awards such as Best Live Band, Best Soul and R&B band, Best Acoustic Band, and Best Jam Band from the Orange County Music Awards.

Joined by Melbourne's hottest underground party band **El Moth**, a funked up rockin' reggae extravaganza, these two bands will be providing the soundtrack to a memorable night at the **Lennox Head Hotel**, **Friday** from 8.30pm – Free Entry.

SOAP BOX!

See Mandy live at www.echonetdaily.net.au

10 THINGS I HATE ABOUT TONY

I know you shouldn't start the new year by being hateful but I can't help it. I hate Tony Abbott. I mean really hate him. Like something happens to me when I even hear his name. It's like my whole body fills with rage and repulsion. The hair stands on my neck. I'm like a vegan in a butcher shop. Tony Abbott is evil. I am convinced of it. It's like that love-at-first-sight thing except I knew the moment I first laid eyes on him. I hate him. He's despicable. He represents all that is small-minded, cruel, self-interested, smug and fucked up. I can't even listen to his voice. Every time I hear one of his little press conferences I have to turn the radio off. I hate the sound of victory in his voice. That he got what he wanted. I hate how stupid people were to vote for the evil fucker. I am worried that my hatred of Tony Abbott will give me cancer so I decided that the best way to exercise my hate was to make a list. To get it out. I have given myself only 10 reasons. I am worried it's not enough.

1. He's a misogynist. Backed up pretty clearly by the endless negative statements about women in the media, his patronising view of women who seek abortion, his belief that education is wasted on us as we will never achieve the dizzying heights of the penis-bearers and the fact he only has one woman in his cabinet. The irony that Abbott was lining up for the priesthood and the only women in federal power both have the surname 'Bishop' has not escaped me.

2. His attitude towards Indigenous Australia. He plans to cut Aboriginal Legal Aid, thus entrenching Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders as second-class citizens. Considering 26 per cent of prison populations is Indigenous, and Aboriginal people make up 2.5 per cent of Australian population, I'd say Tone is well on target to achieving his 100 per cent Indigenous incarceration rate.

3. He repealed the Carbon Tax – a complicated and important innovation implemented by the previous Labor government, which could have had immediate impact on climate change by giving big companies a financial incentive to lower their emissions. Now it looks like they'll be in budget deficit if they don't introduce a new tax. This definitely wins Abbott the Dickhead Award for 2013.

4. His lack of compassion for refugees. This is unforgivable. The idiot professes to be Catholic. He definitely falls on the Hell/Pell side of the fence because most Catholics I know have a strong commitment to social justice and are appalled by our treatment of refugees. Just the other day Tony sacked members of the Immigration Health Advisory Group – the most knowledgeable group on refugee health in the country – and installed just one adviser, Dr Paul Alexander, a former head of Joint Health Command in the Defence Force. I am sure his compassion flows on tap.

5. His disregard for nature. He's effectively signed off on destroying the Great Barrier Reef (one of the world's Natural Wonders), by allowing the construction of a coal port just 50 metres north of the Whitsundays. Ironically the port is on Abbot Point. I wish they were dredging the evil from Tony's heart instead of the three million cubic metres of sea bed.

6. He's about to destroy Australian sovereignty. He'll do this with the Free Trade Agreement with the US, whereby corporations will be given the upper hand over Australian interests. Australian federal government won't be able to make laws that hinder the business or profits of US corporations. Plans are afoot to turn Australia into a McDonald's drive through.

7. He's against same-sex marriage. Even though his sister recently married her same-sex partner, and Tone attended the service, he refused to acknowledge the union. I feel for his sister. It must be so embarrassing having to come out about who her brother is.

8. He hates his greens. He's just defunded Australia's environmental legal centres – closing nine offices around the country. These are the people who provide legal advice to individuals and groups on conservation issues and advocate for law reform. Pretty soon we'll be able to enjoy plenty of parking in the new Daintree Mall.

9. He wants you to stay sick. He's looking at defunding Medicare Local, a nationwide initiative that was created to improve the knowledge of healthcare providers so they could create better health in the community. Who's poised to take over healthcare in Australia? Oh, international multinational corporations – for whom your illness is their business – so is that trade agreement a coincidence?

10. He killed Gonski. He promised to keep Gonski. But once he got Gonski, Gonski was Gonski. The great vision for Australian schools is dead and gone. Maybe he's hoping no-one will be able to read the trade agreement… and besides, once he gets women out of education and back in the home, the Indigenous in jail, there will be plenty of resources to educate white boys.

And this is just the beginning. Welcome to hell, Abbott style.

Read more of Mandy in her book, *What I Would Do If I Were You*, available at all good bookshops

THIS JOE IS SCHMOKIN'

'I've basically played guitar for as long as I can remember,' says **Joe Robinson**. 'I don't think of myself as being self taught as the influence of so many greats is what fuelled my obsession with this instrument. From Jimi Hendrix to Django Reinhardt to Jason Becker – I learned from the best.'

SNEAKY SOUND SYSTEM PLAY WITH US ON SUNDAY AT THE BEACH HOTEL

Joe says the absolute thrill is to share his music with an audience. He says the musical stratosphere has an incredibly rich and vast library and his highest goal as an artist and performer is to make some kind of significant contribution to it.

'Am a rocker? – Kind of, I guess. Am I a jazzer? – To some maybe. Am I a pop singer? – um, not exactly. I just live for that moment when you stumble onto some kind of musical germ that could infect its way onto a stage in some far-flung corner of the world. And that's what I get to do for a job. Not bad for an Australian bush kid.'

The Brewery Byron Friday.

PERMACULTURE ELECTROSWING & WORLD-BEETS EXTRAVAGANZA

What do you get when you cross veggie gardening, compost and permaculture with electroswing ukulele? **Formidable Vegetable Sound System**, it would seem! Recently returned from Glastonbury Festival and a five-month world tour to the UK, Europe, Canada and USA, the WA and northern rivers-based electroswing-permaculture freaks are set to continue spreading their love of antique beats and growing food everywhere.

Formidable Vegetable Sound System are Australia's most successful experiment in Electroswing Ecological Edutainment, mashing together antique swing beats and ukulele with principles of permaculture and sustainability in an effort to encourage the world to Grow Food Everywhere!

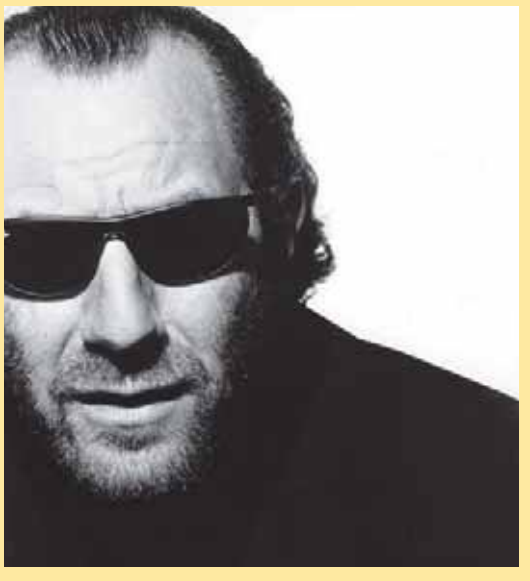
Coorabell Hall Saturday.

RAPSKALLION

Roll up, compadres, to the iconic and legendary **Coorabell Hall** on **Friday** for the **Summer Of Love Ball**, featuring the infamous and magnetising gypsy, rambunctious rock n roll vaudeville super group **Rapskallion**. Dance your boots off!

austen tayshus thinking

NOT ENOUGH PEOPLE HAVE OPINIONS ABOUT THINGS. I KNOW IT'S JUST MY OPINION, BUT I GET A BIT TIRED OF PEOPLE WHO AREN'T PREPARED TO STICK THEIR NECK OUT AND SAY SOMETHING CHALLENGING. Austen Tayshus is a lot of things – brash, insightful, insulting, fierce, inspired… you could certainly never accuse him of being a fence sitter. Tayshus has been knocking fences down for decades now, and on the eve of his show at the Byron Services Club *The Echo* asked him what he thought…



On Tony Abbott
Should leave politics. He's had 100 days and I think that's enough – he should give someone else a go. Even yobbos and idiots agree, we've all had enough of Tony Abbott. He'll be gone.

On gay marriage
The point is that whatever your opinion the inevitability is what people should consider. They have approved it in Mexico. Everyone has a right to do what they want. In a democracy why not. As a gay man myself I am happy living with Luis my footballer and we've adopted African kids and we are playing at the beach now. I love my partner.

On the pope
This guy seems to be a little more adventurous than the previous popes but give it away, give it away now. Everyone knows that the whole Jesus thing is made up and the whole religion thing is designed to give the Jews a hard time. But leave us out. We killed Jesus for a good reason. If he comes back we'll get him again.

On the Catholic cover-up of paedophile priests in the church
Absolutely disgusting but it has been going on in the Jewish community and goes on everywhere where there is sexual repression. People have to be able to express themselves sexually how they want.

On Gina Rinehart
I share a hairdresser with her. It's a true story. She took my hairdresser around the world and wouldn't let her out of the hotel because it takes her so long to look like a person. You don't get everything in life. She looks like a pumice stone. It's a shame.

On refugees
Basically everybody is a refugee in Australia and the only real Australians are the Aboriginals. They are the ones who should have a say. I think that they should let tonnes of people in here, check them out quickly, don't let them suffer; they should never have children in detention centres. I just had my cat in the vet in the orange jumpsuit being water-boarded – my cat is an islamist.

Comedian Austen Tayshus appears at the Byron Services Club on Monday 6 January with Mandy Nolan MC and Paul McMahon as support. Tix are $20/25 and are available at the club or can be booked on 6619 0529.

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DJ BEATDUSTA
4.30pm
THE HOMBRES
8pm
SNEAKY SOUND SYSTEM
Monday 6
7.30pm
VELSHUR
10pm
DJ TAYA
Tuesday 7
7.30pm
AYESHA
10pm
DJ SAMMY OWENS
Wednesday 8
7.30pm
ALEX BOWEN TRIO
10pm
DJ CAPTAIN KAINE

Coming Up
Thursday 9
FELICITY LAWLESS
DJ DISCROW
Friday 10
LUKE & SEBASTIAN
WANDERING EYES
Saturday 11
THE FUNK HUNTERS
DJ BEATDUSTA
Sunday 12
LISA HUNT
ALL STAR BLOCK PARTY

Bay Street, Byron Bay
6685 6402
beachhotelgigguide.com.au

Wishing all readers a smooth cruise into the new year with this distillation of wit and wisdom from your fellow sun signs…

♈ **ARIES:** In this world there is room for everyone. More than machinery, we need humanity. More than cleverness, we need kindness and gentleness. Without these qualities, life will be violent. You have the power to create happiness, to make this life a wonderful adventure. ~ Charles Chaplin, Aries actor

♉ **TAURUS:** There isn't a way things should be. There's just what happens, and what we do. A good plan isn't one where someone wins; it's where nobody thinks they've lost. And sometimes it's better to light a flamethrower than curse the darkness. ~ Terry Pratchett, Tauran author

♊ **GEMINI:** It's time for us people to start changing the way we eat; let's change the way we live, and let's change the way we treat each other. You see the old way wasn't working, so it's on us to do what we gotta do. ~ Tupac Shakur, Gemini rapper

♋ **CANCER:** Cynicism is idiotic. Fear is a bad habit. Love is an act of heroic genius. Pleasure is your birthright. Life gives you exactly what you need, exactly when you need it. The universe is a prodigious miracle created for your amusement and illumination. ~ Rob Brezsny, Cancerian astrologer

♌ **LEO:** Love isn't an emotion or an instinct – it's an art. Anything worth doing is worth doing slowly. An ounce of performance is worth pounds of promises. Don't ever make the same mistake twice – unless it pays. ~ Mae West, Leo screen icon

♍ **VIRGO:** There's a crack in everything; that's how the light gets in. A sip of wine, a cigarette, and then it's time to go… So come my friends, be not afraid, we are so lightly here. It is in love that we are made; in love we disappear. ~ Leonard Cohen, Virgo poet

♎ **LIBRA:** Isn't this enough? Just this beautiful, complex wonderfully unfathomable world? How does it so fail to hold our attention that we diminish it with cheap, manmade myths and monsters? We must think critically, not only about the ideas of others but our own beliefs and prejudices. ~ Tim Minchin, Libran songwriter.

♏ **SCORPIO:** People need things that are bad for them. Some politician or footballer or actor gets caught in a hotel room, surrounded by hookers and cocaine, and everybody goes: Oh, the shame of it! But what else do you give hookers in a hotel room? Yogurt? ~ Dylan Moran, Scorpio comedian

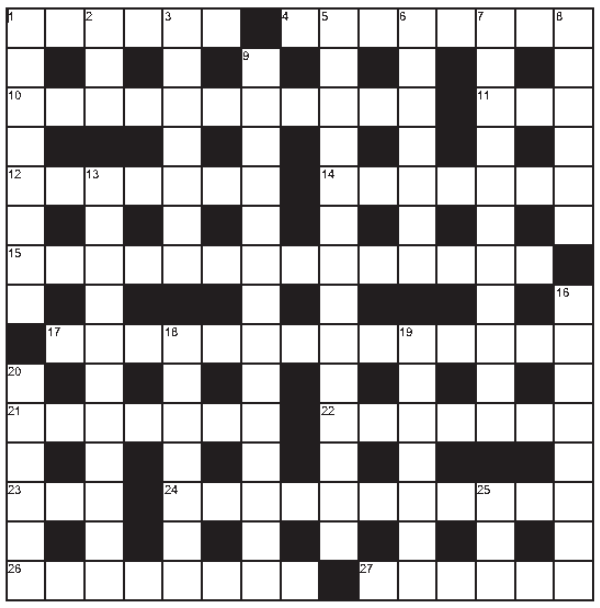
♐ **SAGITTARIUS:** Rather than spending all our time watching stupid people doing stupid things on reality TV shows, why don't we spend a few minutes each day reading about good people doing good things? We've got to improve ourselves as a species or we're absolutely doomed. ~ Billy Connolly, Sagittarian comic

♑ **CAPRICORN:** The meaning of life is just to be alive. Yet everybody rushes around as if it were necessary to achieve something beyond themselves. The world is far more subtle and miraculous than you thought. Nirvana is where you are, provided you don't object to it. ~ Alan Watts, Capricorn Buddhist

♒ **AQUARIUS:** There're many ways to become an enlightened human being, but the shortest is always through loving someone. If you don't know how to treat the ones you love then how are you going to treat those you don't know, or who are your enemies? ~ Shakira, Aquarian performer

♓ **PISCES:** Anything that's in the world when you're born is normal and natural. Anything invented between when you're fifteen and thirty-five is exciting and revolutionary and you can probably get a career in it. Anything invented after you're thirty-five is against the natural order of things. ~ Douglas Adams, Piscean writer

Mungo's Crossword



Quick Clues

ACROSS
1. Remarks directed by actors to the audience (6)
4. Elements of the same atomic number but different atomic weights (8)
10. A disparaging term for money (6,5)
11. Place to sleep (3)
12. Demon who seduces sleeping women (7)
14. People like us (7)
15. Latitude 23.5 degrees north of the equator (6,2,6)
17. Southernmost sea (9,5)
21. Semitic patriarch (7)
22. With bulging optics (3-4)
23. Tavern, bar (3)
24. Birds which cover a lot of ground very quickly (11)
26. Too much of a drug (8)
27. Frightened, afraid (6)

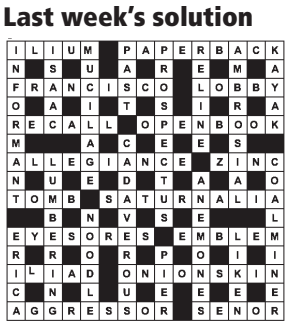
DOWN
1. Distresses, causes pain (8)
2. Unwell (3)
3. Athenian youths (Greek) (7)
5. Those trying to move into a higher class (6,8)
6. Crime of betraying one's country (7)
7. Very serious offender, pursued by the whole community (6,5)
8. One who takes pleasure in inflicting pain (6)
9. Climactic sound made by banging percussion instruments together (5,2,7)
13. Male next in line to the sovereign (5,6)
16. Metal plated through electrolytic process (8)
18. Stuck, clung (7)
19. Chemical free, allegedly (7)
20. Gambling house (6)
25. Organ of hearing (3)

Cryptic Clues

ACROSS
1. Incidental remarks for top teams (6)
4. Writer thus drinks heavily: same numbers, different weights! (8)
10. Dirty and strangely cruel, yet pursued by all (6,5)
11. Seduce British journalist (3)
12. Popular novice with America – a nightmare (7)
14. Gold boat that is south of our mob (7)
15. Northern parallel for Henry Miller (6,2,6)
17. Violent action at sign of 15; it's a bloody long way south (9,5)
21. A support for bad actor playing patriarch (7)
22. Astonished, like a science fiction monster (3-4)
23. In the direction of the pub (3)
24. Ran rounders round Coyote's opponents! (11)
26. Medicine balls in reverse – too much! (8)
27. Vehicle east in standard deviation – I'm terrified (6)

DOWN
1. Troubles for raising a dead man, about 49… (8)
2. … 49, 50. Sick. (3)
3. English police ambassador with bad smell, one for the Athenian boys (7)
5. Friends Virginia and Ivy perhaps – aiming for the A list (6,8)
6. The time is a justification for the revolt (7)
7. If he's number one, he's the most wanted (6,5)
8. Sexual pervert is a miserable winner (6)
9. Mobs fallacy shock not okay – can produce a brazen orchestral climax! (5,2,7)
13. Charles hit Harry on the head (5,6)
16. An agreement is edited and metal-plated (8)
18. Stuck with smashing redhead (7)
19. Monster grabs ill-gotten gain, but remains chemical free (7)
20. Star City – a corporation with a vice at its core (6)
25. Listen, cockney lug (3)

Last week's solution



HALF MOON RUN

Canada's **Half Moon Run** are returning to Australia, twelve months after appearances at Woodford and Peats Ridge last summer gained them an instant and solid following. Fast forward nine months and the rest of the world has caught up, with the new single *Call Me In the Afternoon* setting the globe alight after a killer *SxSW,* which saw the band signing to Glassnote Records and a string of worldwide tours with Mumford & Sons and Of Monsters and Men. **Saturday, Hotel Great Northern**.

THE SPOOKY MEN'S CHORALE

The Spooky Men's Chorale are returning home to unleash a new album that amusingly, unexpectedly, redefines the very genre they invented. The Spooky Men's Chorale album launch at the **Mullum Civic Centre** on **Saturday 4 January**.

CANADIAN INVASION

Hailing from Prince Edward Island, the award-winning **Gordie MacKeeman** and his **Rhythm Boys** serve up old-time roots music with an energy level that practically yanks you out of your seat by the collar. **Saturday 4 January** at the **Byron Theatre.**

SNEAKY SOUND SYSTEMS

Powerhouse singer **Miss Connie Mitchell** and producer extraordinaire **Black Angus McDonald** started making beautiful music together in 2004. They have won ARIAs, topped charts here and overseas, and Connie has also featured on albums with Kanye West and Jay-Z. We are excited to have them in Byron and so should you be! Place it in your summer party plans. **Sunday, The Beach Hotel**.

A RANDOM ACT OF MELODY

Sandhya Sanjana is a world-music performer who has worked with the likes of Alice Coltrane, Sushila Raman and Prem Joshua. Trained as an Indian classical singer, she has composed, recorded and performed her music embracing many styles, including jazz fusion, and has sung at festivals in Europe and Asia, from the Royal Festival Hall in London to the Jazz Yatra in Mumbai. Living in Amsterdam and London, she is a member of several world-music bands.

Byron peeps are lucky to get a taste of her unique voice in an Australian premiere on **Sunday** at **Kulchajam** in the Byron Arts and Industry Estate, 7pm onwards.

HALF MOON RUN HIT A NERVE THIS SATURDAY AT HOTEL GREAT NORTHERN

RUNNING WILD

Melbourne's hottest jazz band, **Shirazz**, is excited to announce their Running Wild Tour, coming up in January 2014. By popular request, Shirazz will be returning to Byron Bay.

Shirazz's trademark high-energy jazz of the 20s and 30s has earned them a reputation as one of Melbourne's and Victoria's most exciting jazz bands. With hot solos, driving rhythms and tight arrangements, a set from Shirazz is a step back in time to a jumping New Orleans dancehall where fast Dixie tunes intersect with swinging standards and laidback Louisiana street beats. Their sound has won them invitations to jazz festivals across the country and a nomination for Best Australian Traditional Jazz Album at the 2013 Jazz Bell Awards.

See Shirazz on **Monday** at **The Rails**.

CHESS by Ian Rogers

Play at Byron Services Club, Mon 7pm

2013 was an extraordinary year in chess; one likely to remembered both for the success of the younger generation as well as the deaths of an unprecedented number of Australian chess players, old and young.

The year started with 15-year-old Bobby Cheng taking out the Australian Open – the youngest ever winner – and ended with another Melbournite, 14-year-old Karl Zelesco, earning an International Master result at the Australian Masters.

In between Sydney prodigy Anton Smirnov spent most of the year as the world's top under 12 player, closing in on the IM title.

In the international arena, 2013 will be remembered as the start of the Magnus Carlsen era. In November Carlsen was too strong for World Champion Anand and the laid-back Norwegian won the $2.5m title match without losing a game.

The domestic year was scarred by the horrific post-Doeberl Cup car accident which cost the lives of two Melbourne players and severely injured two others. The passing of two chess legends in their 90s, Anne Purdy and Nobel prize winner John Cornforth, was not unexpected but ten more Australian chessplayers suffered a more untimely demise in 2013, including three-time Australian Open Champion Max Fuller, 15-time WA Champion, Haydn Barber, and computer whiz Malcolm Tredinnick at 42.

Even overseas stars who died in 2013 seemed to have an Australian connection, most recently IM John Grefe, the US Champion who won the Australian Open in Brisbane in 1975.

Fortunately, the bad luck in 2013 seemed to have ended this week when IM and former Olympian John Paul Wallace was rescued by helicopter after 16 hours stranded on a rock ledge at Curl Curl beach in Sydney.

As the year ended, GM Darryl Johansen announced that at 54 he was hanging up his pawns and would, after the Australian Championships in Melbourne this week, in future participate only in a few selected tournaments. Having already won the biennial Australian Championship a record six times and represented Australia at 14 Chess Olympiads – another record – Johansen had little left to prove, although he will continue to act as one of the country's leading coaches.

Raising your Energies as Starlight

TWICE A YEAR STARLIGHT FESTIVAL OF HEALING TAKES OVER THE BANGALOW A&I HALL TO PRESENT A SHOWCASE OF THE REGION'S BEST ALTERNATIVE HEALERS AND THINKERS. ALONGSIDE AN EXPO-STYLE SETUP WHERE PEOPLE GET TO CHAT AND EXPERIENCE WHAT PRACTITIONERS HAVE TO OFFER THERE IS ALSO THE OPPORTUNITY TO HEAR SPEAKERS IN THE WORKSHOP SESSIONS.

Jost Sauer is motivational health speaker, former drug smuggler, deserter and gun runner whose books *Higher and Higher, Drug Repair That Works* and *The Perfect Day Plan* have been published internationally. He will be talking about the mystical chi cycle and the map to destiny at Starlight this year.

Jost, tell me a little about the mystical chi cycle. I first discovered the chi cycle when I was studying Chinese medicine back in the early 90s, and I thought it was an amazing concept. It's based on the ancient Daoist discovery that chi, or energy, moves through us and the cosmos in a 24-hour loop. You can improve your health and happiness dramatically by timing certain activities for different times of the day (or night) to synch with this cosmic flow. For example, if you have sex around 5pm when your kidneys are charged up, it will be way more intense and more beneficial than doing it in the morning, when it actually saps your energy.

Anyway, I've been following the chi-cycle lifestyle for years but some time back I noticed I was getting an increased perception of things beyond the physical. I immersed myself further into the mystical Daoist texts and I discovered that the fundamental purpose of aligning with the chi cycle is to pursue destiny and develop into cosmic beings. The chi cycle is actually a bridge from the physical to the non-physical world. Not only that, but the fundamental role of Chinese medicine is to support us on this journey to find our 'cosmic self'. This is the mystical aspect of the chi cycle. But it is like a computer game; you have to start at level one, with getting yourself physically aligned with the lifestyle (I wrote a book *The Perfect Day Plan,* all about how to do this) and then you naturally work your way up the levels, and they are infinite. It's definitely trippy stuff.

Now the map to destiny? The Daoist sages also discovered that we each have a 'contract with Heaven'; this is something we signed up to do here on Earth. To be really happy we need to fulfill our contract. But the information is encoded, and stored in our organs (which have a metaphysical as well as physical function in Chinese medicine), so we need to be in an altered state to access it. This is why trippers take peyote and go on vision quests. But in the Daoist system, we do a daily chi practice to get into that altered state so we are in control of the information exchange. The chi practice keeps us in touch with the mystical every day, so that we stay on track to destiny and don't have to spend our time confused about what we are doing here. There is a map, there are instructions, and this is all via the chi cycle. The beauty of this lifestyle is that it simultaneously develops our organs so that they can provide the cognitive and other functions needed for us to follow our destiny. It's a fantastic and comprehensive mystical success package. Highly recommended!

Why do you think some people are prone to addiction and others are not? Firstly, we are all dependent on, or addicted to, something. It might be salt, sugar, sex, caffeine, social media or the approval of others. So it's not so much about being prone to addiction here, but the judgmental hierarchy of addictions. Of course, I have to admit, drug addiction is a bit different. Too much chocolate or Facebook-ing, for example, is not going to see you trussed up in the back of a cop car after making a public nuisance of yourself. Being addicted to the approval of others actually makes people think you are nice and it helps keeps social facades in place.

If you are a drug addict though, your activities eventually contribute to social disharmony on some level and this makes people dislike you (the war on drugs is really a war on drug users). But, returning to the point: in my mind, the addiction part of the equation is more to do with circumstance than personality. Every user wants to quit drugs once the side effects go past being bearable, but without identifying and replacing the role the substance plays for them, there's a big gap and lots of time to crave and think about drugs. Drug users always chase the better high, so my solution is get a better high, get addicted to that.

How did you come to heal yourself of drug addiction? After a long, drawn-out, painful and very messy decade, where I went from speed to alcohol to chain-smoking Winfield Reds and

drinking endless cups of Pablo instant coffee (well it was the 80s), it finally struck me that addiction is something that needs to be evolved, not something you 'heal'. After I quit I was forever trying to go 'back to normal' – big mistake. You take drugs to be extraordinary so the trick is to quit and try to 'go back to extraordinary'.

Tell me a little about what you will be presenting at Starlight Festival. The Starlight Festival is one of my favourites and I've created a special presentation. I'm going to take everyone on an illustrated journey through the mystical chi cycle. I'll be looking at how to align yourself and how that prepares the ground to access the multi-dimensional world, and get some magic and mystery into your life. I'll also be going into the secrets of your organs, their divine consciousness, and the mechanics of their mysterious behind-the-scenes destiny activities. Strap yourselves in for a journey to the centre of the cosmos!

Jost Sauer, presenting at the Starlight Wellbeing Expos 2014. Thursday 9 to Sunday 12 January. www.global-healing.com

CULTure

UNCHARTED WATERS

Wayne Lynch burst onto the Australian surfing scene in the 1960s and rode a wave like no-one else. He opened up fresh possibilities

UNCHARTERD WATERS SCREEN AT PALACE CINEMA SUNDAYS JANUARY 5, 12 AND 19.

with a radically new vertical style. He was a champion, a draft dodger, a hippie, an outsider, a revolutionary, a messiah, an environmentalist, a victim, a wild man, a pauper and an enigma. He tested himself against the big waves and produced something beautiful and exhilarating and elegant in the process. Author Tim Winton, himself a passionate defender and chronicler of Australia's ocean and coastal environment, said of Lynch, 'He is a real hero to me'.

If you've ever surfed, or if you appreciate the sheer grace of a boardrider racing down the face of a big wave, ***Uncharted Waters***, a feature-length doco about legendary Australian surfer Wayne Lynch, will have you longing for the freedom, beauty and simplicity of a wave and a board. Directed by Craig Griffin, the film traces Lynch's life story and intense connection to the rugged Victorian coast around the small seaside town of Lorne. Born into a fishing family, Lynch grew up in and around the ocean and was seen as a surfing prodigy as a teenager, considered by many to be the most progressive surfer in the world at the age of 16. Ultimately, *Uncharted Waters* is not a 'surf' film as such – rather a comprehensive look at the story of a highly gifted individual and his place in a changing subculture and the broader Australian culture. The film screens at **Palace Byron Bay Cinema** at 6.30pm on **Sunday January 5, 12 and 19**.

BYRON GETS FREAKY

Two of the world's greatest freak-show performance artists will be performing together at the **Byron Entertainment Centre**, Circus Arts Byron Bay, on **January 4 and 5**. This jam-packed stunt show is guaranteed to be like nothing you have ever seen before.

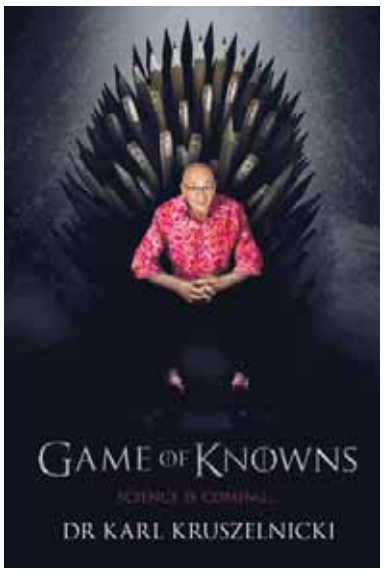
Direct from the USA, **The Lizardman** is one of the world's most modified men. He is tattooed with green reptilian scales from head to toe, his teeth are filed to sharp points, horned ridges have been surgically implanted above his eyes and his tongue is split in two like that of a lizard. Voted by *Ripley's Believe It Or Not* as 'The strangest man alive', he is a sight to be seen.

THE SPACE COWBOY AND THE LIZARDMAN BEND OUR BRAINS AT THE BYRON ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

The Space Cowboy is Australia's most prolific record breaker, currently holding 29 Guinness World Records. Witness sword-swallowing demonstrations, see chainsaw juggling and behold the most unusual acts you will remember until the day you die. **Byron Entertainment Centre, Saturday and Sunday.**

GAME OF KNOWNS

by Dr Karl Kruszelnicki, Pan Macmillan Australia, rrp $32.99



One of Australia's beloved geeks, Dr Karl (drkarl.com), or some marketing wiz, has come up with a clever idea to promote a science book: just borrow from popular culture. Call it *Game Of Knowns* after *Game of Thrones,* parody the recurring warning 'Winter is coming' ('Science is coming') and have Karl sit on an Iron Throne, this one made from sharpened pencils rather than uncomfortable swords. I explain all this for the few who have not encountered HBO's hit fantasy series.

While *Game Of Thrones* rests on solid writing, it would not exist without science, which gave us the cameras, the special-effects computer software, the microphones to record the characters in stern orations. This is part of Kruszelnicki's mission: to explain how important science is to everyday life, and to entertain and amaze us on the way there.

This Dr K does in short chapters, cleverly illustrated by Douglas Holgate, covering 32 topics from 3D Printing to Wrinkled Skin in the Bath. There are many asides and corny jokes and plenty of fodder for pub-quiz fiends.

The mind boggling begins with 3D Printing: 'Imagine if you could use individual atoms as your raw materials. Further down the line, a 3D printer might have as its starting materials just the 92-or-so naturally occurring elements… If you had the right "fusing" or "fixing" technology, you could potentially make anything.' Science prompts the big philosophical questions even without trying.

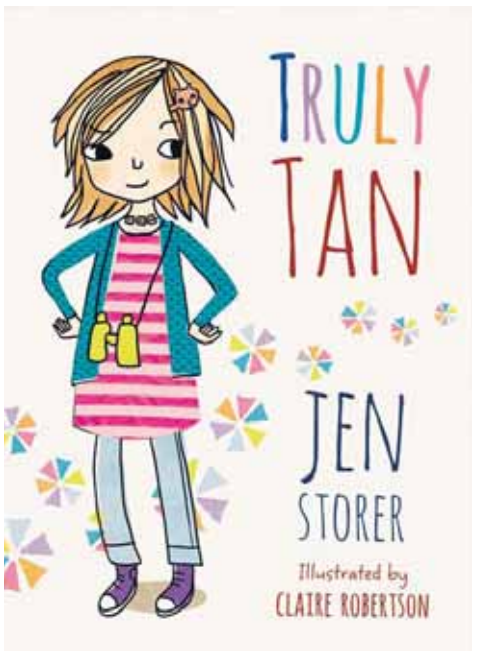
Dr Karl also debunks a few myths, such as the 'mathematical' basis for Biorhythm Theory, and reinforces the need for education in order to understand science and its consequences, and to function better as a human being. He helps us understand how much we don't know and how much scientists have yet to discover – which includes a fair bit of the universe. And don't get him started on Dark Energy.

Fascinating stuff, and it can be taken in small doses chapter by chapter, which may be necessary if you are to absorb it all.

– Michael McDonald

TRULY TAN

by Jen Storer, HarperCollins, rrp $16.99



Moving towns is never easy. Especially when you move to the middle of nowhere. First of all, you have to leave the comfort of your home town that you've lived in your whole life. There's the massive hassle of packing all your precious belongings into the removalist's truck. Not to mention the fact that the drivers are very suspicious-looking people. Worst of all you have to leave your one and only best friend behind at your old town.

Meet Tan! Her mum, Coral, was born in 'Lala Land' so when her daughters were born they had dreamy names: Rose, Amber and Emerald or, as Tan prefers to call them, the Lollipops. However, when Tan came along her mum allowed her dad to choose her name on one condition: her name was the name of a colour like her sisters and her mum. Her family consists of the Lollipops, Tan's parents, Amber's ditsy dog Doodad, Tan herself, Tan's awesome dog Awesome, E, the ratty three-legged cat, Queen Victoria the tortoise and finally Babbles the bird (although sometimes we find her a lot like a microwave).

Things are very different in the country. First of all, teachers here do not appreciate bringing in a cat skeleton for show-and-tell. (Who would've known?) Another 'unnormal' thing is The Dead Fox. With the help of Rose's Box Brownie (whatever that could be) the girls discover something very peculiar indeed. What exactly is the mysterious haunting at Purple Haunt? Who is this spooky Wandering Wanda and will we ever see her?

Truly Tan may not appeal to boys; however, I would recommend it to girls aged 8–12 who enjoy a book filled with mystique and 'unnormalness' crammed into one humorous package. I enjoyed this book and hope that you will too!.

– Josie Huntsman, Byron Bay Public School

ECHO DRUDGES RECOMMEND

***Gone Girl* by Gillian Flynn**

Gone Girl – great holiday read by Gillian Flynn. It's a bit of a mind-bending thriller and gets you from the start with its changing husband/wife POV. Like *The Collector,* except no-one is in the basement. Not quite as creepy but disturbing nonetheless!' **~ Mandy**

Author China Miéville

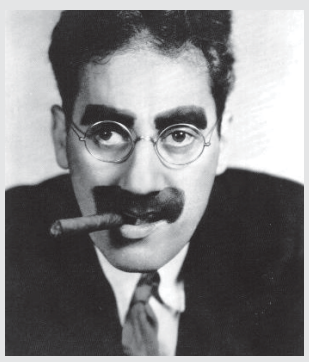
China Miéville writes fantasy/SF and, unlike most genre authors, doesn't write the same book several times (he is on record as disliking the works of Tolkien). Try *Embassytown* (big idea SF), or Kraken (occult conspiracy theory), or *Perdido Street Station* (brilliantly unclassifiable).' **~ David**

***Alphabetical Sydney* by Hilary Bell**

Though we try to forget, a fair whack of us North Coasters are (like me, I'll admit it) Sydney escapees. On my recent sojourn back to the big smoke to spend Chrissie, I stumbled upon the lovely children's book, *Alphabetical Sydney* by Hilary Bell. It's gorgeous collaged pics served to soften my jaded view of the city and reminded me of the many little treasures that make the place special… cicada shells on jumper sleeves, corner delis, the riotous face of Luna Park. I recommend this book to any big kid who wants to remember the good sides of their Sydney upbringing. For young kids too, it's a delight. **~ Rachel**

***Jitterbug Perfume* by Tom Robbins**

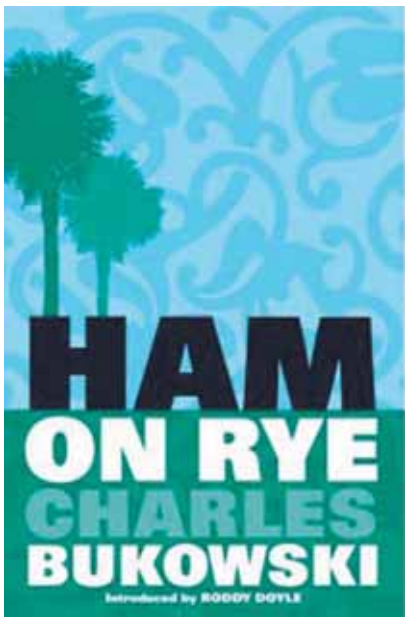
A wondrous and magical tale with an exotic cast of charming characters... Tom Robbins does not fail to intrigue and delight with an epic story that disregards the laws of space and time. In the relentless search for immortality (and perfume), this journey takes the reader far and wide, from pre-Christian Bohemia, to contemporarory new Orleans, from kings, to serfs, to star-crossed lovers and a sizzilingly sexual Pan. This irreverant contemporary fantasy is crude, funny and philosophical... Robbins at his absolute best. **~ Melanie**



'Outside of a dog, a book is man's best friend. Inside of a dog it's too dark to read.'
~ Groucho Marx

HAM ON RYE

by Charles Bukowski, Canongate Books, rrp pb $20.95



Independent Edinburgh publishers Canongate Books (canongate.tv) has put out an edition of Charles Bukowski's semi-autobiographical novel Ham On Rye, first published in 1982. It's worth checking out their website for obscure favourites or new finds.

Ham On Rye gives us clues to the forces, most notably his abusive father, that shaped Bukowski's dissolute character. Not to mention the Great Depression and an awful case of acne. No wonder Bukowski took to drink and poetry.

Ham On Rye 's protagonist, Henry Chinaski, is a loner who is made even more estranged by random beatings from his dad and his inability to fit in at school. Bukowski describes a small dysfunctional family 'unit', the only saving grace of which is mother Katherine's love for her tortured boy.

Bukowski's style is clean and lean, entirely without pathos, tough like the city of Los Angeles in which he grew up, part of a literary movement that came to be described as 'dirty realism' and 'transgressive fiction'. He may not have become an easy human being to appreciate but Bukowski's writing is a treat: 'Gathered around me were the weak instead of the strong, the ugly instead of the beautiful, the losers instead of the winners. It looked like it was my destiny to travel in their company through life. That didn't bother me so much as the fact that I seemed irresistible to these dull idiot fellows. I was like a turd that drew flies instead of like a flower that butterflies and bees desired.'

Bukowski.net gives him his due in Bukowski style and you can see facsimiles of his original poem manuscripts hacked out on an Underwood Standard. (If you want to know which typewriters many old-school authors used, visit mytypewriter.com.)

– Michael McDonald

Holiday Fun At The Library

- Summer Reading Club – **WIN AN iPAD MINI***
- Free holiday activities at Byron, Mullumbimby and Brunswick Heads Library
- Storytime and Baby Bounce - check times for the holiday break
- Download free eBooks, audiobooks, magazines & music

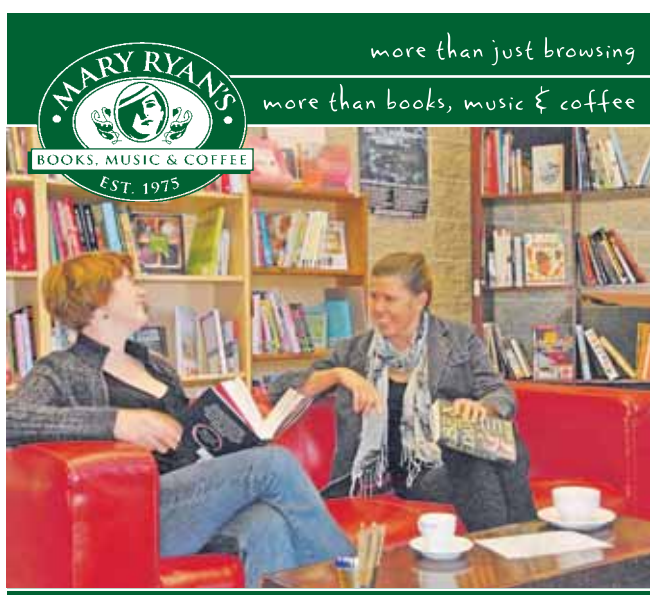
Check the website for details!

CONNECT
DISCOVER
SHARE

Richmond Tweed Regional Library

*Free to join at your local library. Ages up to 18 yrs.

www.rtrl.nsw.gov.au



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WEDNESDAY 1

- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 2PM **DJ BEATDUSTA** 4:30PM **THE FERAMONES** 8PM **DJ LONGTIME**
- GREAT NORTHERN HOTEL, BYRON **GARRETT KATO**
- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON **THE CAMEL TONES**
- BYRON MAIN BEACH 9.30AM **ILONA HARKER**
- BYRON BREWERY 7PM **OPEN MIC NIGHT**
- FRANKIE BROWN, BYRON **STEPHANIE ROGERS**
- BRUNSWICK HOTEL 7PM **BRIAN WATT**
- NORTH BYRON PARKLANDS, YELGUN **FALLS MUSIC FESTIVAL**
- ELTHAM HOTEL 6.30PM **NOT QUITE FOLK JAM**
- KIRRA SPORTS CLUB 2PM **DEVILS KIOSK, THE BUCKET BAND, TANILLE JADE, MASON RACK BAND, DAN HANNAFORD, MORE**

THURSDAY 2

- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 5PM **CARAVANA SUN** 8PM **DJ DISCROW**
- GREAT NORTHERN HOTEL, BYRON **THE BADLANDS**
- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON **THE PROPELLERS**
- BYRON BREWERY 8PM **ENSEMBLE FORMIDABLE**
- FRANKIE BROWN, BYRON **LUKE MORRIS**
- BRUNSWICK HOTEL 7PM **JIMMI DOBBS**
- UNITING CHURCH HALL, MULLUMBIMBY 7PM **GYPSY JAZZ JAMMING**
- BILLINUDGEL HOTEL 7PM **OPEN MIC NIGHT**
- BALLINA RSL 7.30PM **LIONHEIR**

FRIDAY 3

- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 5PM **SCOTT DAVY DUO** 9PM **NGAIIRE & TAMWAH**
- GREAT NORTHERN HOTEL, BYRON **BOOTLEG RASCAL & OCEAN ALLEY**
- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON **JIMMY WILLING BURLESQUE SHOW**
- BYRON BREWERY 8PM **SMOKIN' JOE ROBINSON**
- BYRON COMMUNITY CENTRE **RACHEL SERMANNI, STARBOARD CANNONS, DARREN HANLON**
- COORABELL HALL 8PM **RAPSKALLION + DANIDOO & THE SEA GYPSIES**
- BANGALOW HOTEL 7.30PM **WILSON COOPER BAND**
- BRUNSWICK HOTEL 7PM **ROCKATOK**
- NORTH BYRON PARKLANDS, YELGUN **FALLS MUSIC FESTIVAL**
- LENNOX HOTEL 8.30PM **ALLENSWORTH & EL MOTH**
- BALLINA RSL 8.30PM **ROUND MOUNTAIN GIRLS, AMBER LAWRENCE & JASON OWENS**
- SHAWS BAY HOTEL, BALLINA 7.30PM **DIRTY CHANNEL**
- ELTHAM HOTEL **INSIDE OUTLAW**
- NIMBIN HOTEL 7.30PM **ROB YEATMAN & DARKLIGHT**
- KINGSCLIFF SLSC 6.30PM **LEIGH JAMES**
- SOUNDLOUNGE, CURRUMBIN **PEATBOG FAERIES**
- JUNIORS, TWEED HEADS 5PM **BILL JACOBI**

SATURDAY 4

- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 5PM **PAOLO NOIOSI** 8PM **FONZAIUS**
- GREAT NORTHERN HOTEL, BYRON **HALF MOON RUN & TIGERTOWN**
- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON **THE LAMPLIGHTS**
- BYRON ARTISAN MARKET **DIDGERA**
- BYRON BREWERY 8PM **BABYLON CIRCUS**
- BYRON COMMUNITY CENTRE **GORDIE MACKEEMAN & HIS RHYTHM BOYS**
- BYRON ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE 8.30PM **SPACE COWBOY & THE LIZARDMAN**
- RED TENT YOGA, BYRON 7.30PM **SANGEET MISHRA**
- SOHO LOUNGE, BYRON **LISA HUNT**
- COORABELL HALL **PERMACULTURE ELECTROSWING & WORLD-BEETS EXTRAVAGANZA**
- BANGALOW BOWLING CLUB **JAALEEKAAY**
- BANGALOW HOTEL 7.30PM **MICK MCHUGH**
- BRUNSWICK HOTEL 4PM **CARAVANA SUN WITH DAN HANNAFORD**
- MULLUMBIMBY CIVIC HALL 8PM **SPOOKY MEN'S CHORALE WITH KARL FARREN**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS 7.30PM **JON J BRADLEY**
- SHEOAK SHACK, FINGAL 7.30PM **TRANSVAAL DIAMOND SYNDICATE**
- LISMORE WORKERS CLUB 7.30PM **CHRIS COOK BAND**

SUNDAY 5

- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 2PM **DJ BEATDUSTA** 4:30PM **THE HOMBRES** 8PM **SNEAKY SOUND SYSTEM**
- GREAT NORTHERN HOTEL, BYRON **THE FIRE TREE**
- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON **WARREN EARL BAND**
- BYRON MARKET **THE SCRIMSHAW FOUR**
- BYRON BREWERY 2PM **DUSKY & DJ FESTIVAL**
- BYRON ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE 4PM **SPACE COWBOY & THE LIZARDMAN**
- KULCHAJAM, BYRON 7PM **A RANDOM ACT OF MELODY WITH SANDHYA SANJANA**
- SUFFOLK PARK HOTEL 2PM **JON J BRADLEY**
- BRUNSWICK HOTEL 4PM **SIMON WRIGHT BAND**
- BILLINUDGEL HOTEL 3PM **CHRIS COOK BAND**
- OCEAN SHORES TAVERN **DAX**
- BALLINA RSL 8.30PM **ADAM BROWN**
- ELTHAM HOTEL 2PM **BILL JACOBI**
- LISMORE CITY HALL **LOOKING THROUGH A GLASS ONION – JOHN LENNON IN WORD AND MUSIC**
- SPHINX ROCK CAFE, MT BURRELL 1PM **SOUTHERLY CHANGE**
- RIVERVIEW HOTEL 2PM **ROBERT KEITH**
- KINGSCLIFF SLSC 3PM **DAN HANNAFORD BAND**
- CHINDERAH TAVERN 2PM **MATT BUGGY**
- CURRUMBIN RSL **THE SMOKIN' CRAWDADS**
- COOLANGATTA SANDS HOTEL 4PM **KATE BERGMAN**

MONDAY 6

- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 7:30PM **VELSHUR** 10PM **DJ TAYA**
- GREAT NORTHERN HOTEL, BYRON **DAN HANNAFORD**
- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON 7PM **SHIRAZZ**
- BYRON RSL 8PM **AUSTEN TAYSHUS**

TUESDAY 7

- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 7:30PM **AYSHA** 10PM **DJ SAMMY OWENS**
- GREAT NORTHERN HOTEL, BYRON **MARSHALL**
- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON **PINK ZINC**
- BYRON BREWERY 7.30PM **TREVOR HALL**
- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS 11.30AM **RUSSELL HINTON** 7.30PM **CHRIS COOK BAND**

GIGGUIDE DEADLINE 12NOON FRIDAY
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WHAT'S ON

BYRON THEATRE Dec / Jan

Soul St New Years Eve
Tuesday 31st December, 2pm
Event held in Railway Park
Free Event

First Sun New Years Day
Wednesday 1st December, 5:30am
Event held at Main Beach
Free Event

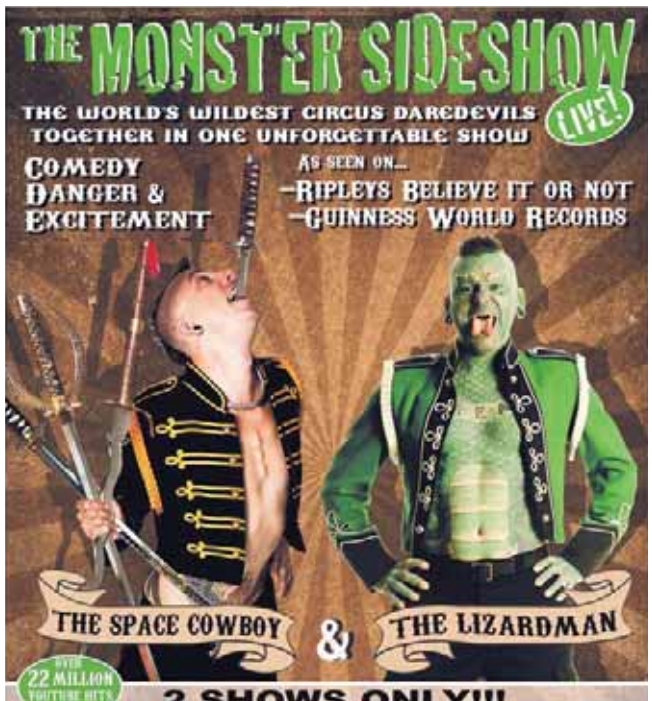
Rachel Sermanni & Darren Hanlon
Presented by Woodford Folk Festival
Friday 3 Jan, 7.30pm
Tickets: $18 Pre / $21 Door

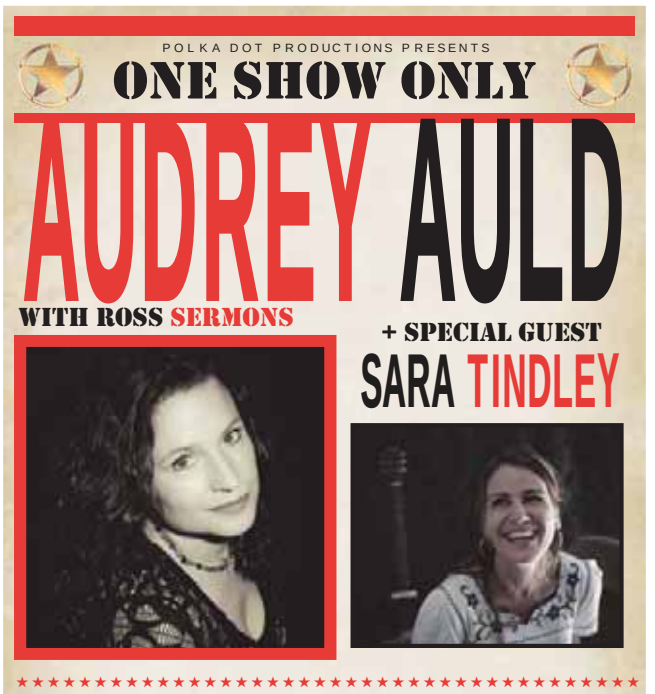
Canadian Showcase
Presented by OzCan & Woodfood Folk Festival
Saturday 4 Jan, 7pm
Tickets: $18 Pre / $21 Door

Byron Arts Classic Opening Night
Presented by Byron Community Association
Friday 10 Jan, 6pm. Tickets: $10
Exhibition open Jan 10-15. $2 entry

Community Table Cafe & Bar now open an hour before all events

Byron Theatre
Byron Community Centre
69 Jonson Street Byron Bay
Box Office hrs: 10am–3.30pm
Phone 6685 6807
tix & info byroncentre.com.au
Like us on Facebook – Byron Theatre





Cinema Review

ANCHORMAN 2: THE LEGEND CONTINUES

Will Ferrell is an immensely gifted comic actor who (like most of us, I guess) doesn't think too long about taking the soft option when it comes to earning a buck. His movies aim low, primarily at mob-minded young blokes, but that he is able to raise the bar higher than a script's dumbness is testimony to his gauche sincerity – how else to explain *Talladega Nights* or *The Campaign*? His pose as a cultural subversive might almost be convincing if it weren't for the fact that he lives like royalty and always flies at the pointy end of the plane. Back as Ron Bergundy, the idiot newsreader, he is sacked from his regional TV presenter's job and separated from his wife and little boy. It's the late Seventies and, with his career hanging by a thread, Ron accepts an offer to be the anchor on the 2–5am graveyard shift of Global News Network, an outfit owned by a brash Australian planning to screen the news 24/7 – CNN and the Dirty Digger are the obvious references. Ron makes it big when he and his crew decide to tell the viewers only what they want to hear. The gags are hit and miss – a line about Mother Theresa's vagina might work for the geniuses with their caps on backwards, but really? – the style is ridiculously stilted and the characterisations typically extreme. Steve Carell's weatherman is embarrassingly awful, as is his clumsy romance with Kristen Wiig (neither will feature this in their CV reel). Not that we could expect any Judd Apatow production to feature an intelligent part for a woman (this makes *The Heat* look like Ibsen). That it flops timidly over the line with yet another sanctification of the nuclear family as a dad makes time to see his privileged son's piano recital tends to water down the try-hard iconoclasm, but it is mildly amusing. Otherwise, it's just a bunch of overpaid stars acting the goat in order to further milk an audience captivated by celebrity dross. **~ John Campbell**

THE SECRET LIFE OF WALTER MITTY

The sad irony that nags unheard at this wonderful movie is that all of the major studios have it in train to stream their newest productions directly into your living room the minute the last edit is done. Meaning that soon, with the sloth of online shopping and the quicksand of social media, none of us will need to leave the house to do anything – least of all become involved in the sort of life-affirming individualism encouraged by Walter Mitty's awakening. In this, Ben Stiller doubles as director and he seems initially to be more at ease in front of the camera. Walter develops the negative prints that are submitted to *LIFE* magazine by its photographers scattered around the globe. The one that will be used to provide the cover for the last issue of the venerable publication has gone missing and it's the responsibility of Walter, a perennial daydreamer, to find it. There is a flatness, a staid quality about the film's introductory scenes that doesn't augur well – Walter's unrequited love for fellow worker Cheryl (Kristen Wiig) and his downtrodden status in the office is clichéd, while his major flight of fancy, involving a cross-city fight with his tormentor Hendricks (Adam Scott), appears as just another exercise in CGI overkill. But when he travels from New York to Greenland in search of the legendary photo-journalist Sean O'Connell (Sean Penn), the story takes wings. The transformation happens in one exhilarating moment as Walter, imagining that Cheryl is urging him on by singing Bowie's *Space Oddity* (it has never been put to better use), fearlessly leaps into a helicopter as it is taking off, freeing himself from all of his terrestrial inhibitions. Stiller has always been good as the hapless Everyman who is nonplussed by circumstance, so Mitty's journey of personal liberation is doubly affecting because it is not that of a typical hero. The final shot, of the long-awaited cover, is heart-swelling, as is the casual intimacy with which Walter finally gets to hold Cheryl's hand. Bewdiful. **~ John Campbell**

MYSTERY ROAD

Ivan Sen's new film is set somewhere in the unlovely, unromantic outback, where the car numberplates have no identifying state initials – this is the lost Australia of neglect, disadvantage and wasteful lethargy. Son of a stockman, detective Jay Swan (Aaron Pedersen) returns to his unnamed hometown, where the body of an Indigenous teenage girl has been found out where the big rigs rumble through the desert – her throat slit. The sergeant at the local police station (Tony Barry) is apathetic, prepared to take only the most rudimentary investigative measures. But a story that might follow the familiar lines established by *In The Heat Of The Night* (1967) veers away from the classic (and now standard) Poitier versus Steiger racial dichotomy and instead takes us with Jay as he navigates a divided cultural landscape as an unwelcome outsider. To his dismay, he discovers that his own daughter, Crystal, living with Jay's ex (Tasma Walton), was a close friend of the murdered girl and that she, in all likelihood, was moving in the same shadowy, drug-numbed world. Other coppers are most likely bent, with Hugo Weaving's shady detective running his own race. The Baileys (David Field and Ryan Kwanten) own the big cattle station and are hostile redneck roo-shooters. Sen films it without any affectation – but for some beautiful aerial shots, the camera is stationary at all times, getting in tight for numerous character close-ups, and is never hand held, while music is kept to a bare minimum, allowing the soundscape to contribute enormously to the atmospherics (as it should more often). Performances are excellent – Pedersen is especially good as a man becoming exposed to unpalatable truths. Perhaps in keeping with the title, the script is only partially failed by a lack of cohesion – or binding glue – that results in its many disparate components never quite falling into one piece. Ultimately, there is some crucial information not imparted, because probably of an imprecise edit – Sen might have been advised to not attempt absolutely everything himself. Otherwise fab. **~ John Campbell**

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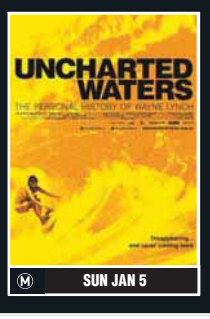
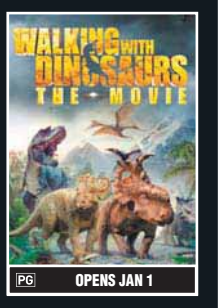
TUESDAY 31 DEC to WEDNESDAY 8 JAN





ANCHORMAN 2: THE LEGEND CONTINUES (M) *(No free tix)*
Tue 31: 9:20am, 4:15, 9:20pm
Wed 1: 2:55, 9:50 Thu 2, Fri 3, Sat 4, Mon 6-Wed 8: 2.20, 9.15pm Sun 5: 2.20
PHILOMENA (M) *(No free tix)*
Tue 31: 1:45, 4:10, 6:45pm
Wed 1: 11:15am, 1:15, 6:20pm
Thu 2, Fri 3, Sat 4, Mon 6-Wed 8: 11.30, 1.30, 6.30 Sun 5: 11.30, 1.30, 7.00
THE SECRET LIFE OF WALTER MITTY (PG) *(No free tix)* Tue 31: 11:10, 1:40, 6:35 Wed 1: 3:20, 6:40, 9:10pm
Thu 2, Fri 3, Sat 4, Mon 6-Wed 8: 4.30, 6.40, 9.00pm Sun 5: 4.30, 6.40, 9.15
UNCHARTED WATERS (CTC) Sun 5: 6.30
FROZEN (PG) *(No free tix)*
Tue 31: 9:00, 11:35am Wed 1: 9:00, 10:35am Thu 2-Wed 8: 9.25, 11.20am
3D: THE HOBBIT: THE DESOLATION OF SMAUG (M) *(No free tix)*
Tue 31: 3:40, 8:50 Wed 1: 3:15, 8:30
Thu 2-Wed 8: 3.30, 8.30pm

2D: THE HOBBIT: THE DESOLATION OF SMAUG (M) *(No free tix)*
Tue 31: 6:15pm Wed 1: 12:30pm
Thu 2-Wed 8: 1.20pm
2D WALKING WITH DINOSAURS THE MOVIE (CTC) *(No free tix)*
Wed 1: 9:00, 10.45am
Thu 2-Wed 8: 10.15am
AUGUST: OSAGE COUNTY (CTC) *(No free tix)*
Thu 2, Fri 3, Sat 4, Mon 6-Wed 8: 12.00, 4.40, 7.00pm
Sun 5: 12.00, 4.40, 8.50pm
AMERICAN HUSTLE (MA15+) *(No free tix)*
Tue 31: 10:50, 1:30, 9:15pm
2D: CLOUDY WITH A CHANCE OF MEATBALLS 2 (G) Tue 31: 9.00am Wed 1: 9.00am Thu 2-Wed 8: 9.00am

All sessions are correct at the time of publication. Current session times at: www.palacecinemas.com.au

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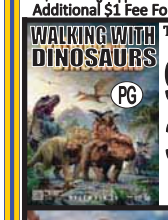
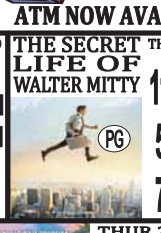


THUR 2ND TO WED 8TH 9.40AM 3.35PM

THUR 2ND TO WED 8TH 2D-12.05PM 3D-3.05PM 2D-8.05PM

THUR 2ND TO WED 8TH 2D 10.05AM 11.40AM 1.50PM 6.05PM



THUR 2ND TO WED 8TH 11.20AM 5.15PM 7.20PM

THUR 2ND TO WED 8TH 1.25PM 6.30PM 9.25PM

THUR 2ND TO WED 8TH 4.00PM 8.40PM FINAL 7 DAYS

THUR 2ND TO WED 8TH 2D 9.50AM FINAL 7 DAYS

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pig House flicks
BYRON BAY LOUNGE CINEMA
COOL AIRCON + DIGITAL + COMFY SEATS + ONLINE TIX

Tuesday Dec 31
Happy New Year's Eve!
Wednesday January 1 2014
Happy New Year's Day!
Thursday Jan 2
Filth 4:15pm
Night Train To Lisbon 6:15pm
The Darkside (new) 8:30pm
Friday Jan 3
Night Train To Lisbon 4:15pm
The Darkside 6:30pm
Filth 8:30pm
Saturday Jan 4
Night Train To Lisbon 1:45pm
The Darkside 4:00pm
Filth 6:00pm
Closed: Private Party 8:00pm

Sunday Jan 5
Sorry, Closed:
Private Function
Book your Party, Film Night or Special Event @ the Pighouse
Monday Jan 6 - all tix $10
Mystery Road 4:00pm
Night Train To Lisbon 6.15pm
The Darkside 8:30pm
Tuesday Jan 7
Night Train To Lisbon 4:15pm
Fill The Void (final) 6:30pm
Mystery Road 8:30pm
Wednesday Jan 8
The Darkside 4:30pm
Filth (final) 6:30pm
Night Train To Lisbon 8.30pm

1 Skinners Shoot Road, Byron Bay in Brewery Complex
Movie Hotline: 6685 5828 Web: pighouseflicks.com.au

NEXT WEEK: ENDER'S GAME, KILL YOUR DARLINGS

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www.facebook.com/Frankiebrowncafe

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32 Lawson St, Byron Bay

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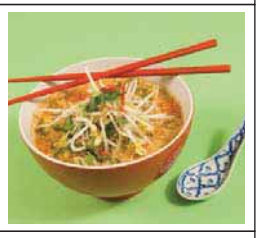

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Byron's Beach Hotel welcomes Monty Koludrovic

GOOD TASTE IN FOCUS

The revamp of the Beach Hotel in the early 1990s is credited by some as starting the tourist wave to Byron, and the financial generosity of former owner John Cornell (Strop from *The Paul Hogan Show*) and his partner Delvene Delaney toward green and cultural groups made a significant contribution to its cultural identity. The pub (known locally as the Top Pub) remains an iconic Byron destination, with uninterrupted ocean views from its sprawling outdoor area, live music and a relaxed vibe.

It's a great place to enjoy a summer meal, and the menu has just undergone a revamp with well-known Australian chef, Monty Koludrovic, joining recently appointed head chef, Shane Morritt, to shake up the Hotel's cuisine offering.

'I still consider Byron Bay and its surrounds as home,' says Koludrovic, a former Lismore High student who has appeared on TV's *Ready Steady Cook*. 'The food we've created together stays true to itself in the sense that this is a pub, and a busy one at that. Patrons can expect a beautiful salad of buffalo-milk haloumi from across the border in Queensland, or a delicious local snapper pie from my days cooking at The Boathouse on Blackwattle Bay, made with the blessing of the pie's creator, Michael Klausen.

'Top quality beef from the northern rivers will be used in the new-look Beachy Burger, and for something to share, there's a locally created simple plate of bread and cured meats from Salumi Australia and a selection of Bangalow Cheese Co's finest for good measure.

'Guests can expect staples such as beer-battered fish made with locally brewed Stone and Wood lager, salt and Sichuan pepper squid, a chicken parma with Shane's fresh and crunchy coleslaw and the Beachy Hot Dog – which incorporates pork crackling, mustard mayo and pickles,' explains Koludrovic.

Following stints at Jacksons on George, Café Sydney and The Boathouse at Blackwattle Bay, Monty spent years working in London and France with good friend Soren Lascelles refining their skills, and gaining a love of authentic French food. This then led to Monty, alongside Olivier Couillaud, relaunching the Grill Room in the prestigious Dorchester Hotel in London. Monty believes that the food itself should have integrity. 'Food should appeal to all the senses and at no time should a chef's artistic intentions shroud the flavours and textures of a dish,' he said.

The new focus on food and quality cuisine at the Beach Hotel follows on from extensive renovations throughout both the venue's kitchen and interior. The Lunch and Dinner plates are available from 12 till 3pm and from 5.30 till 9pm, in addition to the All Day plates that are available from 11.30am till 9pm.

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DISPLAY ADS: $60 per week for colour display ad. Minimum 8 week booking 4 weeks prepaid. Please supply display ads 85mm wide, 28mm high. New display ads will be placed at end of section.

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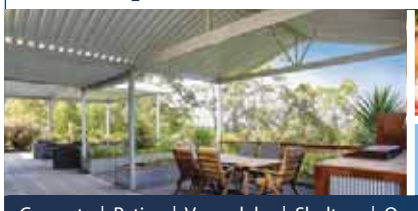

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Each SAT	8-11am Bangalow	6687 1137
Each SAT	8am-1pm Uki	6679 5530

JANUARY 2014
Astronomical data and tides

New moon	January 1	22:14
First quarter	January 8	14:40
Full moon	January 16	15:53
Third quarter	January 24	16:19
New moon	January 31	08:39

Day of month		Sun rise	Sun set	Moon rise	Moon set	High tide, height (m)	Low tide, height (m)
1	W	0551	1947	0522	1922	**0843,1.99**; 2120,1.48	0209,0.32; **1523,0.12**
2	T	0552	1947	0629	2018	**0934,2.04**; 2214,1.51	**0302,0.29**; **1614,0.08**
3	F	0552	1947	0737	2109	**1026,2.04**; 2306,1.53	**0356,0.28**; **1703,0.07**
4	S	0553	1947	0845	2155	**1116,1.98**; 2359,1.53	0451,0.31; **1753,0.12**
5	S	0554	1947	0950	2237	**1208,1.86**	0546,0.36; **1842,0.19**
6	M	0554	1948	1054	2317	0053,1.53; **1300,1.71**	0645,0.43; **1831,0.29**
7	T	0555	1948	1154	2356	0146,1.50; 1354,1.54	0745,0.51; 2021,0.38
8	W	0556	1948	1235		0244,1.49; 1452,1.39	0851,0.58; 2113,0.47
9	T	0557	1948	1350	0035	0344,1.49; 1557,1.27	1003,0.63; 2207,0.53
10	F	0558	1948	1445	0115	0444,1.51; 1706,1.20	1117,0.63; 2301,0.56
11	S	0558	1948	1540	0156	0541,1.54; 1812,1.19	1226,0.59; 2354,0.57
12	S	0559	1948	1632	0239	0633,1.58; 1907,1.21	1320,0.54
13	M	0560	1948	1722	0325	0720,1.63; 1954,1.25	0044.0.56; 1404,0.48
14	T	0601	1948	1809	0413	0801,1.67; 2034,1.29	0128,0.53; 1443,0.43
15	W	0602	1948	1853	0503	**0839,1.71**; 2111,1.32	0208,0.51; 1517,0.39
16	T	0602	1948	1934	0554	**0915,1.73**; 2146,1.34	0246,0.49; 1550,0.36
17	F	0603	1947	2012	0646	**0950,1.73**; 2221,1.36	0323,0.48; 1622,0.35
18	S	0604	1947	2049	0738	**1024,1.72**; 2256,1.38	0400,0.48; 1654,0.35
19	S	0605	1947	2123	0830	1059,1.69; 2332,1.39	0448,0.49; 1727,0.36
20	M	0606	1947	2157	0922	1234,1.63	0517,0.51; 1800,0.38
21	T	0607	1946	2231	1014	0011,1.39; 1212,1.56	0600,0.55; 1835,0.41
22	W	0608	1946	2307	1108	0052,1.40; 1252,1.47	0645,0.59; 1914,0.45
23	T	0608	1946	2344	1203	0139,1.41; 1338,1.39	0739,0.62; 1958,0.49
24	F	0609	1945		1259	0230,1.43; 1435,1.30	0841,0.64; 2049,0.52
25	S	0610	1945	0025	1358	0330,1.47; 1545,1.25	0954,0.63; 2150,0.53
26	S	0611	1945	0111	1459	0433,1.54; 1702,1.24	1112,0.56; 2257,0.51
27	M	0612	1944	0203	1601	0538,1.64; 1815,1.29	1221,0.45
28	T	0613	1944	0300	1701	**0638,1.77**; 1917,1.37	0000,0.45; 1322,0.32
29	W	0614	1943	0404	1759	**0735,1.89**; 2013,1.45	0100,0.38; **1416,0.20**
30	T	0614	1943	0511	1853	**0829,1.98**; 2105,1.53	0157,0.31; **1507,0.11**
31	F	0615	1942	0619	1942	**0920,2.02**; 2156,1.58	0251,0.25; **1555,0.07**

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

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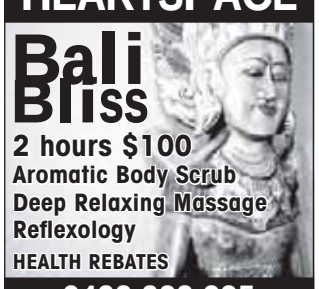

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OLD & AUTHENTIC Javanese furniture & Indonesian decoration items
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Interiors Bruns
0415 238 408
robert.vands@gmail.com

SURFBOARD SALE long boards, mini mals, ex demo. 165 Centennial Cct, Byron A&I Estate. Phone 66807888

ARCHIBALD'S CHEAP QUARRY PRODUCTS
Road base, gravel, blue metal and metal dust. ALL SIZE DELIVERIES.
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Big Lomandra $2, colourful NZ Flax, Tiger Grass, Gardenia, Cascade & other Lilly Pillys, Xanadu + more. 0419771514 www.narnianursery.com.au

ANTIQUE CABINET
stunning 1900s, 550 x 1580 x 1500 paid $4200 9yrs ago sell $2200. 0413704211

WANTED

LP RECORDS: good condition, no op shop crap! Ph Matt 0401955052

SHIPPING CONTAINERS
bought for cash. Phone 0417458149

OLD MOTORBIKE any make, any year, any cond. Will pick up. 0427109195

GARAGE SALES

BOOK SALE Mullum 12 Tristran Pde. Sat 8-11. Children's, garden, poetry, novels, philosophy, lifestyle & landscaping

MASSIVE SALE furn, lamps, clothes, camper trailer, drawing board, Ikea white shelf, glass countertop jewellery display 8am Sat 110 Stuart St Mullum. 66846026

OCEAN SHORES MOVING SALE entire household. Fri, Sat & Sun, 8am to 3pm. 5 Weeronga Way

O.SHORES 1/48 Rajah Rd, Sat. Clothes, jewellery, toys, upright freezer & more

MOVING SALE Billinudgel 19 Moffats Rd Sat & Sun from 8am. All household items

MOTOR VEHICLES

CAR RENTALS
Weekly Rates 0401606707

CASH PAID FOR UNWANTED CARS
Local reg'd business
66845296 or 66845403 or 0413120970

2006 BMW 320i E90 87,000km, grey, manual, sunroof, 6 months rego $17,000. Phone 0409366732

HONDA CIVIC hatch, white, man, my mechanic can't fault it! 1 owner, full history, reg July $2350. Ph 0428427002

Sunrise Car Sales
12-14 Bayshore Dr, Byron Bay
Call Russell 0411 807 497 or Don 0488 780 302
Lic 44470

1999 Honda Civic, Manual 6 months reg. BV 16 BC $2,990
1991 Daihatsu Feroza removable hard top. 403 EVM $3,495
1996 Ford Econo Van low K's BV 22 BC $4500
1995 Ford Courier Dual Cab Ute Very tidy $4,490
1986 Toyota Coaster 20 seater Perfect for reno & travelling. BVC 456 ..... $5,450
1991 Mitsubishi Pajero Turbo Diesel Soft top. Great fun. RJG 455 ..... $5,990
2008 Holden Rodeo Diesel 1 tonner $9,490
2005 Mazda 3 SP23 Great sporty car $14,990

BARGAINS

2003 Holden Astra automatic, 129,631km, log book history, lovely car. BF57HJ $5,495
1999 Toyota Hilux dual cab utility, 5spd canopy, 2.7, great value. XSN294 ..... $4,950
2008 Toyota Yaris automatic 70,136kn, full logbook history, 1 owner. BA877A .....
2011 Hyundai i30 Hatch, auto 43,276km, 5-star rating, 1 owner, 3yr new car warranty, great value. BB89ZT $13,995
1998 Toyota Tarago auto A/C P/S ready for the family S/N 671 ..... $4,950
2000 Toyota Camry touring sedan, very nice car, 6/14 rego. WRV901 ..... $3,495

50 CARS UNDER $10,000
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16 ENDEAVOUR CLOSE, BALLINA
Ballina Car Centre DLN 19950
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CAPE BYRON Holistic Chiropractic
guiding you back to health

Shane Eade – Chiropractor
1300 858 842
6, 14 Middleton St, Byron Bay
13 years experience treating back pain, headaches and sciatica

BRENT VERCO CHIROPRACTOR

MULLUM CHIROPRACTIC
6684 1028
TUE WED
THU FRI PM
& SAT AM

Chemsave
Mullum Pharmacy
8am – 5.30pm Mon – Fri
8am – 12.30pm Saturday
107 Dalley Street, 6684 6226
next to FarmCare

Local healers
Starlight Expo
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Thurs 9 - Sun 12 Jan
Opportunity for community minded therapists to offer free healings and meet new clients, no stand fee.
Call Chicchan 66 843 467
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$29/2 Weeks Unlimited Yoga Intro Offer
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Shiva Shakti Yoga
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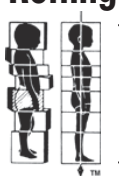
Rolfing® Byron Bay



Health Fund Rebates
NOW AVAILABLE
Jeremy Sutton • 0407 132 921
rolfingbyronbay.com

BYRON'S BEST MASSAGE
Be. Salon & Spa
Shop 1, 14 Middleton St
Health rebates available
0413 432 584

Traditional
THAI MASSAGE
with female or male
1hr $50
Ph Nui 0497 790 838 or 6677 1670

Mo	Pilates 9am	Pilates 10am	Stretch & Release 3.30pm
Tu	Yoga 7am		
We	Pilates 7.30am	Pilates 8.30am	
Th	Pilates 7.30am	Pilates 9am	
Fr	Stretch & Release 7.30am	Pilates 8.30am	
Sa	Yoga 7am	Pilates 8.30am	Pilates 9.30am

mullumbimbyfitness.com.au 6684 1028

EXCITING 3 WEEK ACROYOGA SERIES
Every Saturday starts 4th Jan
10am till 12pm / $30
Kulchajam,
1 Acacia street, Byron Bay
Ph 0426 589 298
Bring this ad and a friend comes for free.

TRADEWORK

Septic Waste Removal Summerland Environmental
The Liquid Waste Specialists!
• Septic tank cleaning
• Grease trap servicing
• Oily Liquids
• Portable toilet hire
• 24 hour service
6687 2880

NICKS TREE SERVICES
FREE QUOTES
TREE REMOVALS - TREE SURGERY
PROFESSIONAL CLIMBING
12"CHIPPER - STUMP GRINDING
CHERRY PICKER - FULLY INSURED
0439849332
0266 849332

Tallow TREE SERVICES
PROFESSIONAL TREE CARE
- REMOVALS
- PALMS
- TREE SURGERY
- FREE QUOTES
- FULLY INSURED
- STUMP GRINDING
- TREE REPORTS
- DA APPLICATIONS
- CRANE HIRE

6685 4015 - 0401 208 797

SUMMERLAND TREE SERVICES
• Cherry Picker
• Wood Chipper
• Stump Grinder
• Tree Surgeon
• Fully Insured
Mulch Supplies
Byron Bay & Surrounding Areas
6687 7677
Mobile 0417 698 227

Beachside Yoga & Massage
Welcomes Yumi
specialising in a unique combination of Judo Therapy, Remedial Massage & Deep Tissue Massage

	6:30 - 7:30am	8 - 9:30am	10 - 11:30am	6:30 - 7:30pm
M		Jacqueline Hatha Yoga	Jacqueline Slow Gentle Yoga	
T	Yvonne Kundalini Yoga	Yvonne Kundalini Yoga	Yvonne Kundalini Yoga	Jacqueline Slow Gentle Yoga
W		Jacqueline Hatha Yoga	Jacqueline Slow Gentle Yoga	
T	Yvonne Kundalini Yoga	Yvonne Kundalini Yoga	Yvonne Kundalini Yoga	Yvonne Kundalini Meditation
F		Grace Hatha Yoga	Grace Slow Gentle Yoga	
S		Grace Hatha Yoga	Grace Slow Gentle Yoga	

Professional Remedial, Deep Tissue & Relaxation Massage in a beautiful beachside setting.

½ Hour	$40
1 Hour	$75
1½ Hour	$110
Home Visits	$120 (1hr)

1hr yoga classes $15
1½hr yoga classes $18
5 class pass $80
Upstairs Byron Surf Club
0448 807 798 Mon-Sat

The Yellow Church YOGA & Natural Health Centre
Gift Vouchers Available

Friday 3 Jan
8–9am Pilates Yos
Saturday 4 Jan
8.30–9.30am Pilates Yos
9.45–10.45am Pilates Yos
Monday 6 Jan
9.30–11.30am Hatha Diana
3.30–5pm Hatha Diana
Tuesday 7 Jan
6.30–8am Consta
9.30–11.30 Women's Yoga Moana
Wednesday 8 Jan
9.30–11.30am Beginners Diana
5.30–7pm Hatha Diana

5-week Beginners Yoga
Starts Mon 3 Feb, 6–7.30pm
$75, Bookings essential.

Shiatsu & Remedial Massage
with Diana Ewing. Special price: 1hour $60 from 6 Jan, by appt.

Enquiries **Diana Ewing 9 Myocum Street, Mullumbimby**
M **0407 455 212** E **dianaewing@bigpond.com**

More details at www.findyoga.com.au/studio/yellowchurchyoga

Outdoor Wood Fired Ovens
Available for purchase in kit form or built on site.

An investment in lifestyle and entertainment.
Byron Bay and surrounding areas.

GLEN THOMPSON
Phone Simon Henry
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glenthompsonbricks@bigpond.com

MAZDA 121 1996 manual 4-door sedan 1.3lt 146,000km, 7 months rego, runs well $2500 ono. Ph John 0417503855

Toyota ExiV

1991 model
Beautiful machine
Unique imported vehicle
Royal blue, auto, pillarless doors, smooth drive
Reg to 4/2014 (Qld)
new battery, 211K
$1500 worth of work recently done.
Spares supplier details avail.
$2,995 Ph **0408 333 282**

CAR SERVICE

BSW MOTORS
Pre-purchase inspection from $40!
Pink slips, service + repair.
10 Bonanza Dr, Billinudgel. 66804999

BUSINESS FOR SALE

MARKET & FESTIVAL FOOD STALL
Well established, Byron area $35,000.
Ph 0423371660

ACREAGE MOWING Byron Bay Hinterland, est business, solid returns, $34,000 inc plant & equipmt 0429809363

HOUSES FOR SALE

HASTINGS POINT BIG 4 North Star Resort Reduced to $115,000. Immediate access. 3br, New Bthrm, Full Kitchen, Lounge, Dining, ext Laundry, 6x3m deck, 2 car Carport. 2 min walk beach/creek. Austar. Ph owner 0427664637

LAND FOR SALE

HOUSE BLOCK $34,900 urgent sale, 615sqm. Gold Coast area, bay views. Great fishing, crabs. Call 0755704153

BRICK CABIN on 12 acs, dual occupancy near Nat Park & waterfalls, half hr beach, roos, koalas etc, tropical fruit trees, peace & quiet, $280,000. 0429882058

COORABELL shares in acreage, intention to obtain rural strata subdivision otherwise known as Community Title, from $225,000. Phone 66847420

45 ACRE SHARE FOR SALE

(of a 140 acre organic farming community title property).
The share area is a large flat flood-free plus hill area, which has sandy soil and hundreds of very large hardwood timber trees.
Share area also has a large section of creek flats and a large creek frontage bordering on a huge state forest.
Located 1.5 hrs drive to Byron, 40min to Ballina, and 25min to Evans Head beach. $170,000.
To arrange an inspection ph:
0413 611 723

PROPERTY FOR SALE

Bali Dream Seaside Eco Estate
400 sqm eco home, beach front
Peaceful, private $1.1 million ono.
By owner 66845089
Email: balidreamsale@gmail.com
Info: shambalavilla.tumblr.com

REMOVALISTS

BACKLOAD
Batemans Bay / Sydney approx 20m3.
First week of January
Phone Tas 0409917646

HOLIDAY ACCOM.

WATEGOS BEACH, BYRON 1br unit, wonderful ocean/mountain views. Avail 11/01-01/02, min 4 nights. Special rates. 0418486894

TYAGARAH 3br, 1 bthrm eco home on organic property, 10 min Byron, Mullum & Bruns. Ph 0402147099 or 0411583400

SHORT TERM ACCOM.

FURNISHED STUDIO in McAuleys Ln Mullum $250pw all inclusive. 66841022

BYRON Lovely fully-furnished room in stylish home for single traveller $180pw inclusive. Avail to Jan 17. Ph 66856645

EWINGSDALE executive home for rent, huge tropical gardens, pool, 5br, huge living area. 1 acre avail 13 Jan for 1 month $800pw. Ph 0423463661

SHARE ACCOM.

MULLUM great views, pool, acres, p-furn from $250 to $180pw + utilities avail now. For inspection ph Michael 0421738352

MULLUM house in town, lge rm $180pw inc bills avail now. Rebecca 0413166314

BYRON CBD great room, f-f, great house, no bills, sgl $180pw. 0415452932

SUFFOLK room in new t/house with pool. Pref working pers. $180pw. 0432187821

BEACHSIDE SUFFOLK share 3br house, fully-furnished, with 1 person, n/s, $240pw incl bills + 2 weeks bond. Ph 66853841

SUFFOLK unfurn bedrm, BIR, clean tidy person pref $160pw + bills. 0400467848

SOUTH GOLDEN BEACH room, pref n/s, d/f worker $115pw. Ph 0429489364

2 ROOMS AVAIL in big lovely house. $200pw & $220pw plus bills, Tallowood Cres. Call Lucy 0433250691

BYRON ocean views, room available, lovely female pref, no travellers please $225pw + bond. Please call 0413190266

TO LET

BANGALOW SELF-STORAGE
Hi-tech security. **66872333**

CARAVANS & CABINS from $195pw. Apply in person to Byron Bay Tourist Village, Ewingsdale Road

CHINCOGAN REAL ESTATE Est. 1979

MULLUMBIMBY
3 b/r brick & tile, SLUG $420pw
2 b/r + sunroom huge garden $395pw
Julie or Nicci Phone: 6684 3301
79 Burringbar St, Mullumbimby 2482

Elders Bangalow

James Gibson Rd, Clunes – $380pw
3 bed, 1 bath, nice gardens, lawns incl. Avail now
Tooheys Mill Rd, Nashua – $420pw
Large 4 bed, 2 bath, rural outlook. Avail now
Bangalay Court, Bangalow – $510pw
2 bed, 1 bath near new home. Avail mid Jan
Cedar Court, Bangalow – $570pw
4 bed, 2 bath, SLUG, pets neg. Avail mid Jan
Colin St, Bangalow – $570pw
Spacious 4 bed, 1 bath, close to town, pool. Avail mid Jan
Goonengerry Rd, Goonengerry – $775pw
4 bed + study, 2 bath, in-ground pool, DLUG. Avail 6th Jan
For more available rental properties go to **www.eldersbangalow.com.au**
19a Byron Street, Bangalow
02 6687 1500

WELCOMING THE NEW YEAR...

NEW LISTING Newrybar $430 pw
Modern 2 br, 1 bath brand new unit on dual occupancy. Open plan lounge/dining. Avail now for 12 months.
NEW LISTING Clunes $420 pw
Spacious family home, 4 bedrooms, 2 living areas, entertaining areas, SLUG, pets OK. Available 19th Jan.
NEW LISTING Bangalow $520 pw
Lovely 3 br, 1 bath timber cottage. Walk to town, pol floors, gas cooking. Solar hot water. Avail 10 Jan.
NEW LISTING Bangalow $550 pw
3 spacious bedrooms, 1 bath with sep shower & bath. Gas cooking, solar HWS and power, Avail 8th Jan.
NEW LISTING Bangalow $610pw
Lovely 4 bed, 2 bath modern family home, with amazing veggie gardens. Dishwasher & gas cooking. Avail now!
NEW LISTING Ewingsdale $830 pw
Architect designed, 4 br, 2 bath, DLUG. Gas cooking, large deck. Views to Byron. Avail 7th Jan for 12 mths.
NEW LISTING Tintenbar $910 pw
Stunning 4 br, 3 bath home with a/c, gas cooking, solar HW & power. Pool, spa. Avail mid/late Jan.
We will be open on Thursday 2nd Jan for all Rental Enquiries!
6687 2479
bangalowrealestate.com.au

STORAGE
From $100/mth. Bangalow Ph 66871500

BANGALOW RENT-A-SHED
Self-storage sheds fr $25pw. 66871306

BALLINA SELF-STORAGE UNITS
Secure from $15pw. Ph 66867011

LOCAL REMOVAL

& backloads to Brisbane. Friendly, with 10 years local exp. 0409917646

COORABELL new 1br part-furn cabin, privacy, views to Byron, working person. Prefer no kids/pets, $280pw. 66847535

BYRON nice neat & tidy 2.5 br house in town $550pw inc gdn maint. 0439854468

HOUSE 3br, 1 bthrm, unfurn, Brandon St, Suffolk Park, 145m to beach, gardens, spacious living, refurbished, $700pw, avail now 12 month lease. Phone 0410685904

SUFFOLK PARK fully-renovated p-furn, 3br, 1 bthrm home, long lease, must be working, n/s, refs req $470pw + bills & bond. Fully-fenced yard. Ph 0434559265

MULLUM studio 2br, separate, self-cont, tropical garden, $280pw. 0403726526

MULLUM caravan/studio, deck, private rural setting, suit single quiet person $195pw incl elect + bond, must have refs. Phone 0404847204

OCEAN SHORES 3 bedroom house $380pw. Phone 0409699475

BYRON BAY 2br, 1 bthrm, LUG, 5 minute walk to Tallow Bch $450pw. 0422232254

BYRON HILLS p-furn 3br, 2 bthrm home avail Feb 4,12 mth lease $650pw + 4wk bond, refs essential, no pets. 0427275925

STH GOLDEN 1br flat, wood floors, walk beach, beautifully presented, suit sgl n/s worker $220pw inclusive. 0411583376

WANTED TO RENT

RELIABLE FEMALE TENANT employed, with good references, seeks 3-4br family home in South Golden Beach area. Current house has been sold and I need a new home as soon as possible. Ph 0403296387

IDEAL tenant seeks 2br house, cottage or flat in Lennox area from mid Jan. Ph 0404386399 or judithcmiller@gmail.com

TO LEASE

WORKSHOPS FROM $50PW
Billinudgel. Siwicki Real Estate 66851206

BYRON creative work/office space, $75pw incl elect & internet. 0431674377

COMMERCIAL OFFICES BANGALOW
95sqm of mod open plan with huge w'around v'dah. Prime cnr pos in town. $3575pm inc. GST + outgoings $750pm
Available Now!
Bangalow Real Estate: 66872479

SHOP FOR LEASE 50sqm with park Byron CBD great street front 0415918355

POSITIONS VACANT

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

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

GOOD DRIVERS WANTED NOW
Shifts avail for taxi, coach & hire cars. Full training provided. Min 12 month Aust Licence Required.
Email: info@byronbaytaxis.com

CHEFS required for Quattro Restaurant Lennox Head. Summer & long term positions available. Phone 0439302898

EXP CASUAL CLEANERS WANTED
For Byron Apartments
Must be reliable, exp & avail w/ends
ABN pref or Tax File No. No Travellers
Email: clean2481@gmail.com

JAPANESE SPEAKER Medical market research involving telephone communication, Mon-Fri. Must be competent on computer. Ph 66807651 or 0449235707

CASUAL SHUTTLE BUS DRIVER
for immediate start located in Byron. You will be required to be avail for day, night & weekend work. Applicants must hold driver authority to transport passengers. Local area knowledge preferred. Email: bookings@byronbayexpress.com.au

LOVE FILM? Got skills & free time to dedicate over the next 10 weeks? Join the Byron Bay Film Festival team www.bbff.com.au/volunteers

CARER reliable, strong, female, attention-to-detail, to assist quadriplegic man, mornings 7.30-10.30am, evenings 7-9pm, $26-$28/hr. Tax file number required. Phone Craig 66805750

CHEF / COOK
Popular restaurant in Byron requires fast working team player for a long term PT/FT role. Must be either qualified or be a strong/experienced cook. Opportunity for progression. Training provided. Email resume jobs@misscuisine.com.au 0406907051

WORK WANTED

LOCAL GUYS 20yrs exp landscaping, gardens & lawns, paving, tiling, ute. Jobs under $1100. Phone 0432401334

The Ironing Lady
is taking a break, back early January.
$25 per hour. Angela 0414719680

YOUNG responsible French student looking for babysitting (experienced) & teaching French. Ph 0413816038

DECKS, PERGOLAS all carpentry needs. Under $1100. Free quotes. 0427196962

EXPERIENCED HORTICULTURIST for all aspects of gardening. Ph 0429020215

EXP CLEANER for HOME/BUSINESS
$30ph, 3hr min ABN. Ph 0423051277

PROFESSIONAL CLEANER
excellent references. Ph 0412262467

EXPERIENCED CLEANER honest, reliable, thorough, exc refs. 0439044303

TUITION

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Eva 66846760
www.languagetuitionbyron.com.au

MUSICAL NOTES

BYRON SOUND LOUNGE rehearsals, recording & PA hire. Ph 66808938

PIANO TUNING
Tuner for Planet Music, Studio 301 & SAE College. R. Barkley. 0422221116
www.reubenbarkleypianotuning.com.au

PIANO TUNER
Restorer, repairer & retailer since 1981. Ph Dr Fred Cole 0412216019 or www.specialtypianos.com.au

TOUCH OF JUSTINE
Luscious massage & sensual touch
Thursday ONLY. 0407013347

LOST & FOUND

STOLEN BIKE: dark green medium 90s Mongoose 'Hilltopper', large motor in front taken from Station St Mullum on Sun 22nd. If you see it please ph 0415786804

Find Echo Classifieds on Echonetdaily every day

DEATH NOTICE

ROBYN TREWARTHA
Passed away peacefully at Robina Hospital 19 December, 2013.
Robyn volunteered in many Byron Shire organisations. She will be sadly missed by many friends.

IN MEMORIAM

KEITH BROWN
Dad, your footprint on our lives is forever cherished. You will always remain close to our hearts. Love Shane & Liz

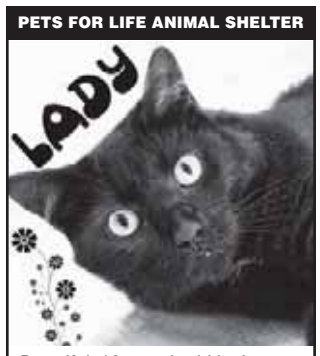
KEITH (BOMBER) BROWN
8/1/35 - 29/12/06
A special man who touched many lives & lived to the fullest in all walks of life.
Missed, loved & remembered every day, Shirley, Mark, Karen, Matt, Leanne, Tony, Luke, Cody, Stephen, Sherrynne (dec.) & Ashlee

PETS

DOTTIE

Dottie has been here far too long. She is a lovely young girl who doesn't like shelter life & has been hoping for a home where she can be the centre of attention. She'd prefer to be an only cat but will happily lap up all the attention of a human family. Dottie is looking forward to a brighter 2014. Could you be the one to make her dream come true?
To meet Dottie & the other cats & kittens, visit the Cat Adoption Centre at 124 Dalley St, Mullumbimby.
Open: Tues 2.30-4.30pm,
Thurs 3-5pm,
Sat 10-12 noon.
Call AWL 6684 4070.
ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE NSW

PETS FOR LIFE ANIMAL SHELTER



Beautiful, 12-month-old Lady almost totally missed out on Xmas. She has a scary tale to tell. She and three friends were on 'death row'. Just four of the thousand of cats that end up unloved and unwanted, ultimately to be euthanised. But she and her friends were saved in the nick of time, and are now safe at PFL Centre. She is very friendly, soft and affectionate. All she wants now is that 'forever home'.
She will be waiting for your visit.
All cats are desexed, vaccinated and microchipped.
PETS FOR LIFE ANIMAL SHELTER
Please make an appointment
0403 533 589 Billinudgel
petsforlifeanimalshelter.net

Happiness is not something ready made. It comes from your own actions.
If you have a particular faith or religion, that is good. But you can survive without it.
– Dalai Lama

NSW CROWN HOLIDAY PARKS TRUST

DRAFT PLANS OF MANAGEMENT
Massey Greene Holiday Park
Terrace Reserve Holiday Park
Ferry Reserve Holiday Park
Brunswick Heads Foreshore Public Reserves

Draft Plans of Management for the above Crown Reserves in Brunswick Heads are on public exhibition from Monday 23 December 2013 to Friday 21 February 2014.

The plans can be viewed on the NSW Crown Holiday Parks Trust website at www.nswchpt.com.au or the Crown Lands website at www.crownland.nsw.gov.au

The draft plans may also be inspected during normal business hours at:

1. Grafton Crown Lands Office
   Department of Trade & Investment – Crown Lands
   Level 3, 49-51 Victoria Street, Grafton NSW
2. Byron Shire Council Administration Centre
   Station Street, Mullumbimby NSW 2482
3. Brunswick Heads Library
   Fingal Street, Brunswick Heads NSW 2483

Submissions in relation to the draft plan are invited from the public. Please address written submissions to:
NSW Crown Holiday Parks Trust
PO Box 647, Ballina NSW 2478

Or email secretary@nswchpt.com.au

Enquiries please email secretary@nswchpt.com.au or telephone 6686 5171

OCEAN SHORES
- Two bedroom unit. Single garage $300.00 per week.
- Four bedroom, two storey house with pool and ocean views. Fully furnished. $650.00 per week.
- Large two storey house. Five bedrooms and three bathrooms. Separate entry and living areas. Single garage plus storage. $650.00 per week negotiable.

FNC Property Management
1300 716 707

Elders New Brighton

Ocean Shores
$660pw, 4 bed, 2 bath, Dlug
$300pw, 2 bed, 1 bath unit
$290pw, 2 bed, 1 bath, Slug
$285pw, 2 bed, 1 bath, single carport unit
New Brighton
$800pw, 4 bed, 2 bath+ separate 1 bed studio, opposite surf
6 Strand Ave, New Brighton
6680 1594
elders new brighton.com.au

POINCIANA CAFÉ MULLUMBIMBY
We are seeking a skilled & reliable Barista.
Must have a minimum of 3 years' experience working in a busy cafe. Immediate start.
Drop your resume into the cafe or text your details to 0402 557 497 or email benbrennan76@bigpond.com

SENIOR PROGRAM MANAGER

To join our team, w/high level office admin experience preferably gained in corporate environments (experience in HR Learning & Development an advantage), for the Byron Bay office of a globally operating Leadership Development Consulting company.
The successful candidate to join our high integrity-based professional environment must demonstrate excellent verbal and written communication skills and the ability to build and maintain strong professional relationships with a wide variety of stakeholders across diverse cultures in the Asia-Pacific region (bi-lingual desired).
A track record of strong drive and determination to excel in your role combined with the ability to work autonomously and the proven ability to lead a team of other administrative staff completes your professional profile.
Please forward your detailed resume before Jan 17, 2014
i.troha@synet-group.com

Bronco

Bronco is a lively 8 year old Jack Russell x desexed male. He is not a barker, has a lovely nature, is good with children, other dogs and loves people. He has always lived with another dog so that situation would be preferable for him.
If you can give Bronco a permanent, loving home please contact the **Friends of the Pound Rehoming Centre** on **(07) 5524 8590** or Pam on **0421 017 461**.
Visit friendsofthepound.com to view other dogs and cats looking for a home.

It's raining cats & dogs!

Well, almost...
Every year many thousand unwanted cats and dogs are born to pets that haven't been desexed. And sadly, most end up being put down.
So please... **desex your pets!**

PERSONAL

FRIEND FOR MATURE mind/body/spirit-focused organic, healing, 22/4 woman. Ph 0427377450

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SOCIAL ESCORTS

BYRON AREA OUTCALLS. Phone 0421401775

SEXY ESCORT
Outcalls only. 0478109345

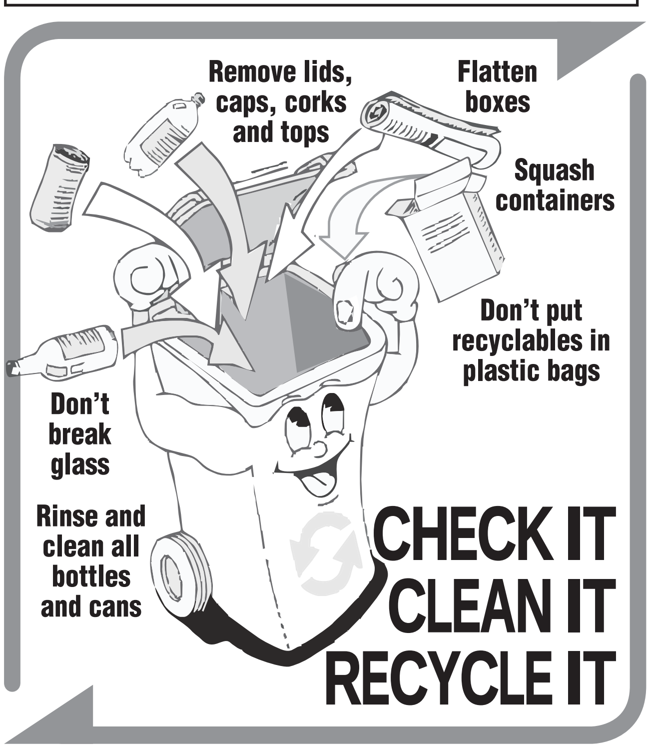
ATTRACTIVE HOSTESSES TO SPOIL YOU 34 Piper Drive, Ballina, in / out calls, drivers available. Phone 66816038

KINKY GALINKI
12 till late, call 0455998167

I'd give my right arm to be ambidextrous...

EMERGENCY NUMBERS
Please stick this by your phone

AMBULANCE, FIRE, POLICE	**000**
AMBULANCE Mullumbimby & Byron Bay	**131 233**
BRUNSWICK VALLEY RESCUE Primary rescue	**6685 1999**
BRUNSWICK MARINE RADIO TOWER	**6685 0148**
MULLUMBIMBY HOSPITAL	**6684 2266**
BYRON BAY HOSPITAL	**6685 6200**
POLICE Brunswick Heads	**6685 1277**
Mullumbimby	**6684 2144**
Byron Bay	**6685 9499**
Bangalow	**6687 1404**
STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE Storm & tempest damage, flooding	**6684 3444**
AIDS Confidential testing & information (ACON)	**6622 1555**
AL-ANON Help for family & friends of alcoholics	**1300 ALANON**
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS 24 hours	**1800 423 431**
ANIMAL RESCUE (DOGS & CATS)	**6628 1358**
LIFELINE	**131 114**
MENSLINE 7pm–11pm nightly (phone counselling & referral for men)	**6622 2240**
NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS Meets daily	**6680 7280**
NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE	**6684 1286**
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE 24 hour crisis line	**1800 656 463**
NORTHERN RIVERS GAMBLING SERVICE	**6687 2520**
NORTHERN RIVERS WILDLIFE CARERS	**6628 1866**
KOALA HOTLINE	**6622 1233**
GEORGE THE SNAKE MAN	**0407 965 092**
NSW Wildlife Information & Rescue Service (WIRES)	**6628 1898**



Killer technologies for 2014

Giles Parkinson

Well, 2013 was an exciting year, politics aside. It was the year when rooftop solar, wind and solar began to compete with fossil fuels in the wholesale market, and incumbent utilities grew to realise – as grid parity for rooftop solar was delivered to millions of households – that the number was up for their decades-old business models.

So, what will 2014 hold? More of the same, but the stakes are rising. And how. As solar becomes more affordable, and storage chases it down the cost curve, regulation becomes even more critical – as a barrier to be removed to allow new and cheaper technologies to be deployed, or raised by the incumbents to protect the billions of dollars of sunk investment.

TELESALES TRAINEES 2014

Required for 9th January start.
Monday – Friday 8.45am–3.45pm
(No part time positions available)

Telephone marketing and sales is a dynamic, vibrant and rapidly expanding industry. Learn with one of the best teams in the business.

We are looking for people with:
- **Strong communication skills**
- **Super persuasive personalities**
- **Passion and enthusiasm**
- **Bags of personality**
- **A real desire to develop skills within a business to business sales environment**
- **A can do attitude**

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We'll get the right people to $50k plus in the first year, and around $75k plus in the second year.

Apply with your CV to angela@vop.com.au by 6 January 2014. Be sure to include your contact phone number/s so that we can call you to arrange an interview.

Interviews will be conducted from Mon 6 to Wed 8 January.

Regulations, regulations

In Australia, there will be crucial decisions. The biggest will be on the future of the Renewable Energy Target – the fate of the domestic wind energy industry, and in the short term the large-scale solar industry, will depend on it. As will the domestic and commercial rooftop solar industry.

Other reviews will also be critical. The energy white paper, which the new conservative government insists on doing, even though the last was completed little more than a year ago, is designed to reinforce long-term policy settings. Unless this is calibrated to take into account rapidly emerging technologies, this risks creating a dangerous outcome. And, of course, there is the future of the carbon price and what is in store in Direct Action.

Reviews by state-based pricing authorities on the setting of tariffs – and the potential to raise fixed charge and even penalise solar households, will also be important. And so, too, will be the future of the Clean Energy Finance Corporation under the new Senate, and the funding of ARENA under the new budget. Both institutions are important for emerging technologies, and to make Australian banks and financiers comfortable with new ideas and hardware.

We asked a bunch of people what they thought about the coming year, and we got on-the-record comments from four respected leaders that represent the key market sectors – distributed generation, large-scale renewable energy developers, the utilities, and the consultant/lobbyist.

Distributed energy technology provider – Mark Twidell, CEO of SMA Australia: 'For decades the next year has always felt critical, but 2014 really is! Till now public support has been assured but renewables (PV in particular) have grown from being helpful/amusing to seriously annoying for market incumbents requirement to meet their shareholders' expectations.

'The often ideological battle to win public hearts and minds will intensify and ultimately be critical in key policy decisions in 2014. We need to stay focused on lowering the cost of renewables and increasing community ownership in and understanding of their energy supply options. Distributed ownership as much as generation will be the long-term source of value.'

Large-scale renewable energy developer – Miles George, Infigen Energy: 'Australia's electricity market is transforming far more rapidly than most participants had expected. Strongly rising gas prices, falling renewable energy costs, and the public's strong rejection of coal as a domestic generation fuel of the future are dictating our future generation mix. Concurrently the centralised generation/transmission model is under intense pressure from distributed renewable energy technologies. In 2014 private and state owners of legacy fossil fuel generation and network assets will attempt to force the hand of policy makers to underwrite the residual value of their stranded assets. This push against the tide will hinder the efficiency of a necessary transition to cleaner and more flexible generation technologies at the expense of electricity consumers.'

The utility – Michael Fraser, CEO of AGL Energy: 'Ongoing policy uncertainty is clearly the biggest challenge facing AGL Energy… there is uncertainty about the future of climate change policy with a lack of bipartisan support for a long-term policy framework that would facilitate investment decision making. At the same time, there is the statutory review of the Renewable Energy Target, unscientific planning and regulatory regimes related to coal-seam gas development, and the continued regulation of retail energy pricing in some states. Ultimately we believe that changes of governments will do little to improve the investment environment until there is genuine bipartisan support in critical policy areas such as climate change and energy policy.'

Consultant/lobbyist – Ray Wills, Duda & Wills: 'The key issue for 2014 will be the continued uncertainty around the carbon price and the CEFC – or rather, based on the absence of a repeal as yet, a short period of certainty followed by an uncertainly long period of uncertainty. The essence of the problem is this: We know technology shifts are usually rapid and measured in the lifetime of a commodity – for smartphones 1–2 years, for household appliances 3–5 years, for motor cars 8–10 years, and for large electricity generation 25–30 years.

'We also know that the stone age doesn't end because they'd run out of stones. Once a change commences, the rest is history, and for energy markets the clean tech clock stated ticking in a big way a couple of years ago in 2011. Many forecasts in the traditional energy market don't give credence to renewables as disruptive, or indeed even further from reality, don't even consider it as a credible energy source for a modern world. They are about to have a Kodak moment.

So, the challenge for renewables in 2014 is in many cases we are stuck with those energy planners/regulators who do not accept the reality of change, and will naturally promulgate policy and investment decisions that lock in old approaches to the market, and that will have the potential to create expensive legacy systems in energy generation that will last for many decades.'

New killer technologies

As for big technology developments for 2014, these are not just hardware, but killer software (apps) and new financing mechanisms, which are just as crucial for deployment. There will be rapid improvements in battery storage technology that, with rising gas prices, will bring into question the future role of gas-fired peaking generation, and add to pressure on the centralised generation/transmission model.

Smart systems that forecast the next few hours' and days' generation and plan energy consumption to minimise leakage to the grid will become more and more common. Grid integration electronics and storage that allow PV plants to offer real value to networks – power factor correction at night, frequency control, peak load support, will also emerge.

So, too, will web-based technology that allows consumers to be in control of their energy destiny. Just imagine, suggests Twidell, if 200,000 5kW PV systems with 5kWhrs of storage could be networked and collectively bid one gigawatt hour into the NEM at critical price periods.

In Australia

In Australia there will be a string of new developments: the emergence of 'affordable' off-grid solar and battery arrays for suburban households (well, affordable for early adopters anyway), the development of new financing models that assists community energy projects, leasing models for solar, and solar and storage; and finance models that open that opportunity to state housing tenants, rentals, and apartment dwellers.

There will be a host of technology-specific projects – the opening of the first utility-scale solar PV arrays in the eastern states, both in the ACT and the development of a council project in Queensland; the opening of the world's largest solar booster at Kogan Creek, and the opening of the world's first multi-machine wave energy array, along with the first wave-powered desalination plants. The ACT will hold the first auction of wind energy capacity as part of its plan to source 90 per cent of its electricity from renewables by 2020.

■ Abridged from Reneweconomy.com.au, of which Giles Parkinson is the editor. He is a journalist of 30 years' experience, a former business editor and deputy editor of the *Financial Review*, a columnist for *The Bulletin* magazine and *The Australian*, and the former editor of *Climate Spectator*.

Maule's Creek mine faces continued resistance

Protests are expected to continue against the development of Whitehaven Coal's controversial Maules Creek coal mine in northern NSW despite a recent Federal Court ruling giving it the go-ahead.

Whitehaven Coal released a statement in which it welcomed the December 20 judgment in the Federal Court of Australia that 'the Federal Minister for the Environment did not err in law in granting approval for Whitehaven's Maules Creek project in early 2013'.

'An application filed with the Federal Court by the Northern Inland Council for the Environment (NICE) sought to challenge the validity of the Maules Creek project approval under the Federal Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act (EPBC Act).

Case dismissed

'Today Justice Cowdroy dismissed NICE's legal challenge to the validity of the Federal Minister's approval for the project granted under the EPBC Act and not a merits-based appeal against the project…'

Whitehaven Coal says it will start building its Maules Creek coal mine within weeks.

Two protesters out of a group of around 100 chained themselves to a truck in mid-December to try to stop work at Maules Creek and were arrested by police.

Earlier on, 75-year-old protester Raymond McLaren was cut free from a car he was chained to on an access road to the site and fined $420.

See more on NICE at http://nccnsw.org.au and on the Maules Creek Community Council at www.maulescreek.org.

Pin This Up

DEADLINE FRIDAY NOON

Email copy marked 'Pin This Up' to editor@echo.net.au.

Fishing and woodchop

Festival of the Fish 'n' Chips will commence with a fireworks display at Banner Park, Brunswick Heads, on Saturday January 11 at 9pm. The woodchop carnival will commence on Wednesday 15 and go through until 18 January. For further information phone 6680 1170.

Mullum Forums

Creative Action Group – Celebrate the New Year with gypsy jazz jamming, dance, art and imaginative expressions of our deeper capacity to pursue love, truth and justice. Please bring instruments, paints and creativity. Thursday January 2 at the Uniting Church Hall, Dalley St, Mullumbimby, 7pm.

Rotary Club of Byron Bay

Rotary is a non-profit organisation that brings together members of the community to do good. Come along and learn about Rotary's community and international projects and meet our members. Each Tuesday 7pm at Byron RSL. Visitors welcome. byronbayrotary@gmail.com

AA meetings

Brunswick Heads: 7pm Sunday, Com Ctr, South Beach Rd, opp Surf Club; Mullumbimby: 12.30 Thurs, CWA Hall, Tincogan St; Byron Bay: 12 noon Friday, Uniting Church Hall, Carlyle St.

Chair yoga for seniors

Gentle exercise and relaxation in a chair, Thursdays 10-11am, Cook Pioneer Hall, Gordon Street, Mullumbimby. Free, or donation welcome. Phone Marion 6680 2101.

Byron Toastmasters

Byron Cavanbah Toastmasters' Club meets the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month from 6.30 to 8.30 at St Finbarr's School. Go to www.byronbaytoastmasters.org for more information or just drop in.

Mullum Toastmasters

MullumMagic Toastmasters are warm, friendly people who meet to improve our communication skills every 2nd, 4th and 5th Mondays at 7–9pm at the Presbyterian Church Hall, 106 Stuart Street, Mullumbimby. Phone 6684 8024 or visit www.674916.toastmastersclubs.org for more information.

Social Tennis

Brunswick Heads Tennis Club welcomes new players. All enquiries 0422 741 975.

Guided meditation

Daily meditation 12 noon–1pm at YOGA PEACE Mullumbimby (above newsagent). Suitable for beginner to advanced. Donation welcome, 6684 2488.

Buddhist meditation

Teaching and practice Wednesdays 6–7.30pm, SIA centre, 1/22 Fawcett St, Brunswick Heads. Info 6685 8842, mishaelamarie@gmail.com.

Please note: This section is intended for the benefit of non-profit community groups, not for invitations to free events to be followed up by paid workshops.

Byron Shire Council Notices

COUNCIL CONTACT DETAILS

Council administration centre	6626 7000
Opening hours: Front counter 9.00am to 4.00pm	
Switchboard: 8.30am to 4.30pm	
Email	council@byron.nsw.gov.au
Web	www.byron.nsw.gov.au
Emergency after hours	6622 7022
Works Depot	6685 9300
Resident parking stickers	Fax: 6684 3018
Sportsfield information line	6626 7111
SES Controller	6684 3444
Rural Fire Service	6684 3662
Myocum Waste & Recycling Centre	6684 1870
BRSCC (Byron Regional Sport and Cultural Complex)	6685 5911

Community Access Points: Documents on exhibition are available for review at the Council Administration Centre (Mullumbimby), Bangalow Post Office, Chincogan Real Estate Ocean Shores, Suffolk Beachfront Holiday Park and Brunswick Heads Library.

MYOCUM LANDFILL OPERATING HOURS AND WASTE & RECYCLING KERBSIDE COLLECTION SERVICE FOR THE CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR PERIOD

Please note the Myocum Landfill facilities will be closed to the public on:

- Friday 20 December 2013 from 11.30am
- Wednesday 25 December 2013
- Thursday 26 December 2013
- Wednesday 1 January 2014

There will be no change to the Waste and Recycling kerbside collection service over the Christmas/New Year period and bins will be emptied **as normal**. If residents experience any issue regarding missed services or damaged bins, please contact Solo Resource Recovery 02 6687 0455.

AMENDMENT TO FEES AND CHARGES 2013/2014

Park and Ride including New Year's Eve parking charges

Council at its Ordinary Meeting held on 19 September 2013, resolved to give public notice of the following amendment to the 2013/2014 Fees and Charges with regard to parking charges:

1. Parking charge at 'Park and Ride' points on New Year's Eve of $30.00 per vehicle per day, and
2. Parking charge at the BRSCC 'Park and Ride' point from 26 December 2013 to 6 January 2014 (inclusive) excepting New Year's Eve of $5.00 per vehicle per day.

Further information about the plans for New Year's Eve and on the operation of the Park and Ride from BRSCC are available on Council's website at www.byron.nsw.gov.au.

Enquiries: Simon Bennett 02 6626 7080

Submissions will be made public in accordance with Schedule 1 Part 3 Clause 1(a)(vi) within Schedule 5 Part 2 of the GIPA 2009 Regulations as applicable including both the substance of the submission and the identity of the author. For assistance with this please call Council's Records Coordinator on 02 6626 7113.

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING & ASSESSMENT ACT, 1979 PUBLIC EXHIBITION OF DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING & ASSESSMENT ACT, 1979

The following development applications have been received by Byron Shire Council and may be viewed at the Council administration centre during ordinary office hours.

For further information on making a submission please refer to the factsheet 'Making a submission on a development application' available at council or on line at www.byron.nsw.gov.au/submissions-on-development-applications.

There are also requirements in relation to the disclosure of political gifts and donations. Refer to Council's website to satisfy yourself that you are complying with your disclosure obligations prior to lodging a submission www.byron.nsw.gov.au/political-donations.

Please quote the development application and property description when making a submission.

EXHIBITION CLOSES 6 JANUARY 2014

10.2013.584.1 – MYOCUM
60B Kingsvale Road (Lot 3 DP 1094599)
Chris Lonergan – Town Planner: *Conversion and expansion of existing dwelling to create a transitional group home including new car park and disabled access provisions*

10.2013.597.1 – MYOCUM
45 Myocum Ridge Road (Lot 1 DP 1168642)
Michael Wilson: *2 x 2 lot subdivision (for agricultural purposes)*

10.2013.600.1 – BROKEN HEAD
951 Broken Head Road (Lot 1 DP 1031848)
Planners North: *Reconfiguration of private education accommodation by deletion of 10 camp sites and replacement with 6 accommodation units*

EXHIBITION CLOSES 17 JANUARY 2014

10.2013.570.1 – BANGALOW
9 Station Street (Lot 1 DP 123326, Lot B DP 327228, Lot 334 DP 755695)
Gordon Highlands Pty Ltd: *Partial demolition of existing dwelling and garage, consolidation of three lots and construction of a two storey mixed residential and commercial building with basement car park and attic roof spaces*

10.2013.587.1 – BYRON BAY
108-110 Jonson Street (Lot 6 DP 619224, Lot 7 DP 619224, Lot 8 DP 617509, Lot 9 DP 617509)
Global Centres Australia Pty Ltd: *Redevelopment of existing shopping centre and cinema complex to create a ground floor supermarket, first floor retail shops, two levels of basement car parking, new terrace area over the road reserve and associated access and boundary reconfiguration works*

EXHIBITION CLOSES 20 JANUARY 2014

No DAs to be advertised for this date.

www.byron.nsw.gov.au

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS DETERMINED AND COMPLYING DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATES ISSUED (SECTION 101 EP&A ACT 1979 AND CLAUSE 124 AND 137 EP&A REGULATIONS 2000)

The following development consents and complying development certificates issued, together with any conditions imposed may be inspected free of charge at Council's administration centre during ordinary office hours. The validity of these consents cannot be questioned in any legal proceeding except those commenced in the Land and Environment Court by any person within 3 months of this notice.

APPLICATIONS APPROVED

10.2013.566.1 – MULLUMBIMBY
11 Byron Street (Lot 8 DP 370137)
Alterations/additions to existing dwelling

10.2013.515.1 – BRUNSWICK HEADS
23 Fawcett Street (Lot 1 DP 571459)
Verandah addition

10.2013.504.1 – MULLUMBIMBY
52 Stuart Street (Lot 82 SEC 3 DP 2772)
Construction of a secondary dwelling, carport and tree removal

10.2013.454.1 – POSSUM CREEK
3 Goninan Place (Lot 8 DP 854691)
Use of existing alterations and additions to a dwelling-house, and use of a shed and attached deck ancillary to the dwelling-house

10.2013.472.1 – OCEAN SHORES
3 Napelle Court (Lot 135 DP 1162188)
Change of use of part of an existing dwelling-house plus alterations and additions to create a secondary dwelling

10.2009.216.3 – BYRON BAY
21 Marvell Street (Lot 12 SEC 27 DP 758207)
S96 - to amend the development to allow 3 stages including strata (demolition of existing dwelling, strata subdivision to create two lots and dual occupancy comprising two separate double storey dwelling including swimming pool)

10.2013.490.1 – EWINGSDALE
30 Kennedys Lane (Lot 2 DP 595455)
Alterations and additions to create an attached dual occupancy development

10.2013.154.2 – BILLINUDGEL
Coolamon Scenic Drive (Lot 5 DP 1091067)
S96 - to make minor alterations to a dwelling (alterations and additions to convert a shed to a secondary dwelling)

10.2013.433.1 – MULLUMBIMBY CREEK
684 Left Bank Road (Lot 1 DP 814608)
Use of building as studio

10.2013.524.1 – MULLUMBIMBY
17 Stuart Street (Lot 7 DP 5046)
Construction of a detached secondary dwelling

10.2003.135.3 – MYOCUM
228 Dingo Lane (Lot 4 DP 258464)
S96 - to modify the dwelling to reduce the floor area

10.2013.546.1 – BANGALOW
11/174 Fowlers Lane (Lot 11 DP 286220)
Alterations and additions to a dwelling including a studio, garage, carport and swimming pool

10.2013.427.1 – BYRON BAY
30 Paterson Street (Lot 21 DP 15912)
Construction of an additional dwelling to create a dual occupancy

10.2013.374.1 – BYRON BAY
Border Street (Lots 10-14 Sec 1 DP 1623)
Erection of a single storey dwelling-house, swimming pool, tree removal and lopping

10.2013.603.1 – OCEAN SHORES
23 Weeronga Way (Lot 1464 DP 245029)
Tree removal – one tree

10.2012.333.3 – BYRON BAY
11 Banksia Drive (Lot 35 DP 249401)
S96 - to amend condition No 14 (sewer) and update subdivision plan (Strata Subdivision)

10.2013.501.1 – SUFFOLK PARK
11 Redgum Place (Lot 20 DP 842105)
Two storey dwelling

10.2013.560.1 – BYRON BAY
4 Oakland Court (Lot 12 DP 1170556)
Masonry fence forward of the building line

10.2013.550.1 – OCEAN SHORES
36 Warrambool Road (Lot 1327 DP 243480)
Two storey dwelling

10.2012.45.4 – EWINGSDALE/MCLEODS SHOOT
McGettigans Lane/95 St Helena Road/Pacific Highway (Lot 12 DP 1156248, Lot 24 DP 1164829, Lot 16 DP 1156248)
S96 - to amend restriction on keeping of cats and dogs (rural residential subdivision comprising 41 rural residential allotments and a residual allotment, removal of 26 trees and ecological management including revegetation)

10.2013.589.1 – BYRON BAY
41 Beachcomber Drive (Lot 100 DP 262480)
Tree removal – 13 trees

10.2013.552.1 – HAYTERS HILL
319 Bangalow Road (Lot 2 DP 1117232)
Recreation facility - Class 10 (a) Building

10.2013.428.1 – GOONENGERRY
931 Federal Drive (Lots 4 & 5 DP 599812)
Boundary adjustment between two lots

10.2013.425.1 – BYRON BAY
40 Carlyle Street (Lot 1 DP 359558)
Strata subdivision, additional dwelling, alterations and additions to existing dwelling

10.2012.454.2 – BYRON BAY
45 Browning Street (Lot 12 SEC 50 DP 758207)
S96 - to change the approved laundry/pantry at first floor level to a pantry only and use of an existing subfloor space as a laundry (alterations and additions to an existing dwelling-house including, an upper floor level, conversion of the existing garage to pantry/ laundry/study and conversion of an existing bedroom within the dwelling to an ensuite bathroom, and at ground floor level, enclosure of the space beneath the upper floor level deck to form a gym, construction of a timber deck, and installation of a 20,000L rainwater tank, and construction of a double carport, retaining walls and front fence and provision of landscaping)

10.2013.408.1 – MAIN ARM
261 Settlement Road (Lot 4 DP 567117)
Use of unauthorised dwelling additions

10.2013.332.1 – BYRON BAY
36 Shelley Drive (Lot 35 DP 247655)
Change of use from a garage to a secondary dwelling and a carport

10.2013.596.1 – BYRON BAY
51 Shirley Street (Lot 8 SEC 53 DP 758207)
Demolition of existing residential units

10.2013.221.2 – BYRON BAY
33 Kingsley Street (Lot DP 344191)
S96 - to amend approved design (partial demolition of studio for use as a shed, construction of a carport and driveways, strata subdivision to create two lots, construction of a dwelling to create a detached dual occupancy development), these changes include a change to the roof design of the new dwelling, changes to the carport, new roofed patio, the addition of entry decks to the existing dwelling and a change to the staging of the development

10.2013.476.1 – EUREKA
460 Eureka Road (Lot 21 DP 604801)
Change of use from shed to dwelling and internal alterations

APPLICATIONS REFUSED

10.2013.569.1 – BYRON BAY
19 Oakland Court (Lot 12 DP 875615)
Use of existing deck ancillary to a dwelling-house

COMPLYING DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATES

16.2002.239.3 – OCEAN SHORES
60 Yamble Drive (Lot 1 DP 1016154)
Increase deck size (alterations and additions to guestroom, bathroom and deck)

16.2013.80.1 – MULLUMBIMBY
44 Tuckeroo Avenue (Lot 21 DP 1169053)
New shed

ROAD CLOSURES

Byron Bay Arts and Industrial Estate

Council has approved (13-556) the Byron Bay Cycle Club to hold on-street criterion races every second and fourth Sunday of the month between October 2013 and September 2016 within the Byron Bay Industrial Estate.

Temporary road closures apply from the hours of 6.00am to 8.00am with the exception of one event per season which goes through to 9.00am. The roads affected include:

- Centennial Circuit, between Bayshore Drive and Wollongbar Drive,
- Tasman Way and Wollongbar Drive and
- Brigantine Street, between Centennial Circuit and Wollongbar Drive

The Club is required to notify all properties within the road closure area prior to the road closures taking affect. Any objections received by Council will be referred to the Local Traffic Committee to inform consideration of future approvals.

Objections can be lodged at any time and addressed to the General Manager, Byron Shire Council, PO Box 219 Mullumbimby 2482 or sent by email to council@byron.nsw.gov.au.

Enquiries: Traffic Officer 02 6626 7080.

We'd like to thank...

Byron Shire Council would like to thank the following organisations for their generous sponsorship support in delivering a family friendly New Year's Eve and Safe Summer in the Bay 2013.

- The Falls Music & Arts Festival
- Byron Community Centre
- Byron Bay Liquor Accord
- Byron United
- In the Pink Ice Cream Byron Bay
- Byron Bay English Language School
- Byron Bay Taxis and Limousines
- Lightforce Computers
- Byron Bay Accom
- Beach Hotel
- Gosamara Apartments

Register you support today
phone Joanne McMurtry on 6626 7316

HOLIDAY CLOSING

Council advises that the Administration offices will be closed from 4.00pm Tuesday 24 December 2013 and will reopen at 9.00am Thursday 2 January 2014.

For emergencies please contact 02 6622 7022.

Byron Shire Council extends Seasons Greetings to all the community.

Help us get it sorted in the Byron Shire

Become part of the solution

Get on board with FOGO

Putting Food Organics and Garden Organics (your kitchen food scraps and garden waste) in your home compost or new green bin (2014) is an easy step we can all take to become part of the solution. It stops them from being buried in landfill and producing leachate and methane, a potent greenhouse gas!

Have your Say

We want to make it easy for you to use the new three bin collection service correctly next year. Join our on-line forum today and find out more and have your say. It's easy, simply go to www.byron.nsw.gov.au and click the three bin image. Your feedback will be highly valued.

Subscribe to Council's electronic newsletters at www.byron.nsw.gov.au/newsletters

THE BYRON SHIRE
Echo
Echonetdaily
echonetdaily.net.au
Byron Bay 02 6685 5222
Mullumbimby 02 6684 1777
adcopy@echo.net.au
Comprehensively covering the NSW Far North Coast

Echo PROPERTY

AUSTRALIA NEEDS TO BUILD MORE HOMES: HIA

The Housing Industry Association looks at the housing prospects for the year ahead in this abridged report on new home building. In his recent interview with the *Australian Financial Review*, Reserve Bank of Australia governor, Glenn Stevens, made the following observations regarding new home building: '… we want more dwelling construction. ... I don't think we were building enough for population reasons, and you would have to think that we needed to step that up. ... We want, as a society, to provide accommodation at a reasonable price for growth in the population and, of course, for macro-economic management reasons in the cycle it will be handy to have that source of demand growing, not contracting, in the next couple of years.'

If we look back 12 months and compare the situation then to now, it is certainly the case that we are building more homes.

The key metric for Australia's new home building sector is dwelling commencements (housing starts). The latest information available, for the 2012/13 fiscal year, shows that the nation commenced (started) 160,813 dwellings. Excluding the GFC stimulus boosted years of 2009/10 and 2010/11, that is the highest number of commencements since 2003/04 (the peak of the previous up cycle when we started 175,660 dwellings).

Consequently in terms of new home building activity we have started to 'step that up' as Glenn Stevens described it. Furthermore, new home building is carrying some momentum into the new year, itself a positive sign for the sector and the wider economy.

However, in the years ahead the average number of dwelling commencements per annum will need to be substantially higher than we have experienced in recent decades. Over the last 20 years new dwelling commencements have averaged 155,550 a year.

Under the most conservative of estimates, over coming decades Australia needs to average 180,000 new dwellings a year to adequately house our growing and ageing population. As Stevens noted, 'We want, as a society, to provide accommodation at a reasonable price for growth in the population …'

Even for those who struggle to count accurately and argue there is no housing shortage, that forward target is a telling one. Its achievement could also appear a formidable policy challenge, but only in the absence of a cooperative and coordinated focus on policy reform across all levels of government. In terms of Australia's future economic and social development and the pursuit of maintaining decent living standards, that focus is a policy imperative, not a policy choice.

In facing up to that policy imperative, at least the starting point heading into 2014 is new home building activity moving in the right direction.

It is important to observe evidence of a breadth to the new home building recovery not only from the perspective of a wide range of aggregate indicators, but also in terms of geographical jurisdictions and dwelling type. In this regard we are also moving in the right direction.

Our Spring 2013 edition of the HIA National Outlook noted that following a first-round recovery dominated by New South Wales and Western Australia (take these two states out and dwelling commencements only grew by 1 per cent in 2012/13), this financial year should also see decent growth (from a very low base) in Queensland and South Australia. Since the publishing of that report in mid-November the Holden announcement has added downside risk to the growth prospects for South Australia, but the anecdotal evidence for Queensland has improved further.

Our Research Note on building approvals released last week (see economics.hia.com.au/research notes) shows a broadening of the new housing recovery in terms of dwelling type.

This news is obviously a short term positive for residential construction and the wider economy. However, there is sting in the tail reflecting:

- growth in Western Australia being in danger of stalling due to a lack of titled land;
- Victoria, the largest new home building market in Australia over five consecutive years, having further to fall but with uncertainty as to by how much;
- the smaller new home building markets of Tasmania, the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory set to decline in the short term; and
- growth in detached house building still looking relatively muted.

What drops out is a good chance we see further growth in national dwelling commencements in 2013/14, but if we do it will be modest growth. We may then see the recovery stall by 2014/15 in the absence of successful reforms in NSW and WA and a decent turnaround in Victoria. That is not what we and Glenn Stevens want to see – it hardly delivers the handy source of demand growth to which the governor referred.

Hopefully the sheer weight of pent-up demand, which under more favourable policy settings has proved very powerful for NSW following a lost decade for housing, will carry the nation's home building higher. That would certainly be a very favourable outcome for the Australian economy. After all, the residential construction industry and its 'reach' into the wider economy represents $150 billion a year, over one million employees, thousands of small businesses, and over 200,000 sub-contractors.

Under this scenario we could be 'talking about 170,000 new dwellings per annum sooner rather than later, in stark contrast to just over 160,000 currently and the sub-160,000 average of the last 20 years.

We still wouldn't be reaching the bare minimum threshold of 180,000 dwellings per annum on the way to then surpassing that total. That task requires a myriad of outcomes and focus around land supply, planning systems, taxation, regulation, industry capacity, and skilled labour supply, to name just six prominent areas. In other words that achievement requires a policy focus on housing supply, which in turn only happens with a focus on policy reform.

There will be a Senate inquiry into housing affordability in the new year, due to report by June. The subject of housing affordability is a complex and wide-ranging policy issue. In that regard it is understandable that the terms of reference for the latest inquiry are relatively broad, as they were for the last federal investigation into this issue in 2008, not to mention the many more investigations before that.

Australia needs to firstly address once and for all the cause not the symptoms of the housing affordability challenge. Excessive (and inefficient) taxation and regulation of new housing adds avoidable cost and constrains new housing supply. New South Wales and to a lesser extent Queensland are living, breathing, recent examples of this situation.

Housing is, at the end of the day, shelter. It is a necessity good. Yet research from the Centre for International Economics (TheCIE) identifies housing as the second largest contributor (in absolute terms) of tax to Australian governments, accounting for around 12 per cent of all revenues in aggregate. The average tax burden on the new housing sector is estimated at 31 per cent of the value of output compared with an economy-wide average of 24.4 per cent.

This percentage for new housing makes it the second most heavily taxed large industrial sector in the Australian economy. That's ridiculous, not to mention harmful to Australia's long-term growth prospects.

The Henry Tax Review found that around half of all housing taxes are inefficient. A reduction in inefficient taxes that lowered the cost of residential building by approximately 1.0 per cent would raise residential building activity by around 0.6 per cent. The reduction in inefficient taxes would also increase national GDP by an estimated $780 million so that for every dollar of extra activity it created in residential housing, it would expand national GDP by an estimated $2.26 (TheCIE).

These estimates relate to a situation of full employment, which Australia is currently not in. In a situation of less than full employment the gains to new home building and the wider economy would be greater still.

We can take the economic benefits of housing policy reform a step further. Regulatory reform can also have a very powerful impact. A one per cent total factor productivity increase for residential construction – through avenues such as the removal of workplace restrictions, reductions in planning approval times, and the reform of environmental controls, building regulation and apprenticeship training – can generate a step change in overall economic activity of an estimated $863 million a year. The flow-on impact would be $4.89 of additional GDP per increased dollar of activity in residential housing. In a situation of less than full employment the gains to new home building and the wider economy would be greater still.

It tends to be the case that effective policy reform is neither easy nor speedy. We have to make a start in 2014 because Australia is in desperate need of reform.

ECHO PROPERTY BUSINESS DIRECTORY

INVESTMENT, FAMILY HOME OR REFINANCE...
Now interest rates have dropped, arrange an OBLIGATION FREE mortgage health check. Are you getting the best loan package? If I can't find you a better deal I'll simply tell you. You have nothing to lose and everything to gain. Give me a call or email and contact Russel Shaw.
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5/120 Jonson Street Byron Bay NSW 2481
byronbeachrealty.com.au

ON THE MARKET

Echo PROPERTY

New Price – Be Quick To Avoid Disappointment

4 & 5/42 Barrett Drive, Lennox Head.

- ✔ North facing living areas and court yards in small complex
- ✔ 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom, open plan living and SLUG. Low maintenance
- ✔ Perfect location – between Lake Ainsworth and the shops/cafe
- ✔ Close to everything in the village & can hear and smell the ocean
- ✔ Great investment, settle & move in
- ✔ Do not delay. These units have been designed for a niche market and will sell very quickly

Price – Unit 4 = $499,000, Unit 5 = $549,000

Contact Mark Kinneally 0429 868 001/.

loisbuckett.com.au

It is like you are visiting a rainforest retreat

18 Hillcrest Drive, Tintenbar.

- ✔ Expansive view of countryside to ocean
- ✔ Spacious 4 bedroom house + 2 offices & large library
- ✔ Open plan design with French country style kitchen
- ✔ Timber features + high raked ceilings for natural light
- ✔ Low maintenance with lots of privacy
- ✔ Salt water pool with pool house
- ✔ A shed + workshop, town water + veg garden, fruit trees. Land size 4,747m²
- ✔ Central to Bangalow, Lennox Head, Byron Bay & Ballina

Price $980,000.

Contact Mark Kinneally 0429 868 001.

loisbuckett.com.au

Ocean Shores

- ✔ Spacious north facing townhouse in block of 4
- ✔ Walk shop/bus/beach.
- ✔ Solar power & hotwater
- ✔ Timber floors
- ✔ 2 generous bedrooms with BIR
- ✔ Open plan living, outdoor deck with covered eating
- ✔ Downstairs study, laundry, single car & storage garage
- ✔ BD veggie garden

Phone 6680 3734.

$350,000

Tallowood Ridge Mullumbimby

- ✔ 12 lots now sold in Stage 3!
- ✔ Byron shire's community with heart
- ✔ Granny flats permitted
- ✔ Best play park in the region
- ✔ Land from $219,000

0421 597 170 tallowoodridge.com

Tallowood Ridge
Community with heart

Remarkable Versatile Residence

- ✔ Well appointed 3 bed, 2 bath home, open plan, cathedral ceilings, timber floors, fireplace
- ✔ Entertainers delight - stunning wet edge pool, wrap around verandahs and expansive decks
- ✔ Self contained studio plus separate office building, loads of potential
- ✔ Elevated rural and ocean views
- ✔ Private landscaped 1 1/4 acres of gardens and established trees

Price $1,398,000.

Contact Alli Page 0403 498 648.

GNF bangalow

Gunnebah Retreat Centre ~ A home, a business, a lifestyle

- ✔ 15 minute drive to Murwillumbah
- ✔ Beautiful 5 bedroom mud brick home on 6 fertile acres
- ✔ Intimate venue for retreats & workshops
- ✔ Profitable business with repeat clients
- ✔ Mud brick retreat accommodation and cabins for 24 plus ample space for camping
- ✔ Commercial retreat kitchen with vegetable garden
- ✔ Spacious hall
- ✔ Resort-style pool
- ✔ Lush sub-tropical gardens

Price on application.

Call Owner – Marlena on 0404 486 712.
www.gunnebah.com.au/retreatcentreforsale

Cute House – Lismore

- ✔ Completely renovated with style
- ✔ New kitchen
- ✔ European appliances
- ✔ New bathroom
- ✔ Polished floors
- ✔ 2 bedrooms
- ✔ Well worth a look!

Price $239.000.

Ring 0405 141 181 now.

$239,000

First home or investment. Don't miss out!

2/1 Kamala Court, Mullumbimby.

- ✔ Spacious 3 bedroom duplex
- ✔ Perfect entry into the property market or solid investor return.
- ✔ Close to the reserve in a family friendly street.
- ✔ Minutes drive to Mullum and close to the Shire's best farmers' market
- ✔ Generous open plan lounge/dining
- ✔ Large undercover patio plus a generous sized yard (215sqm)
- ✔ Three bedrooms with built in robes
- ✔ Internal laundry and single garage with internal access
- ✔ Solar panels complete the package

Price Guide: Interest over $349,000.

Inspection 4pm Saturday.
Agent Angela Cornell 0421 375 635.

first national Byron Bay

Lismore

- ✔ Freshly renovated
- ✔ 3 bedroom house
- ✔ Has B1 business zoning as well!
- ✔ Great investment return
- ✔ Walk to town

Price $245.000.

Ph 0405 141 181.
Ring now for more details.

$245,000

Quintessential Byron Hinterland Retreat

4 🛏 4 🛁 2 🚗

4 Macadamia Lane, Federal.

- ✔ Absolutely charming residence on 5 acres
- ✔ Circa 1905 superbly complemented by contemporary extensions
- ✔ Quality property set in beautiful tropical gardens
- ✔ Large timber decks with total privacy
- ✔ Stunning 12 metre salt water pool

For sale $1,365,000.

Sales agent Duncan Lorimer
0400 844 412.
Elders Bangalow
6687 1500.

Elders
Bangalow

Absolute Beachfront Byron

- ✔ On Tallow Beach this 2 bedroom beach cottage is the most affordable beachfront property in the area. Fully furnished and in good condition,
- ✔ Set on approx. 800m² in a tranquil, leafy setting this is the way Byron used to be.
- ✔ Rare opportunity and won't last long.
- ✔ Currently with a $50k income approx with potential to improve increase with renovation.

Price $695,000.

Call Ben 0426 841140 or email ben09@mac.com

$695,000

Byron Style

3 🛏 1 🛁

43 Lilli Pilli Drive, Byron Bay.

- ✔ Innovatively designed architectural three bedroom home
- ✔ Perfectly placed on the block for privacy
- ✔ Designed for entertaining and lifestyle
- ✔ Capturing the essence of Byron

INSPECT TODAY!
Auction 10am onsite Saturday February 15.
Michele Jackson 0407 906 301.

Professionals Byron Bay

‘The Plateau’

293 MYOCUM ROAD, MYOCUM

5 bed | 3 bath | 9 car

$6.7M

- One of the most stunning and spectacular houses in the Byron Shire, “The Plateau” is nestled on a natural plateau amidst 55 acres of privacy and seclusion
- The north facing property is blessed with panoramic views from the famed Byron Lighthouse to the far north coast of New South Wales, with the home positioned to take full advantage of this magical, sweeping vista
- Unparalleled country living, just under 8km to Byron, with easy access to the Pacific Highway and stunning North Coast NSW beaches

Agency Declares Interest

BYRON BAY PROPERTY SALES

Jeremy Bennett 0401 222 686

6685 8575

12 Lawson Street, Byron Bay
www.byronbaypropertysales.com.au

Absolute Beachfront

45 LAWSON STREET, BYRON BAY

Unequalled Beachfront Living

$3.15M to $6.25M

- Fortyfive Lawson is a stunning new beachside development that offers nine luxurious, self-contained apartments in an enviable position
- The two, three and four bedroom apartments deliver unsurpassed quality and the onsite concierge raises the experience to a whole new level
- One of the most exclusive new properties in Australia and the only approved development of its kind in Byron Bay this close to the beach in recent years
- Construction commencing March 2014

Virtual Furniture Used

Graham Dunn 0418 663 620

6685 8575

12 Lawson Street, Byron Bay
www.byronbaypropertysales.com.au

BYRON BAY
PROPERTY SALES

‘Linnaeus’ Estate

951 BROKEN HEAD ROAD, BROKEN HEAD

3 bed | 2 bath

$2.75M

- One of 23 private beach homes on 275 acres, with 1.5km of absolute beachfront, bounded by nature reserve & marine national park
- Architecturally designed with spectacular ocean views, no expense has been spared to make living in this gated community a truly incredible experience
- 25m lap pool, tennis court, gym, cellar and private function centre

Agency Declares Interest

BYRON BAY PROPERTY SALES

Graham Dunn 0418 663 620

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12 Lawson Street, Byron Bay
www.byronbaypropertysales.com.au

‘Vantage Over Byron’

57 RUSKIN STREET, BYRON BAY

5 bed | 3 bath | 3 car

$4.1M

- There can be only one top of the town, and ‘Vantage over Byron’ can finally be yours
- Designed to maximise the 270 degree views from the lighthouse, across the bay to the Mt Warning hinterland, this MBA award winning home is as good as it gets
- Dual access to Massinger St – you’re metres away from the famed ‘Top Shop’ and minutes’ walk to Main Beach and town

Christian Sergiacomi 0400 221 653

6685 8575

12 Lawson Street, Byron Bay
www.byronbaypropertysales.com.au

BYRON BAY
PROPERTY SALES

‘Beachbreak’

183 – 203 BROKEN HEAD ROAD, SUFFOLK PARK

1,2 or 3 bed | 1 or 2 bath | 1 car

from $456,500

- Only eight of the original two bedroom units remain on the market, with the development’s second stage, a mix of 1, 2 and 3 bedroom apartments scheduled to be completed by late 2014
- Combining an open plan layout with vaulted high ceilings and the strategic use of skylights, the apartments are spacious and filled with natural light
- The current units attract rents of around $600/wk (furnished) and provide generous depreciation benefits, making them a great investment

Agency Declares Interest

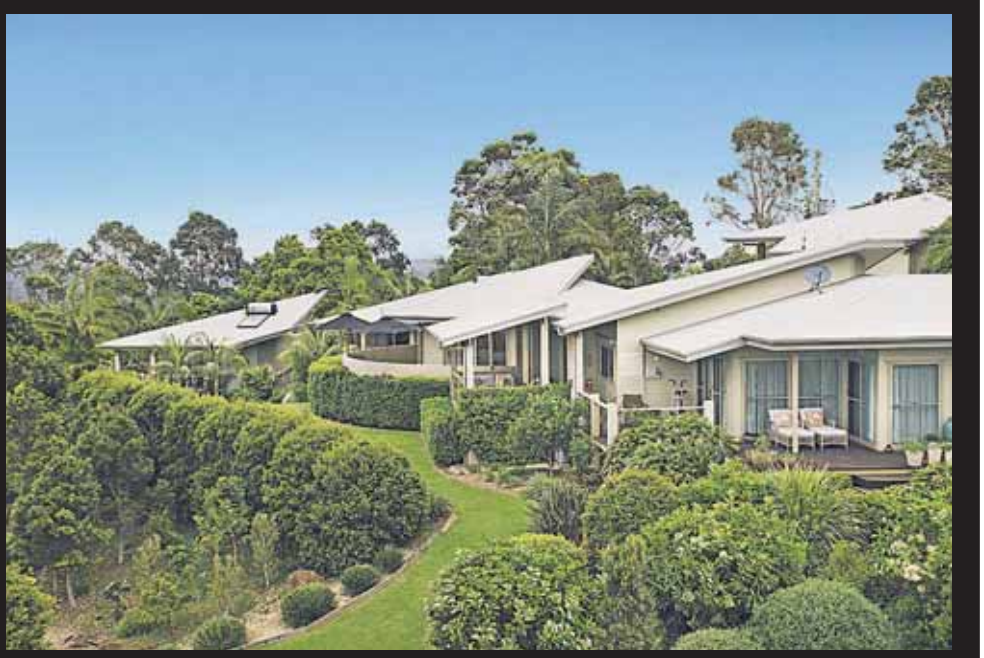
BYRON BAY
PROPERTY SALES

6685 8575

12 Lawson Street, Byron Bay
www.byronbaypropertysales.com.au

Elegance, Peace & Seclusion

278 COOPERS SHOOT ROAD, COOPERS SHOOT



4 bed | 4 bath | 2 car

$2.2M

- Only 5 minutes to Byron Bay's CBD and beaches, this architecturally designed hideaway has the best of both worlds, with unrivalled attention to detail
- Set amidst immaculately landscaped gardens and water features, with a spectacular array of Australian plants and animals, this luxurious family home is divided into four interconnecting pavilions and is currently being run as a successful Bed & Breakfast
- The central living area overlooks the coastline with spectacular panoramic views of the Cape Byron Lighthouse and Lennox Head

Graham Dunn 0418 663 620

6685 8575

12 Lawson Street, Byron Bay
www.byronbaypropertysales.com.au

BYRON BAY
PROPERTY SALES

Great Home Or Investment

3 bed | 1 bath | 1 car **$499,000**

1/14 Beech Drive, Suffolk Park

- Freestanding duplex, close to Suffolk Park shops, hotel and beaches, ducted air conditioning, ready to move in or rent out
- Open plan design, roomy kitchen opening to the dining & living areas & overlooking the neat backyard
- An easy stroll to the beach in the mornings or coffee at the bakery

Luxury Apartment

4 bed | 2 bath | 2 car **$1.35M**

7/22 Mahogany Drive, Byron Bay

- Architect designed with modern style and open plan, timber floors, stone bench tops, fire place and air-conditioning
- In a secure facility of 7 luxury apartments
- Ocean views and a tranquil bush setting are perfect for a quiet home or ideal as an investment

Luxury Beachside Villa In Secure Gated Complex

3 bed | 2 bath | 2 car **$1.495M**

11/7 Cavvanbah Street, Byron Bay

- Luxury, north facing, sunlit villa, situated in a secure, gated estate
- Master built over two levels, with solid timber floors, high ceilings and floor to ceiling glass windows and doors
- A large lap pool is shared by the complex and a private track takes you to the beach in front

Jeremy Bennett 0401 222 686

6685 8575

12 Lawson Street, Byron Bay
www.byronbaypropertysales.com.au

BYRON BAY PROPERTY SALES

Mullumbimby, 125 Main Arm Road

4 2 3 **$1,350,000**

- **28 acre estate in Mullumbimby with 100 year old homestead**
- 40 minute drive to Gold Coast Airport and 15 minutes to Byron Bay
- Ideal for horse lovers or breeders
- Town water, fully fenced, with Brunswick River frontage

Open: **By Appointment**
Enquiries: **Tara Torkkola 0423 519 698**

Byron Bay, House 5/1 Orara Court

5 2 2 **Interest Over $995,000**

- **Elevated north east aspect with stunning bush outlook**
- Floor plan to suit shared or separate living
- 1634m² lot in exclusive and very quiet cul de sac
- Peace and privacy yet only approx 3km to Byron Bay CBD

Open: **Saturday, 4 January 2014 10.00 - 10.30am**
Enquiries: **Su Reynolds 6685 8466**

Byron Bay, 18/6–8 Browning Street

3 2 2 **$725,000**

- **Townhouse – central town with peace and privacy**
- Low maintenance yard on 2 sides plus covered patio
- 2 separate living rooms, quality finishes and appliances
- A few minutes' walk to shops, restaurants and Main Beach

Open: **Saturday, 4 January 2014 11.00–11.30am**
Enquiries: **Su Reynolds 6685 8466**

Bangalow, 19 Ivory Curl Place

4 2 2 **Auction Interest Over $599,000**

- **Contemporary designed home**
- Spacious open-plan lounge, kitchen and dining with timber floors
- Offering 4 large bedrooms and 2 bathrooms
- Secluded with established gardens and hedges

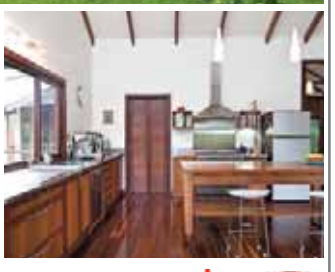
Open: **Saturday, 4 January 2014 11.00–11.30am**
Enquiries: **Sharon McInnes 0408 659 649**

share our knowledge

For more details and floor plans
byronbayfn.com.au

We are now using QR Codes on our signboards – providing a fantastic innovation in viewing properties on your mobile phone. Scan this QR code with your smart phone to view the property. QR scanners are available on your smart phones App Store.

first national
Byron Bay
6685 8466



4 2 2

SPACIOUS FAMILY LIVING

EXPANSIVE VIEWS TOWARDS GOONENGERRY NATIONAL PARK

• Stunning 4 year old residence exudes contemporary finishes • Privately positioned amidst 12 acres of pristine countryside • Enormous outdoor decking providing extended living area • Country elegance boasting masses of space • Extensive use of quality hardwood timber throughout • Soaring ceiling in living room with feature timbers

GOONENGERRY
Inspection by appointment
Duncan Lorimer 0400 844 412

Interest Over $1,150,000

4 2 2

IDYLLIC COUNTRY ESCAPE

ACREAGE, CREEK FRONTAGE, PICTURESQUE OUTLOOK

• Blissfully private location at Eureka • Appealing timber home with pool • Approx 12 acres with extensive frontage to Coopers Creek • Separate studio with bathroom • Horse paddocks, stables, endless water supply • Convenient Byron hinterland location • Mature gardens, rainforest pockets, fruit trees • An inspection will truly delight!

EUREKA
Inspection by appointment
Tracey Wild 0411 668 338

$1,100,000

3 1 1

BANGALOW ORIGINAL RESIDENCE

• Thoughtfully restored & partially renovated, this original timber charmer retains & exudes all the character & atmosphere of yesteryear • Situated to the side of a **huge 1010M2 level lot**, there is plenty of room for the studio/granny flat, sheds & pool • Stroll to main street in minutes • Vendors' business commitments in Sydney require speedy relocation

BANGALOW
Inspection by appointment
Duncan Lorimer 0400 844 412

Interest Over $600,000

3 2 2

SENSATIONAL VIEWS, APPEALING COUNTRY CHARMER

• Fabulous dress-circle position with sensational views to Lennox Head • Gorgeous, character-filled timber home with wrap-around verandahs • Amazing opportunity to purchase in this exclusive area • Separate, large artist's studio, carport and secure garage • Pretty, cottage gardens surround the in-ground swimming pool

NEWRYBAR
Inspection by appointment
Duncan Lorimer 0400 844 412

Interest Around $1,950,000

5 3 2

TWO HOUSES FOR THE PRICE OF ONE!

• Rare approved dual occupancy • Timber, 4 bed, 2 bath home + 1 bed cottage • Large, leafy block with reserve behind • Quiet, private location in cul-de-sac • Appealing style homes • Brand new exterior paint • May also suit work from home individuals • Rental income approx $700 per week

BANGALOW
Inspection by appointment
Tracey Wild 0411 668 338

Interest Over $690,000

3 2 2

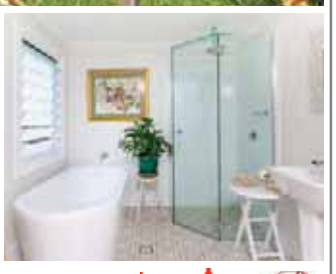
GREAT FIRST HOME OR INVESTMENT

• Large leafy 1083sqm block • Spacious open plan kitchen / dining • Quiet cul-de-sac location • Covered outdoor entertaining area • Two car stacked garage • Walk to village amenities • Easy to drive to Bangalow, Lismore, Byron • Priced to sell, inspections a must!

CLUNES
Inspection by appointment
Tracey Wild 0411 668 338

Interest from $399,000

Bangalow



4 3 2

COUNTRY LIVING WITH CHARM & QUALITY

A SLICE OF HINTERLAND PARADISE HERITAGE

• C. early 1900's • Home constructed of teak and cedar Internal walls & ceilings with VJ lining boards • Nestled on 10 lovely acres with 3 paddocks • Renovated dairy bails plus large historic shed • Centrally located to Bangalow & Byron Bay • Abundant water supply (new tank 110,000 litres) • Rarely available, perfect acreage & totally charming home

BROOKLET
Inspection by appointment
Duncan Lorimer 0400 844 412

Forthcoming AUCTION

4 2 2

GRAND BANGALOW HOUSE

BANGALOW SHOWGROUND IN YOUR BACKYARD

• Beautiful old home with charm and character • Fabulous position adjoining Bangalow Showgrounds • Spacious living, wrap-around verandahs, flexible floor plan • Prime Bangalow village address • Huge undercover space, ideal for games room/ entertaining • Large 798sqm block – room for a pool! • Currently rented at $800 per week

BANGALOW
Inspection by appointment
Duncan Lorimer 0400 844 412

Forthcoming AUCTION

4 4 2

BYRON HINTERLAND LIVING AT ITS BEST!

• Absolutely charming residence on 5 acres • C.1900's - superbly complimented with contemporary extensions • Quality property set in beautiful tropical gardens • Two wonderful living rooms • Large timber decks for outdoor entertaining • Stunning 12 metre saltwater pool • 1 km stroll to popular Federal Village

FEDERAL
Inspection by appointment
Duncan Lorimer 0400 844 412

$1,365,000

3 2 2

SOUGHT AFTER VILLAGE LIFESTYLE

• Fabulous family home on large 1444sqm block • Quiet cul-de-sac location • Light-filled open-plan living • Timber floors throughout • Large covered verandahs • Inground swimming pool, established gardens and fruit trees • Walk to village amenities • School bus at door • Easy drive to Byron, Bangalow, Mullumbimby

FEDERAL
Inspection by appointment
Tracey Wild 0411 668 338

Interest from $545,000

4 2 2

RURAL LIFESTYLE HOME ON SMALL ACREAGE

• Spectacular timber & stone construction • Voluminous cathedral ceilings • Fertile, small acreage lot, approx 4 acres • Location, location…….Possum Creek • Wide wrap around verandahs • Easy care, landscaped gardens • Elevated viewing decks to rolling hills • Room for the infinity pool, court and stables

POSSUM CREEK
Inspection by appointment
Duncan Lorimer 0400 844 412

Interest over $1,350,000

1 1 1

8 STUNNING ACRES

• Beautiful rural views • Perfect aspect, gentle useable land • Several outstanding building sites • 1 bedroom cabin currently tenanted • 8 Stunning acres • Vibrant local community • Established trees & open areas • Total privacy offered • Easy drive to Bangalow

ROSEBANK
Inspection by appointment
Duncan Lorimer 0400 844 412

$490,000

eldersbangalow.com.au **The Hinterland Specialists** **6687 1500**

LUXURY RESORT – BYRON BAY

Price $1,950,000

4 2 2

Dive into the 16m 'fresh water' swimming pool, relax in the Bali hut, dine on one of the many decks or patios, stroll through the bamboo walkway, enjoy mountain views from the upper level 'couples retreat' or simply lounge in your choice of spacious open plan living rooms.

Delight in a garden paradise of rare and exotic planting, extensive stone work and tasteful statuary. Stroll around the many pathways to enjoy native wildlife such as green tree frogs, echidnas, wallabies, goannas, water dragons and fairy wrens.

Enjoy privacy and seclusion but with everything on your doorstep – 2000m via a country laneway to the beach, 10 minutes' drive to Byron Bay, 25 minutes to the airport.

Special features include:

- Enormous entertainer's kitchen
- An ionized 'minimal chemicals' swimming pool
- Extra-large double bedrooms
- Luxury fully tiled bath and shower rooms
- Ducted air conditioning
- Satin ash wooden floors
- Home office (with separate entrance)
- Town and tank water
- Da for standalone studio
- 'Commercial grade' quality build
- Easy care 1.6 Acre site
- Offered fully furnished and equipped

Professionals
Byron Bay
cnr lawson & fletcher sts
byron bay nsw 2481
(02) 6685 6552
Agent: Michele Jackson
0407 906 301

SIWICKI REAL ESTATE
17 fingal street,
brunswick heads nsw 2483
(02) 6685 1206
Agent: Dave Bosselman
0431 100 097

AUCTION – 52 FIG TREE LANE MYOCUM NSW 2481

Heaven on Earth – Private, yet close to Byron Bay

- 360 views to the Cape Byron lighthouse, ocean & mountains
- 10 mins to Byron Bay and fabulous beaches
- New Balinese-style master-built luxury residence on approx 6 acres
- Central courtyard overlooking pool and mountains
- Huge state of the art gourmet kitchen with island cooktop
- Master bed has 2 verandahs, his & hers en-suites, walk-in closets
- Expansive indoor/outdoor entertaining areas, 2 BBQs, 3 outdoor dining areas
- Elevated top-of-line spa
- Guest pavilion with outdoor shower
- Plus DA approval for 2 room studio with en-suite

Auction: 2pm on-site Saturday January 25
View: Sunday 5 January, 2-3pm.
Or by appointment

Raine&Horne.

Raine & Horne
Janis Perkins 0438 841 122
janis.perkins@rh.com.au

LJ Hooker

LJ Hooker
Glen Irwin 0418 604 080
girwin.byronbay@ljh.com.au

Professionals
mullumbimby – bangalow

Main Arm

4 2 2

AUCTION

Magical estate minutes to Mullum must be sold. Realistic Executor open to offers prior to auction.

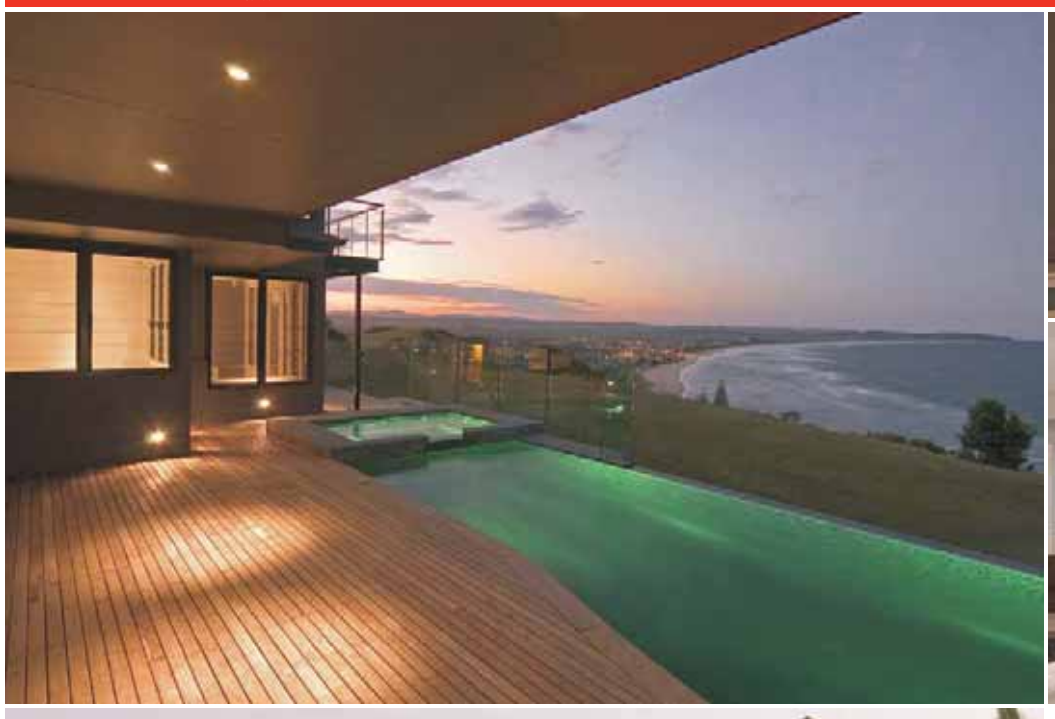
Enjoy private sunset swims in the pool with a view and relax in the beautiful Balinese inspired Cabana with hot outdoor shower and Sauna room.

- 6 hectares, 5 minute drive to Mullumbimby
- New kitchen, timber floors, timber decks
- Rainwater tanks, bore water for garden and pool
- Well established gardens and lush pastures

Address: 464 Main Arm Road, Main Arm
Auction: 10am Saturday 25 January
Contact: Fiona Crandell
0400 418 886
fiona@promullum.com.au

59 Burringbar St, Mullumbimby **6684 2615** www.professionalsmullumbimby.com.au

elderslennoxhead.com.au Elders



Lennox Head

4+ 3+ 2

World Class Home With Ocean Views
28 Blue Seas Parade
Inspect By Appointment

This world class boutique home is perched in an extraordinary position with breathtaking panoramic beach views incorporating the Iconic Byron Bay lighthouse. Equally impressive as the view is the contemporary, stylish home with fastidious attention to detail incorporating space and light, all the hallmarks of modern Zen. The options of multiple living areas, enjoying all aspects on offer is the brainchild of the owners and former Byron Hinterland award winning architect Sharon Fraser. So many features to mention such as electric privacy screens, heated bathroom tiles, fully integrated sound and video system to every room, ducted vacuuming, built-in stainless steel external BBQ, security alarm and more. Arguably Lennox Heads most stylish home. An inspection will impress with this once in a lifetime opportunity.

$3,300,000

63-65 Ballina Street, Lennox Head 02 6687 6155 **Michael King 0403 438 219** **Jason Crethar 0422 575 008**

Magical Ocean Views

- This property situated at beautiful Coorabell with stunning ocean views down to Byron Bay and north to the Gold Coast.
- Overlooking the valley to the ocean and hinterland.
- Situated on just over an acre of flat usable land with established fruit trees and vegetable gardens.
- The original home is of brick construction with high ceilings.
- Three bedrooms, one bathroom plus an additional sunroom, allows lots of space for all the family.
- A double garage is adjacent to the main house.
- 2 Large three and two car sheds.
- This property is an ideal investment in this dress circle location, do up the original home or rebuild your dream home.
- The property must be sold at auction or prior and all offers will be considered.

Address: 874 Coolamon Scenic Drive, Coorabell
Auction: Saturday 11th January, 2014 11am on site
Inspect: Every Wednesday and Saturday prior to auction

Commanding Ocean Views

- Ocean view land overlooking Byron Bay lighthouse and North to the Gold Coast
- First time offered since 1887
- Set high on the hill with panoramic vistas to the ocean this is the ideal setting for your dream home.
- Short 5 minute drive to Byron Bay's beaches and town centre
- Just over 71 acres on gently sloping grazing land.
- Primary production is available.

Address: St Helena Road, St Helena
Price: Interest from $2,500,000
Inspect: By appointment

Spectacular Coopers Shoot

- High on the hill of Coopers Shoot is this beautiful property.
- Landscaped gardens overlooking the oceans and mountains.
- Extremely private and hosts several outdoor entertaining areas to relax and enjoy the north coast lifestyle.
- Large open plan living areas abound as you walk through the front door.
- The grounds host an array of fruit trees and pockets of rainforest.
- A sparkling 16 metre lap pool protected by hedges is perfect for entertaining guests.
- Fully fenced and paddocks for cattle or horses are already set up.
- Short drive into Byron Bay and beaches this is an ideal retreat to relax and still be part of the Byron lifestyle.

Address: 187 Coopers Shoot Rd, Coopers Shoot
For Sale: $2,200,000
Inspect: By appointment

Byron Coastal REAL ESTATE

1/27 Fletcher Street, Byron Bay
02 6680 8111
www.byroncoastal.com.au

Property in Focus

Myocum – A unique & inspiring property rarely offered at this price

Located in an elevated and secluded position in the Byron Bay hinterland, this exquisite, architecturally designed, open-planned home is set on 2.3 acres overlooking a tranquil valley and roaming hills to the North-East. Complete privacy is assured.

Soaring 32-foot ceilings greet you as you enter the home, offering a sense of openness and expanse that is both comforting and freeing. • Unique architecturally designed home • Natural heating and cooling • Chef quality 'Smeg' kitchen & luxurious bathroom • Elegant salt-water pool with expansive rural views • Two water tanks provide abundant water.

Polished concrete floors lead to a more formal lounge area, detailed by handmade shutters and bespoke timberwork on all windows and doors. A large bedroom finds its place at the other end of this impressive space, as does a huge porcelain and white-tiled luxurious bathroom. Two hand-made quila and stainless-steel staircases at opposite ends lead up to two separate mezzanine levels. On one end, the master bedroom with wall-length wardrobe, polished floors and en-suite and at the other end a secondary lounge/media room and third bedroom.

It also has a three car garage, a separate office space with bathroom and DA approval for two separate studios. 12 minute drive from Byron Bay, 5 minutes to Mullumbimby, this property offers an abundance of lifestyle opportunities all of which are complemented by its natural surrounds.

Because of its unique nature, a very realistic price guide and owners full commitment to a quick sale, this property is a must to see.

Price Guide: Interest over $1,100,000 (forthcoming auction)
Inspection: By appointment (3 bed, 3 bath, 3 car)
Agent: Brett Connable 0408 155 931, brett.connable@raywhite.com
Ray White Byron Bay.
www.rwbyronbay.com

ByronCoastal REAL ESTATE

1/27 Fletcher Street, Byron Bay

Stunning Ocean Views Coorabell URGENT SALE!

Price guide from $750,000

- ✔ 1 acre of flat land
- ✔ Large 3 bed 1 bath 2 car garage
- ✔ Spacious living areas, sun room
- ✔ Flat land with fruit trees
- ✔ 3 + 2 bay garages/ sheds
- ✔ 19 minutes to Byron Bay beaches

Address: 874 Coolamon Scenic Drive, Coorabell
Auction: 11am on site January 11, 2014
Inspect: Wednesday and Saturdays 10.30-11am
Contact: Gail Fuller 0418 441 675
Scott Fuller 0401 911 557

www.byroncoastal.com.au 02 6680 8111

OPEN FOR INSPECTIONS

FIRST NATIONAL BYRON BAY
5/1 Orara Court, Byron Bay. Sat 10-10.30am
16 Lilli Pilli Drive, Byron Bay. Sat 10-10.30am
21 Kalemajere Dr, Suffolk Park. Sat 11-11.30am
18/6-8 Browning St, Byron Bay. Sat 11-11.30am
19 Ivory Curl Place, Bangalow. Sat 11-11.30am
16 Belongil Cres, Byron Bay. Sat 11-11.30am
39 Kingsley Street, Byron Bay. Sat 11-11.30am
3 Paperbark Place, Bangalow. Sat 11-11.30am
186 St Helena Rd, McLeods Shoot. Sat 12-12.30pm
7 Arika Avenue, Ocean Shores. Sat 12-12.30pm
30/24 Scott Street, Byron Bay. Sat 1-1.30pm
18/21-25 Cemetery Rd, Byron Bay. Sat 1-1.30pm
19/24 Scott Street, Byron Bay. Sat 2-2.30pm
162 Alcorn Street, Suffolk Park. Sat 3-3.30pm
2/1 Kamala Court, Mullumbimby. Sat 4-4.30pm

PROFESSIONALS BYRON BAY
43 Lilli Pilli Drive, Byron Bay. Thu 9 & Sat 11, 10-11am

RAINE AND HORNE BYRON BAY
52 Fig Tree Lane, Myocum. Sun 2-3pm

AUCTIONS

PROFESSIONALS BYRON BAY
Auction 10am onsite Sat February 15
43 Lilli Pilli Drive, Byron Bay

RAINE AND HORNE BYRON BAY
Auction 11.30am onsite Sat January 11
4 Hakea Crescent, Suffolk Park
Auction 2pm onsite Sat January 25
52 Fig Tree Lane, Myocum

NEW LISTINGS

PROFESSIONALS BYRON BAY
- Ocean Shores – Land $370,000. Waterfront 970sqm block in North Ocean Shores.
- Sunrise – Townhouse $490,000. 3 bed, 2 bath with courtyard. Walk to shops/beaches.
- Byron Bay – H&L $1.95 million. 18 acre with 3/4 bedroom home with sep couples retreat.
- Byron Bay – 3 bed, 3 bath home. $1.6 million. DA approval for 2nd 5 bed 5 bath home.

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dance to the drums
BYRON MARKETS
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byronmarkets@byroncentre.com.au

Spare a thought over the holiday period for the cops and other emergency workers. *The Echo*'s email inbox is daily filled with news of the tragedies, stupidities and nastiness the police have to deal with. You can read them yourself at www.police.nsw.gov.au/news/latest_releases and get a better idea of what the thin blue line goes through. Check out also the work of the Tweed Byron command at its Facebook page www.facebook.com/TweedByronLAC. Try to make their lives easier by driving sober, mobile phone off and seatbelt on.

■ ■ ■ ■

Byron Shire has been pretty fortunate so far in avoiding really hot weather, apart from a couple of muggy days in December, but it can't last forever. If you want more tips on dealing with hot weather, other than drinking mint juleps on the verandah while the fan wallahs cool you down, then check out NSW Health's ideas at http://bit.ly/beatheat2. There's even a Urine Colour Chart so you can check if you're drinking enough water!

Radio Galaxy Zoo is a new 'citizen science' project that lets you become a cosmic explorer without leaving the comfort of your own home. By matching galaxy images with radio images from CSIRO's Australia Telescope, you can work out if a galaxy has a supermassive black hole: http://radio.galaxyzoo.org.

■ ■ ■ ■

What visitors and locals alike make of Council's park-and-ride effort into Byron Bay is yet to be fully assessed but it was a splendid idea to make the venture fun by employing the Magic Bus, dancers and Joel Salom (www.joelsalom.com) to launch it. Getting Australians out of their private cars is a Herculean effort at any time of the year, so good on you, Council. See Sharon Shostak's video of the launch at echo.net.au.

■ ■ ■ ■

Much has been made of Australia's crappy download speeds, averaged at 14.56 Mbps, according to *The Guardian* online. Definitely it's much slower than Hong Kong speeds – 68.94 Mbps – but compares favourably with Indonesia (3.35Mbps). You can cultivate your download speed envy at http://bit.ly/gdload.

■ ■ ■ ■

Are you a film buff, theatre-goer or book lover who would like to visit or learn more about the locations of your favourite film, play or novel? The Cultural Atlas of Australia www.australian-cultural-atlas.info is an interactive digital map that plots more than 300 locations depicted in over 150 texts. Cultural travellers, students and scholars can use the map to plot literary tours, visit film sites or research landscape and locations in Australian stories. It even has the locations for the upcoming *Wolf Creek 2*, surely the height of Oz cinematic excellence.

Local artist/photographer Peter King discovered over Christmas that his dog Tookie had become a roadside entrepreneur.

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