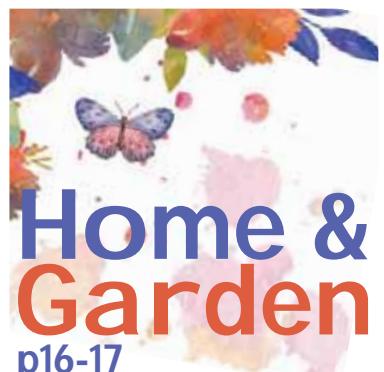



Vince Jones
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Classics – on paper!
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Online in **Echo net daily**
Why are politicians ignoring Byron Shire?
www.echo.net.au/politicians-ignoring-byron-shire



Renewed and ready for a clean future

Amelia and Edmund from Roundabout Theatre on their flycycle with the latest electric Tesla S car.
Photo Jeff 'Old Technology' Dawson

Organisers estimate that 2,000 people attended the inaugural Renew Fest sustainability festival at the Mullumbimby Showgrounds on Saturday, exceeding all expectations.

Director Ella Rose Gonian said, 'There were activities for children, expert panels, information sessions on renewable energy, electric cars

and batteries, food sovereignty, biodiversity, produce and information stalls ranging from Rainforest Rescue to TOOT'.

'The bring your own cup and plate, zero-waste policy proved its worth, with just 240 litres of recyclable waste being created for the entire event.'

'I'm so heartened and absolutely thrilled by the response and wish to extend my deepest gratitude to everyone involved.'

'Together we all stood strong on Saturday for climate action! I have great faith – in seeing the attendance – in our community's ability to transition to a renewable future!'

Knife edge for three candidates

Chris Dobney

A Roy Morgan poll shows the Greens' Dawn Walker ahead of the Nationals' Matthew Fraser in Richmond and within striking distance of beating Labor's sitting member Justine Elliot.

The State of the Nation Poll shows Richmond is the fifth most likely federal seat to fall to the

Greens nationwide, and the second most likely in NSW.

The poll has the ALP marginally ahead on 30.5 points, Greens with 29, LNP with 27, and others with 13.5.

If those numbers were replicated at the election Mrs Elliot would scrape back in on Greens preferences; however, polls are known to have an error margin of around five per cent.

Ms Walker has massively im-

proved her position from 17.69 per cent at the last election, partly on the back of voters' disenchantment with the major parties. The big loser is the Nationals' Matthew Fraser, whose first preference vote has nosedived from 37.6 per cent at the 2013 election.

Recent boundary changes will also play a part – the town of Ballina is now included within the Richmond electorate.

Open season

Legal centre warns of govt's push for QLD-style land clearing

Hans Lovejoy

'A serious retrograde step for biodiversity', is how lawyers from public interest environmental law centre, EDO NSW, have described proposed sweeping changes to the state's environmental protection laws.

And to have your say, you had better get in quickly – public submissions close Tuesday June 28.

As part of statewide public meetings, EDO NSW lawyers Nina Lucas and Emily Ryan presented to a well-attended audience on Friday at the Byron Bay Community Centre. Nature Conservation Council campaign director Daisy Barham also spoke.

Despite its name, the *Biodiversity Conservation Bill* appears aimed at anything but conserving biodiversity, with EDO saying major checks and balances have been replaced with ill-defined and relaxed rules.

It's designed to replace the *Native Vegetation Act 2003*, *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995*, the *Nature Conservation Trust Act 2001* and parts of the *National Parks & Wildlife Act 1974*.

A *Local Land Services Amendment Bill* is also proposed, as are land clearing codes.

But according to NSW government ministers, the aim is to get a balance between species and ecological decline and 'improving farm productivity' by cutting red tape for landowners to clear their property.

On May 3, 2016, minister for the environment, Mark Speakman

(Liberal), told the NSW parliament that the Bills 'are not conflicting objectives if things are done smartly and more strategically.'

Mr Speakman argued, 'Too much red tape alienates the very people whose co-operation is essential for great biodiversity outcomes.'

He says the package will include '\$240 million over five years for private land conservation, with another \$70 million each year after that.'

And minister for primary industries, Niall Blair (Nationals), told parliament in June 2015 that the laws that Labor introduced, 'have failed.'

Mr Blair said, 'For almost two decades, those laws have unfairly placed the burden of biodiversity protection solely on the shoulders of our farming community.'

Laws not broken

But Ms Lucas and EDO disagree with the government's rationale that the current laws are 'broken', and instead suggest the system worked well before funding that assisted native vegetation rehabilitation was cut.

Ms Lucas says that since the *Native Vegetation Act 2003* came into force, 'land clearing has reduced from up to 21,500 ha per year to 11,000 ha per year.'

Funding cuts to catchment management authorities after the initial four-year investment in Property Vegetation Plans (PVPs) caused delays in land clearing approvals and making property vegetation plans.'

continued on page 2 ➤

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Entries open for Shearwater Wearable Arts

Shearwater School is calling on costume entries for its 2016 Wearable Arts performance event, 'Cloud Forest'.

Organisers say entrants for the November performance will vie for a prize pool of more than \$7,500.

The school's head, Greg Parkes, says a wearable arts piece is a 'complete visual drama; the painted canvas come to life.'

Visually, it breaks costume conventions, giving complete freedom to the designer to reveal the imaginings of their inner world in ever new and challenging ways.

Visit www.shearwaterperformingarts.com for more information.

Koalas spring up at Maca Castle



Two koalas are now calling The Macadamia Castle home. It comes after more than five years of planning, planting, training and building for the family attraction in Knockrow. The Castle also has a new knight hoisted up as signage. Owner Tony Gilding says it's visible from north and south lanes of the new highway, and is located two minutes from the Lennox Head exit. Emily, Holly and local Greens MP Tamara Smith are pictured with the koala's new abode. Photo Jeff 'Eats And Leaves' Dawson

Murdoch buys Northern Star, Byron News etc

Darren Coyne

Rupert Murdoch's News Corp has signed a \$36.6 million deal to buy APN News & Media's Australian regional newspaper business, which includes *The Northern Star* and *Tweed Daily News*.

The deal – which is subject to approval from the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission, also covers the weekly publications, *Byron Shire News*, *Ballina Advocate*, *The Lismore Echo* and the *Richmond River Examiner*.

News Corp already holds a stake of almost 15 per cent in APN, which means shareholder approval would also be required for what would be deemed a related-party

transaction.

APN Australian Regional Media has a portfolio of 12 daily and more than 60 non-daily Australian regional newspapers.

Staff at the *Northern Star* and the other publications received an email just before 11am Monday confirming that the deal had been struck.

APN's chief executive Ciaran Davis described the deal as an 'historic day as we are letting go of our custodianship of a great business.'

APN chairman Peter Cosgrove said the divestment was another significant milestone in APN pivoting its future towards radio and outdoor media assets.

'The divestment of ARM is an historic day for the com-

pany as APN has been the custodian of some wonderful newspapers whose community roots go back over 150 years,' Mr Cosgrove said.

'We are now passing that ownership onto another media group with deep publishing experience across regional Australia.'

Homogeneity

But *Echo Publications* general manager Simon Haslam saw the sale differently.

'This is bad news for readers in the northern rivers, as it further increases the power and influence of Rupert Murdoch's News Corp.'

Mr Haslam said, 'We will now have a huge multinational, much larger than APN, controlling these papers.'

'In addition to the malignant corporate influence, we can expect an increased homogeneity of news and opinion and a further reduction in the free-thinking, independent press that regions like this deserve.'

Echo Publications publishes the *Byron Shire Echo* and the *Echonetdaily*, and is 100 per cent locally owned and operated.

Tax avoidance

In May 2015, Fairfax reported that News Corp is now the only company listed in the 'highest risk category' for tax avoidance by the Australian Taxation Office.

The corporation is well known as an aggressive tax avoider and litigator.

Govt pushes for land-clearing laws

► continued from page 1

Ms Lucas referred to materials that are available on www.edonsw.org.au.

'The Act is also underpinned by a scientific Environmental Outcomes Assessment Methodology (EOAM) that ensures not just biodiversity, but soil, salinity and water impacts of clearing are scientifically assessed.'

Self-assessment

EDO say the proposed Local Land Services Amendment Bill would replace the *Native Vegetation Act 2003* and its assessment methodology with four new self-assessable codes: management, efficiency, equity and farm planning.

'[It] allows significant amounts of clearing, even

in endangered ecological communities. The codes assume that landholders have ecological expertise to determine their own code-based clearing, and they allow landholders to set aside areas that might be managed or replanted to justify clearing elsewhere on the property.'

A Land Use Map is also proposed to determine whether land clearing rules apply.

EDO say they are most concerned with category two, which allows self-assessment for land-clearing.

'There are no clear environmental baselines, aims or targets,' they say. 'There is no ban on broad-scale clearing, no mandatory soil, water and salinity assessment, and no "maintain-or-improve"

standard to ensure environmental outcomes.'

'QLD provides clear evidence of what can happen when clearing laws are relaxed. It has been estimated that there was a huge pulse of 275,000ha of land clearing after QLD's land-clearing laws were relaxed in 2013–14.'

But the minister for the environment, Mark Speakman, refutes any claim the reform is a move to the QLD model. He told parliament in May, 'Unlike QLD, we have this massive investment in private land conservation, this massive investment in saving our species. In addition, we have strong caps – both area and time – on clearing.'

The Bill's offsetting regulation is also of concern, say

EDO. 'Offsets' compensate the loss of biodiversity with development or clearing. EDO claims the government has 'opted to base its reforms on the tool with arguably the weakest offset standards.'

Pay for extinction

Another major concern is how, under the proposal, developers could make a single payment into an offset trust fund to address ecological extinction. 'This puts the burden of avoiding extinction on the trust money without stopping to find out if that is actually possible through offsetting.'

■ Public comment on the reforms close June 28. Visit www.landmanagement.nsw.gov.au/have-your-say.

Sans plastic baggies in July

Mullumbimby retailers are now signing up to participate in the Plastic-Free July challenge, using what organisers say is a world-first Trader Pledge form.

It's part of the Plastic-Free July awareness campaign, which is a global movement and is also being adopted throughout the Shire.

Co-organiser and sustainability coach Sasha Mainsbridge says she sought permission from the founders of the initiative in WA to run a pilot here, which will for the first time see an entire town adopt the campaign.

It includes the traditional consumer pledge and a trader pledge that seeks to reduce the supply of the top four disposable plastic culprits: plastic bags, straws, coffee cups, lids and water bottles.

Ms Mainsbridge says, 'The Mullum IGA, Mullum Instyle



Paul Crebar with the No Plastics In July message at Renew Fest. Photo Jeff 'Bagus' Dawson

Living and Bridglands Betta Electrical are the early adopters of committing to putting away their plastic bags.'

'Also, ten of the town's coffee retailers have signed up with Responsible Cafes to guarantee you'll receive a

discount on your takeaway coffee if you BYO cup.

'Our marine environment is choking on plastic, but the global attention and resources that are being directed on reversing this human-created tragedy have experts suggest-

ing this problem could be addressed within ten years.

'All traders are encouraged to participate via www.mullumcares.com.au are counted in the global results. Last year, 36,000 people across 85 countries participated!'

Who are the candidates preferencing?

In the last (2013) federal election, preferences played an important part in deciding who won the seat of Richmond.

Labor's Justine Elliot was elected with the help of preferences from Greens' candidate Dawn Walker, despite the Nationals' Matthew Fraser gaining more primary votes than Mrs Elliot.

With the election looking even closer this time, prefer-

ences will undoubtedly play a large part in who is elected.

The preferences for Labor's Justine Elliot are: 1) Labor, 2) Greens, 3) Animal Justice Party, 4) Christian Democrat Party (Fred Nile), 5) The Nationals, 6) One Nation.

The preferences for Greens' Dawn Walker are 1) Greens, 2) Animal Justice Party, 3) Labor, 4) The Nationals, 5) Fred Nile's Christian Democrat Party, 6)

Pauline Hanson's One Nation.

The preferences for The Nationals' Matthew Fraser are 1) The Nationals, 2) Christian Democrat Party, 3) Labor, 4) The Greens, 5) Animal Justice Party, 6) One Nation.

The preferences for the Christian Democrat Party's Russell Kilarney are 1) Christian Democrat Party, 2) The Nationals, 3) One Nation, 4) Animal Justice Party, 5) La-

bbor, 6) The Greens.

The preferences for Pauline Hanson's One Nation are 1) One Nation, 2) Christian Democrat Party, 3) Animal Justice Party, 4) The Nationals, 5) Labor, 6) The Greens.

The preferences for Animal Justice Party are 1) Animal Justice Party, 2) The Greens, 3) Labor, 4) The Nationals, 5) Christian Democrat Party, 6) One Nation.

Shark-mitigation plans ramp up

There are recent developments in addressing the recent incidents of shark attacks – just one will be a community shark forum at the Lennox Community Centre on Tuesday June 28 from 6 till 7.30pm.

It's part of the NSW government's \$16m shark-management strategy, and will be presented by top shark biologists who will give an update on their work.

Additionally, around 45 potential new shark spotters met last weekend, with a view to starting a regular patrol on the Ballina to Lennox Head coastline.

The announcement also comes after a feasibility study was announced last week for a shark-spotting program at Byron Bay's Wategos Beach.

It's modelled on the hugely successful shark-spotting program pioneered at South Africa's Cape Town Beach. The pilot is being funded by local Greens MP Tamara

Smith and Byron Shire Council in partnership with Sea Shepherd.

National Shark Campaign co-ordinator for Sea Shepherd Australia, Natalie Banks, welcomed the study and said, 'The fact that this study was unanimously approved by the Byron Shire Council shows the progressive and forward-thinking manner of the full council.'

Byron mayor Simon Richardson was also supportive, saying it could provide extra security while 'also ensuring there are no negative impacts on the marine life, including sharks,' he said.

Developed by Sea Shepherd, the trial responds to the state government's independent assessment of current shark-mitigation strategies undertaken by the Cardno Review.

That assessment identified a shark-spotting program as the highest ranked solution.

The Echo asked the NSW

Department of Primary Industries why there was not more emphasis on the shark-spotters program within its shark-management strategy, considering it was recommended as the best solution in the Cardno Review.

DPI replies

A DPI spokesperson replied that the strategy is 'looking at new innovative technologies to better detect and deter sharks because we know there is not one solution.'

'Among these measures is

working with surf life saving and lifeguard associations in NSW to discuss ways to improve techniques to spot sharks and alert bathers, providing a customised Australian version of the South African shark-spotter program.'

South Africa's Shark Spotters project manager Sarah Warries told *The Echo* their program 'costs around ZAR3.8 million per year to operate on eight beaches, but our labour costs are considerably cheaper.'

ZAR3.8m converts to approximately AU\$339,675.

Meet the candidates

A Q&A panel discussion with local federal candidates will be held Sunday June 26 at the Mullumbimby RSL Auditorium from 2pm till 5pm.

Co-organiser Donna Grey says questions can be submitted upon arrival and all candidates have been invited.

Frank Khoury will MC.

Nationals candidate Matthew Fraser has confirmed he will attend; he was struck with a flu and could not attend last week's meet the candidates meeting at the Byron Bay Community Centre last Tuesday.



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Surgery waiting times at record levels

Elective surgery waiting times and lists on the north coast are at record levels with more than 5,200 patients needing surgery, according to the Independent Bureau of Health Information.

Furthermore, statewide BHI data showed patients waiting for non-urgent surgery are waiting almost a year at Lismore hospital.

This has increased from 5,160 patients in December 31, 2015 to 5,217 – as of March

31, 2016. Some of the longest waits on the north coast are for knee and hip replacements and cataract removal.

Statewide, since the Liberals and Nationals were elected in March 2011, waits have increased by eight days to 229 days and the number of patients on lists has increased from 66,000 to 74,000 in NSW. And almost half of the patients are waiting for orthopaedic surgery and cataract removal.

Turnbull in Page flyby

Jobs were the focus on the election trail as Malcolm Turnbull campaigned in the marginal Nationals-held seat of Page on Friday.

Page covers the Lismore electorate.

The PM promised a \$25 million pledge which includes providing business innovation grants to help adopt new technology, upgrading local infrastructure and delivering targeted skills and training programs for regional shortages.

The region has one of the worst unemployment re-

cords in the state, with youth unemployment nearing 20 per cent in some areas.

The government says the commitment will be used to leverage an additional \$25 million in matched funding from participating businesses on the mid north and far north coasts.

Nationals MP Kevin Hogan holds Page with a 3.1 per cent margin over former Labor MP Janelle Saffin.

The coalition is desperate to hold Page, which is developing a reputation for being a bellwether seat.

Nats and One Nation no show on climate questions

A Tweed Heads-based group that advocates addressing climate change says its questions were ignored by the Nationals candidate Matthew Frazer and One Nation's Neil Smith.

A total of four candidates were asked, the others being Labor's Justine Elliot and The Greens' Dawn Walker.

Those not asked were Christian Democrat Party candidate Russell Kilarney and Animal Justice Party candidate Angela Pollard.

Greg Reid from Tweed Climate Action Now (Tweed

CAN) posted on their website a list of environmental and climate-change questions, and a yes or no reply by the candidates.

Both Mrs Elliot and Ms Walker replied 'yes' to all.

They included: 'Do you agree that human actions are primarily responsible for the global warming that is threatening our future?' and, 'Will your party start to phase out coal-fired electric power?'

Mr Reid said of the post, 'Candidates were e-mailed via campaign offices with

two weeks' notice, phoned to confirm it was received, and reminded again three days before closure that failure to answer would be publicised.'

'A response was received from the Liberal/Nationals national campaign director which ignored all the questions, did not mention climate change and instead referred only to their economic policies.'

In her response, Labor's Justine Elliot readily agreed to advocate some positions currently ahead of published

Labor Party policy.

No response was received from One Nation's Neil Smith; however, party policy is to repudiate emission-reduction targets, abolish the RET and hold a royal commission questioning climate science.'

But Mr Smith told *The Echo* he didn't recall being asked the questions, but added, 'We don't deny climate change is happening, we just question man's footprint and impact with climate change.'

The website link is <http://bit.ly/28KcZ2m>.

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Hoorah for Mitchell's efforts

Obi McDonald-Saint

Having worked at Bridglands since age 14, Mitchell Ward is no stranger to giving good customer service.

Now 22, Mitchell has been recognised for his efforts and was awarded a Staff Giraffe award by the Mullumbimby Chamber of Commerce.

Mitchell says he was stoked to win the award but asserted he was doing the stuff he always did.

'I just do the truck deliveries, sales, and make sure people are happy,' Mitchell says.

Bridglands manager Rob Ware says Mitchell was very deserving of the award.

'Mitchell is a great, reliable, trustworthy employee. He reflects what the store is about, looking after the



From left, Susan Tsicalas (Mullum chamber treasurer), award-winner Mitchell Ward (Bridglands) and Bridglands manager Rob Ware. Photo Obi McDonald-Saint

customers,' Rob says.

Apart from the certificate of appreciation, Mitchell also received a gift certificate from The Magic Pot.

The Staff Giraffe program recognises and acknowledges local staff who 'put their neck out' by offering extraordi-

nary customer service to the community.

If you would like to nominate a deserving staff person visit www.mullumbimby.org.au/nominate. Prize donations are also sought.

■ Obi McDonald-Saint is chamber president.

Mullum High, SAE launch mentorship program

A five-week education program has kicked off, which places Mullumbimby High School students with weekly mentorship and access to professional equipment at the SAE Byron Bay campus.

The aim is to create photographic and short-film

content, to be showcased at Splendour In The Grass festival in July.

It's a joint initiative between the school, Byron Shire Council and youth education charity I-Manifest.

Laura Colantonio from I-Manifest says the program is

designed to create real-world links between school and the current world of work.

'We aim to integrate real-life work experience with core competencies and classroom learning in the format of a live creative brief that becomes an assessable task.'

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♡ Byron Shire Plastic-Free July ♡

The challenge is quite simple:
refuse single-use plastic this July

Byron Shire residents are encouraged to register to attempt to resist the plastic temptation this July and in doing so are offered a 15% discount on all bulk items at Santos Organics.

Byron Shire Plastic-Free July is a community collaborative project initiated by Santos Organics in partnership with Clean Coast Collective, Waste-Free Futures, Bolsa Bags, Patagonia, Byron Shire Council & The Echo. It aims to change the way we view, use and accumulate plastic in our lives and community.



♡ PlasticFreeByron.com ♡
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What makes Mullumbimby magical?

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Send us your best photograph of what makes Mullumbimby magical for your chance to win generous cash prizes. Open to young and old.

Entries close 8 July 2016.

Winners announced 14 August 2016.

www.mullumbimby.org.au/magic



SNACK & CLEAN FRIDAY 24TH JUNE

Join Santos Organics, Clean Coast Collective & Bolsa Bags for a street clean-up, followed by a complimentary plastic-free morning /afternoon tea & 't-shirt bag' making workshop.

Show your love for this beautiful shire and get involved!

BYRON BAY STREET CLEAN UP & PLASTIC-FREE MORNING TEA

Meet 10am @ Santos Organics, Byron Bay
Supported by Australian Seabird Rescue

MULLUMBIMBY STREET CLEAN UP & PLASTIC-FREE AFTERNOON TEA

Meet 1pm @ Santos Organics, Mullumbimby
Supported by Mullum Cares & Mullum Seed

Bring a tea cup, gloves and an old t-shirt!
This is a disposable free event!

For more details visit

WWW.PLASTICFREEBYRON.COM

Getting winter fit with the nippers

Vanessa Thompson

This winter, Brunswick Surf Life Saving Club is not letting the chilly weather stop our nippers from staying in top surf shape for the upcoming Nippers season.

The winter surf training seasons are being held once again every Sunday 9am till 11am at the Brunswick Surf Club.

Paul Davies, the Brunswick Nippers coach for the past four seasons and award-winning Surf Life Saving board paddler competitor, will be training our young Nippers in surf safety, surf fitness, surfing and board paddling techniques.

Brunswick Nipper since age five Kieren Nugent says, 'Winter training helps keep me in shape for the upcoming season and it's fun!'



Brunswick Nippers are still active in the winter months – more Nippers are always welcome. Photo Andrew Sinclair.

All Nippers enrolled from last season are welcome to attend. If you're thinking of

joining Nippers this summer, our registration dates will be in September.

Contact jac@brunswick-slsc.org for more details on the Brunswick Nippers.

New home for community housing opens in Lismore

After 32 years of providing social and affordable housing in the northern rivers, North Coast Community Housing (NCCH) has a new home of its own.

Several members of NSW Parliament were on hand for the occasion to celebrate the new office on Molesworth Street in Lismore on Tuesday.

Minister for Social Housing Brad Hazzard praised the organisation's work in supporting tenants' needs far beyond providing a roof over their heads. Programs for seniors and facilities for people with a disability are among

these specialised services.

The newly refurbished building provides space for more than 25 staff, with additional offices operating in Tweed Heads and Grafton.

Its chairman John Stone said, 'We now have room to expand our services as the need for housing grows in the region.'

As a not-for-profit company, North Coast Community Housing says it manages more than 900 properties and provides long-term accommodation to people on low to medium incomes in the far north coast of NSW.

UAE students in need of local accommodation

The Byron Shire is the destination for a six-week English language program for 40 United Arab Emirates (UAE) high school students.

Arriving on July 9, the group will stay for 42 days with local host families and study English each day at the Byron Bay English Language School (BBELS).

The school's director Michael O'Grady said, 'We are delighted that they are returning to Byron Bay. They really enjoy our location and people. Their visit helps everyone – our hosts, teachers and activity

operators – as August is pretty quiet here.' He says the group comes from Al Ain, a desert city in the middle of the UAE.

'They are very excited about their visit and hope to make the most of the beautiful surrounds and fresh sea air of Byron Bay.'

Local families from Ballina to Ocean Shores are welcome to host a student and there's a generous allowance – \$260 pw – paid to each family to cover costs plus transport assistance. Those interested can call 6680 8253 or email clare@bbels.com.au.

WE ARE OVER-GOVERNED WITH FLAWED LAWS

Land-clearing laws looming

Land clearing contributes to climate change and species extinction and the NSW government is hoping to introduce a reform which will facilitate that further.

It's called the *Biodiversity Conservation Bill*, and appears aimed at anything but conserving biodiversity.

NSW already has reasonable checks and balances in place to encourage landowners to regenerate and manage native vegetation, but the NSW government says it's broken. Yet any analysis of Liberal or National Party rhetoric in parliament so far reveals they are without any factual basis for this claim.

Public-interest environmental law centre, EDO NSW, say the reason it is failing is because the funding was cut that assisted native vegetation rehabilitation.

Public submissions close **Tuesday June 28** and can be made at www.landmanagement.nsw.gov.au/have-your-say.

Find out more: www.facebook.com/flawedlaws

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Money for nothing and your pics for free

Entry into Brunswick Heads Simple Pleasures photography competition is now free, say organisers.

Competition co-ordinator Cherie Heale says it will allow more members of the community to take part.

To be eligible for the cash prizes, printed copies of your photos are still required.

'By waiving the \$15 fee we hope to encourage more members of the community and our visitors to participate,' she says. Entries are now open, closing on August 12, with the theme Colours of Bruns.

Visit www.brunswick-heads.org.au or pop in to the Visitor Centre to pick up your entry form.



The winning 2015 picture: *Swinging in Bruns*, by 19-year-old Aytan Lachish.

Petition against protest laws

A northern rivers woman has begun a petition calling on the NSW Police Association to speak out against new legislation aimed at curbing protest action against miners.

Bernardine Schwartz of Blue Knob objects to the new laws, which increase police powers and penalties. They were rushed through by the state government in April.

Trespass fines on mine sites have expanded to in-

Little Shop of Horrors audition

Local actors, singers and non-actors who would like to audition for Bangalow Theatre Company's upcoming major production, *Little Shop of Horrors*, are invited to apply via email at auditions.btc@gmail.com.

Organisers say first-round auditions will take place Wednesday July 7 at the A&I Hall in Bangalow.

While the show does require all cast members to sing, no formal/previous experience is necessary.

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Brewery to be refurbished

The new owners of Byron Bay Brewing Co have announced they will renovate the venue, which is located within the Arts Factory Backpackers Lodge.

Craft marketing director at Lion, Gordon Treanor, said the move was 'ahead of the key trading period over summer' and that as new owners they 'want to reassure the community that this investment will ensure

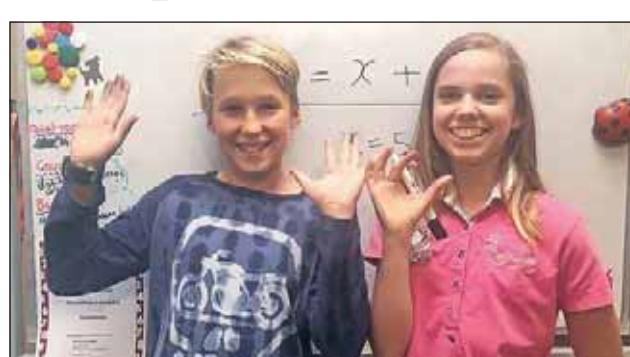
we can continue to deliver a great experience to locals and bring more visitors closer to the brewery.'

The company says that during renovations, the bar and restaurant will temporarily close from June 26 and will reopen in early spring.

'The other businesses in the shared building will continue to operate as normal and the Brewery will continue to supply existing customers.'

Maths champions return

Rachael Shea



Kyla Critchlow and Tosh Perrow. Photo supplied

Cutting edge

The cutting-edge program is only offered to students who excel at maths, and encourages a creative approach to problem solving, data col-

lection and hypothesising.

Kyla and Tosh have returned excited to share newly

learned maths strategies with their classmates (and any adults who can keep up).



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Volume 31 #02

June 22, 2016

The illusionary ratings system:

MOODY'S **STANDARD & POOR'S**
Fitch Ratings

There are three big US corporations who set the benchmark for assessing creditworthiness of corporations and governments across the globe.

The ratings of Moody's, Standard & Poor's (S&P) and Fitch are often trotted out to reassure us that we are doing tickety boo.

Australia – in case you missed it – is rated AAA.

Moody's and Standard & Poor's are said to rate 80 per cent of global debt, with Fitch controlling 15 per cent.

Yet Moody's, Standard & Poor's and Fitch are actually paid by the financial institutions they rate.

This conflict of interest couldn't be clearer, and it's a very real danger to economic stability because it's also largely unregulated, let alone understood. And all this sits at the very top of the global financial food chain.

These New York-based credit-rating agencies are also held somewhat responsible for the 2008 financial crash – they gave unduly high ratings to mortgage-backed securities.

The excellent 2015 movie, *The Big Short*, explains it well.

Creditworthiness from these agencies comes in flavours from the highest rating AAA, then comes AA1, all the way down to C. Heard of 'Junk'? That's below a BBB.

The Guardian's Patrick Kingsley reported in 2012, 'If you want to be rated, you must pay an agency between \$1,500 and \$2,500,000 for the privilege, depending on the size of your company.'

He said, 'It could explain why, for much of the past decade, agencies seemed happy not to question either the risks banks were taking or the accuracy of their accounts.'

While these agencies are now regaining their capital and power after the 2008 crash, at least one was spanked by the US government for their part in nearly wiping out entire economies worldwide.

In February 2015, the US government was successful in suing Standard & Poor's for \$1.5 billion, claiming that it knowingly issued overgenerous ratings that led to the crash.

So next time we hear a politician claim that we have a AAA rating, it's worth remembering that it's all meaningless – like most politics, the credit reputations of countries and corporations are bought and controlled by the unknown faces at the very top.

Hans Lovejoy, editor

News tips are welcome: editor@echo.net.au

The Byron Shire Echo

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Nicholas Shand
1948–1996
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Editor **Hans Lovejoy**
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'The job of a newspaper is to comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable!' – Finley Peter Dunne 1867–1936

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Shorten succumbs to the bean counters

Bill Shorten may have finally been brought down by the economy as the marathon campaign comes to its end – but not in the way his enemies have gloated.

The conventional – at least the conservative – wisdom is that the Labor leader and his financial shadow ministers, Chris Bowen and Tony Burke, have blown it with their admission that under their regime the next few annual deficits would be higher than those of the coalition's; or, in Bowen's delicate terminology, the pace of fiscal contraction would be less.

So, shock, horror: economic irresponsibility.

The more important argument, of course, is that the first surpluses would arrive from either party in the same year, 2020-21. Or, perhaps not; this pot of gold remains firmly stuck at the end of the rainbow.

As many former treasurers will ruefully attest, when it comes to surplus, it is better to travel hopefully than to arrive.

So it is likely that the public will be understandably sceptical of any such promises.

But they have, perforce, had to listen to the competing slogans: jobs and growth against health and education. And it is here that Shorten may have stumbled fatally. His slogan has been Putting People First, and the signs were that the voters were responding; they like the idea that money was being spent, not on corporate tax cuts, but on the issues that immediately concerned them.

The hardliners will deride this approach as reckless and shortsighted, but ordinary people have become cynical and sick of the grand plans for budget repair, none of which has actually materialised. A few extra millions – or even billions – on the bottom line are not really the

issue. Shorten should have ignored the economic rationalists and continued to go for broke.

But now Shorten has succumbed to the bean counters: the people, or at least some of them, have been sacrificed on the ruthless altar of fiscal rectitude. Labor has begun walking away from its promises.

Some backdowns are more important than others. Labor's relatively small contributions to the task of reviving the NBN, and restoring some of Tony Abbott's cuts to public hospitals, will disappoint many supporters, but most will understand

Ordinary people have become cynical and sick of the grand plans for budget repair.

by Mungo MacCallum

that Labor's attacks on the depredations were always in the realm of ambit claims; the immediate promises are more in the nature of deposits than final payments. And of course he did commit to the full Gonski – probably the most welcome of all the pledges. So far, so good.

But in other areas Shorten's belated reversals will be harder to pardon.

The means testing of family tax benefits and, perhaps most crucially, the decision not to restore the schoolkids bonus, look more like direct betrayals – capitulations to the government's own unforgiving agenda.

The opposition's momentum has stalled, if not completely dissipated. Shorten himself is campaigning as energetically as ever, but there are already indications that the public is no longer listening; the voters have made up their minds, often reluctantly, but conclusively. They are resigned to getting back to

business as usual and just want to get the whole thing over with.

Both sides accept that the big swing Labor was hoping for is just not on; while the overall figures remain close, the key marginal seats are largely holding for the government and it will take something of a psychological miracle to turn them around in the days that are left.

So the party's launch, after six weeks, or eight weeks, or nine weeks, or however long it has been, was not just incongruous: it was something of an anticlimax. The event was in fact fairly low key; technically,



the telecast was frankly amateurish. But Shorten himself exuded conviction, passion and bravado: he seemed to genuinely believe that if the voters would only concentrate on his message, they would have to endorse it.

Which is why, perhaps, there was sometimes an edge of desperation, especially when he wheeled out yet another set of positive plans.

They were all worthwhile, but the mere fact that they had been unveiled so late in the piece gave them something of a feeling of catch-up.

Turnbull, in contrast, was calmly getting rid of Shorten's irritations: there would be no penalty rates, no aspect of Medicare would be privatised, there would be a lifeline for Arrium steel. And he was quietly, even smugly, confident of victory.

So his own launch next weekend is looking more in the nature of a premature victory lap.

As we at last approach the endgame the market is firming: the bookmakers, always more reliable than the commentators and the pollsters, have the coalition as a firm favourite.

It seems inevitable that the Turnbull government will be returned, but hardly in the triumph that the party room anticipated when they enthroned Turnbull last year. Seats will be lost; the question is how many, and what will be the consequences.

We have been given forewarning of at least one of the problems facing the new government: Peter Dutton's elephantine hint that some of his colleagues (including, obviously, him) would like to see Tony Abbott returned to the cabinet is a clear sign of divisions and rancour ahead. The prime minister will definitely not have the clear air he was hoping for, and will remain hamstrung – perhaps more than ever – by a recalcitrant right wing.

And given the near certainty that the senate is likely to be even less ruly after the double dissolution, the new regime will face interesting times. Turnbull has already walked away from some of his initially tougher stances, which will annoy many of his followers, but there are likely to be few signs of defiance from a chastened leader.

And as a footnote, the breathless revelation that Turnbull's celebration at his inaugural Ramadan dinner included a sheik who posted anti-gay diatribes is an ominous warning of just how warily the prime minister will have to tread.

Turnbull immediately re-siled, saying he would not have issued the invitation had he known; he can have no association with homophobic clerics.

Presumably that scrubs Cardinal George Pell off the guest list, but you can't be too careful.



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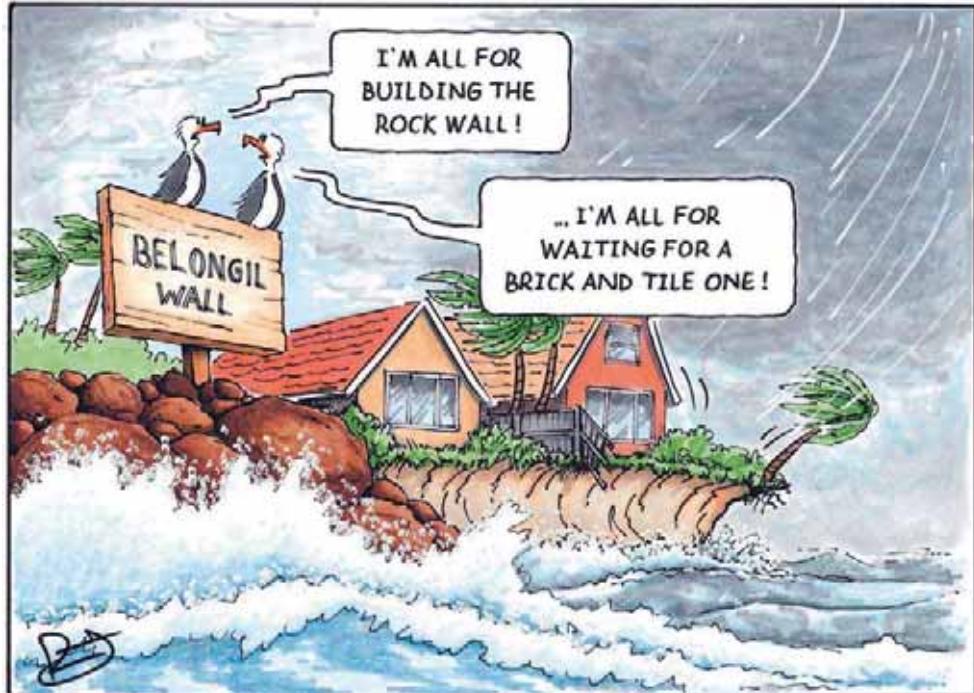
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Letters

ECHO



Selfless work

I spent a lot of time in the last weeks digging out the drains on Main Arm roads after the floods. I'm 72 but happy to do this free for Council and so Sol and Rose can save the money to spend on the Belongil millionaires' rock wall.

Ron Priestley
Main Arm

Bangalow blight

The planned 20-acre 'food precinct' opposite the recently sold housing estate The Meadows at Bangalow by developer Bart Elias deserves to be questioned.

Is this good urban planning for a village that takes so much of its business from tourism? This tourism stems from the charm of Bangalow's heritage streetscapes and architecture, as well as its rural setting. It is a village surrounded by farmland.

Did Mr Elias, his town planner Paul De Fina and their clients consider Lismore or Ballina industrial-zoned land as more appropriate locations?

There is no question that enormous industrial buildings proposed for food manufacturing would be a blight on the views from Lismore/Bangalow Road entering into Bangalow (which many Lismore people do daily), as well as for those homes that will be built in The Meadows.

There is no question that the increased traffic from such large industry would accelerate the deterioration of the roads and increase the scale of large-vehicle traffic within Bangalow.

Bangalow has a rich heritage in my own life. I am glad I have my memories of it from the 1960s. Book-ending the village of Bangalow with in-

dustry is not in my view town planning. It is inappropriate to the heritage of this proud little village that deserves to continue on as a rural village, visited by so many from near and far on a daily and weekly basis.

Mr Elias and Mr De Fina should look to Lismore and Ballina for more appropriate siting of their industrial estate.

Christine James
Girards Hill

Providing care

The other day I found a note from my friend Brian who wanted to write a letter to *The Echo* publicly thanking the staff at Mullumbimby Hospital for the exceptional care that he received. Brian died while in hospital and never finished writing the letter.

Heartfelt thanks to all on Brian's behalf and also from his friends and family who were able to be with him in his final weeks. It made a huge difference to Brian and us that he had the necessary medical support close by while still being in daily contact with his nearest and dearest.

The other day Mullumbimby Hospital closed its doors and so went an important palliative care facility. It's not always possible to die at home. In this and many similar instances, it has been possible to spend the later stages of our lives surrounded by family and friends because the hospital has been in the neighbourhood.

Brian's situation is not unusual as I and many others have discovered over recent months. He spoke often of the loss for our community once the hospital closed and like many others, I am also asking about the fate of the

hospital site. Can a hospice facility be accommodated there?

Council and community have strongly supported a future use for aged care and affordable housing. Together these types of community uses are much more in keeping with the history of the site and the important roles it has played throughout our lives.

Let's find a way to provide care, support and opportunity for all in our community, at every stage of our lives. If we want to stop the site being sold to developers, then we need to make sure the state government, which controls the site, understands how strongly the community feels about the site and our vision. It's always a good time to write letters to members of parliament. Just at the moment I wonder what the candidates for Richmond think about partnering with Council, the community and the NSW government to bring about our vision.

Cr Basil Cameron
Goonengerry

Northern funding

After the sale of the Roundhouse, where is the council going to get funding for roads, infrastructure, playgrounds, footpaths, or anything else for the north of the Byron Shire? Does the latest 'community consultation' for spending in the north of our region stop now?

What else can Byron Shire Council sell to make them feel sanctimonious in 'giving' something back to us to justify the total sellout of its largest base of ratepayers' assets? For the roads that have been ignored in South Golden Beach, lesser roads such as Bulgoon Crescent, Ocean

Shores, etc, what can Council sell to fund any future infrastructure? Maybe the land where the condemned toilet block is located in Brunswick Heads?

Or some swamp land adjacent to Marshalls Creek next to the Ocean Shores Shopping Centre? Or perhaps we could plant some crops on Council land and sell them at a farmers market.

Love this area but am disappointed in the management by the council.

Margaret Keating
Ocean Shores

Religious madness

In regard to the massacre of gay men in Florida, are we really ready to recognise what's at the root of this madness?

Religion screws with your head. All the 'Abrahamic' traditions (Judaism, Christianity and Islam) cite their 'sacred' texts to justify their phobia. Bigotry always dressed itself up as righteousness; that's its favourite disguise.

People need to be alert to the wolf-in-sheep's-clothing syndrome (identified by Jesus of Nazareth), when 'christian' pastors call for the persecution of 'homosexuals'. As late as 2015, for example, US pastor Steven Anderson of The Faithful Word Baptist Church in Arizona was calling for 'homosexuals' to be put to death, according to scriptural dictums.

While stating that he personally would not kill anyone, Anderson believes that 'the government should use the death penalty on murderers, rapists and homosexuals' (ChristianPost.com, July 8, 2013).

continued on next page ▶

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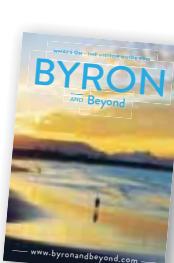
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Letters to the Editor

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.

Local shots fired in endless election kerfuffle

■ Mathew Fraser, purveyor of fast chicken and agrarian socialist (aka Nats) candidate for Richmond has reportedly offered \$5.7m for the north coast to combat 'ice' (that's the drug) - 'if you vote for him'. The corollary is of course that if you don't vote for him the lolly will

not be forthcoming.

Political wonks will remember the recent kerfuffle involving the personable Ms Sophie Mirabella when she revealed that \$10m was lost to the Wangaratta Hospital because the ungrateful denizens of Indi had spurned her electoral charms.

Many took this as a form of retrospective bribery and Sophie had to call on the spin merchants to hastily 'explain' that she hadn't actually said what she had said.

Perhaps she could give Mathew their address.

Tom Tabart
Bangalore

Now I don't doubt that sometimes junkies send their children to collect their drugs. The flyer implies this is a common occurrence, which I very much doubt.

As for the statement that dealers are targeting children this seems extraordinarily unlikely and seems more like a statement lifted (and presumably believed) from a sensationalist tabloid. Twelve- to 17-year-olds have, generally speaking, no access to large amounts of money. Dealers are interested in making money so I think this statement can be totally discounted.

Mind you, I am not denying that ice is a nasty, addictive, insidious drug.

The Commonwealth is responsible for policing the import of illegal drugs. But the majority of laws on the control of drugs and policing regarding drugs are a state responsibility. So if there is an ice crisis in NSW it is happening in a state controlled by Fraser's own coalition.

There is a federal election coming up, so whatever platitudinous solutions are put forward by Fraser he is virtually powerless to implement them. All this from a person who makes his living selling unhealthy food which is known to contribute to obesity, diabetes, heart disease and other illnesses.

People take to drugs like ice out of disempowerment

and despair – particularly in small country towns where there is nothing to do, no employment prospects and no possibility – due to cuts in education spending (mostly by the coalition) – of training for employment. Neither side of politics is prepared to acknowledge this. But no solution to the crisis is possible until this basic situation is dealt with.

The coalition must think the electorate are a bunch of mugs if they think they are prepared to uncritically accept the type of specious and simplistic bullshit as displayed in Matthew Fraser's election flyer.

David Gilet
Byron Bay

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CHESS by Ian Rogers

Play at Byron Services Club, Mon 7pm

When Ari Dale won the recent Victorian Open, no one was more surprised than Dale himself.

The Melbourne 17-year-old is halfway through his final year of school and admitted that he had not worked on his chess since Easter's Doeberl Cup.

Yet Dale cruised through the 93-strong field to win the \$1,100 first prize, beating higher seeds Chris Wallis and Greg Canfell along the way. After seven rounds Dale was undefeated, drawing only with his Melbourne High team-mate Luke Li and 14-year-old talent David Cannon.

Dale's surprise was understandable but misplaced; he was unaware of the 'HSC Syndrome'.

In Australia, it has long been noted that students in their final year of school perform brilliantly over the chessboard during the HSC year but then flop as soon as their examinations are over.

An explanation of the syndrome is elusive, but may relate to pressure, or lack of it.

When a student plays a chess tournament during their HSC

year, it is viewed as a break from formal study and can be enjoyed without any pressure to succeed.

After school commitments are over, the recreational aspect of the game recedes and competitive pressures take over again. Yet after a year of neglecting chess study for school work, results are almost always poor.

This week's game sees Dale, under no pressure, outplay many-time NSW Champion Greg Canfell.

Victorian Open 2016
White: A Dale
Black: G Canfell

Opening: King's Indian Defence
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Nf3 0-0 6.Bc2 e5 7.Be3 Qe7 8.dxe5 dxе5 9.Nd5 Qd6? Canfell's improvement on his famous, albeit ancient, 11 move loss which continued 9.Qd8 10.Bc5 Re8? 11.Be7!! 1-0.

10.Qc2 c6 11.Nxf6+ Bxf6 12.c5 Qe7?? 12...Qd8 is standard and would avoid White's aggressive response.

13.0-0-0 Be6 14.Rd6 Nd7 15.h4 Rfd8 16.Ng5 Nf8 17.Rhd1 h6 18.Nxe6 Nxe6 19.Bc4 Rxd6! It was necessary to grab the pawn on h4 and hope for the best after 19...

Bxh4 20.Qb3. 20.cxd6 Qd7 21.g3 h5 22.f4 Kg7 23.Qf2! b6 24.f5 Nd4 25.Bxd4 Missing the chance to finish the game in striking fashion with 25.fxg6 fxg6 26.Rxd4! exd4 27.Qxf6+!! Kxf6 28.Bxd4 checkmate!

25...exd4 26.Qf4 Re8? 26...Qe8! keeps Black in the game.

27.fxg6 fxg6 28.Rf1! Qd8 29.d7! Rf8 30.e5 Be7 31.Qxd4 Bc5 32.Rxf8 Kxf8 33.Qf4+ 1-0

► LETTERS from page 9

And, in a more recent sermon, pastor David Berzins of Word of Truth Baptist Church condemned all those who would refuse to endorse 'God's call to kill the gays'.

Berzins was particularly angry with a fellow pastor who had refused to endorse Steven Anderson's call. Claiming that being gay is a choice like drug abuse, the senior pastor for a mega-church in Tennessee says that 'gays must be put to death'

because God commands it.

In September, 2014, Brainerd Baptist Church senior pastor Robby Gallaty told his large congregation that Christians should never stop discriminating against homosexuals, claiming that gays could choose to be straight if they only accept Jesus Christ as their lord and saviour.

So, it ain't just dem mad 'Moslem' terrorists, folks! Watch your back.

Victor Marsh
Ocean Shores

Toxic rant

I thought Senator Leyonhjelm's rant (Letters, June 1) against the Greens was a half-baked joke. Then I double-checked the date and no, it wasn't April 1 – it was for (un)real!

Yeah, right, Senator, the Greens are toxic? Toxic as in calling for urgent action on the toxification of the Great Barrier Reef? Toxic as in Dawn Walker, the Greens Richmond candidate in the federal election, promising,

if elected, to introduce a bill that would ban the toxic CSG industry from our area?

Leyonhjelm's doublespeak is positively Orwellian. He must be deeply worried at the prospect of getting more Greens speaking up honestly for environmental and social sanity.

Sue Vader
Mullumbimby

■ Letters about the Coastal Zone Management Plan are on page 13.

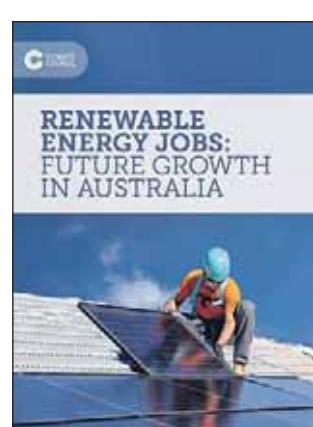
New modelling reveals 50 per cent renewables infrastructure could create 28,000 jobs by 2030

Building 50 per cent renewables infrastructure by 2030 would create more than 28,000 jobs nationally, new research by EY and the Climate Council has found.

The *'Renewable Energy: Future Jobs and Growth' report* finds that 50 per cent renewable electricity infrastructure by 2030 will create almost 50 per cent more employment than our current pathway (34 per cent renewables by 2030).

Climate Councillor and energy expert Andrew Stock said every state would gain many more jobs than it would lose. 'Research has shown that we need to source at least half of our electricity from renewables by 2030 to be on track to completely decarbonise power generation by 2050, which is essential to tackle climate change,' he said.

'This report shows that 50 per cent renewable energy would also create many more jobs than our business-as-usual trajectory, and that every state will benefit.'



'Twenty-eight thousand jobs would be created in construction, operation and maintenance of renewable electricity generators, as well as in related industries, around Australia. Importantly, many of these jobs will be created in regional Australia.'

'And unlike other industries in transition, such as automotive and manufacturing, most of these jobs will be created in Australia rather than moved offshore.'

The report also finds that more than 11,000 new jobs would be created in NSW, more than 6,000 in QLD,

around 4,000 more in Victoria and South Australia, almost 2,000 in WA and more than 500 in Tasmania.

NSW would have the largest net growth in jobs, while South Australia would have the largest per capita growth. More than half of new jobs will be created in rooftop solar PV.

Climate Council CEO Amanda McKenzie said more than 80 per cent of jobs created would be new to the economy, with job losses in the coal sector more than offset by greatly increased employment in the renewable energy industry.

'As the world moves away from coal, the industry is in structural decline. This research highlights that tailored plans for winding down coal-fired power plants are a much better way to support coal communities rather than allowing the market to dictate coal closures,' Amanda McKenzie said.

'When government influences when and where coal

closures occur, it allows for community planning and support for retraining.'

'As well as maximising the employment benefits of the switch to renewables, it also allows for a better response to climate change, ensuring that the most polluting plants are the ones that are closed down first.'

Mr Stock said renewables had the potential to become the new economic powerhouse for Australia.

'More than eight million people are employed globally in the renewable energy industry but while jobs are booming globally, the most recent statistics show jobs have fallen in Australia as a result of policy uncertainty,' he said. 'This report shows that delivering 50 per cent renewables is a jobs creation and economic growth plan in addition to being a plan for dealing with climate change. It's win-win.'

■ Read the report at <http://bit.ly/renewreport>.

Justine Elliot MP

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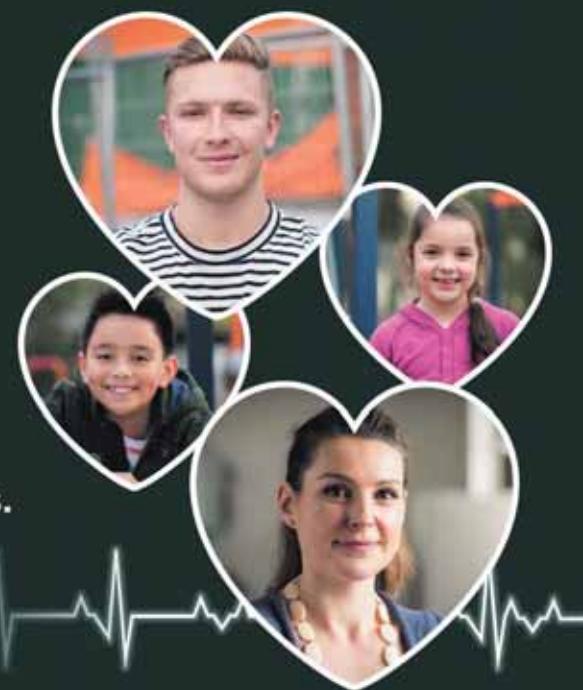
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- ✗ His GP Tax by stealth could leave patients out of pocket by up to \$20 for every GP visit.

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Only Labor will fight to protect and strengthen Medicare, to make sure all Australians have access to affordable and universal healthcare.



Authorised by Justine Elliot 107 Minjungbal Drive Tweed Heads South

Aged-care policy needs reform for people's sake

Jan Barham

Aged-care policy has changed a lot in the past 20 years. But what about care quality? Many in the industry would argue that it has improved, but what about people living in nursing homes? Would they agree?

Back in 1997, the Howard government removed a requirement for nursing home operators to account for the funding they received and specifically show how much was spent on staffing. While the system wasn't perfect, it implemented some accountability in a model where private operators receive public money to provide care to a vulnerable and generally voiceless group of people.

Since then, we have seen a substantial decline in registered nurses working in nursing homes and a substantial increase in lower skilled and lower paid personal-care workers. Latest data show that registered nurse numbers are actually lower than what they were in 2003, despite there being 40,000 more high-needs residents in the aged-care system. If care need has risen since 2003, why are there fewer registered nurses?



The Beauty of Old Age, by Vinoth Chandar flickr.com/photos/vinothchandar

The nursing home industry has admitted that it stands to profit when it reduces the number of registered nurses, whose high-level skills and professional judgment come at a price. RNs have slowly been replaced by lesser-skilled Enrolled Nurses and Assistants in Nursing. The upshot is that we have nursing homes full of high-needs older people but fewer skilled people on the floor to look after them.

There are many homes that do a fantastic job car-

ing for people. There are also homes that don't. The problem with the current system of regulation is that it's hard to tell the difference – 95 per cent of homes are fully accredited with no mark against their name.

As repeated examples have shown, accreditation doesn't equal good care. In 2010, a woman died in an accredited NSW nursing home because she fell from her bed and strangled herself on a bed pole.

There were 45 residents in

the home at the time but only one care worker rostered on to do the entire nightshift, with another worker on cleaning duties. The woman wasn't discovered in time to be saved. The coroner investigating the case found that one care worker to 45 residents was insufficient, even if it satisfied legislative requirements.

This is not an isolated case. Monash University and the Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine released a report in 2015 that found over 100

Victorian nursing home residents die prematurely each year from preventable causes.

Most of the residents studied died from falls, but choking, being given the wrong medication and assault from other residents comprised the remaining deaths.

The report barely got noticed. What would be the public's reaction if these figures applied to childcare centres?

Just because someone is old doesn't mean their life doesn't matter.

According to the latest Aged Care Financing Authority report, the average nursing home is making a profit of just over \$9,000 per resident per annum. The top 25 per cent of homes are making twice that. The 2014 Living Longer Living Better reforms are broadly expected to have injected billions into the industry as it opened up accommodation pricing allowing providers to charge more for the nursing home rooms.

Government, and the public, needs to recognise that nursing home residents are more than just numbers on a profit ledger.

I believe we need to reform regulation of aged care

to protect our vulnerable older citizens. An obvious place to start is implementing minimum staffing requirements.

A NSW parliamentary inquiry I chaired last year found that facilities looking after residents with high needs should have at least one registered nurse on duty at all times. Unfortunately, the NSW government appears to be removing the last piece of regulation in the country that implements such a requirement.

Older people recently identified health as their number one concern when deciding who to vote for in this upcoming election. Yet, neither Labor nor Liberal has committed to reforming aged-care regulation to improve care quality.

The community expects high quality care, particularly for older, vulnerable people. Aged-care policy needs reform so that we can actually achieve what the community expects and show that we as a community value older people's lives.

■ Jan Barham is a Greens MLC and former mayor of Byron Shire. See more at www.janbarham.org.au.

Resistance training expected to improve older men's bones

Big improvements in bone and muscle strength with no injuries is expected to be the outcome of a Griffith University study training men aged over 50 with low bone mass.

Just started on the Gold Coast, the study is examining whether high load resistance training is a safe and effective strategy for improving bone and muscle strength, and follows a similar study in post-menopausal women.

'Although there are drugs available to improve bone strength, we have already shown with our women's group that improvements can be made without the use of drugs by undertaking high-load resistance exercise training,' says lead researcher Professor Belinda Beck from Griffith's Menzies Health Institute Queensland.

'We had some fantastic results with our women's group

that showed significant increases in bone strength as a result of the prescribed exercises and we are confident of replicating this now in our men.'

Called LIFTMOR-M (Lifting Intervention for Training Muscle and Osteoporosis Rehabilitation-for Men), the study is recruiting around 100 healthy men aged over 50 with low bone mass.

The men are being ran-

domly assigned to either a high-load resistance training program or a high-load isometric training program on a novel device specifically designed to enhance bone health.

The LIFTMOR-M program takes 30 minutes twice a week for eight months, with participants undertaking a small number of exercises of gradually increasing intensity under full supervision.

'People wrongly think that osteoporosis only affects women but the reality is that one in five men will also suffer an osteoporotic fracture over the age of 60.'

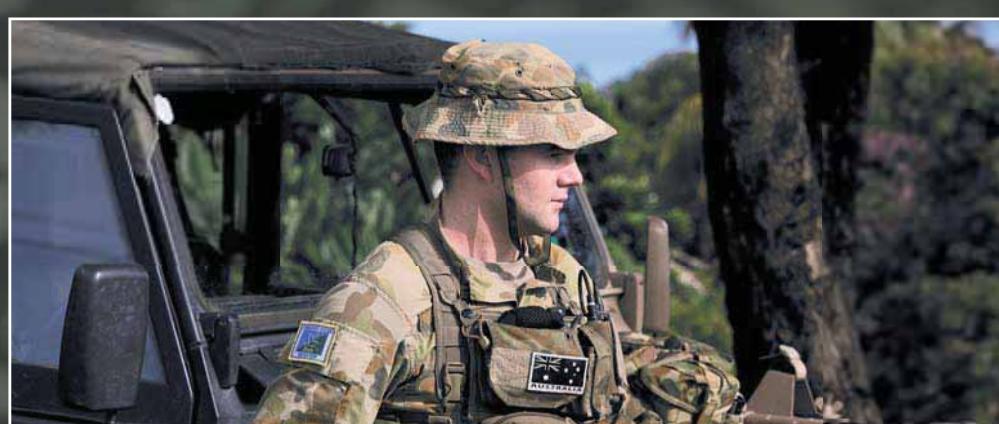
'Unfortunately men are diagnosed much less frequently than women and are treated even more rarely,' says Professor Beck.

'The irony is that men suffer a greater loss of independence and are at higher risk

of death following an osteoporotic fracture.'

'Our goal is to provide the evidence for an effective therapy for men.'

Within ten years it is estimated that 6.2 million Australians over the age of 50 will suffer from osteoporosis or osteopenia and one fracture will occur every 2.9 minutes. The estimated cost of caring for those fractures will be \$33.6 billion.



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Fiction, fact and confusion in the rock wall debate

■ How appropriate that last week's *Echo* included the Writers Festival program to provide a clue to the imaginative work of fiction cleverly disguised as a full-page ad for the Byron Preservation Association.

Take that sweeping yellow line showing the 'potential high tide line' – how creative to conjure up such a thing that has no basis in reality. In the real world such a thing could possibly be done, but it would cost tens of millions of dollars, and is not part of the Coastal Zone Management Plan.

Reality is that the original cost benefit analysis found that 'none of the full options is considered economically viable'. So what do they do? They pick out rock walls, perhaps one-third of one of the options, to reduce the cost, then ascribe nearly all of the benefits to this part option. Then they cast planned retreat in the worst possible way, exaggerate the benefits of rock walls, and claim they have a viable proposal. Fact is the CZMP is about building rock walls; it does not include sand nourishment or any way of keeping the sand in place.

'Adaptive management' is a meaningless slogan, intended to give the illusion that the CZMP contains things that it does not. It is a con being perpetrated on Byron Shire residents and ratepayers and NSW taxpayers. And if it is a 'fact' that 'private properties are already protected by the existing rock wall', why are we planning to spend millions on building another one in the same place?

Matthew Lambourne
Mullumbimby

■ I think all of us who live in Byron Shire are so lucky that we now have an association looking after us – The Byron Preservation Association. Their logo is a cute lighthouse. I wish I had their drawing skills and their money. Then I too could draw a lighthouse and lines on a full-page *Echo* advertisement that indicates the 'likely 2025 erosion line without protection', to be somewhere 'Back o Belongil, Arrrr' [pirate sound].

And why not? Drawing lines on photos is a reputable art form. Maybe I'll have a go and have an entry in the next Byron art competition. I'll only ask for \$25,000. Maybe someone from Belongil will buy it.

Lee Cass
Byron Bay



■ The big ad in last week's *Echo* about Belongil's coast needs the 'mirror test', ie to look at itself in a mirror. It warned against but was of itself political propaganda; it debunked facts and replaced them with myths; and, despite appearing after the closing date, it exhorted us to make submissions supporting the 2016 draft CZMP that overturns 30 years of good planning. No author put their name to the group's ad. And Safari cannot open their web page because the server cannot be found.

The ad's own picture shows how the current home-baked rock walls have already interfered with the smooth curve that we normally see on sandy coastlines where recession and accretion aren't impeded by human hardware.

The ad disputes 'rock wall means no beach?' Even Council's consultant who drafted the CZMP stated that

with erosion and sea-level rise, the beach in front of the rock wall will disappear more frequently over time and, in a decade or two, it simply won't reappear.

Yes, Belongil is an urban area. Its removal is not on anyone's radar. Nature is asking for the sand it stores in its dunes to be returned for the beach. There is a clash between that process and real estate boundaries on the dunes.

Planned retreat would resolve that clash. It would look after the beachfront people by relocating them to a safe place. That would in turn look after the urban area behind the dune by allowing it to reform and become robust further inland. That's what will stop a 'breakthrough'.

Council's studies show that most if not all of the

current private rock walls at Belongil fail the standards proposed in the CZMP. Most of the current kilometre of wall (including Council's own \$1m section built last year) has to be rebuilt to meet the requirements of the CZMP.

Belongil landowners say they are willing to pay for their new walls but it's the public that will pay later, as they have on the Gold Coast and at other hotspots like Collaroy.

Cr Duncan Dey
Main Arm

■ The planned-retreat councillors and their supporters will probably relent and agitate for a protection wall at Belongil when the shoreline reaches and threatens the road. The costs of the works at that time will be borne by council and state and federal governments.

Why not construct a wall sooner rather than later? The proposed proportional funding would comprise more than one million dollars from beachfront landholders, matched by a similar amount by Council with the balance by the governments.

Unfortunately the human emotion of envy comes into play here. Even with the prospect of saving the road and beyond while receiving some continuing return on Council's investment by way of rates, the appearance of giving some benefit to those who are better off is untenable.

John Youdan
Ocean Shores

■ In Byron Bay, freedom is to wander, romp and cartwheel along the beach. Alone or part of a crowd, in every weather, rainbows overhead, dolphins and whales alongside. Why should we lose that

the Patterson (2010) study, additional studies are needed before using it as the basis of decision making'.

Spot all the other myths in the ad (hint: some are called facts). Ponder why both BPA and Byron Council get myths and facts mixed up. Me, I am off to wander the beach.

Mary Gardner
Byron Bay

Belongil sold for \$10 million. There's been some very serious money changing hands over properties at Belongil since the 2012 election, when Cr Rose defected from the Greens, and gave control of Council to Sol's group.

Is something going on? Ratepayers want to know.

Roy Giles
Suffolk Park

■ Proposing to build a seawall or rock wall is always going to be controversial.

When someone buys or builds a house on a vulnerable foredune on an inherently unstable sand spit, like Belongil Spit, they must know that they have taken a very big risk. When the storms, big seas and high tides erode the dune and threaten the houses then surely it's a case of 'We told you so!'

If local and state governments are lobbied into building a seawall to protect these properties at the expense of ratepayers, taxpayers and private contributions, then the rest of the community will lose their beach.

If we go down the sand-replenishment path with dredging, pumping or transporting fresh sand to top up the beach then this, I'm told, can be very expensive. As well it will cover the small intertidal reefs along the shoreline and this leads to habitat destruction. So, this community has a damaged beach and an ongoing expense to deal with.

Personally I think it's best to leave well alone and if houses/land fall into the sea, then so be it and people move further back.

This sounds callous until you consider the costs and impacts of the other options over the long term.

Warwick Anderson
Suffolk Park



Indian women describe their lives in new anthology

Walking Towards Ourselves is an anthology that explores the gender revolution taking place in India today through personal narratives and mini-memoirs written by India's leading women writers. These are real, lived accounts from women, which go beyond the headlines. Told with startling honesty, piercing insight, moments of poetry, and flashes of humour, these women and their stories give powerful insight into what it means to be a woman in India in a time of intense and incredible change.

Byron Writers Festival will feature three of the contributors – novelist and human rights activist Salma, memoirist Rosalyn D'Mello and poet Sharanya Manivannan, as well as the anthology's editor Catriona Mitchell. They will participate in numerous sessions throughout the Festival, including a Q&A following the screening of a documentary about Salma's journey to freedom.

Salma

Salma is an Indian Muslim poet, novelist, social worker and political activist. Fol-



Indian author Sharanya Manivannan. Photo Catriona Mitchell

lowing is an extract from her piece *Beyond Memories*:

'During this time I was betrothed to a boy from my village. My future in-laws stood before me and demanded that I promise to never write again. It was only then that I realised that just as woman is denied the outside world, she was also denied the activities that could give her freedom, recognition and an identity.'

'I suggested we call off the wedding.'

'The anger and scorn of my in-laws made me realise they were not used to a girl talking back to them.'

'My opposition to the marriage plunged my parents into profound anguish and sorrow, but I didn't want other people to interfere with my journey towards making a place for myself in the world. I believed that the sur-

vival of my individuality and identity, at least as a speck in this vast world, was far more important than anything else – and it is this belief alone that brought me to where I am today.'

Sharanya Manivannan

Sharanya Manivannan was born in Madras, India. She is currently working on a book of stories, a novel, as well as

two poem manuscripts. Following is an extract from her piece in the anthology, *Karaikal Ammaiyan and Her Closet of Adornments*:

'My friends are my significant others, and for them I conduct all the rituals that we are socialised to think belong only to the sphere of dating. For my friend who thinks my rose and cardamom perfume smells like chewed betel nut, I wear the vanilla one. For my friend who visits once a year from afar, I wear my long hair in a braid.'

'For my fiercely intelligent friend with whom I write, who wears dresses every day, I shave my legs. Let me paint a picture: two women in sun-dresses in a garden cafe, earphones in, pounding away at keyboards, stopping for cake and conversation.'

Rosalyn D'Mello

Rosalyn D'Mello is an arts writer based in New Delhi. Following is an extract from her essay *Black*, in which she exposes how a woman's beauty and desirability in India are directly associated with fair skin:

'Long ago, I attempted to defend myself against the societal predisposition to characterise me first as black by seeking refuge in humour. I did so at my own expense. I laughed at myself. It was the only way I could participate in the joke I was seen to be. If some eager friend wanted to take a photograph of me after sunset, I'd laugh it off and tell them I would be camouflaged by the night sky. "You need a very strong flash," I'd say. Or if I'd arranged to meet an acquaintance who was yet to

meet me in the flesh, I'd forewarn him or her to look for a tall and dark girl. Or I'd invent a story about how some Goan ancestor of mine must have had an affair with an African slave.'

'Granted, it was self-deprecating, to say the least, but as long as I was in charge of the narrative, it couldn't damage me.'

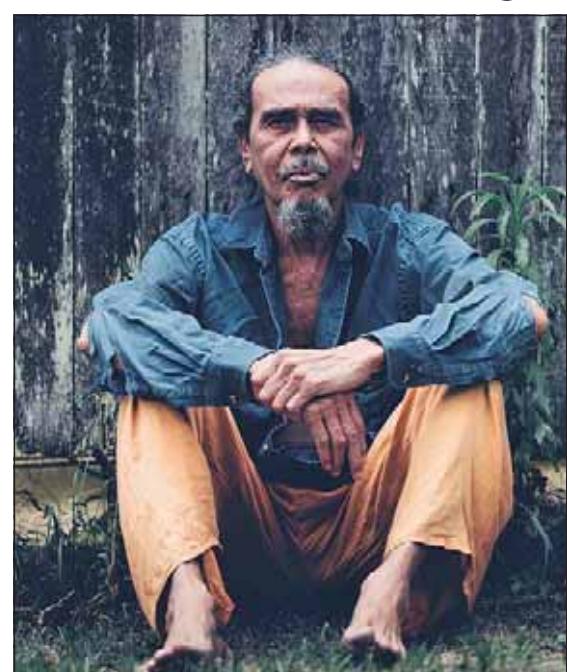
■ Extracts reproduced with permission of the publisher Hardie Grant. *Walking Towards Ourselves: Indian Women Tell Their Lives*, edited by Catriona Mitchell.

Our Way Stories – local Indigenous elders to launch book at festival

Our Indigenous elders are custodians of knowledge. This knowledge must be passed on from generation to generation. As a way to preserve these extraordinary histories, Arts Northern Rivers partnered with local Aboriginal woman Dale Roberts who worked alongside some of the northern rivers' most respected elders to record their stories in their own words before they are lost.

'My interest in this project started with listening to the stories of my friend Uncle Magpie.'

'I just thought to myself what a wealth of knowledge he has to share and he wanted to share it so generously. I just wondered if he doesn't get to pass on his knowledge where does it go?' says Dale Roberts.



Says Uncle Magpie, 'My greatest hope and wish is to bring it all back. I know we can't ever get our land back,

we can't reverse what has happened in the past but what's in our heads, our stories, our songs and our language, that



Left, Uncle Magpie, and above, Aunty Gwen. Photos Kate Holmes

can come back. We can bring that back.'

Our Way Stories will be

launched at the 2016 Byron Writers Festival on Friday August 5 with a panel discus-

sion between the elders and acclaimed Goorie novelist Melissa Lucashenko.

Make your pitch at the Writers Festival for a chance to get your book published

Pitch Perfect has now been the launchpad for over six successful publications, including local author Russell Eldridge's book *Harry Mac* that was launched at the 2015 Festival.

If you have a completed manuscript that is ready to

go and a publishing idea you think will appeal to publishers, then this year's Byron Writers Festival Pitch Perfect Competition could be just the break you're looking for.

Three writers will get the opportunity to pitch their book idea live to a panel of

esteemed publishers – Jane Palfreyman (Allen & Unwin), Aviva Tuffield (Black Inc & Stella Prize) and Jacinta di Mase (President of Australian Literary Agents Association).

Details on how to enter Pitch Perfect are at byronwritersfestival.com.

As pleasant as it is for audiences to listen to writers in Byron's marquees, it is the absolute truth that writers vie to be bidden to Byron, that impeccably run and amiable festival.
– Thomas Keneally

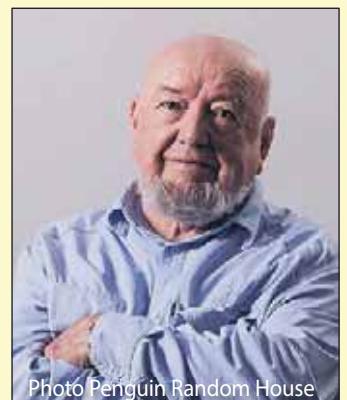


Photo Penguin Random House

The riddle of life's single-handedness travels far

In TheConversation.com Rowena Ball looks at an all-pervasive asymmetry (and vampire molecules)

Try shaking a colleague's left hand with your right hand. It just doesn't work, does it? Your right palm and her or his left palm cannot mesh comfortably because hands are chiral objects, having non-superimposable mirror images.

All objects have a mirror image (with the exception of vampires), but only objects that are not superimposable on their mirror image are chiral. So when we say that an object and its mirror image are superimposable, we mean that if we were to bring the image from behind the mirror, it could be made to coincide exactly with the object. So a three-dimensional object is either chiral, or it is not.

Molecules are tiny, three-dimensional objects too, and many of them are chiral. Louis Pasteur discovered this in 1848. A chiral molecule and its mirror image are called a pair of enantiomers.

In the non-living universe, enantiomers of chiral molecules are expected to occur in equal parts, called racemic mixtures.

Chiral molecules that have been detected in interstellar dust and gas clouds are hydrogen peroxide and, this week, propylene oxide.

Some of the most important molecules of life, such as the nucleotides that make up the polymeric nucleic acids DNA and RNA, exist in principle as pairs of enantiomers known as D and L, or 'left-handed' and 'right-handed' forms.

A fact that has puzzled scientists for generations is that living organisms contain only D nucleotides! In other words, life is homochiral.

In itself, the homochirality of life is unremarkable. Scientists have shown in the lab that heterochiral DNA and RNA cannot function, or even form.

But the big questions is: why is life as we know it D rather than L?

What was the mechanism, at the origin of life, by which D nucleotide polymers were selected and amplified to homochirality, while the L species became extinct?

Most of the other main



Spiral things such as shells are examples of objects whose mirror images are non-superimposable.

Photo Rowena Ball

building blocks of life – the amino acids – are chiral too, and in this case life uses the L enantiomers exclusively. Last year, it was proposed that a special type of L-glycine (normal glycine is the simplest amino acid, and is not chiral), may have helped produce the other L amino acids. But this mechanism cannot have directed the D-nucleotides of life, such as DNA and RNA.

Late last year, my colleague and I proposed that hydrogen peroxide was the agent that mediated amplification of an initial small excess of D polynucleotides to homochirality.

We know that hydrogen peroxide is present on Mars,

Enceladus and Europa, and it was produced on the ancient Earth, more than 3.8 billion years ago, which is around the time that life emerged. As mentioned above, it has also been detected outside the solar system.

In our previous research, we showed that hydrogen peroxide may have provided the essential periodic drive for pre-cellular proto life (the 'RNA world').

In our most recent study, we focused on another remarkable property of hydrogen peroxide: it is the smallest and simplest chiral molecule itself, occurring as a pair of enantiomers called M and P.

Now, chirality begets chirality. This is a consequence of Curie's principle, which states that 'the symmetry of a cause is always preserved in its effects'. In other words, to achieve a chirally selective synthesis, separation or amplification, a chiral agent or force is needed.

In fact, chiral organic peroxides have been used in the lab to mediate the production of homochiral molecules.

This tells us that, in principle, hydrogen peroxide can act similarly.

It is thought that a small excess of L-amino acids was 'rained' onto the ancient Earth by meteorite bombardment, and scientists have found that a small excess of L-amino acids can catalyse formation of small excesses of D-nucleotide precursors. This, we proposed, led to a marginal excess of D-polynucleotides over L-polynucleotides, and a bias to D-chains of longer mean length than L-chains in the RNA world.

In the primordial soup, local excesses of one or other hydrogen peroxide enantiomer would have occurred. Specific interactions with polynucleotides destabilise the shorter L-chains more than the longer, more robust, D-chains. With a greater fraction of L-chains over D-chains destabilised, hydrogen peroxide can then 'go in for the kill', with one enantiomer (let us say M) preferentially oxidising L-chains.

Overall, this process works in favour of increasing the fraction and average length of D-chains at the expense of L-species.

But the hydrogen peroxide itself remains a racemic mixture, on average, meaning that over time and space it has a balance of M and P enantiomers. So we have a subtle reinforcement effect: the fraction D/P increases while the fraction L/M decreases over time.

Thus, the emergence of homochirality in itself confers a significant advantage on replicating RNA species. But could there be mirror-image life made of L-nucleic acids elsewhere in the universe?

When one reflects on it (or attempts to, so to speak), in a sense we are all vampires, made of molecules that have no natural mirror images on this world, and forever searching the universe for our lost reflections.

■ Rowena Ball is an applied mathematician and physical chemist. See more at www.theconversation.com/profiles/rowena-ball-2967.



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Just watching your favourite TV program, cooking dinner, or whatever and the power goes out. Wouldn't a super-quiet, super-reliable HONDA generator save the day! Oh yes.

For a limited time (until June 30 to be exact), Honda are offering \$300 cash back on their EU20i super-quiet inverter generators, so you won't pay \$2,099 retail, all you will pay is \$1,799. Good news indeed.

The Honda EU20i operates at only 52db, which means that pretty soon you don't even know it is on. But then there's the light that has gone on and will stay on for up to 12 hours on the one tank of fuel. Don't risk your money on something that is sure to let you down. Trust Honda, and for a short time save \$300 at FarmCare.

Call them on 6684 2022 before 30 June.



Earthy Remnants

Earthy Remnants is a gift shop like no other: a little trendy, with hints of old-fashioned charm, nostalgic bits and pieces, but unpretentious.

Our collection aims to remind people of the earth – with funky, practical items for your home or business.

We stock a selection of exotic hide rugs, cushions, decorative real and resin skulls, artist-created clay and woven pieces, and goodies from every corner of the globe.

25 Bayshore Drive. Byron Arts and Industry Estate
0427 053 141

POWER YOUR PURCHASE with \$300 HONDA DOLLARS

HURRY IN STORE!
Offer ends 30 June or while stocks last.

EU20i GENERATOR \$2099
4-STROKE

HONDA
POWER EQUIPMENT
Love my Honda.

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It's all there at Farm Care

101-105 Dalley Street, Mullumbimby
www.farmcare.com.au 6684 2022



Home & Garden

CASA PANDAN - BALI STYLE

Casa Pandan is a small importing business selling to our retail and wholesale customers. We specialise in tropical Balinese-style outdoor products and at the moment have recycled boatwood furniture, Moroccan-style lanterns, outdoor beanbags, and stone bowls and lanterns. We are an online store but would be very happy for you to call to see our products in Myocum.

www.casapandan.com.au 0498 033 364



Byron Designworks

One of the furniture makers, who exclusively supplies Byron Designworks, has decided to use up his stockpile of beautiful recycled Australian hardwoods by making a larger than usual range of dining and side tables. There are many lovely pieces varying in size and type of timber. Several use a combination of timbers to great effect.

As the end of financial year is fast approaching Byron Designworks is having an End of Financial Year Sale of tables. Starting at under \$1,000 there are great bargains to be had on all tables, including the teak range and on tables supplied by other Australian importers. At up to 30 per cent off it is well worth a visit.

Byron Designworks, 3 Ti-Tree Place 6685 5714

Champagne Lane

Bangalow's newest and best-kept secret dispensary of homewares and interesting treasures from near and far. Come in and find the ideal gift or something for your home at Champagne Lane, such as new arrivals, beautiful handmade china from Eucalyptus Homewares in WA. Contemporary and quirky dinner sets, jewel boxes, vases, and bowls – perfect for gifts.

Don't forget to contact us to find out about our Monday night art classes beginning 4 July.

**Suite 9/20 Byron Street Bangalow
0437 571 563**



Eden at Byron Garden Centre

It's time to plant bare-rooted roses. The season has just begun so there will be a good variety available.

Dig a hole about 30cm wide and 25cm deep. Add some well-rotted compost or manure. Form a mound in the bottom of the hole, and spread the roots over the mound. Adjust the height of the mound so that the grafting point is about 2.5cm above the soil surface. Backfill the hole, drench with seaweed solution to stimulate root development, and mulch the surface.

Roses are heavy feeders, so feed them frequently throughout the year with a balanced organic fertiliser.

**Eden at Byron Garden Centre, 140 Bangalow Rd
Byron Bay 6685 6874**

New Stock just arrived

Mullum Creek Nursery is bursting with beautiful top-quality stock. We have a large range of hardy groundcovers and shrubs. Flowering grevilleas, bottlebrush and lilly lillies plus heaps more. Just arrived are new vege seedlings, herbs, citrus, lemon myrtle, finger limes, blueberries, figs, passionfruit and more. Still plenty of lomandra and native grasses, rainforest trees and shrubs in tube stock. New stock of dwarf grasses and dwarf banksias.

We also have some amazing specials with selected plants only \$1.00 and \$2.50 each. Planting natives for the environment and growing your own food is awesome! Food and Forest is the way to go! Open Wed to Friday 10am till 4pm and Sat 9am till 1pm.

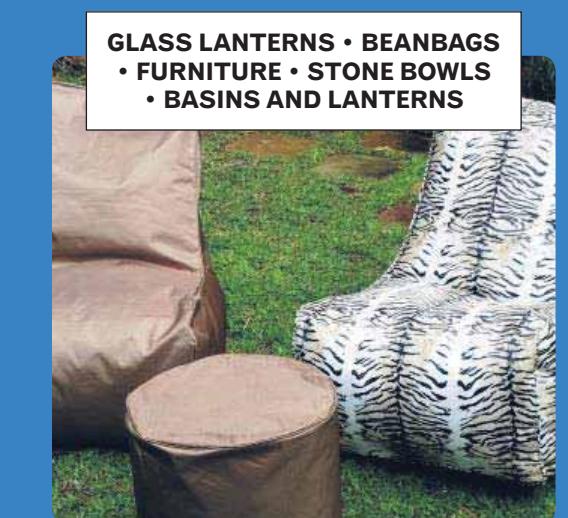
**Mullum Creek Native Nursery, 110 Yankee Creek Rd,
via Wilsons Creek Rd, Mullumbimby
6684 1703 www.mcnativenuisery.com.au**



OPEN 7 DAYS

NEW SEASON BARE-ROOTED ROSES IN STOCK NOW.

**6685 6874 | edenatbyron.com.au
140 Bangalow Rd, Byron Bay**



**p. 0498 033 364
www.casapandan.com.au**

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PANDAN**

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THE LARGEST RANGE OF NATIVE PLANTS IN THE BYRON SHIRE

New stock just arrived

Now is the time to plant native plants & food plants

Grevilleas, Dwarf Lilly Pillys, Garden Shrubs, Ferns, Groundcovers, Rainforest Trees, Koala Trees, Coastal Plants, Wetland Plants and Grasses, Bush Tucker Plants, Hedges, Bird & Butterfly Plants, hardy Dwarf Lomandras, plus heaps more.

Heaps of beautiful vege seedlings, herbs, citrus, blueberries, figs, passionfruit, blackberries, lemon myrtle, finger limes and more.

Cash, cheque, Eftpos & creditcard



**Open Wednesday,
Thursday & Friday
10 am–4 pm
Saturday 9am – 1pm**

**110 Yankee Creek Rd, via Wilsons Creek Rd,
Mullumbimby | Only 3.5km from the
Mullum Golf Course | 6684 1703**

Echo Property

www.echo.net.au/echo-property



Property insider

Sally gets a big thumbs up

Congratulations to Sally Packshaw (pictured below) of the Professionals Mullumbimby. At the recent Professionals awards recognising outstanding performances Sally won the award for being in the top three sales people in the NSW eastern seaboard. Great achievement, Sally!

Home is where the heart is

Moni Emilio, new owner of the iconic Poinciana Cafe in Mullumbimby, has decided to call Mullum home for her family as well as for her business.

Moni recently bought the four-bedroom, three-bathroom



Moni Emilio

home at 12 Golden Penda Place, Mullumbimby, through McGrath agents Heidi Last and Stuart Aitken.

When asked why Mullum, Moni said, 'I love Mullum because of the people and the food. I love being part of the Byron Shire because I feel we have a chance to make a difference by being bold with our choices. The courage it takes to throw oneself wide open into a new town can always be supported when it makes a positive change. I firmly believe that we are living in incredible times and this area can be pioneering by promoting



12 Golden Penda Place, Mullumbimby

a quality in human connection and care for nature that will inspire the world as they pass through to see.

'This township represents the best part of the world. It could be a subway stop in New York City. I love listening to the people talk about what is important. I love the debate.'

Renovations are Big Business

The Housing Industry Association, the voice of Australia's residential building industry, has today released the

latest edition of *Renovations Roundup*, the only regular review of Australia's \$30 billion home-renovations market. Australia's home-renovations market is very much in recovery mode with 2015 marking the second consecutive year of growth.

The HIA are wanting home renovators to help them with some research on how people are actually going about their renovations, what media they are using to get ideas, to source practical advice, engage a practitioner or communicate with others in the process. You can participate in the

survey via this link: <http://bit.ly/RP3021survey>.

What is the most important tool in renovating?

A good plan? A good builder? Well what about a solid contract? 'A written contract is your best renovation tool. It is also a solid indication that you are working with a professional builder. Do it properly and get it in writing,' says the HIA.

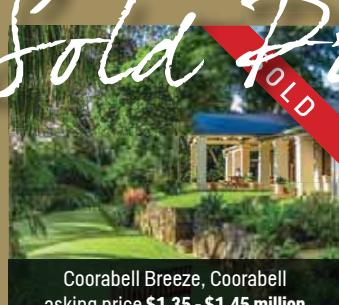
The HIA website has template contract documentation available for most home-building and kitchen- and bathroom-renovation projects.

HAVE ANYTHING TO LET US KNOW ABOUT?

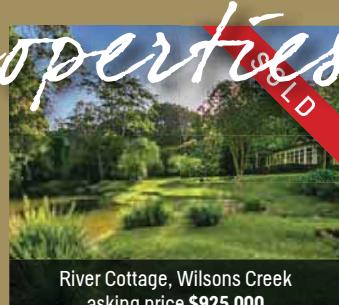
Any new faces? Career milestones? Exceptional results? Market observations? Have you had anything quirky or unusual happen to you out in the field? Email propertyinsider@echo.net.au.



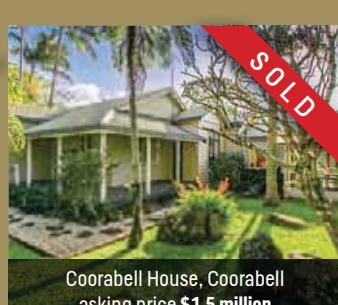
Sold Properties



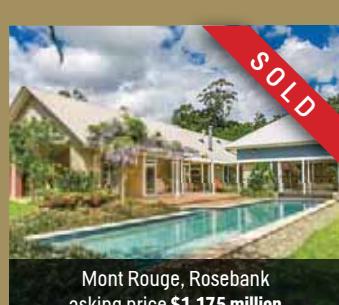
Coorabell Breeze, Coorabell asking price \$1.35 - \$1.45 million



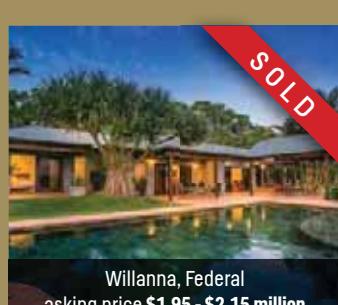
River Cottage, Wilsons Creek asking price \$925,000



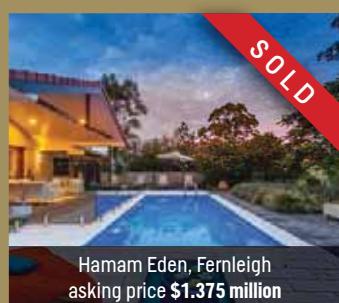
Coorabell House, Coorabell asking price \$1.5 million



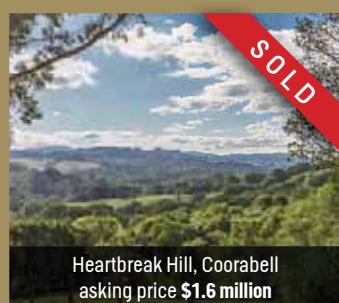
Mont Rouge, Rosebank asking price \$1.175 million



Willanna, Federal asking price \$1.95 - \$2.15 million



Hamam Eden, Fernleigh asking price \$1.375 million



Heartbreak Hill, Coorabell asking price \$1.6 million



Sky Nest, Wilsons Creek sold at AUCTION



Magnolia House, Mullumbimby asking price \$1.45 million



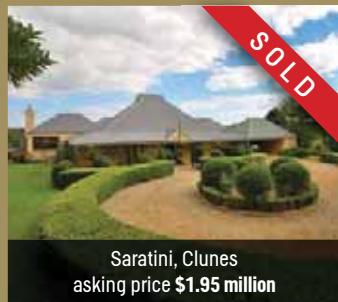
Nquru likaria, The Pocket asking price \$1 million



Mountain Springs (land), Goonengerry asking price \$1.1 million



Hamiltons Retreat, Teven asking price \$1.3 million



Saratini, Clunes asking price \$1.95 million



Myocum Ridge, Myocum asking price \$1.25 million



Aria, Nashua asking price \$2 million

Gary Brazenor

www.uniqueestates.com.au

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"We are just so happy with the professional level of service that you provided us with. You managed to get our asking price, which was a wonderful surprise and we are thrilled"

Helen and John - June 2016



unique
ESTATES



Expressions of Interest

**R&H Byron Bay
6685 6588**

- View** Saturday 25th June
Pls phone to schedule your Appt
- Price** Expressions of Interest
Closing 5pm Monday 1st August
- Agent** Sophie Christou
0419 399 222

5 3 2

6a Childe Street, Byron Bay Absolute Byron Bay Beachfront

Imagine living in paradise where every day is a screen saver! Designed to take in the sea breezes this captivating coastal style property offers seamless indoor-outdoor living. Recently extended and renovated this property represents luxe beachside living at one with nature with water frontage to Belongil Beach and Belongil Creek.

This is the second last property on the stretch of beach at Belongil with direct beach access and views from most angles. There is a wooden bathtub on the edge of the property overlooking the beach adding to the relaxed vibe that is synonymous with Byron Bay. Take a 50 metre sandy beach walk to Belongil cafes & restaurants or a further 10 minute stroll into Byron Bay.

AUCTION this SATURDAY
10am ON SITE



Guide \$1,995,500 to \$2,195,000

**R&H Byron Bay
6685 6588**

- View** Thursday 2-2.30pm
Saturday 9-10am
- Auction** Saturday 25th June
10am on site
- Agent** Sophie Christou
0419 399 222

4 3 4 1

163 Coopers Shoot Road, Coopers Shoot Stunning Location & Spectacular Ocean Vistas

Located in a tightly held and sought after enclave, this property is ideally situated on approximately 2 acres. The ground floor incorporates a rumpus room/bedroom, part of the original wet bar, laundry, bathroom, lockup garage and an attached triple carport. The main house is situated on the first level, which can be accessed via 2 other separate entrances. There are 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, the master with amazing rural and ocean views, WIR and ensuite.

The well-equipped gourmet kitchen, open plan dining and living areas with high raked ceilings look out over hundreds of acres of borrowed views and uninterrupted ocean vistas to Lennox & Broken Head. There is a separate northfacing TV room or 4th bedroom on this level. Designed to capture the sea breezes, this is a house for all seasons.

Raine&Horne®

rh.com.au/byronbay

Property

Queenslander in Bangalow

1 Thomas Street, Bangalow

3 ⚡ 1 🚗 1

\$950,000



This original Bangalow home circa 1900 is well positioned on a generous 1134m² lot, offering the savvy investor the opportunity for further subdivision (STCA) or dual occupancy. As is, this property is a perfect family home with a big

backyard for the children to play! This home has lovely heritage features including timber floors, leadlight windows and bull nose veranda. The undercover timber deck provides ample outdoor living space for entertaining family and friends and the spacious backyard includes a plunge pool for those hot summer days. There's also a pool cabana, suitable as office space or a children's cubby house. Located just 200m from the heart of Bangalow, a stylish village just 12 minutes from colourful Byron Bay and its iconic beaches, this property offers the perfect opportunity for the renovator, investor or developer to maximise the potential. Contact Agent for further information or to arrange inspection.

Inspect: Saturday 22 June 10.30 to 11.15

Contact: Valerie Williams 0447 006 434
Byron Beach Realty



Sensational ocean view estate

80 Owenia Way, Broken Head

4 ⚡ 2 🚗 2

\$4 million - \$4.2 million



Idyllically situated overlooking the sea is Titijaru, a 10 acre estate located in Broken Head. The views encompass Lennox Point and provide opportunities to enjoy spectacular sunrises and sunsets.



The Palm Springs style home was completed in 2014 and has 4 bedrooms, each sharing the magnificent ocean views. The house is designed to capture views from every room with the kitchen overlooking the swimming pool and hills beyond. A second covered terrace is accessed from this side of the house allowing year round outdoor entertaining whatever the weather.

A spacious media/games room creates a private space and has reverse cycle air conditioning and surround sound. There is a stable complex with self contained studio, a dressage arena, a basketball court and a fire pit. The property is fully fenced and is accessed by a bitumen driveway. 15 minutes to Byron Bay and 5 minutes to Broken Head.

Inspect: By appointment

Contact: Gary Brazenor, Unique Estates 0423 777 237
gary@uniqueestates.com.au

Peaceful & Picturesque Myocum

372 Tyagarah Road, Myocum

4 ⚡ 2

\$1,200,000



Five acres of undulating land facing north east with views to Mount Warning and Mount Chincogan. 3.5 metre verandahs surround the home and high ceilings in the living areas exude a feeling of spaciousness.



The kitchen and large walk in pantry is a chef's dream. Timber floor boards and a wood fire heater add to the warmth and charm of the home. There is a separate artist studio and the property comes complete with 5 kiloWatt solar array and solar hot water,

Biolutix septic system, 3x175 litre rainwater tank, and access to pump creek water to header tanks.

The established orchard offers an abundance of fruit trees including nectarine, peach, banana, orange, lychee, mandarin, mango, lemon, lime & passionfruit.

Inspect: By Appointment

Contact: Sophie Christou 0419 399 222
Raine & Horne Byron Bay



REGISTERED EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

STRIKE-A-LIGHT PARK

LAND IN STUNNING LOCATION WITH DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL

- Large acreage available in an enviable Ocean Shores position just moments from both a world-class beach and golf resort.
- Comprising two adjoining lots with pristine nature reserve and water frontage, these blocks offer privacy, peace and quiet in a natural setting on which to build an idyllic home.
- Alternatively, as many as four separate dwellings are possible under current development status.
- Also ideal as a gated family, or common-interest, compound.
- Lot 550 is a 5.8ha (14.5 acres approx) property located on Wirree Drive.
- Lot 533 is a 0.9ha (2.2 acres approx) property located on Chumbee Avenue.
- Development prospects and potential to build a dream home with riverine views.

Registered Expressions of Interest.
Closing 5pm 22 July 2016:

CONTACT ED SILK
ON 0418 660 063 FOR MORE
INFORMATION OR TO VIEW

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Suite 2/6 Jonson Street Byron Bay // 6680 8668
edsilkbyronbay.com.au // ed@edsilkbyronbay.com.au

Views Overlooking Shaws Bay

2/11 Range Street, East Ballina



\$630,000



This ground level two bed unit offers open plan living with stunning views of Shaws Bay. With only 3 units in this complex, it would be an ideal holiday/permanent rental or live in & enjoy yourself. Located only metres from the water's edge, you could almost 'throw in a line' from the generous sized covered balcony. The central location to shops, cafes & beaches means you can lock away the car on weekends & utilise the many scenic, coastal bike & walk paths in & around Ballina. Features include: 2 generous sized beds, both with built in robes & ceiling fans (the main has ensuite with private covered balcony), Open plan kitchen/dining/living space with amazing views of Shaws Bay & beyond. The kitchen has plenty of work space plus breakfast bar & the living space flows to large covered balcony - perfect for year round entertaining.

Call today to arrange your inspection.

Inspect: By appointment

Contact: Mark Kinneally 0429 868 001

Lois Bucket Real Estate 0428 877 399

BUSINESS FOR SALE

'The Old Mill Timberyard'



Manns Road, Mullumbimby

- Market leading North Coast business - established 30 years
- Specialising in timber supply & finished timber products to the Northern Rivers & Southern QLD
- Solid business, proven performance, no direct competition
- Secured on a long lease this large 5829m² site includes - machinery shed, drying kilns, admin building, hardstand, parking & open yard
- Further opportunity to value add and expand
- Servicing trades and general public with a loyal customer base of account holders
- Comprehensive plant and equipment inventory maintained to the highest standard
- Unique opportunity to secure one of the region's leading operations

For Sale: \$1.4M



Contact Kath Vaubell
0415 410 633 / kath@byronbaysales.com.au
www.byronbaycommercial.com.au

Spectacular Wategos Property

Villa 1/5 Marine Parade, Byron Bay



Expressions Of Interest



Set on exclusive Marine Parade, Wategos Villa One is just metres from the white sand of stunning Wategos Beach.

This unique, contemporary villa is the result of a masterful blend of architecture and nature. The luxury design, materials, quality and accuracy in finishes complement the character and charm of this residence. Light-filled, spacious, open-plan living spaces with large bi-fold doors open out onto the tranquil courtyard and tropical, landscaped gardens. Also featuring a fully equipped kitchen with the finest modern appliances.

Only a short distance to the cafes, restaurants and boutiques of the Byron Bay CBD, this amazing property is there for you to live in, holiday let or do both! An inspection won't disappoint.

Inspect: By Appointment

Contact: Byron Bay Property Sales

02 6685 8575

Resort Style Living

Broken Head Road, Byron Bay



\$555,000



Situated in the Links complex adjoining Byron Golf Club, this architect designed apartment is located in a sunny ground floor position.

A bright and airy space with high ceilings and open-plan design offering indoor/outdoor living with a beautiful, private garden. Consisting of a spacious one bedroom, one bathroom interior with lock-up garage and access to a swimming pool and tennis court. Set on over two acres of manicured tropical gardens this stunning property also has full time, on site management.



Inspect: By appointment

Contact: Ed Silk 0418 660 063

Ed Silk Byron Bay

Peace of Mind Sales & Property Management

P 6680 8110

M 0447006434



BYRON BEACH
REALTY

Open Sat 12:30 to 1:15



\$960,000 3 2 2 2

19 Palm Lily Crescent, Bangalow

Beautifully renovated Queenslander 651m² lot - professionally landscaped

\$1,750,000 5 5 4 4

55 Lilli Pilli Drive, Byron Bay

Sunlit pavilion home plus granny flat 2137 m² lot with rainforest reserve



Open Sat 10:30-11:15

\$960,000 7 5 2 2

142 Overall Drive, Pottsville

Immaculate & spacious family home 760 m² lot with feature pool

\$950,000 3 1 1 1

1 Thomas Street, Bangalow

Strata title potential (STCA) 1134 m² lot - prime location

Property

Rural Lifestyle Blocks

Lot 6 Sunrise Lane, Ewingsdale

\$799,000



Located on the outskirts of Byron Bay, 'Cape View' offers a semi-rural lifestyle minutes from beaches, the hinterland and Byron town centre.

The final block remaining is 8,453sqm (2 acres) and has sealed road frontage, water and electricity in place.

If you are looking to build your dream home, do not delay an inspection of this prestigious land release as this is the final block remaining.



Inspect: By appointment
Contact: Ed Silk 0418 660 063
Ed Silk Byron Bay

Resort Style Living

14/5-7 Old Bangalow Road, Byron Bay

1 bed 1 bath 1 car

\$425,000



A light-filled, north-facing, first-floor unit, located within the popular Lakeside Resort. Featuring a large, open-plan living space, well-appointed kitchen / bathroom and generous balcony where you can sit back and enjoy the summer breezes and relaxing surrounds.

It also comes fully furnished, including air-conditioning and dishwasher.

Full access to the Lakeside Resort facilities, which includes – Large, lagoon style pool, Gazebo with barbecue and onsite management.

An easy stroll through national park to beautiful Tallow Beach and located right nextdoor to the iconic Roadhouse cafe.

With its flexibility this apartment can suit owner-occupier, holiday rental or long-term rental. Current permanently leased for \$440 p.w.

Inspect: By Appointment
Contact: Byron Bay Property Sales
Vicky Innes 0414 339 229



Magical Federal Ridge

728 Binna Burra Road, Federal

5 bed 4 bath 5 car

\$1,950,000 - \$2,150,000



Positioned on an elevated ridge-line in the Byron Bay hinterland, Federal Ridge has been lovingly restored and renovated. The main house boasts two bedrooms including an extensive master suite with a large ensuite and walk in robe, along with a second bedroom with partial ensuite. A large living area with bi-fold doors leads onto an easterly facing wide covered deck, perfect for entertaining.

The garage has been converted into an extension, featuring two more bedrooms, semi-ensuite, home office, private courtyard and garage (with electric roller doors) for up to five cars.

The newly built guest bails includes 1 bedroom plus a large loft space, single carport and concrete floors. This beautiful addition to the property is fully self contained and has its own private entrance off Waltons Rd.

15 minutes from Bangalow and Mullumbimby, 25 minutes from Byron and a short stroll from the very popular Federal village.

Inspect: By appointment
Contact: Gary Brazenor, Unique Estates 0423 777 237
gary@uniqueestates.com.au



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Compared to the *Byron News*, advertising in *The Echo* means your ad is being delivered to more than 7,000 extra households in your market area each week – that means a lot more people will be reading your ad.



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Sharon McInnes

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T: 02 6639 1210

sharonmcinnes@mcgrath.com.au



McGrath

Fiona has deep roots in the Byron Shire being raised in Sth Golden Beach and Mullumbimby. Her specialty suburbs are Mullumbimby, Ocean Shores & Brunswick Heads.

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If you are buying or selling property, large or small, call **Lauren Donnellon** at BVK Solicitors Attorneys for sound legal advice with thorough local planning knowledge.

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Open For Inspection

BYRON BEACH REALTY BYRON BAY

- 1 Thomas Street, Bangalow. Sat 10.30–11.15am
- 55 Lilli Pilli Drive, Byron Bay. Sat 12.15–1pm

ELDERS BANGALOW

- 2 Elkhorn Place, Bangalow. Wed 12–12.30pm
- 2 Elkhorn Place, Bangalow. Sat 11–11.30am
- 16 Palm Tree Crescent, Bangalow. Sat 12–12.30pm

FIRST NATIONAL BYRON BAY

- 5 Bay Vista Lane, Ewingsdale. Wed 12–12.30pm
- 22 Keats Street, Byron Bay. Thu 10–10.30am
- 4/64–70 Broken Head Road, Byron Bay. Thu 11–11.30am
- House 4 of 3 Sallywattle Drive, Suffolk Park. Thu 12–12.30pm
- Lot 6, 155–159 Broken Head Road, Suffolk Park. Thu 1–1.30pm

- 23 Belongil Crescent, Byron Bay. Thu 2–2.30pm

- 29 Armstrong Street, Suffolk Park. Thu 2–2.30pm

- 32 Queen Street, Mullumbimby. Thu 2–2.30pm

- 11 Barby Crescent, Bangalow. Thu 3–3.30pm

- 26 Mahogany Drive, Byron Bay. Thu 3–3.30pm

- Lots 1 and 18 Wilfred Street, Billinudgel. Fri 11–11.30am

- 75 Burns Point Ferry Road, Ballina. Fri 12–12.30pm

- Lot 4/71 Main Arm Road, Mullumbimby. Sat 9–9.30am

- 46 Broken Head Road, Newrybar. Sat 9–9.30am

- 11 Barby Crescent, Bangalow. Sat 10–10.30am

- 102 Eureka Road, Rosebank. Sat 10–10.30am

- 23 Belongil Crescent, Byron Bay. Sat 11–11.30am

- 9 Mango Bark Court, Suffolk Park. Sat 11–11.30am

- House 4 of 3 Sallywattle Drive, Suffolk Park. Sat 11–11.30am

- 11 Campbell Street, Bangalow. Sat 11–11.30am

- 60 Carlyle Street, Byron Bay. Sat 12–12.30pm

- 5 Bay Vista Lane, Ewingsdale. Sat 12–12.30pm

- 22 Keats Street, Byron Bay. Sat 12–12.30pm

- 32 Queen Street, Mullumbimby. Sat 12–12.30pm

- 26 Mahogany Drive, Byron Bay. Sat 12–12.30pm

- 120 Lagoon Drive, Myocum. Sat 1–1.30pm

- 131 Currie Road, The Channon. Sat 1.30–2pm

- 271 Goremans Road, Eureka. Sat 2–2.30pm

- 463 Tuntabale Creek Road, Tuntabale Creek. Sat 2–2.30pm

LJ HOOKER BRUNSWICK HEADS

- 2431 Coolamon Scenic Drive, Ocean Shores. Sat 11–11.30am
- 88 Balemo Drive, Ocean Shores. Sat 11–11.30am

LOIS BUCKETT REAL ESTATE LENNOX HEAD

- 81 Bentinck Street, Ballina. Sat 10–10.30am
- 17 Palisade Way, Lennox Head. Sat 11–11.30am
- 149 Ballina Road, Alstonville. Sat 12–12.30pm
- 9 Amber Drive, Lennox Head. Sat 1–1.30pm
- 14 Amber Drive, Lennox Head. Sat 1.30–2pm

PROFESSIONALS MULLUMBIMBY

- 262 The Manse Rd, Myocum Sat 11–11.45am

RAINE & HORNE BYRON BAY

- 163 Coopers Shoot Road, Coopers Shoot. Thurs 2–2.30pm
- 163 Coopers Shoot Road, Coopers Shoot. Sat 9–10am
- 6a Childe Street, Byron Bay. Sat by Appointment

RAINE & HORNE OCEAN SHORES/BRUNSWICK HEADS

- 14 Goonengerry Mill Road, Goonengerry. Sat 11am–12pm
- 1/14 Helen Street, South Golden Beach. Sat 1–1.30pm
- 27 The Esplanade, New Brighton. Sat 2–3pm
- 30 Kellehers Road, Pottsville. Sat 3–3.30pm

SCOTT HARVEY

- 276 Friday Hut Road, Tintenbar. Sat 10–10.30am
- 103 Tooheys Mill Road, Nashua. Sat 11.30am–12pm
- 227 Fernleigh Road, Fernleigh. Sat 12.30–1pm

AUCTIONS

LOIS BUCKETT REAL ESTATE LENNOX HEAD

- 149 Ballina Road, Alstonville. Wednesday 29 June 5.30pm In Our Rooms

ELDERS BANGALOW

- 2 Elkhorn Place, Bangalow. 20th July 2016

FIRST NATIONAL BYRON BAY

- 32 Queen Street, Mullumbimby. Auction 9th July 12pm
- 271 Goremans Road, Eureka. Auction 16th July
- 11 Barby Crescent, Bangalow. Auction 16th July
- 5 Bay Vista Lane, Ewingsdale. Auction 16th July
- 60 Carlyle Street, Byron Bay. Auction 23rd July if not sold prior
- 22 Keats Street, Byron Bay. Auction 23rd July

RAINE & HORNE BYRON BAY

- 163 Coopers Shoot Road, Coopers Shoot. Sat 25th June 10am

NEW LISTINGS

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- 17 Palisade Way, Lennox Head. NEW PRICE \$730,000
- 9 Amber Drive, Lennox Head. \$975,000
- 149 Ballina Road, Alstonville. Auction
- 200 North Creek Road, Lennox Head. \$1,800,000
- 2/11 Range Street, East Ballina. \$630,000
- 14 Amber Drive, Lennox Head NEW PRICE \$995,000

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TELLING IT LIKE WE THINK IT IS SINCE 1986

Who owns our local newspapers?

Last week, we warned you Rupert Murdoch was likely to increase his local influence, and told you exactly which local people own *The Echo*.* Yesterday (June 21), Rupert Murdoch's News Corp announced it would buy all APN's regional newspapers including: *The Northern Star*, *Ballina Advocate*, *Tweed Daily News*, *Lismore Echo* and *The Byron Shire News*.

'This is bad news for readers in the northern rivers, as it further increases the power and influence of Rupert Murdoch's News Corp. We will now have a huge multinational, even larger than APN, controlling papers like *The Northern Star*, *Byron Shire News*, *Ballina Advocate* and *Lismore Echo*. In addition to the malign corporate influence, we can expect an increased homogeneity of news and opinion and a further reduction in the free-thinking, independent press that regions like this deserve.' Simon Haslam, General Manager, *The Byron Shire Echo* and *Echonetdaily*.

The Echo and *Echonetdaily* remain 100 per cent independent and just as free-thinking as always. That means a lot to us, and we hope it means a lot to you too. If so, you don't need to do anything, just keep reading *The Echo*'s publications and encouraging everyone you know to advertise when their business needs promotion (or when they need someone to share their house!).

*Echo Publications Pty Ltd trading as *The Byron Shire Echo* is owned by David Lovejoy (Shire resident for 33 years), Jeff Dawson (32 years) and his father John Dawson (10 years), Michael McDonald (28 years), Simon Haslam (22 years), Ziggi Browning (15 years) and the family of the late Nicholas Shand, meaning that *The Echo* is 100 per cent locally owned. Echo Netco Pty Ltd that runs our online news service *Echonetdaily* has the same shareholders.

THE BYRON SHIRE
Echo
NETDAILY

The Good Life

Inventively Foraged

By: Vivienne Pearson

If you saw a roadside verge covered in plants that looked a bit like spinach, would you be brave enough to pick some and cook it? If you had tea tree growing in your backyard, would you find a way to eat the leaves?

One person who answers yes and yes to these questions is Peter Hardwick. He is a forager. This means he is someone who gathers existing plants – ones that have not been planted deliberately – for food. Some foraged food is from native plants: those that grow naturally in the region. Others are from feral plants: ones that were introduced from other places and have run wild.

Peter may forage wild food but he is anything but wild in his approach. He thinks in botanical names, sees himself as a forager/researcher, and has professional connections with biochemists at Southern Cross University, who undertake toxicity and nutrient testing.

Born in Casino, he has lived in many locations in the region. As a child, he picked honeysuckle flowers and feral wild sweet potatoes,

and gathered pipis from the beach. This may be unusual in Australia, but not elsewhere. 'Foraging is a much stronger part of cuisines in Italy and Greece,' Peter notes.

Peter's other possible job title is 'Ingredient Inventor'. He doesn't just take foraged foods as they present. Peter works with the plants, using references, experience, and trial-and-error to find a way to make them not only edible, but tasty.

The flavours can be strong and unique, with astringency and sourness more common than in foods that we are currently used to. 'It is how fruits would have been in times past,' says Peter.

Some of the foraged foods are surprisingly familiar. 'Bubblegum tea tree' smells and tastes like one of the most artificial substances on the planet: bubblegum! Lemon myrtle is better known than its cousin cinnamon myrtle, which has a surprisingly pure cinnamon taste.

Some of the foods he has 'invented' are a brine made from bunya nuts, a jelly made from coffee tree leaves, and,



perhaps most astoundingly for those who curse 'farmers friend' prickles, a kimchi made from the shoots of this plant.

Peter was at the forefront of the move in the 1980-1990s to introduce native foods into Australian cuisine, including their commercial production. These days, he is less interested in commercialisation and more focused

on community. 'Not every native or wild food needs to be commercialised,' he reflects.

Feral greens and tea tree leaves are one step back from the current trend of 'paddock-to-plate' eating. It may not be as catchy, but foraged food is 'wild-to-plate' eating.

Photo – taken by Jeff Dawson

Stewy the coffee roaster

There are a surprising number of coffee roasters around Byron; you may not know that Stewart Medcalf from Stewy's Coffee (and cafe) at 1/7 Grevillea St near Bunnings has had a passion for coffee for many years and started roasting a little over six years ago.

In fact, he has picked up an impressive list of medals at major coffee-roasting competitions, including a gold and two silvers at the Royal Hobart Fine Food festival, and three bronzes and two silvers at The Golden Bean (now the world's largest roasting competition).

At Stewy's Coffee, discerning clientele (like you!) are welcome to try his range of Australian coffee, and share his passion.



The Oldest Foods – Australian native



Those interested in Australian native and wild foods, such as those featuring on the menu at Harvest now, and featured on these pages, may be interested in a new book being launched on Thursday 30 June 5.30pm at the Byron Bay Library.

Gay Bilson will be in conversation with John Newton, the author of *The Oldest Food on Earth – A history of Australian native foods with recipes*.

'We celebrate cultural and culinary diversity, yet shun foods that grew here before white settlers arrived. We love "superfoods" from exotic locations, yet reject those that grow here. We say we revere sustainable local produce, yet ignore Australian native plants and animals that are better for the land than those European ones,' say the publishers New South Books.

'In this book, John Newton boils down these

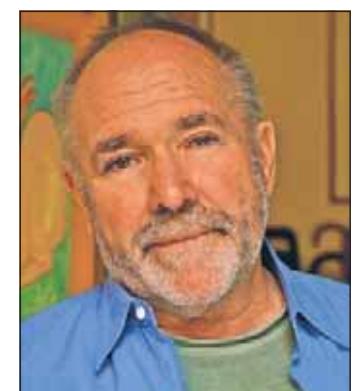
paradoxes by arguing that if you are what you eat, we need to eat different foods, foods that will help to reconcile us with the land and its first inhabitants.

'European Australians are beginning to accept and relish the flavours of Australia, everything from kangaroo to quandongs, from fresh muntries to magpie geese.'

'The book includes recipes from chefs such as Peter Gilmore, Maggie Beer and René Redzepi's sous chef Beau Clugston. *The Oldest Foods on Earth* may just convince you that this is one food revolution that really matters.'

■ Further Details:

Thursday 30 June 5.30pm.
Byron Bay Library. Food on arrival by I Love Bushfoods. Drinks by Byron Bay Wild Cider. Tickets available at www.bryonbayfol.com or at Bookworms & Papermites 6687 1396.

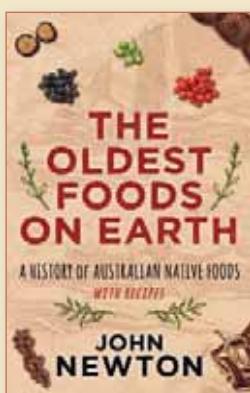


John Newton is a freelance writer, journalist and novelist. He writes on food, eating, travel, farming and associated environmental issues. His most recent books are *Grazing: The Ramblings and Recipes of a Man Who Gets Paid to Eat* (2010) and *A Savage History: Whaling in the Pacific and Southern Oceans* (2013). In 2005 he won the Gold Ladle for Best Food Journalist in the World Food Media Awards.

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Changes coming at Poinciana

When you take over an iconic restaurant and make changes, you're always going to get plenty of feedback, but after two months the Poinciana team are still enjoying listening and responding to the locals.

'It's actually really cool to be in a place where people care enough to give you good ideas,' says owner Moni. 'We're developing a 100 per cent organic wine list with wine consultant Tristan Bray, which should be available in the next week or so. Also, in addition to the restaurant menu we've added a tasty cheap bar menu for people who just want to drop in and have a few drinks at the bar.'

'We now have Coopers, Stone & Wood and cider on tap at the bar.'

'Chef Kahlil has also been working with local producers to create a twilight Saturday night farmers market that will be



kicking off at the rear of the cafe in spring.'

Photo supplied: Chef Kahlil, barista Dan and owner Moni at the Poinciana



Brunswick Picture House Kiosk

By: Samuel J Fell

Having sat dormant for more than three decades, the Brunswick Picture House reopened its vintage doors over the Easter weekend in March, resuming trade from the same location on Fingal Street in Brunswick Heads. Restored to its former glory by the team behind La Soiree, an award-winning circus/cabaret group that's been touring the world to great acclaim for the past decade, the Picture House has effortlessly reclaimed its place as one of the town's more sought-after attractions.

While its main focus is on entertainment – film showings, cabaret, dances and the like – the team have also brought back to life the Garden Kiosk, a small cafe of sorts that fronts the iconic building, tables and chairs scattered across the grass under the old frangipanis, coloured bunting and umbrellas helping to brighten the scene.

The Picture House's Kiosk isn't alone – Brunswick Heads has, over the past few years, become somewhat of a hub for the north coast's bustling cafe culture. Indeed, on any given day in Brunswick, one can pick up a cup of coffee from any one of over a dozen places, more recent ones including Homegrown and Jones & Co on Tweed Street.

So what sets the Picture House's Kiosk



apart? Its history and the fact it's a part of an entity that is offering something no-one else in Bruns can. It's also keeping things small, not looking to directly compete with some of its more established competitors – coffee, cakes, a small and hearty menu are what it specialises in, which when combined with the off-the-wall arty vibe the place has seeping from its ancient walls, make for something a little different in a town which prides itself on being just that.

■ Brunswick Picture House. 30 Fingal St Brunswick Heads. 0434 049 290



The *Rocky Horror Picture Show* night last Friday night at the Brunswick Picture House was simply a fabulous affair. Photos from the Brunswick Picture House Facebook page.



Civilised Wild Food

By: Vivienne Pearson

Given that my usual 'foraging' before dinner is ransacking the fridge to find something edible, I was intrigued by the idea of a dinner composed of foraged food.

The dinner in question is at Harvest, in Newrybar. Each Wednesday, a Wild Harvest Session is offered, for which many of the ingredients have been picked, plucked, gathered or harvested from wild sources. Wild, as in roadsides, vacant blocks, community-owned land and the beach. Wild, as in not planted, not farmed, not watered, not looked after in any way.

Not all ingredients are foraged. For my entrée, two of the three types of mushrooms were foraged, along with stems of 'rainforest spinach', and a brine made from seawater and bunya nuts. For the main course, non-foraged potatoes and manchego cheese were combined with wild mustard and palm heart. My tastebuds were already very happy and the dessert managed to top the lot: a parfait flavoured by 'bubble-gum' tea tree combined with bolwarra, a native fruit that is aromatic and spicy, and sorrel, a savoury herb.

Don't worry if you haven't encountered these foods before – most people haven't. The dinner is an interactive experience, with Peter Hardwick, the forager, accompanying each course to the table in order to introduce diners to the ingredients and answer their many curious questions.

Each dish is the result of detailed collaboration between forager and chefs. Bret Cameron, executive chef, says that the final details of the menu cannot be clarified until Peter arrives on the day with cooler bags full of foraged produce. 'It's exciting,' Bret says. 'It's opened up a whole new range of flavours. My job is to take what Peter brings and make it work.'

There is a strong theme of curiosity and inventiveness. The dishes are different each



Executive chef Bret Cameron with a palm trunk, about to be harvested for its heart (see dish below). In the background is forager Pete Hardwick. Photo taken by Simon Haslam



Entrée – wood-ear mushrooms / bunya brine / rainforest spinach stems



Main – potatoes / celeriac / palm heart / wild mustard / manchego

Photos provided – credit to Vivienne Pearson

exciting, and you are open to new tastes and experiences, this is a dinner you will remember for a long time to come.

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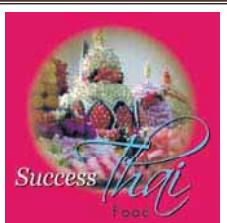


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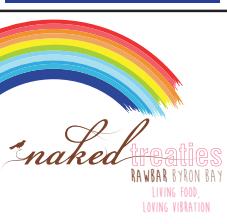
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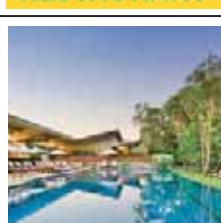
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Good Taste Eating Out Guide

Byron Bay continued



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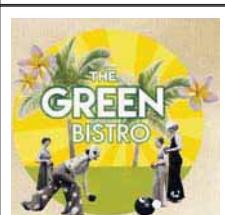
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Order \$30 **takeaway** and get a **free Margherita Pizza**



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Reservations **6685 7663**
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Now serving ALL DAY weekend brekkie!
Can't find a late weekend brekkie in the Bay? Look no further than The Rocks @ Aquarius! Cure those hangover blues with a range of fresh and delicious locally sourced dishes.
We also have a range of main meals, mini burgers and salad's available from 12 noon in the Aquarius Bar & Grill next door. Enjoy a lazy lunch, an ice cold beer and a dip in our beautiful swimming pool!
Visit www.therocksbyronbay.com.au for details and new menus.



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Artisan pizzas, delicious pastas, craft beers, wines and cocktails.

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GOOD FOOD GUIDE
CHEFS HAT EVERY
YEAR SINCE 1998

Proudly awarded 'Most Sustainable Seafood Restaurant' 2015.
This year we celebrate 25 years of serving the finest local seafood.
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Dinner Wed-Mon from 5pm.
Closed Tues. Lunch Fri-Sun.

GOOD FOOD GUIDE
CHEFS HAT EVERY
YEAR SINCE 1998

The team behind Fins have just opened their new POP-UP Restaurant The BUTCHER'S BBQ.
Located next door to Fins, The Butcher's BBQ offers a share-style menu priced between \$8 and \$38. It's meaty, cheerful and produce driven!
WE HAVE A SET 'FEED ME' MENU AVAIL FOR \$35 P/PERSON.
This POP-UP is here for a limited time.

Mullumbimby



Spice It Up Thai Restaurant
Open Wednesday-Sunday
Dine-in or Takeaway-
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Experience the real taste of Thailand.
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Free courtesy bus provided for pick up and drop off!

20 years' experience in the art of Thai cooking.



Puremelt Chocolate Lounge
Open 7 days
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Organic artisan chocolate, brownies and fudge made on site, made by hand with love and integrity using the finest and purest, ethically sourced ingredients
Wonderful award-winning coffee, chocolate and brownies.
Hot and cold and iced cacao drinks and delicious paleo ice creams.



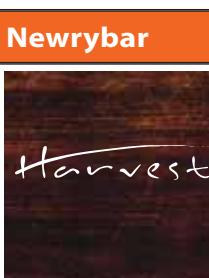
Old School Restaurant
Mullumbimby RSL Dining Room
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Open nightly excluding Mondays from 5.30pm
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\$8 Lunches every day
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The Heartbeat of Mullumbimby
Our Barista, Barman & Chef Kahlil are working together on sourcing quality local ingredients for interesting & delicious flavours.
Our Musicians are playing Music



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Newrybar NSW 2479
6687 2644
harvestcafe.com.au

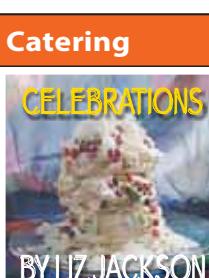
Harvest sprawls across three lovingly restored buildings featuring a restaurant, deli and bakery in the historic village of Newrybar in the Byron Bay hinterland.
Lunch 7 days from 12pm
Dinner 7 nights from 6pm
Breakfast weekends from 8am
Harvest Deli open from 8am with weekday breakfast available - Deli takeaway coffee from 7am
Harvest is available for events, weddings and catering

Ocean Shores



Coast Restaurant
Open 7 days from 11am, restaurant menu and all-day bar snacks.
Located in the Ocean Shores Country Club
6680 1809

Monday night \$15 Burgers & Beer
Tuesday nights - Pan Asian weekly specials
Wednesday night - \$10 Schnitzels
Dine in or takeaway
Large groups and events welcome.

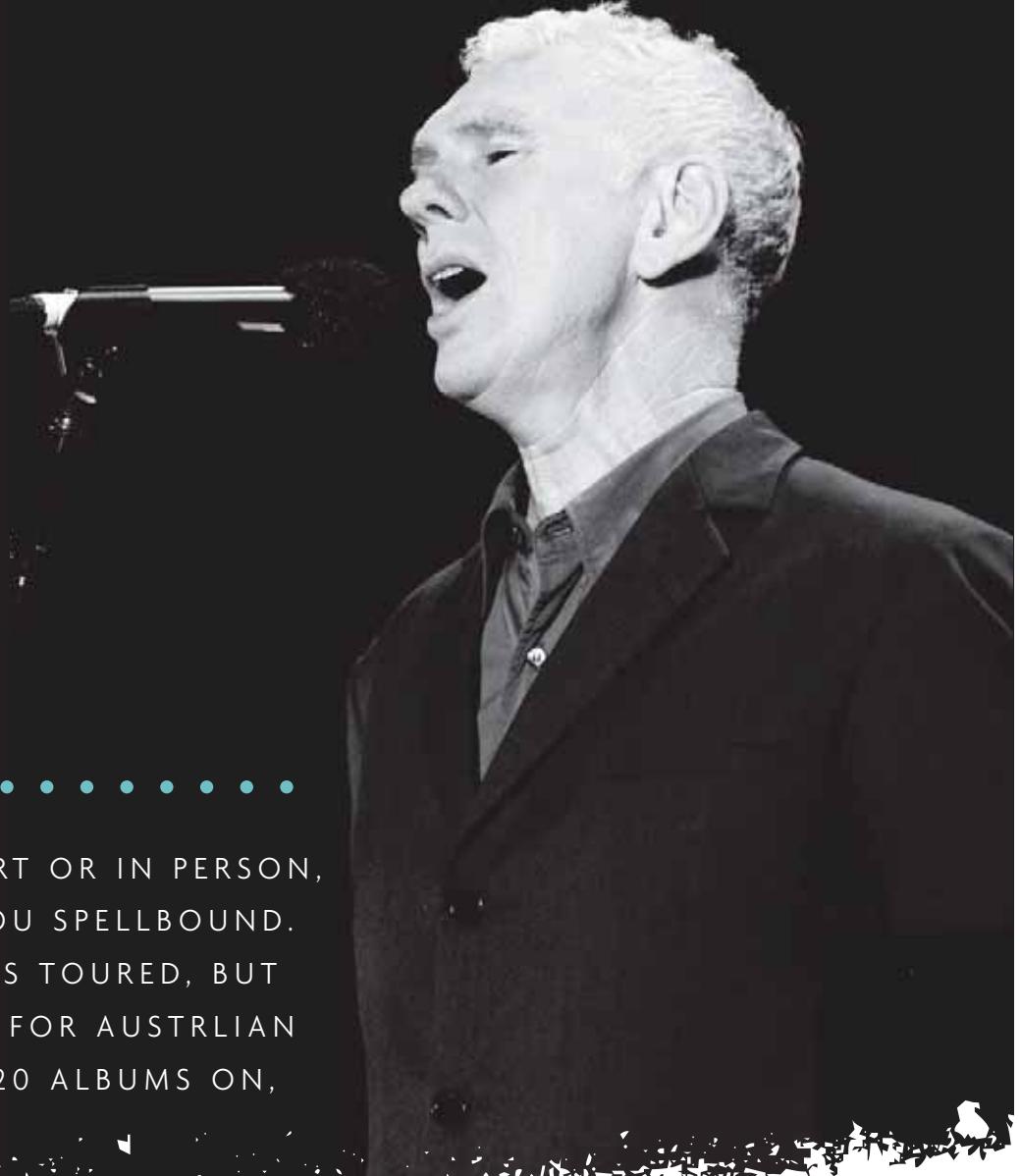


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ALL THAT JAZZ WITH VINCE



THERE'S NO ONE LIKE VINCE JONES. IN CONCERT OR IN PERSON, THE MAN HAS A QUIET CHARISMA THAT HAS YOU SPELLBOUND. IT'S BEEN A COUPLE OF YEARS SINCE JONES HAS TOURED, BUT THIS AUSSIE ARTIST WHO SET THE BENCHMARK FOR AUSTRALIAN JAZZ ARTISTS IN THE 70s AND 80s SAYS, THAT 20 ALBUMS ON, 'I AM STILL WRITING LIKE A CRAZY MAN!'

'I have to do it every day,' he says. 'I am driven to write but at the same time I am a procrastinator, I get outside myself and watch myself procrastinate. I feel incomplete if I haven't written. I need to do it to reflect on what I've been thinking...'

Vince works a few days a week with his band, so the rest of his time is his own. Apart from living the good life three hours south of Sydney, building the odd deck from YouTube videos, Jones has ample time to hone his craft. 'I am much more aware of the process than I ever was. I pull myself up and get back to it, whatever time of day. I like to write any time of day, when I can; it's not so much writing, it's mulling over an idea, editing and improving upon it. Once I get in the loop I am away. I don't want even a week off – that slows me down again.'

Jones is not just a man passionate about his music, he's also passionate about politics, and in particular about the environment. Musicians, he believes, are

meant to pass comment. 'The purest dissenting form is music!' he laughs.

'Troubadours were traditionally given a visa to say what they like and it was seen that everyone could have a laugh, and then the troubadour would take the story from one town to the next and reflect on the politics, and so on. I love writing. It stimulates me to write about social issues...'

And now, perhaps is an extremely important time to do just that.

'We live in conservative times,' says Jones. 'I think it's the flux. I think we are moving through it and we are being held back by the conservatives. Until we can remove ourselves from a petrochemical energy source and start embracing renewables nothing will change. We are about to see the last of that bunch. They are the dinosaurs!'

So how does Vince feel about the future?

'My fear is that this small-minded bunch have their backs to the wall. When they do this they embrace war to frighten us all. My fear is that they find the enemy to bring us back to a nationalist psyche and then we're all sucked into a great big mess. The best option is to let the young speak. They are tomorrow's leaders!'

'The young ones are looking for that connection back to the earth. We can't be wasting any more time, the old guard has to move on. That's our saviour; the Greens, they are the ones who will drag the conservatives into a non-polluting sustainable society...'

So what about music. What should music do?

'I was watching *The Voice* the other night; it is so twee. It would be great to see some young cat get up and sing something left. I don't think they'd get through; as tattooed and groovy as they look there's

not a leftie atom in their bodies...'

'When you sing, it's about the soul, it's the slipstream you carry inside you that gives you that little extra bit; you can't allow your ego to get involved. I tell myself it's about the music. How can we enhance it and improve it, take it away from me and make it an experience for the listener... how can I touch them?'

A brief, thoughtful solo from Vince is worth a hundred notes played with less discretion. Particular about the musical company he keeps, he is in quartet mode with three of the country's finest jazz players: Matt McMahon (MD/piano), Ben Robertson (bass) and James Hauptman (drums).

Playing at **Byron Theatre**, Community Centre, on **Saturday** at 8pm and **Currumbin Soundlounge** on **Sunday** at 4.30pm.

Byron tix: byroncentre.com.au
Currumbin tix: soundlounge.com.au



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THUR 23 DAN HANNAFORD
SAT 25 THE BADLANDS
BLONDE ON BLONDE
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SCOBY DOOBY DOO....

Just when you thought it was safe to go back into the kitchen, the kombucha is back. I couldn't believe it. I thought we'd got our fill of the fermented fungus juice back in the 90s. But oh no, that alien specimen lurking in the back of the share-house fridge is back! I didn't go for it the first time round. I just couldn't stomach drinking the juice of something that looked like a giant cervix floating in a bottle. Not that I've ever actually

seen a cervix with my own eyes but, during all my antenatal care whenever the midwife talked about the cervix, I always envisaged it as a kombucha mushroom. I'd certainly seen a lot of those in the Byron 90s. There is something definitely cervixy about the kombucha – I don't think it's any coincidence it is known as the 'fermentation mother'. Some people won't even know what kombucha is. It's basically a fermented tea

made with a symbiotic colony of bacteria and yeast known as 'scoby'. Some current kombucha ingestors probably think they have reanimated this ancient practice for the first time. With the hipster eat-your-sauerkraut-off-a-breadboard trend in full swing, I guess it was only a matter of time before the big K made a comeback. In the 90s people were in love with their kombucha. I once lived with this woman who was so attached to her fungus she carried it with her in the car. In the front seat. It went to cafes. It went to yoga. I think it even showered with her. She talked to it. I think it even talked back. This nebulous floating microbial colony of bacteria and yeast was the closest she came to a soulmate. I don't think her

regular kombucha ingestion had any actual impact on her overall health; it just gave her something to talk about if she was going to root another hippy. Maybe I'm shallow. I thought kombucha looked gross. Like watery compost. I don't know, I'm not always a believer that just because something was once used historically that it somehow suffices as evidence as to its therapeutic effectiveness. I mean women once used lead to whiten their faces and that turned out to make you both classically beautiful and classically dead. There's a wide range of kombucha health claims out there that are wildly unsubstantiated. They include treating AIDS, cancer and diabetes. That's an ambitious claim, and somehow

I don't think if kombucha went head to head with chemo in a cancer-reduction rap battle that it would come out the victor. I mean, if I went to the doctor, and he/she said, 'you have cancer', and then said, 'Have you tried kombucha?' I'd have much faith in their treatment options. I'd be suspicious that they were actually part of some giant conspiratorial marketing push called Big Fungus. You know it's literally a 'growth' market. The other kombucha claims are slightly more benign and are around stimulating the immune system and boosting libido. I think if drinking the stinky K-juice is the only thing that makes you horny, then you have to get a better class of porn. A friend of mine alerted me the other day to the fact

that kombucha is becoming like a currency on Byron Swap and Sell... one conversation went like this: 'I want to buy some kombucha scoby if anyone has a spare amount please? I am in Myocum and can pick up in Mullum or Brunz! Crikey, it's like ice. People are going online using innocuous chat rooms selling broken bookshelves and wicker dogs to score scoby! I'm a sceptic, I know, but fortunately I am not alone. The other day I overheard a hippy bloke offering a homeless man a sip of his kombucha. The homeless dude looked disgusted, pushed the open fungus bottle away and went, 'I'm not drinking that shit!' He then resumed enjoying his goon sack. He might be homeless but he's still a critical thinker.

Live Music

LIFT YOUR VOICES

Local choir director extraordinaire Jessie Vintila has just returned from her sold-out Spanish Sing the Camino tours and has her five weekly choirs up and running once more. Group singing is a wonderful way to connect with people, enhance your health, and generally get happy! Her newest project, the Bay Singers Community Choir,

is a singalong group for seniors (younguns also welcome), **Mondays 10.30–11.30am, at Byron Theatre. Raise the Roof Choir** are going stronger than ever after five years, with their glorious gospel, eco-soul, and bluegrass repertoire (plus occasional outlandish musical tangents), meeting in Bruns, Mur'bah, Lennox and Suffolk, with harmonious bliss guaranteed every week, as well as awesome

mass-choir performances such as the upcoming Bangalow Bluegrass Festival Old-Time Variety Show (performing is optional but extremely popular). Try the website: www.raisetheroofsinging.com for details.

KULCHA FIESTA FINALE!

Get yourself along to Kulchajam on the **Byron Arts and Industry Estate** for live music, workshops, jam sessions, art installations and performances featuring Peter Hunt of Kooii, Shai Shriki, Gypsy Jam, Essie Thomas, Josh Arent, Madhu Honey, Danidoo Butterfly, Trizz, Daniel Hend and more!

Indian banana-leaf banquet from 1pm. **Midday till midnight on Sunday.**

CHANGE IS GOOD

This Friday **Monkey and the Fish** release their new single *Change is Good* online – with

performances around the region. Catch them on **Sunday** at the **Bangalow Markets**. *Change Is Good* is an upbeat folk rock/pop song that celebrates the growing people's movement calling for change to sustainable and clean energy sources. Songwriter Chris Fisher describes this tune as 'a positive affirmation countering the negative, incorrect and self-serving rhetoric of fossil-fuel companies and their political puppets'. Penned and inspired during the Bentley Blockade against CSG.

NORTHERN RIVERS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA'S MUSICAL PORTRAITS

Renowned conductor John Curro AM MBE takes the orchestra to new heights with Brahms's *Symphony No 4* and Bruch's *Violin Concerto*, featuring soloist Hugh Won. Mr Curro is the founder and director of the Queensland Youth Orchestra. He has inspired thousands of young musicians throughout his career as a conductor, teacher and performer and, under his leadership, the QYO is regarded as one of the



BOOGIE NIGHTS AT BANGALOW BOWLING CLUB ON SATURDAY

world's finest youth orchestras. Presenting *Musical Portraits* on **Sunday 10 July** at 2.30pm at the **Tweed Heads Civic Centre**.

www.nrsos.com.au. Call 0466 819 154 or Murwillumbah Music: 02 6672 5404.

ALL ABOARD FOR BOOGIE NIGHTS

Firmly positioned on the dance floor calendar is the annual **BAY FM** winter discotheque **Boogie Nights**. Your most valid excuse to beat the winter chills is on the dancefloor at The Bangalow Bowlo. We'll take you to Funky Town and Burn Baby Burn all night long. It's about retro glam, style master fashion and

music as Byron's best retro DJs smother you with seven hours of sexy disco hits and deep dirty funk. Ride the disco shuttle and make brand-new friends on the way, coz everyone gets lucky at Boogie Nights! **Saturday at The Bangalow Bowlo** from 6pm till 1am. Tix at: www.bayfm.org or at the station.

RADIO JUPITER TO POINCIANA

North coast music industry award winners **Radio Jupiter** hit the garden stage at the Poinciana this Saturday, with front singer/songwriter and founding member Si Jupiter on lead vocals and

CONTINUED P32 ➤

club lennox live music



Sunday 26 June 4pm: JJ BRADLEY

Earthy acoustic sound, versatile vocals, warm harmonica and rhythm

Saturday 2 July 7.30pm: ODYSSEY

The ultimate covers band

Sunday 3 July 4pm: ARTHUR BLACK

Blues and rock guitarist

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GoodRich

LOVE

GREEN BISTRO

BYRON BAY BOWLING CLUB
SUNDAY 26 JUNE from 4pm

Contact: 02 6685 6202 www.byronbaybowls.com



Vince JONES

ALL THAT'S JAZZ

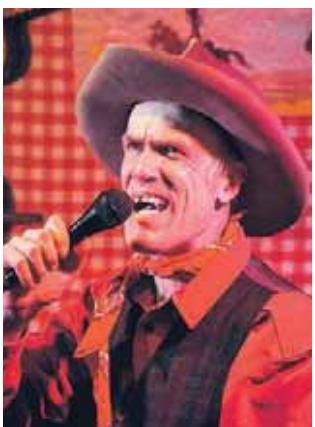
'He's a soulful survivor, with a voice as cool as a long G&T and a repertoire that balances jazz, rock and soul'
- *Beal Magazine*

BYRON COMMUNITY CENTRE
SATURDAY JUNE 25TH 8PM

Tickets: www.byroncentre.com.au or Byron Community Centre box office

Live Music

CONT. FROM p31



JIMMY WILLING AT MISS AMBER & STUKULELE'S UKE NIGHT FOR NOVELTY TUNES AT THE MULLUMBIMBY EX-SERVICES ON THURSDAY 30 JUNE

rhythm guitar, with Music Hall of Fame member Willie Hona (Herbs, NZ) on lead guitar and the always effervescent and intoxicating Bluey Morgan on drums, and original lineup member and heart of the groove Don (Evo) Peterson on bass. Take the journey you will never forget. Music for the soul – Saturday at the Poinciana.

UKE NOVELTY

Thursday 30 June from 6.30pm, Miss Amber & Stukulele's Uke Night will present two riotous sets of novelty tunes: Does Your Chewing Gum Lose its Flavour, Hello Muddah Hello Fuddah, something from Monty Python and, for the first time, Tiny Tim, plus heaps of double entendre and quirky ditties. To help out with their remarkable presence will be Country Music Queen Clelia Adams in comedic mode and the exceptional and notable Jimmy Willing. What a hoot! Bring your uke and best singing voice and prepare to have unbridled fun. Club Mullum in the Ex-Services – adults still only \$10, kids under 15 \$2.50. Join the mailing list for the link to the songbook at www.ukemullum.com. He he ho ho hah ha burp fart wheeze!



DJ SORCERESS, SPINNING THE VINYL AT KOHINUR HALL'S MAYA SOLSTICE FESTIVAL ON SATURDAY

CUTTING LOOSE WITH RUSSELL MORRIS

Enjoying unprecedented success in his musical career, **Russell Morris** has just released *Cut You Loose*, an up-tempo guitar-driven second single from *Red Dirt – Red Heart*, the third and final instalment of the Australian blues-roots album trilogy. The single was inspired by the story of the Wild Colonial Boy, Jack Doolan. But rather than write from the point of the Wild Colonial Boy himself, Russell penned the song in a different guise: from the viewpoint of the man who introduced the traitor into Doolan's inner circle. Morris plays **Twin Towns on Saturday 9 July** at 8.30pm. Tickets are \$35 at the club.

IT WILL BE ALL WHITE

Byron Bay Records & Productions presents **The White Party 2016** at Durrumbul Hall.

Anyone with a love for techno, tech-house, deep-house or dance music in general, come and listen to some of the most exciting DJs Australia has to offer, including **LeOCh, Shazay, Nick Taylor, Pumpernickle and Liam Kiernan**.

Enjoy some slick grooves, dance your arse off and experience the universal language of music

expressing the crystal-clear message of **WHITE**. There will be a bonfire outside, a laser lightshow inside and fluorescent lighting just about everywhere so make sure to wear something white! Food and drinks will be available. Bring your friends and enjoy this event that only happens once a year, here in Mullum!

Saturday 2 July, Durrumbul Hall. 5pm–midnight. \$25 at the door.

KEITH POTGER AND THE SEEKER

The founding member of the internationally famous group The Seekers, **Keith Potger** is coming to **Ballina RSL** to perform a **Morning Melodies for Seniors on Thursday** at 10am.

The concert is a solo show by Keith and it features songs from his three solo CDs, some of his all-time favourites as well as his own version of a few Seekers' hits. Throughout his concert, he shares some amusing anecdotes from more than 50 years on the international music scene.

He accompanies himself on his 1967 Maton 12-string guitar, which is the guitar that has made The Seekers' instrumental sound unique. He also has taken up the ukulele and features a couple of new songs that he has co-written specially for this instrument.



SPOONBILL AT DURRUMBUL HALL ON FRIDAY

Audiences love this new material and sing along after only a few bars of each song.

A blend of folk and country with lyrics that matter and melodies that 'melt the heart'. Tickets \$15. 6686 2544.

VIOLIN AND PIANO DUO RECITAL

Violin virtuoso **Attila Sautov** will join guest pianist from Germany, **Oleg Poliansky**, to present a world-class classical performance at **St Mary's Anglican Church, Ballina** on **Sunday** at 3pm.

Sautov has resided in Australia for ten years following a successful solo career across more than forty countries. The Southport concert will precede an extensive tour of New South Wales and regional Queensland, which will extend as far as Cooktown and Mount Isa. Together with equally acclaimed pianist Poliansky, Sautov will perform masterful duets, including Massenet's *Meditation* from the opera *Thais* plus works by Bach, Handel, Gluck, Mozart, Paganini, Bazzini, Brahms and Kriesler. Poliansky will also showcase solo piano pieces by Chopin, Rachmaninoff, Tchaikovsky and Stravinsky, plus one of Beethoven's most popular compositions, the *Moonlight*



ASH GRUNWALD AT THE COOPERS AFTER DARK GIG AT THE HOTEL GREAT NORTHERN ON WEDNESDAY 29 JUNE



MELBOURNE SKA ORCHESTRA AT THE MULLUMBIMBY CIVIC HALL ON SATURDAY

MELBOURNE SKA!

Melbourne Ska Orchestra's live performance is nothing short of spectacular, sometimes tipping the 30-player mark. Led by the enigmatic Nicky Bomba, the national album-launch tour is on the road, packing hotel rooms and the stage at the **Mullumbimby Civic Hall** on **Saturday**.

Tickets A\$32 +BF &cc / Y\$26 +BF &cc / C\$20 +BF &cc / under 5yrs free – from www.redsquaremusic.com.au. Doors 7pm.

MUSIC FROM THE ASHES

Ash Grunwald is one of Australia's most popular performers. Blistering live sets on the festival circuit throughout Australia, Japan, Canada, America, Europe and the UK have had critics and fans raving about him for more than a decade. He has teamed up with Coopers After Dark to bring you three exclusive gigs in an iconic live music venue, and one of them just happens to be our beloved Hotel Great Northern.

These one-night-only shows are for Coopers After Dark winners only. This is a chance for you and three friends to see Ash Grunwald and band perform live.

For the After Dark shows, Scott Owen and Andy Strachan from the The Living End will be performing with Ash as apart of his band. **Wednesday 29 June** at the **Hotel Great Northern**. Enquiries to the venue.

CLUB MULLUM

For YOUR chance to WIN BIG be in the club
WEDNESDAYS & FRIDAYS



SUPER 10

MEMBER DRAWS 6:30 & 7:30PM

MISS AMBER & STUKULELE'S UKE NIGHT NOVELTY SONGS ★ CLELIA ADAMS ★ JIMMY WILLING ★

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COURTESY BUS ON CALL WEDNESDAY – SUNDAY

MULLUMBIMBY EX-SERVICES CLUB 58 DALLEY STREET MULLUMBIMBY – PH | 6684 2533 www.clubmullum.com



BOOK NOW! SAT 9 JULY \$35

RUSSELL MORRIS

Just released 'Cut You Loose' an up-tempo guitar driven second single from the album *Red Dirt-Red Heart*.

"...the album is an engrossing listen for a BLUES FAN." – *The Music*

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Wharf St Tweed Heads

Twin Towns CLUBS + RESORTS
twintowns.com.au

THE LION'S BELLO

L-FRESH THE LION IS RENOWNED FOR HIS POWERFUL PRESENCE, INSPIRING LIVE SHOWS AND THOUGHT-PROVOKING LYRICISM. IN A SHORT TIME, THE WESTERN SYDNEY ARTIST HAS GONE FROM UNDERGROUND COMMUNITY CONVENTS AND CIPHERS TO NATIONAL TOURS AND FESTIVALS. HE IS AN MC WITH A SENSE OF PURPOSE AND SELF-BELIEF AND WILL BE HEADLINING BELLO WINTER MUSIC THE SECOND WEEKEND IN JULY.

What are the major challenges for you, navigating two very different cultures?

This is a tough question to answer in a short paragraph. I deeply explore this question on my new album, *Become*, and even then it sometimes feels like an introduction. This has been my life experience: navigating, not just two, but many different cultures as they meet in me. It's not an experience that's unique to me, it's one that is common to many Australians, whether they're conscious of it or not. My album explores it from my point of view as I tell stories from my life. There're moments of pure strength, resilience and power, which contrast with those moments of weakness, vulnerability and tension.

Tell me about the place where these two intersect?

They intersect in me. I am the embodiment of it. A brown, bearded, turbaned Sikh rocking a black hoodie and hi-tops with a mic in my hand.

As an MC, what are the issues or the stories that you want people to hear?

I'm all for giving people a complete picture. We have a tendency to see things in black and white, but there're so many important colours in between that complete the story. Let's get in to the nitty-gritty, the complex, the uncomfortable, the honest and the vulnerable. Those stories make art special.

How did you get started?

I started out making beats and writing raps in my bedroom after days at school. I spent every afternoon working on music. Once I had enough songs, I got up on any stage I could find to perform them. I started at age 14 and haven't stopped since then.

Who are the musicians who influence you?

I'm influenced by a wide range of music from traditional Sikh music as introduced to me by my parents through to all styles of hip-hop. From Bob Dylan, Bob Marley, Lauryn Hill and Public Enemy through



to Tupac Shakur, Common, Talib Kweli, Mos Def, The Roots, Kendrick Lamar, Nas and J Cole. I'll listen to anything, learn from it and then build.

What do you want to do to your audience?

Simply put, my music is all about movement and I want my audience to reflect that. When people hear my music, I want them to move physically, mentally and emotionally. I'm trying to get you to move, think and feel at the same.

What should we expect for your show at Bello Winter Music?

Expect a lot of energy, passion and positivity! I'll have my seven-piece band with me so it'll be vibes, that's for sure! Mirrah (my hype MC) sometimes describes our show as a workout for everyone who's there. There is a lot of movement!

Bello Winter Music (7-10 July). For ticket and program information go to bellowintermusic.com.

CULTURE

MIKE'S BIG GIG

Mike van Acker has spent most of his adult life trying to stay away from standup comedy. It was easy when he left high school – there was no comedy in Brisbane. He became a singing-telegram performer instead. Keen, wasn't he? In January 1992 Mike was minding his own business contract cleaning when his acting agent called, reminded him who she was, and told him the 'Sit Down Comedy Club' was about to open in Brisbane. It was

a defining moment for him. As he stood in his trusty storeroom surrounded by mops and Chux supra-wipes (the extra-absorbent type) he received 'the comedy calling' – a strange, dizzy feeling that seemed to bring stomach cramps as well. Two weeks later as he failed miserably on his standup debut he realised it was not the comedy but the ammonia calling. It really wasn't a well-ventilated storeroom. Mike sold his contract-cleaning company and began making a full-time living as a performer. To facilitate this, there may have

been a time when he regularly dressed up as (among other things) a clown, a spy, a waiter, and at one memorable gig the Scarecrow from the *Wizard of Oz*. Mike continued to avoid doing standup where possible – he even took a year off to sing and dance in a theatre restaurant on the Gold Coast, but always found his way back to standup. Stints as the audience warm-up comedian for Channel 7's *Family Feud* did little to dampen his enthusiasm, and

after his fourth successful tour of New Zealand's comedy clubs (both of them) he decided to give the street theatre and magic gigs a big miss, and gracefully accept that he and standup comedy were going to be together a long time. Mike's list of foreign countries worked in reads like a list of foreign countries worked in, and includes England, USA, Indonesia, Singapore, Hong Kong, Malaysia, and New Zealand. Some people are impressed by stuff like that. In demand nationally as a standup comic, van Acker headlines **Ballina RSL Club** on **Thursday 30 June** at 8pm for the monthly **Big Gig Comedy Night**, with Greg Sullivan as support and Mandy Nolan as MC.



STILL FROM SPEAR,
SCREENING AS PART
OF THE ARAKVAL
NAIDOC WEEK
FILM SCREENING
PROGRAM –
TUESDAY 5 JULY
AT THE BYRON
COMMUNITY
CENTRE

NAIDOC WEEK FILMS

The Arakwal Corporation, Flickerfest & iQ are thrilled to present two inspiring Aboriginal short films selected from the finalists of Flickerfest 2016: local

short *Nan and a Whole Lot of Trouble* and *Under Skin in Blood*, plus the acclaimed feature *Spear* directed by Bangarra Dance Theatre's artistic director and choreographer Stephen Page.

CONTINUED P34

LOOKING FOR A NIGHT OUT?

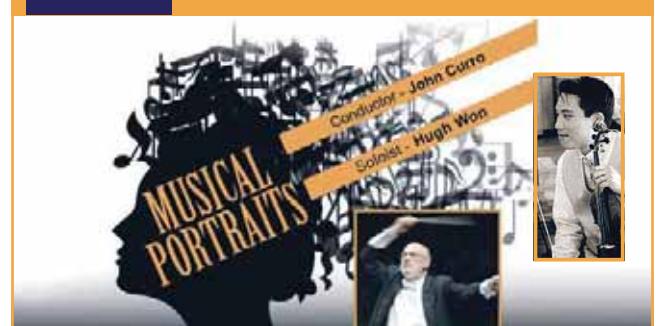
We have hundreds of gigs from around the north coast in the region's BEST online gig guide echo.net.au/gig-guide



MIKE VAN ACKER HEADLINES AT THE BIG GIG COMEDY NIGHT AT THE BALLINA RSL ON THURSDAY 30 JUNE



**Northern Rivers
Symphony Orchestra**
www.nrso.com.au



Conducted by John Curro AM MBE

PROGRAM INCLUDES:

Rossini: *Overture from L'italiana in Algeri*

Brahms: *Symphony No 4*

Bruch: *Violin Concerto No 1*

Featuring soloist Hugh Won

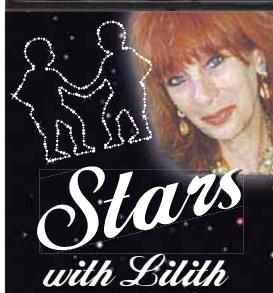
online at nrso.com.au

at Murwillumbah Music 6672 5404

or phone 0466 819 154

Box office 4-8 July, 10am-3pm (cash only)

or at the door if not sold out (cash only).



Stars with Lilith

Following winter solstice, with its short days and long nights, this week's Sun and Venus snuggling into home-loving Cancer makes family or close ties warm and satisfying...

ARIES: Domestic life could be delightful this week, especially if you invite new friends into it. The present planetary Mutable Grand Cross of completing cycles, life changes and new directions can feel at times like going through a wash cycle – but it's all necessary prep for the last half of the year's high-speed takeoff.

TAURUS: Your leading planet Venus nestling into the sign of home entertaining exerts a magnetic pull towards the comfort couch, but as inward-leaning retrogrades loosen their grip, neighbourhood events also beckon. In between, as the end of the financial year draws near, tie off loose ends, take stock, put paperwork in order.

GEMINI: If this week deluges you with enthusiastic, wide-ranging ideas, brainstorm how to make the most creative use of this fertile mix. Later on, in a quiet mental space, select the best and forget the rest. Try not to overspend. And something needs completing before your new plans can take off – what is it?

CANCER: This week's astrological indications suggest it's a smart move to have a backup plan in case of contingencies. That said, the sun and midweek Venus taking up residence in your sign to sing happy birthday Cancer for the coming month ensure you're the centre of warm, affectionate attention and personal popularity.

LEO: This social, go-ahead week invites you out of hibernation to confer with friends on the best way to address the second half of your year. If covert power plays start escalating your blood pressure, assertiveness isn't likely to work. Ditto a you-against-them mindset. Stay focused on raising your own game.

VIRGO: As this week's friendships strengthen and connections deepen with those closest, plans also firm up into more satisfying shape and it feels safe to start getting excited at last. With June finally unwinding from retrograde clenches into slow-building momentum, the contours of the second half of your year gradually become clearer.

LIBRA: Following the solstice/full moon connection, this week brings decisions of whether to work with others for personal advantage or support broader, more community-minded ventures. Your planetary ruler Venus in Libra's tenth house of worldly ambitions for the next three weeks suggests successful networking and some promising professional openings.

SCORPIO: This week's water-sign influx fluctuates through many moods from cuddly and fuzzy to incisive insights to dramatic overreactions. Your call is to stay flexible in the face of unpredictable behaviour, unexpected events or economic urgencies – to respond with your natural resilience and resourcefulness. Phoenix from the ashes is your signature archetype, remember?

SAGITTARIUS: After the year's second consecutive fiery full moon in Sagittarius, this week eases the letting go of a jaded scenario, tired project or worn-out situation so you can move forward freely. And also cautions you to avoid taking risks, while being aware that crossed signals and misunderstandings are on the cards.

CAPRICORN: You like arrangements honoured and commitments met, but be advised that this week's people may be inconsistent, waffle on endlessly, then change their minds. The good news is expansive Jupiter aligned with the North Node of destiny are presently stimulating rapid growth for Capricorns through travel, study, relocating or personal adventure.

AQUARIUS: This week kicks off with plenty of spirited and sparring opinions, then proceeds through a slew of interesting business opportunities to the likelihood of your mischievous sign saying something wild to an inappropriate person. Enjoy all of the former, but think seriously about censoring the latter, while conditions are sensitive.

PISCES: The powerful alignment of the Mutable Grand Cross, a potent astrological pattern with one point in your sign (the other three in Gemini, Virgo and Sagittarius), brings the Life Of Pisces to a turning point this week, closing some doors, opening others, making a decision necessary. Use intuition to choose.

CULTURE

CONTINUED FROM p33

This outstanding film is produced by John Harvey and stars Hunter Page-Lochard & Aaron Pedersen. The screening will be followed by a Q&A with Spear producer John Harvey and Flickerfest director Bronwyn Kidd.

Tickets: The Byron Theatre and byroncentre.com.au, or at door – \$12/10. Screening for NAIDOC Week on Tuesday 5 July. Program details and info: www.iQ.org.au | 0414 779 881. 6.30pm

MEMORIES ARE MADE OF THIS...

Sam Sosnowski's new exhibition *Memories* will open at the Lone Goat Gallery on Friday 1 July at 6pm. In this exhibition, Sam's childhood memories are

depicted through a variety of media ranging from etchings, woodblocks, paintings to sculptures and installations. Scenes such as the whimsical *New Red Tricycle*, the comic-book homage *War Games* and *Dog Fight* as well as the aquatic-inspired *OMG Godzilla is in the Fish Tank* all bear testimony to Sam's vivid imagination. These strong images from his youth are skilfully rendered for all to share, and perhaps will encourage viewers to re-live some of their own memories. All are welcome! There will be live music playing covers from the 60s and 70s and retro-inspired party canapes!

DAUGHTERS OF DOLMA

In *Daughters of Dolma* writer-director Adam Miklos takes viewers on an inspirational journey to the Kathmandu Valley in Nepal, revealing a distinctively female experience of Tibetan

Buddhism. This feature-length documentary offers a fascinating insight into the lives of individual nuns who are very aware of and interested in the world outside their beautiful valley. *Daughters of Dolma* screens at 7.30pm on Friday 1 July at the Drill Hall, Mullumbimby. Tickets \$15 available from Mullum Bookshop or email travellingflicks@gmail.com.

CHEEKY TICKETS GONE, BUT MORE TO COME!

After selling out all of its instalments since its inception, the Brunswick Picture House's notorious *Cheeky Cabaret* returns, featuring a new lineup and some of the best exponents of cabaret, new burlesque, circus sideshow and contemporary vaudeville that Australia has to offer. Be wowed by this house production, brought to you by the creators of international award-winning show *La Soirée*. We promise you'll leave spellbound, titillated and amazed. As always, bring Grandma but leave the little ones at home. This *Cheeky Cabaret* has sold out but get your tickets now for the next

four instalments! 22/23 July and 19/20 August.

LOVE YOU TO DEPP

Edward Scissorhands is pure magic. The first collaboration between director Tim Burton and Johnny Depp is a true modern-day fairytale, simultaneously haunting and romantic. Gothic suburbia has never been better portrayed than this! The genesis of this beautiful film draws heavily from Tim Burton's teenage years, reflecting his feelings of isolation, loneliness, trouble communicating with others and retaining friendships, and finally self-discovery. Burton considers this film his most personal and favourite work. This is the Sunday Family Flick at the Brunswick Picture House. 4pm.

ODDBALL UNDER THE STARS

Join in for some family fun at St John's Catholic School in Mullumbimby on Friday for the screening of *Oddball*. This is a school fundraiser open to families around the Shire who want to get a little movie action under the stars. With food available



NO ONE WAY PRESENTED BY BYRON YOUTH THEATRE AT THE DRILL HALL ON SUNDAY

from 4pm and movie at 5pm, it's suggested that you bring a blanket or chair, or rug. Show goes ahead rain, hail or shine!

THERE IS NO ONE WAY TO LIVE THIS LIFE!

Byron Youth Theatre's latest production explores issues faced by young people in the LGBTIA+ community. With funding from Country Arts Support Program, Regional Arts NSW, Byron Council and the support of Byron Youth Service, both Lismore-based ACON and HeadSpace as well as some wonderful community members, BYT have been busy researching interviewing and

surveying local young people and organisations to create this new performance.

'This piece is bold, confronting and courageous, embracing the themes of acceptance and understanding against the backdrop of homophobic behaviour,' shared director Lisa Apostolides. The production will tour local schools, encouraging safe learning environments, as well as providing information to young people of where and how to access help. A public performance will be held at the Drill Hall, Mullumbimby, on Sunday 26 June 6.30pm with suggested entry donation of \$15. Appropriate for ages 14+,

Memories

A new exhibition of woodblock prints, etchings and paintings by **Sam Sosnowski**

Lone Goat Gallery
Corner Lawson and Middleton Sts, Byron Bay
Opening Friday July 1 6.00pm
Exhibition runs from July 1 to July 13
Open Daily 10am to 4pm
www.samsosnowski.com.au



ERIK THE DOG AT BRUNSWICK PICTURE HOUSE'S CHEEKY CABARET ON SATURDAY

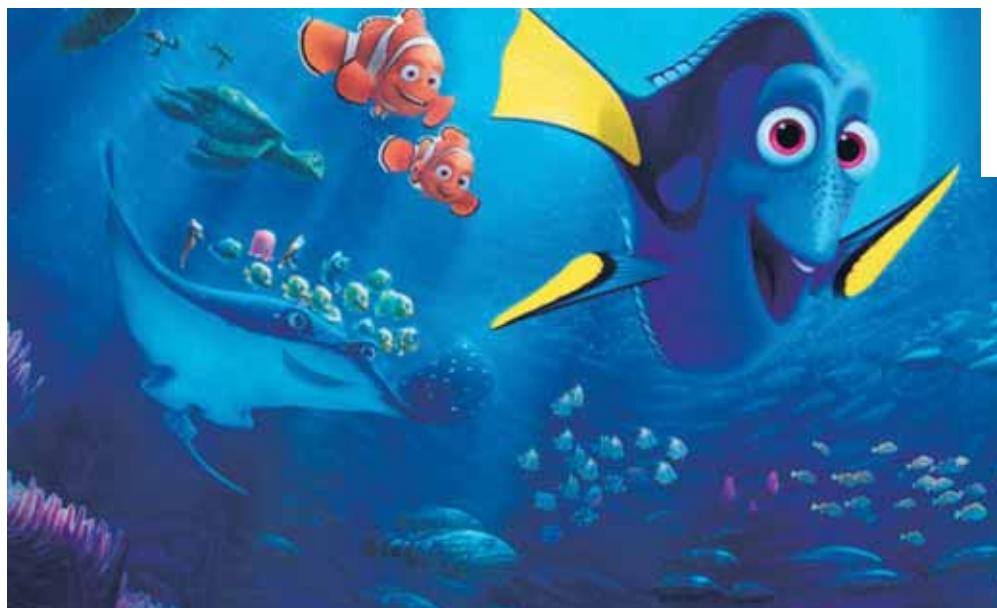
cinema | Reviews

BY JOHN CAMPBELL



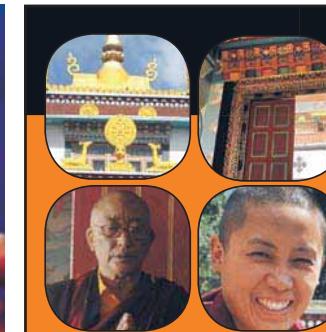
ME BEFORE YOU

In a romantic blub-fest such as this, rule number one says that if your leading man needs to be in a wheelchair then he'd better be as handsome as a matinee idol and have a seductive tenor voice. Will (Sam Claflin) ticks both boxes and, on top of that, he looks as fit as a trout. His tragic circumstances – a spinal injury that's left him a quadriplegic with no hope of recovery – is at the core of a film by Thea Sharrock that deals honestly and even-handedly with the question of euthanasia. Having once had the world at his feet, Will has decided that he would rather end it all than live out his days as a spoon-fed cripple. The movie has caused outrage among those similarly afflicted, who object to the suggestion that life for them is pointless. I didn't quite take it that way, for Sharrock makes it clear that Will is the type of high achiever and extreme sportsman who might understandably react to his plight in the way he does – but then again, I am able-bodied. In any case, it's all about the girl. Lou (Emilia Clarke) is a bouncy soul going nowhere. Still living at home in a Dibleyesque town, she is unable to find work until offered the job as Will's carer/companion. Inevitably, a close bond grows between them and Lou's dismay is profound when she learns of Will's intention. Whichever side you take in the argument, decisions such as Will's cannot be made without the consideration of others in mind and in one forthright scene, Lou's mother, wearing a rather too obvious crucifix around her neck, states categorically that what Will wants to do is plain wrong. Will's filthy-rich parents (Janet McTeer and Charles Dance) happen to own the local castle, whereas Lou's family is strictly working class, so the British obsession with class and noblesse oblige also contributes to the story, while also providing the 'opposites attract' idea. Against my better judgment, I loved every minute of it.



FINDING DORY

Much as I loved Travis Fimmel as Ragnar Lothbrok in TV's *Vikings* (it was quite a career jump, wasn't it, for a bloke to be modelling underpants one day and slaughtering Saxons the next), I had been looking forward to my next colonoscopy with more enthusiasm than I held for having to sit through *Warcraft* (49 dead in Orlando and still graphic violence is presented as an entertainment). Fortunately there was this benign but innocuous cartoon to fall back on. Obviously, it's a sequel to the wildly overrated *Finding Nemo* (2003 – what took them so long, I wonder?) and is equally as flaccid. Voiced with an over-emphasis on cuteness by Ellen DeGeneres, Dory is a blue tang fish who suffers from short-term memory loss. She gets separated from her parents and sets off like Ulysses in search of them. Helping Dory on her epic quest is an octopus called Hank (Ed O'Neill) and, from the earlier movie, Nemo and Marlin (Hayden Rolence and Albert Brooks). Dory's adventures are not exactly riveting and for mums and dads there is little to savour in what is a very G-rated exercise. Anything that opens kids' eyes, however, to the wonders of the ocean can't be bad – perhaps somebody could get the odious Greg Hunt to attend a screening – but the insistent mushiness of the family is nauseating in the extreme. Possibly because the action takes place as much out of the water as it does on land, the final act, when Dory liberates his mum and dad from a marine park, is cleverly conceived, fast paced and energetic. The animation throughout is cheery and colourful but soporific, and there is little indication that, out there in the briny, fish actually eat other fish – the studio's attitude to the realities of nature might change after that alligator ate the two-year old at Disneyworld. Boring for the most part, it's the sort of movie that you'd get a grown-up child to take the little'un to as a punishment.



Daughters of Dolma

Friday 1 July, Drill Hall, Mullumbimby
6.30: Soup, chai, cakes.
7.30: Film. Tickets \$15, pre-book Mullum Bookshop or travellingflicks@gmail.com
www.travellingflicks.com

A fascinating insight into the lives of Buddhist nuns living in the Kathmandu Valley.
A fundraiser for Shenpen Australia

Every Wednesday
All Seats All Sessions
\$9.50 Only

Admission Prices:
Adults - \$14.00
Stud / Concs - \$12.00
Senior - \$11.00
Children - \$10.00
A \$2 Service Charge Applies for 3D Screenings Additional \$3. Fee For 3D Glasses

BALLINA FAIR CINEMAS
Comer Kerr & Fox Streets

THURSDAY 23RD TO WEDNESDAY 29TH JUNE

INDEPENDENCE DAY RESURGENCE	THUR 23RD TO WED 29TH 12.00PM 4.15PM 6.30PM 8.45PM MONDAY 6.30PM STARTS AT 6.55PM	ICE AGE 5	THUR 23RD TO WED 29TH 9.35AM 11.20AM 3.50PM 5.35PM	FINDING DORY	THUR 23RD TO WED 29TH 10.00AM 2.15PM 5.05PM 7.00PM NO 7.00PM MONDAY	WARCRAFT	THUR 23RD TO WED 29TH 1.35PM 8.55PM
(M)	(PG)	FINAL 7 DAYS	(PG)	Buy a ticket to enter the draw to Win a Family Adventure for 4 to The Great Barrier Reef!	(PG)	(M)	(M)
ME BEFORE YOU	11.35AM 7.25PM	TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES 2	1.10PM	HUNT FOR THE WILDER PEOPLE	9.45AM 3.15PM 9.25PM	CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE, THE BFG	8.55PM

STARTS NEXT THUR: **CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE, THE BFG**

BYRON BAY LOUNGE CINEMA
www.pighouseflicks.com.au - Movie Hotline: 6685 5828
NOW SCREENING...

Sunday June 26
Jack of the Red Hearts 11:30am Sherpa 1:30pm Hunt for the Wilderpeople 3:30pm The Nice Guys 5:40pm Hunt for the Wilderpeople 8:00pm
THE NICE GUYS TIX \$11
Jack of the Red Hearts 2:00pm Pawn 4:00pm Hunt for the Wilderpeople 5:45pm The Nice Guys 8:00pm
TUESDAY JUNE 28
Hunt for the Wilderpeople 1:30pm The Nice Guys 3:45pm Jack of the Red Hearts 6:00pm Hunt for the Wilderpeople 8:00pm
EDDIE THE EAGLE
INSPIRED BY A TRUE STORY EDDIE THE EAGLE
PAWNO
SHERPA
CHASING SHADOWS
HUNT FOR THE WILDER PEOPLE
ANOTHER COUNTRY
NEXT WEEK <i>The Meddler</i>

gig guide

THURSDAY 23

- GREAT NORTHERN HOTEL, BYRON **DAN HANNAFORD**
- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON 7PM **SARAH GRANT**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 8.30PM **THE HIGH ROLLERS**
- BYRON BREWERY 8PM **ELECTRO SWING WITH RADIO CYP, MICK BUCKLEY & THE HEPCATS, KAREN MINAMI & THE SWINGUP GIRLS**
- THE BALCONY, BYRON 6PM **NICK CUNNINGHAM**
- WOODY'S SURF SHACK, BYRON 8PM **DJ NERY**
- TREEHOUSE, BELONGIL 7.30PM **ALLENSWORTH**
- BANGALOW BOWLING CLUB 7PM **ROCK'N'ROLL DANCING**
- LENNOX HOTEL 9PM **JAM**
- TATTS HOTEL, LISMORE **LIORA CLAFF**

FRIDAY 24

- GREAT NORTHERN HOTEL, BYRON **BUGS, POP CULT, WHARVES, DJ CHRIS BRADLEY**
- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON 7PM **ALLENSWORTH**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 5PM **TUFFY 9PM BUCK BEAN & THE GREEN LIPS**
- BYRON THEATRE 6.30PM NSW TRAINING AWARDS NORTH COAST PRESENTATION
- STICKY WICKET, BYRON 9PM **LOCAL DJS**

WHAT'S ON @ THE YAC...

THU 23 JUNE
4-5PM

**LGBTI (LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER, INTERSEX)
SOCIAL GROUP**
AGES 12 TO 18
CONTACT ANNA 6685 7777 FOR MORE DETAILS.

SUN 3 JULY
1-3PM

YA KULCHA HIP-HOP WORKSHOP
SUFFOLK PARK COMMUNITY HALL

SUN 17 JULY
1-4PM

RUKKUS SKATE COMP IN MULLUM
ALL AGES

EVERY
WEDNESDAY
4 TO 6PM

GIRLS' GROUP
AGES 12 TO 16.
CONTACT BERRI ON 0490 026 840 FOR DETAILS

WED 27 JULY
3 & 17 AUG

SAFE DRIVERS COURSE FOR LEARNERS
4.30PM TO 7.30PM \$140.
BOOKINGS: WWW.BYS.ORG.AU

SAT 9 JULY
8AM-1PM

BYRON FLEA MARKET @ THE YAC
PLEASE CALL LOTTE TO BOOK A STALL. P: 6685 7777
M: 0490026840 E: BYRONFLEA@GMAIL.COM



Byron Youth Activity Centre (YAC) is managed by Byron Youth Service (BYS)
1 Gilmore Crescent Byron Bay | bys.org.au

ph 6685 7777



WHAT'S ON

FREEDOM STORIES FILM FUNDRAISER

presented by Byron Theatre
Wednesday 22 June, 7pm
Tickets: Full \$10



2016 NSW TRAINING AWARDS

North Coast Presentation
Friday 24 June, 6.30pm
Full \$30 - Includes one complimentary drink, canapes and fork food



VINCE JONES "ALL THAT'S JAZZ"

presented by Beatroot Services
Saturday 25 June, 8pm
Tickets: Full \$45



SHAKE-O-RAMA!

presented by Australian Burlesque Festival
Friday 1 July, 8pm
Tickets: Full \$59 | Conc \$49



9TH ARAKVAL NAIDOC FILM SCREENING

presented by Arakwal Corporation, Flickerfest and iQ Inc, supported by Screenworks
Tuesday 5 July, 6.30pm. Tickets: Full \$12 | Conc \$10 | Age 15+ (U15 to be with adult)



Enjoy a drink at the Theatre Bar
Meeting rooms for hire

Byron Community Centre
69 Jonson Street, Byron Bay | 6685 6807
www.byroncentre.com.au

B Y R O N J U N E / J U L Y

THE BYRON SHIRE Echo FREE PRESS GIVEAWAYS!

Online Echo subscribers

- win 2 tickets to

VINCE JONES 'All that Jazz'
on 25 June courtesy of the
Byron Theatre.

To enter the draw to win,

simply email your

name and postcode to

e.comps@echo.net.au by

Thursday 23 June with
subject line 'Vince Jones'.

Not a current subscriber to echo-netdaily? Don't worry, we'll simply add you to our subscriber list.

SUNDAY 26

- GREAT NORTHERN HOTEL, BYRON **SCOTT DAY-VEE**
- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON 7PM **OOZ**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 4.30PM **UPSIZE** 8PM **DJ BENI WITH SAFARI DJS**

- BYRON BOWLING CLUB 4PM **GOODRICH**

- BYRON BREWERY 3PM **DEEP HOUSE MUSIC**

- BYRON GOLF CLUB 3PM **KARIN PAGE**

- TREEHOUSE, BELONGIL 2PM **DJS**

- KULCHAJAM, BYRON A&I 12PM **PETER HUNT, SHAI SHRIKI GYPSY JAM, ESSIE THOMAS, JOSH ARENT, MADHU HONEY, DANIDOO BUTTERFLY, TRIZZ, DANIEL HEND & MORE**

- SUN BISTRO, SUNRISE 5PM **TIM STOKES**

- BANGALOW MARKETS 10AM **MONKEY & THE FISH**

- BANGALOW HOTEL 12.30PM **SLIM PICKENS**

- BRUNSWICK RSL HALL 2.15PM **HIDE THE POTATO**

- BRUNSWICK HOTEL 4PM **4'20' SOUND**

- BRUNSWICK PICTURE HOUSE 4PM **EDWARD SCISSORHANDS**

- DRILL HALL, MULLUMBIMBY 6.30PM **NO ONE WAY**

- POINCIANA, BRUNSWICK 2PM **JAZZ'N'BLUES**

- CLUB LENNOX 4PM **JON J BRADLEY**

- LENNOX HOTEL 6PM **LOUIE HOWELL**

- ETHAM HOTEL 6PM **MICK BUCKLEY & BELLE HENDRICKS**

- BANGALOW PLAYERS THEATRE 2PM **RETURN TO THE FORBIDDEN PLANET**

- SPINKS PARK, LISMORE 10AM **LISMORE FRIENDSHIP FESTIVAL PIAZZA IN THE PARK**

- ST MARY'S, BALLINA 3PM **ATTILA SAUTOV & OLEG POLIANSKY**

- WHARF BAR, BALLINA 3PM **B-TOWN COLLECTIVE DJS**

- RIVERVIEW HOTEL, MURWILLUMBAH 2PM **TROMBONE KELLIE GANG**

- PHOENIX RISING, NIMBIN 10AM **SONIC BLISS** 12.30PM **CARLIE FAIRBURN & YOSI CHOPEN**

- SPHINX ROCK, MT BURRELL 1PM **STEPHEN LOVELIGHT**

- RAPPVILLE PUB 12PM **WATLING & BATES QUARTET**

- MOUNT WARNING HOTEL, UKI 2PM **RAKU O'GAIA**

- SOUNDLounge, CURRUMBIN 4.30PM **VINCE JONES**

MONDAY 27

- GREAT NORTHERN HOTEL, BYRON **DAN CLARKE**

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON 7PM **BILL JACOBI**

- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 8.30PM **REGGAE**

- WOODY'S SURF SHACK, BYRON 8PM **DJ OVAL**

- B-SPACE, BALLINA 5PM **JAM**

- BALLINA FAIR CINEMA 6.30PM **CHASING ASYLUM**

TUESDAY 28

- GREAT NORTHERN HOTEL, BYRON **MARSHALL O'KELL**

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON 7PM **JON J BRADLEY**

- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 8PM **MUSICAL BINGO**

- BYRON COMMUNITY CENTRE 6.30PM **THE SAMBA-BLISSTAS**

- BYRON PUBLIC SCHOOL 7.15PM **NO LIGHTS NO LYCRA**

- THE BALCONY, BYRON 9PM **BYRON AFTER DARK**

- WOODY'S SURF SHACK, BYRON 8PM **LIVE DJS**

- BANGALOW HOTEL 7.30PM **BRACKETS OPEN MIC**

- ST JOHN'S, MULLUMBIMBY 7PM **DANCE TEMPLE ECSTATIC DANCE**

WEDNESDAY 29

- GREAT NORTHERN HOTEL, BYRON **ASH GRUNWALD**

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON 7PM **SAM BUCKINGHAM**

- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 7.30PM **PULP FICTION**

- BYRON BOWLING CLUB **MUSICAL TRIVIA**

- WOODY'S SURF SHACK, BYRON 8PM **DJ ADRIAN BRANDELLO**

- BRUNSWICK PICTURE HOUSE 7PM **CHASING ASYLUM**

- BALLINA HOTEL 6PM **OPEN MIC**

- ITALO CLUB, LISMORE 6PM **ORKEZTAR LIZMORE**

- TATTS HOTEL, LISMORE 6PM **LUCAS ZORRO TRIO**

electric forest presents

MAYA SOLSTICE FESTIVAL

Cyber Tribal Gathering



SORCERESS
POB
BEN ABRAHAMS
RESETESER

KOHINUR HALL
Saturday 25th June
6 - 12 \$25

Service Directory

SERVICE DIRECTORY RATES, PAYMENT & DEADLINE

DEADLINE: For additions and changes to the Service Directory is 12pm Friday

LINE ADS: \$90 for 3 months or \$310 for 1 year prepaid

DISPLAY ADS: \$63 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.

Ads appear everyday in Service Directory pages on Echonet daily at www.echonetdaily.net.au

ACCOUNTS & BOOKINGS: 6684 1777

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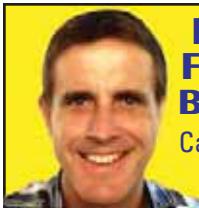
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Concrete Grinding & Polishing	38	Printer Toners & Cartridges	40
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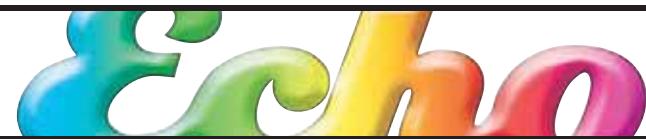
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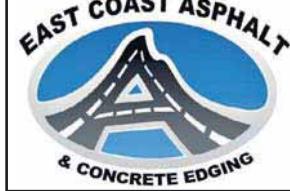
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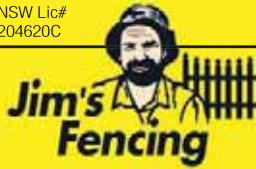
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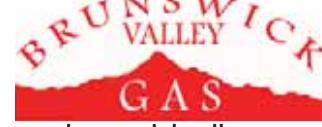


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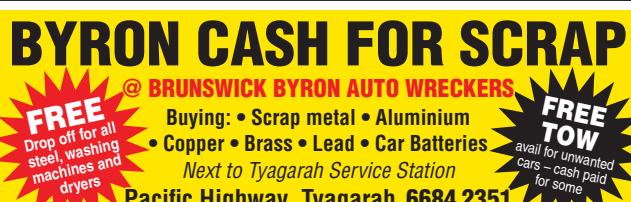
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3rd SUN	Lismore Car Boot	6628 7333			
3rd SUN					

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PUBLIC NOTICES



Office of Environment & Heritage



Fox and Wild Dog Control using 1080 Baits and Canid Pest Ejectors to protect priority threatened species

As part of the NSW Fox Threat Abatement Plan the National Parks and Wildlife Service, Northern Rivers Region wishes to advise all neighbours and visitors of:

- Brunswick Heads Nature Reserve (north)
- Richmond River Nature Reserve
- Broadwater National Park and
- Bundjalung National Park.

The 1080 fox-baiting and ejector program will commence on Friday 1 July 2016. Baits and ejectors will be used until Friday 16 December 2016. Fox control may continue at some sites until Friday 24 February 2017, to account for the completion of shorebird breeding. Where wild dogs are detected during these programs they will also be controlled. Signs will be located at entrances to reserves where baits for foxes and wild dogs have been laid.

These programs are priority initiatives of the NSW Fox Threat Abatement Plan for the protection of breeding threatened shorebirds. The programs are supported by the Dept of Defence, North Coast Local Land Services and relevant local councils.

Reminder: Fox and wild dog control using 1080 baits is underway in Tyagarah Nature Reserve to protect long-nosed potoroos. Ejectors may also be used to control foxes. This program is ongoing until Friday 9 December 2016.

Please Note: Dogs are not permitted in National Parks or Nature Reserves. People should be aware of the control programs, keeping domestic pets to designated pet exercise areas under control and avoiding bait stations/ejectors at all times.

For more information contact the local NPWS area office on:
Tweed/Kyogle Area: (02) 6670 8600
Byron Coast Area: (02) 6620 9300
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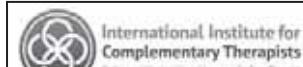
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ADMIN LEGEND

wanted to join Natural Therapy Association – IICT in Byron Bay. 4 days per week. We need someone who can think on their feet; create happy members by solving problems. Our business is the combination of people and their information. If you like to work towards a goal independently with the backup of an experienced team, we would love to hear from you. Applications close June 29th. Visit: www.iict.com.au/careers

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- Hospitality or graphic design background is a bonus
- Immediate start

Please apply in writing with a cover letter and references to byronbayfresh@gmail.com

iOS DEVELOPER

UPLIFT is a media channel dedicated to telling the new story of inspired co-creation. Based in Mullum, our passionate team have created the upliftconnect.com portal and are now looking to extend user experience to mobile apps.

We are looking for an experienced iOS developer to help us complete an MVP. Initially a contract role, but with potential to turn full time, your role would be to work with our development team to rapidly design, build, deploy and validate an MVP.

This is a rare opportunity to be part of an inspirational organisation creating new and innovative products.

Requirements for this role:

- 2+ years experience developing iOS apps with examples in the app store (ideally across mobile and tablet).
- Strong knowledge of Cocoa Touch, Swift and Xcode (objective-c developers will be considered, although Swift is our preference).
- Experience working with RESTful APIs
- Experience developing testable, maintainable and scalable code, as well as following TDD practices.
- Familiarity with using Git/Github for version control.
- Familiarity with lean & agile methodologies.
- Passion for both technology & creating great user experiences.

Note: commercial experience in iOS is required to be considered for this position.

If this sounds like you, please get in touch by emailing your cover letter and CV to: info@upliftconnect.com

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

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Roslyn McKenzie

13-3-1932 to 14-6-2016

Long-time resident of

Huonbrook, Roslyn

passed away suddenly in

Bendigo. She will be sadly

missed by all who knew

her. A celebration of

her life will be held

sometime soon.

JENNIFER LOUISE HOLDSWORTH

9.7.1977 – 13.6.2016

Passed away peacefully at

John Hunter Hospital, Newcastle.

Dearly loved daughter of Peter (dec)

and Patricia. Loved sister of Garry.

Much loved mother of Dylan & Cooper.

Loving partner of Mark.

A private cremation service was held

on 17 June 2016 at Newcastle.

Jenny's family warmly invite family and

friends to a Memorial Service at

St Martin's Anglican Church at 11am

on Friday 24 June 2016.

In our hearts always.

NICHOLAS AMBROSE WELLS

18.6.91 – 23.5.16

Nick's family would like to thank all of

Nick and Tam's friends, family friends,

neighbours, work colleagues and the

wider community for their support

since Nick's passing.

Nick was greatly loved and will be

forever in our hearts and thoughts.

LOST & FOUND

LOST: GOLD RING with black stone at

Durrumbal Hall, Sat 12th June. Reward

offered. 66840008

LOST: Cat dark tabby, white under chin.

Mauve collar, purple ID. Answers to Angel.

Brunswick area. 04050663030

LIVESTOCK

CHESTNUT ARAB MARE 14.2hh with

saddle & rug, \$1600. 0432549903

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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.....	132 500
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)	6622 1881
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
WIRES – NSW Wildlife Information & Rescue Service	6628 1898
SNAKE & REPTILE REMOVAL – call WIRES	6628 1898

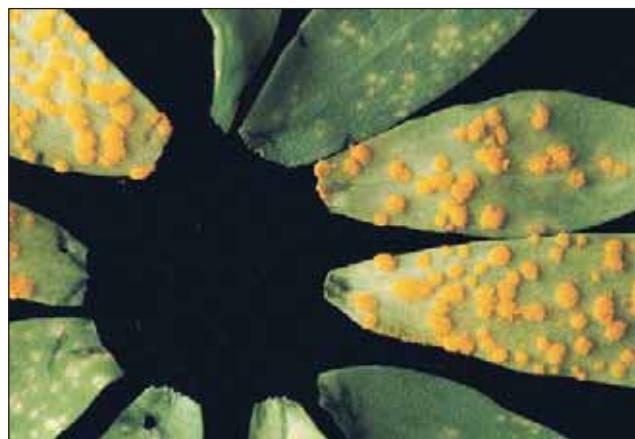
Global threat to agriculture from invasive species

New CSIRO research into the global impacts of invasive species has found that sub-Saharan African countries are most at risk, while China and the USA pose the greatest threat.

The research, published in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, found that although the chances of invasive species entering Australia were relatively high, the overall threat to agriculture is lessened due to our robust management practices.

Rusts are common fungal diseases of plants, including many of Australia's cereal and horticultural crops.

The research examines the worldwide distribution of nearly 1,300 invasive pests and pathogens, international trade flows, and each country's main agricultural production crops, to determine potential invasion risks and



Rusts are a common fungal disease of plants, including many of Australia's cereal and horticultural crops.

impact.

This is the first analysis of invasive species' threat to global crop production on a country-by-country basis, calculating the total potential cost of these species invading each of the 124 countries.

Senior researcher Dr Dean Paini said the research found that the most vulnerable

countries were located in sub-Saharan Africa.

'These countries generally do not have diverse economies, making them disproportionately more dependent on agriculture,' Dr Paini said.

'As a result any threat from invasive species can potentially have a greater relative impact on these countries.'

The study also determined which countries present the greatest threat to the rest of the world given the scale of agricultural export and the invasive species already established.

The USA and China posed the greatest threat as sources of invasive species; however, this is not surprising given the high number of pests already present, the scale of their agriculture-export industries and their roles as regional food hubs with an extensive network of trade partners.

Conversely, as the countries with the largest agricultural export industries, the USA and China could also experience the greatest absolute cost from further species invasions.

However, their ability to manage or mitigate the impact via means such as pest

management, plant breeding, crop substitutions, or imports, means that their agriculture industries are not as vulnerable as those of developing countries.

As trade volumes continue to increase and more trade connections are made between countries, the pressures from invasive species will only intensify.

'This research provides insights that will enable the first steps toward the management of invasive species at the global scale,' Dr Paini said.

'By identifying the countries and regions that are most vulnerable, governments can make informed decisions regarding the deployment of resources necessary to protect their borders and agriculture industries by limiting the further spread of invasive species.'

Health outweighs hangovers: Dry July research reveals improved Aussie drinking attitude

Over three in five Aussie drinkers (63 per cent) attempt to minimise the effect of alcohol on their health by 'offsetting' their alcohol consumption by eating well (40 per cent), exercising (34 per cent) or drinking only on the weekends (25 per cent).

New research commissioned by Dry July has found a societal shift in attitudes toward drinking, as more Australians (60 per cent) are conscious of the effects of alcohol consumption on their health than they were a year ago.

The statistics show almost a quarter of Aussies are actually drinking less each week than the same time last year (24 per cent) and, of those, 47 per cent are reducing in-

take due to weight concerns and/or physical health, above financial reasons (21 per cent) and hatred of hangovers (21 per cent).

Embarrassed

The report has found more than a third (35 per cent) of Aussie drinkers have been concerned at some stage in their lives that they drink too much. They have also felt embarrassed (37 per cent) and/or guilty (36 per cent) about their bad behaviour while drunk. Almost one in five (17 per cent) of Aussie drinkers has lied about their drinking habits to friends and/or family. Over a third (36 per cent) of Aussie drinkers would like to reduce their drinking and three in five (61 per cent) would like to encourage someone they care about to reduce their drinking.

Half empty

However, the glass is still half empty for some experts

as, despite the known health risks, a number of Australians have increased their drinking, and others believe it is more socially acceptable to drink a lot.

Sixteen per cent of Aussie drinkers are drinking more each week than last year, and half (51 per cent) of Aussies believe there has been no shift in attitudes toward drinking, or that it is now more socially acceptable to drink a lot. Almost 30 per cent of younger Aussies (aged 18-24) believe it is now more socially acceptable to drink a lot.

'It is incredible to see the positive change in behaviour among Aussies toward drinking,' says Dr Cris Beer, medical doctor and author of *Healthy Liver*.

'Also, it's great that many of us are eating well and exercising to keep healthy, but it's important to remember that it doesn't counteract alcohol consumption or allow you to drink as much as you like, then go for a run the next day,

for example. The Australian guidelines still recommend no more than two standard drinks on any day to reduce your risk of alcohol-related disease.'

More aware

Brett Macdonald, Dry July CEO and co-founder, says,

'Our research report has found that Australians are increasingly aware of their own health and are looking to make positive changes to their habits. This is why we're encouraging everyone to sign up for Dry July – not only do you get to make a real difference to people affected by cancer but you'll also notice your own drinking habits and the value of a healthy, balanced lifestyle.'

Dry July challenges Australians to go booze-free for a month to support people affected by cancer. Now in its ninth year, Dry July has raised more than \$24 million to provide better services and environments for cancer pa-

tients and their families and carers.

Benefits

By signing up to the Dry July challenge and making small improvements to their diet and exercise routine, participants can expect to experience a range of benefits:

- * Weight loss
- * Increased energy levels and higher productivity
- * Better sleep
- * Clearer head and skin
- * No hangovers.

Dr Cris Beer says, 'Going alcohol-free for the month is a great way to naturally cleanse your liver and save yourself the empty calories from drinking. Alcohol is high in energy so even a few drinks can lead to weight gain. Dry July can help develop a more balanced attitude to drinking and kick-start healthier habits for life.'

To sign up for Dry July visit www.dryjuly.com/sign-up or donate at www.dryjuly.com/donate.

Baby boomers at risk of macular degeneration

Baby boomers, born between 1946 and 1965, are at risk of macular degeneration, Australia's leading cause of blindness and severe vision loss.

'All the baby boomers are now aged over 50 and that means they're at risk of macular degeneration. For this reason it is critical to have an eye test and macula check and adopt eye-health diet and lifestyle practices,' said Ita Buttrose, patron of Macular Disease Foundation Australia.

'Baby boomers have changed the definition of ageing. More than any generation before, they're working longer, travelling widely and have big plans for their future. They are the first generation who can expect to live a decade or two of relatively healthy life after retirement.

'That's why it is important that part of their plan for the future includes preventive steps to save their sight from macular degeneration.

'Follow the Foundation's

eye-health diet and lifestyle recommendations such as eating dark green leafy vegetables, especially spinach, and fresh fruit and fish. Exercise regularly and don't smoke – good for eyes, also good for bones, heart and brain.

'I saw the impact vision loss had on my father's life. He had macular degeneration and now my uncle, his youngest brother, does too. Fortunately he is receiving effective sight-saving treatment because his macular degener-

ation was detected early and he received timely treatment. At 92, he is still able to drive.

'A direct family history of macular degeneration means a 50 per cent chance of developing the disease. So if you have a direct family member with the disease be vigilant with your eye health,' said Ita.

For a free macular degeneration information kit and Amsler grid contact Macular Disease Foundation Australia on 1800 111 709 or visit www.mdfoundation.com.au.

Cougars' composure in wet leaves Devils down but not bowed

Story & photo John Campbell

All of a sudden, the threat of the wooden spoon looms larger than the prospect of a finals berth for the Byron Bay Red Devils.

Undaunted, however, by the boys' leaky journey through the troubled waters of NRRRL Season 2016, and ignoring the inclement weather, an estimated 2,417 hardy souls turned up to support the Bay on Sunday in their clash with the Casino Cougars.

It was a filthy afternoon, with a bruising northerly hammering players and partisans alike before drenching us all with a second-half deluge. Neither side was at its best in the conditions and despite a mounting mistake rate, the contest was riveting and hard-fought to the death. That it was the Devils on the wrong end of a 20-12 scoreline had less to do with the effort they put in – which was mighty – as it did with



The second-half rain made it almost impossible to see the nose on your face at Red Devil Park on Sunday.

the simple but glaring truth that, presented with scoring chances, the visitors knew how to take them, the Bay didn't.

The game got off to a weird start, with the ref allowing Byron to get away with a

knock-on from the kick-off and then disallowing a try to winger Connor 'Casban' Wilson after the youngster had executed a neat back-and-forth with captain Ryan 'the Crab' O'Connell.

Almost straightaway, Ca-

sino went wide to the right, then the left and, looking too quick on the extremities, crossed in the corner. Another four-pointer on the back of a 40/20 had them ahead 10-0 and the ladies under the shelter at the eastern fence

were already calling for blankets. When the ref turned a blind eye to a forward pass to award another Cougars try, it was 16-zip and 'good-night nurse' for the Bay.

A sideline conversion from Joey 'the General' Gordon of an O'Connell try – it wobbled through the sticks like a drunken sailor – had the good guys back in it at the break.

As the weather worsened in the second forty, ball security became paramount. Unfortunately, it was the Cougars who applied themselves more stringently (or less loosely) to this basic principle. They were making fewer errors when in possession and their kick-chase was more threatening, so it didn't come out of the blue when they increased their lead to 20-6.

Other teams may have watched the clock tick down and hurry to the hot showers, but the Devils don't do that. They plugged away, forcing

the issue and winning the battle for territory. The problem was – and it has been unresolved for most of the season – they could not find a way across the white chalk. At times it appeared that their only attacking option was a barge from dummy-half.

The lights finally came on with about twenty minutes left, prompting the stage-struck ref to bung on his own Oscar-winning performance by demanding that the ball be played four times on the same spot before it was done to his satisfaction.

Eventually, following repeated sets in Casino's twenty, Chris 'Jawbone' Coleman managed to plant the pill under the black dot after one of his fantastic monster surges, but it was too little, too late.

If the boys are now playing only for pride, you could do worse to than to get out to Red Devil Park on Sunday to support them against Kyogle. They've worked hard without a lot of luck go their way.

Rams play double feature

Dogwhistle

The Great Northern Byron Bay Rams stepped up the challenge of two night games inside four days in fine style last week, with four masterful displays of quick, decisive football.

The Reserves started the week's goal-fest slowly on Tuesday night, closing the first half against Alstonville with only a goal from midfield maestro Lachlan Dewar on the board. The goals began to flow freely in the second half, however, with another seven added to the tally.

The Prems also started cautiously against Alstonville, getting the measure of their opponents for the first half-hour before a through ball from Thiago Priori found speedster Tyson Kaye on the run to open the account 34 minutes in. Five minutes later, Kaye was brought down in the box and his clinical penalty strike made it 2-0. Aaron Walker was next, wrestling his way through an increasingly desperate villa defence to take Byron's third. Two minutes further in and Thiago Priori dummied and chipped the defence to find Aaron Walker who buried his second. Tyson Kaye drove home his hat-trick to take the final tally to a convincing 5-0.

The week's second episode, Friday night's much-an-

ticipate derby against neighbouring Bangalow, provided more of the same – with perhaps a little more intensity.

The Reserves jumped straight into it, with Will Ennis bursting through and charging the ball down to the Bluedogs post before cutting back to George Martin for an unstoppable finish. Twenty minutes later, a deflected shot from Ennis was pounced on by Thomas for Byron's second. Another twenty and sub Dan Musgrave's well placed through ball gave Will Ennis his first for the day. A surprise goal from Bangalow put

Byron back on their toes for the second half and the Rams responded with two more goals from Ennis, another from Thomas, and two from Dan Musgrave, taking the final score to 8-1.

The Premier Division Rams took to the pitch with equal vigour, opening their contest with the 'Dogs in the opening two minutes when Thiago Priori beat the Bangalow defence and coolly chipped the keeper. Two minutes later, Tyson Kaye burned up the flank, crossed to Sam Owens, who parried back to a charging Aaron Walker for a perfect finish. The Rams found themselves two goals up in the opening five minutes. A goal-mouth skirmish saw the Bangalow keeper step back into the goals to give

Byron their third. Bangalow had no answer for the power partnership Tyson Kaye and Aaron Walker, the two carving up the Bangalow defence. A pass from Kaye to Walker delivered the Rams' fourth for the night and a header from Herick Schuenemann made it five. Bangalow scored a late face-saver before Herick Schuenemann bagged his second taking the final score to 6-1.

The Rams have another night game at home this Friday against Lennox, with the Ressies kicking off at 6pm and the Prems at 8pm.

Andrew Teuma

Byron Bay Rugby travelled to Albert Park, Casino, on Saturday to play against 7th-place Casino Bulls RUFC. After the bus trip Byron Bay were keen to get underway to complete a round of fixtures this season.

Byron Bay Rugby started strong with hot-stepper Will Aisake showing his running power early on after a darting run, which ended in touch. The Byron Bay pack showed its dominance with some strong driving from the scrums and mauls. It didn't take long for Byron Bay to score with Jack Cooke crashing over after quick play from

Mullumbimby swimmers are winners

The Mullumbimby Swim Club had a great summer season and swimmers improved across the board, many of those athletes are still reaping the rewards from their time in the Petria Thomas Pool.

Twelve-year-old Kalani Bruce and Amber Borthwick at just 11, represented the club last weekend at the Swimming North Coast Winter Championships held at Crescent Head and the Trinity Aquatic Centre in Lismore.

They competed against clubs from Port Macquarie through to the Gold Coast. Kalani achieved four PBs and Amber won bronze in



Mullumbimby swimmers: Kalani Bruce (left) and Amber Borthwick.

the 50m butterfly and breaststroke, silver in the 200m breaststroke and two state qualifying times for Sydney.

Kalani and Amber have also been chosen to participate in the SNC Development Squad.

Byron on top of ladder at mid-season mark

Andrew Teuma

the ruck five metres out, with John Laughlin converting the points.

Captain Jascha Saeck, who had dropped to fullback for the away fixture, showed his pace and skill by sprinting to the line on two occasions in the first half, evading the defence with quick footwork. A fantastic performance that earned Saeck Player of the Match. No 8 Cooke added another try, giving the visitors a bonus point in the first half.

Cooke now tops the try scoring tally, bringing his figure to 12 this season.

The second half saw Paul Jeffery putting his replacements to good use with Sean

Nicholl showing his patience in choosing his lines with a number of breaks resulting in a try for the American. Nicholl was involved in the next try with a well held line to pop the ball to Barrall Montgomery who put Laughlin into the corner, the Irishman adding two further points.

Laughlin returned the favour to his Irish counterpart Montgomery into the final quarter after a darting run down the 15-metre line before straightening and a perfectly timed pass while against Casino's fullback put Montgomery over the line. Scrum-half Harold Chiffoleau added the

final try after he caught the Casino defence napping and dived over the line.

Round 7 Sat 18 June Casino

Bulls 0-52 Byron Bay

Rugby Tries: Cooke 2, Saeck 2, Chiffoleau, Laughlin,

Montgomery, Nicholl Cons:

Laughlin 6

In other results around the zone, Lismore City drew to Southern Cross Uni in the Lismore derby 20-20; Bangalow RUFC were defeated by Lennox Head Trojans 31-17; the Rebels third straight loss and a battle between Wollongbar-Alstonville Pioneers and Ballina RUFC resulting in Ballina defeating the Pioneers 28-20 at Lyle Park.

Community at work



On The Horizon

DEADLINE NOON FRIDAY

Email copy marked
'On The Horizon' to
editor@echo.net.au.

U3A Ballina/Byron

Enjoy Diana Hughes Art Appreciation on 'Dogs in Australian Art' at 10am on 28/06/16 in the RSL meeting room, Mullumbimby. Visitors welcome. Enquiries 6680 7350.

Regular As Clockwork

DEADLINE NOON FRIDAY

PLEASE NOTE: The popularity of this page means that all entries might not be printed each week. Email copy marked 'Regular As Clockwork' to editor@echo.net.au.

Neighbourhood Centre

Mullumbimby & District Neighbourhood Centre presents: Mondays – Toddler Time 9.30–11.15am; Feldenkrais gentle exercise from 9.30am courtyard; Lunch 12–2pm, Board games in the courtyard. Tuesdays – Cuppa Tea Choir and ukulele from 9.30 Hub; Lunch 12–2pm, Extreme Knitting 2pm. Wednesdays – Spirit of Chi Gong 9.30am courtyard; Jammin session Hub from 10am all day; Lunch 12–2pm; Soup Kitchen 5pm. Thursdays – Express Yourself Art as therapy from 10.30am courtyard; Nature Walk with Eugene 9.30am sharp. Everyone welcome! Please call Renae for further info on 6684 1286.

BCC Seniors Activities

Byron Community Centre's Tuesday Seniors' Activities are back on their regular schedule: 10.30am Elder Beats Drumming \$10; 11.30am Morning Tea; 12 noon Chair Yoga \$5. The Bay Community Singers Choir will be resuming its Monday class at 10.30am from 2 May, cost is \$10.

Junior chess club

The Mullum junior chess club meets after school until 4.45pm Tuesdays in room F4 at Mullumbimby High School. All ages, all standards, encouragement and professional coaching. Ph Mike 6684 6281.

Bridge club

Bruswick Valley Bridge Club meets at the Brunswick Heads Bowling Club Mondays and Saturdays 12.30 for 12.45pm start. Visitors welcome. If you need a partner please ring Phyllis Keyte on 6684 1103.

ESL classes

Free English as a Second Language classes in Mullumbimby, suitable for beginners to advanced learners. More info call 0421 796 529 or 6674 7267.

Landcare

Bangalow Land and Rivercare working bee every Saturday 8.30–10.30am. See www.bangalowlandcare.org.au or call Liz 6687 1309.

Craft group

The Uniting Craft & Social Group meets every Monday 9.30am–2.30pm at the Uniting Church in Carlyle Street, Byron Bay. Come and chat, enjoy a cuppa, the company and your craft. Bring lunch and whatever else you need. All welcome. Do you prefer patchwork and quilting? Come along on Monday evening same place at 6pm. Enquiries Tilly 6685 5985.

Library fun

Baby Bounce session Mullumbimby – Tuesday 11.30am, Brunswick Heads – Friday 10.30am, Byron Bay – Friday

Bushdancing

Live music from Hide The Potato with dance caller. Brunswick Heads RSL Hall 2.15–4.30pm Sunday 26 June. All welcome.

Byron Sophia

Byron Sophia Philosophical Group: Nicholas Roerich – Son of the Himalayas, presented by Gerald Reardon, Thursday 23 June, 1–3 pm, at Masonic Centre, Byron Bay. Info: Celia 6684 3623.

Byron Trails talk

Friends of Libraries, Byron Shire & Mullumbimby Library present 'Byron Trails: 50 walking adventures in Byron

10am. Storytime for toddlers and preschool children Mullumbimby – Friday 10.30am, Brunswick Heads – Monday 10.30am, Byron Bay – Tuesday 10.30am.

Bush School

Each Thursday during term time the Brunswick Bush School takes kids 6–13 years out into the bush to learn, grow and connect with each other. Facebook: Brunswick Bush School and email: brunswichbushschool@gmail.com.

U3A discussion group

U3A over-50 discussion group Thursdays 10am in Mullumbimby Ex-Services Club.

Bay Singers

The Bay Singers (BB Community Choir) meets Mondays 10.30–11.30am at the Community Centre each week. More info: easwain@bigpond.com.

Quota Club

Quota Club of Brunswick Valley meets every 1st Thursday of the month at the Ocean Shores Country Club at 6pm. Ph 0439 733 763 for more info.

Spanish conversation

A Spanish conversation group meets every Monday evening in Mullumbimby in order to improve language skills and cultural knowledge. Phone Paco 6684 0242.

Men's Groups

Complete Men has regular fortnightly men's groups on different nights in both Byron and Mullum. Call Tim Fisk 0422 508 533.

Rainbow Dragons Abreast

Rainbow Dragons Abreast (RDA) welcomes breast cancer survivors for a paddle at Lake Ainsworth, Lennox Head, on Sundays 7.30 for 8am start. Info Marian 6688 4058, mazzera-ti2010@gmail.com.

Op shops

Uniting Church Op Shop, Dalley St, Mullumbimby – open each Saturday 8am–12 noon. **Byron Bay Anglican Op Shop** opens Monday to Friday 9am–1pm. Volunteers needed. Enq Jeni: 6685 7816 or 0439 344 281.

Anglican Church Mullumbimby Op Shop opens Monday to Friday 9am–4.30pm, Saturday 9.30am–12.30pm. Volunteers needed, enq Liz 6684 2622 nights. **Mullumbimby Seventh-Day Adventist Op Shop** opens Monday – Thursday 10am–3.30pm, Friday 9am – 2pm and third Sunday of the month 10am–2pm.

Lions Club

Interested in making new friends and helping our community? Lions Club of Brunswick Mullumbimby meets 1st & 3rd Tuesdays at 7pm Ocean Shores Country Club. More information President Joan Towers 0400 484 419.

Low-cost food

Food Box Thursdays 9.30–11.30am at Uniting Church, Mullumbimby. If you have any sort of Centrelink card you may purchase cheap food, obtain free veges, and enjoy a cuppa. C3 Care **Byron Bay Food Care** – log on to www.c3byronbay.com to see if you are eligible, or call 6680 8872.

Carers' support

Mullumbimby Mental Health Carers' Support Group for family members

Bay & beyond' by Mairead Cleary, in conversation with Jesse Blackadder, Thursday 14 July, 5.30pm for 6pm start at MULLUMBIMBY LIBRARY. Bookings essential 6684 2992.

Camera Club

Ballina Camera Club digital meeting Thursday 23 June at 6.30pm at Kentwell Community Centre. Enquiries Mark 6686 6915.

Breastfeeding support

The Australian Breastfeeding Association (ABA) is meeting each month on the 4th Mondays at the Grace Community Church, Rajah Road, 9.30–11.30am. Next meeting is on Monday

and friends who have a loved one with a mental health issue. Meeting on 4th Thursday of each month 9.30am at the Mullumbimby Neighbourhood Centre. Info: Leanne 0409 818 643.

Toastmasters

Byron Cavanbah Toastmasters practise public speaking and leadership through our community-run course. Meetings coaching in communication and self-development run on 1st and 3rd Mondays, 6.40pm at Byron Services Club, Byron Bay; www.byronbaytoastmasters.org. **MullumMagic Toastmasters** meet 2nd, 4th and 5th Mondays at 7pm, Presbyterian Church Hall in Mullum. Please call Satisha 0499 918 925 for more info.

CoDA

Co-dependents Anonymous (CoDA) is a worldwide network of groups of men and women learning how to develop and maintain healthy and fulfilling relationships. For more information visit www.coddependentsanonymous.org.au or phone 9281 3330.

Liberation Larder

The charity that collects, cooks and distributes over 450 meals per week across the Byron Shire to people in need is on the look out for volunteers. For information ring 0435 879 778 or visit our Facebook page or liberationlarder.org.au.

Byron FLEA

Byron FLEA at the YAC (1 Gilmore Crescent) 2nd Saturday of every month from 8am till 1pm. Free stalls for young people. Call Lotte 0490 026 840.

Bridge Club

The Brunswick Valley Bridge Club meets every Saturday and Monday at 12.15pm at the Brunswick Heads Bowling Club. All welcome. Info: Silvia Van Rossum 6676 3720.

Byron Girls Group

A fun, creative and supportive group for girls aged 12–18 every Wednesday

\$1,000 GRANTS JULY/AUG 2016 PERIOD

The Lions Club of Brunswick Mullumbimby are offering

BI-MONTHLY GRANTS up to \$1,000

These grants can be applied for by any Not-For-Profit organisation or group which supports our local community within the Byron Shire (except Bangalow who have their own Lions Club) i.e. Junior Sporting groups, Church groups, health groups, local charities, service groups, any humanitarian purposes.

These grants will be offered every two months.

Contact the **Lions Club of Brunswick Mullumbimby**
PO Box 12 Mullumbimby
Email: clairejharris999@gmail.com

An application will be sent to you.

Applications must be received by 14th August 2016.

The \$1,000 grant for May/June was awarded to:
\$500: OS Public School Special Needs Library
\$500: More than a Meal

Unsuccessful applications do not carry forward, a new application is required.

Any questions phone **Tony Cornell 6680 2011** or **Joan Towers 0400 484419** or **Claire Harris 6680 3707**.

27 June. Enquiries 0431 477 445.

Integrating to Wholeness

This is a platform of information that allows the individual to engage more fully with their lives. We need to find a cheap or free venue which can be as little as a picnic table or a local home or hall. Please call Jay on 0421 726 797 if you would like to be part of this experience.

New book talk

Friends of Libraries, Byron Shire present Gay Bilson in conversation with John Newton discussing John's new book *The Oldest Foods on Earth; a History of Australian Native Foods* with

4–6pm at the Byron Youth Service. Contact Lotte 0490 026 840 for details.

Bay Community Singers

Bay Community Singers is a singalong group for seniors and anyone else who likes to sing. Mondays, Byron Community Centre, 10.30–11.30am. Entry by donation. 0417 277 211, info@raisetheroofsinging.com.

Town Choir

Mullum's Biggest Little Town Choir meets weekly at the Timber Slab factory, Jubilee Ave, Thursdays at 6.30pm. Newcomers welcome.

Carers Community Group

Presented by Womens Health Forum 2nd Thursday of each month 1–2.30pm Ewingsdale Hall. Info: Yasmin 0437 886 424, whfcarerescgroup@gmail.com.

Sex & Love Addicts Anon

Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous is peer-support group of men and women for whom sex and/or romance have become a problem. For details of weekly meetings, phone 0452 074 974 or visit www.slaa.org.au.

Potters & Sculptors

Mullumbimby Potters & Sculptors The Community Art Gallery (Gallery at the Drill Hall) is open every Tues & Thurs 10am–2pm and on the 3rd Saturday of the month (Mullum Market Day) 10am–4pm. Pottery and sculpture crafted by local artisans for sale. The Drill Hall Complex, 2 Jubilee Ave, Mullumbimby. Enquiries: mullum.potters@yahoo.com.au

Mystery talks

The Mysteries of Life and Death: A series of talks and meditations based in the ancient gnostic mysteries, Friday evenings in Byron Bay. Free of charge. Gnostic Society 0412 020 234.

Mullum CWA

The Mullumbimby Branch CWA handcraft group meets 9am–12pm each 1st,



Recipes

Thursday

30 June, 5.30pm for a

6pm start at Byron Bay Library. Book-

ings

essential

by

27 June: http://bit.ly/

billnewt. Phone bookings 6687 1396.

Poets night

Combined Service Clubs of Brunswick Valley Poets Night now reorganised for 13 August at same venue and prior tickets will be able to be used on that night. For more info Joan Towers 6684 2467 or Russell Siwicki 6685 1206.

Artists invited

Artists are invited to submit an expression of interest to present exhibitions at the Gallery at The Drill Hall, Mullumbimby, for July–December. For more

information and application form please email mullum.potters@yahoo.com.au or drop in on Tuesdays and Thursdays 10am–2pm behind the Drill Hall at 2 Jubilee Ave, Mullumbimby.

Quilts on show

Mullumbimby Hospital Auxiliary quilting exhibition to display quilts lovingly sewn by local quilting groups for the sub-acute mental facility, the birthing unit and the oncology unit at our new Byron Central Hospital, at the Anglican Church in Stuart Street, Mullumbimby, on 25 June, 10am–2pm. Entry by gold coin donation. Morning tea available.

Please note: This section is intended for non-profit community groups.

our vibrant group on Wednesdays and Thursdays 9am–1pm and the second Monday evening of each month 5–7pm in the Bangalow CWA rooms for craft, friendship and community support. Rooms are

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The Creative Textiles Group at Byron Bay Library has been busy yarn bombing again outside the library. The display this year is titled 'A nod to Rio' – the colours say it all. According to Wikipedia, the genesis of yarn bombing 'has been attributed to Magda Sayeg, 37, from Houston, who says she first got the idea in 2005 when she covered the door handle of her boutique with a custom-made cozy'. There is a wonderful collection of images online.

The flood of objections to building a rock wall at Bellongil continues, with a whole page of letters and a submitted cartoon on page 13. Only one of the letters is in favour of the proposal. This is one of the longest-running sagas in the Shire's history, up there with the ill-fated attempts to create a workable bypass for Byron Bay when most visitors don't want to pass by the town.

This week we begin our regular Writers Festival page, bringing you news and reviews in the lead-up to the big event August 5–7. On page 14 we look at some courageous Indian women writers in their struggle to break free of stifling traditions, and look forward to the exciting launch of a local Indigenous anthology, *Our Way Stories*. You should have your program which was inserted in last week's *Echo* or you can find out more at byronwritersfestival.com.

Those dangerous revolution-

aries the Knitting Nannas Against Gas (knitting-nannas.com) will be out in force again at the World's Biggest Lock-On at NSW parliament on Thursday June 23 at 11am. It's a chance for Mike Baird to try out his anti-democratic anti-protest laws or just leave the parliament fence festooned with nannas. See more at this Facebook page: <http://bit.ly/WBlockon>.

The news that elective surgery waiting times and lists on the north coast are at record levels is definitely concerning. Just because the surgery is not urgent doesn't mean that the prospective patient is not uncomfortable with his or her condition. Apparently more than 5,200 patients are waiting for surgery, according to the Independent Bureau of Health Information (bhi.nsw.gov.au/new). Hopefully some of the election promises about boosting the health system will come to fruition but we won't be holding our breath.

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