

**Homely delights abound  
in the Home & Garden  
feature – p14-16**

**Or find a new one  
in Echo Property  
– p17-21,33-37**

**Be  
entertained!  
– p38-44**

**Mandy takes the safety  
barriers and the training  
wheels off – p39**



## Housie commitment



Joan and Beryl have been playing housie in the Brunswick Heads tent for over 40 years, and this season, a massive volunteering effort was spearheaded by Ocean Shores Preschool and the Guilty Pleasures Cabaret Festival to keep it open. Funds raised this year are going towards the school and festival, which plans to launch in May 2017 in Brunswick Heads. Photo supplied

## Nationals MP supports pork barrelling

Hans Lovejoy

Pork barrelling, which is a term that refers to using government funds for projects designed to please voters in a particular electorate, appears to have the full support of federal Nationals senator John Williams.

It comes in response to questions put to him by *The Echo* regarding deputy prime minister and Nationals leader Barnaby Joyce's plans to move the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) from Canberra to his electorate in Armidale.

According to multiple news outlets, including an interview on ABC TV show *Insiders*, Mr Joyce ignored any accountability over the move, which would see 175 public servants forcibly relocate from Canberra to the heart of Mr Joyce's electorate.

Mr Joyce refused a senate order to produce a key document on his plan, and attempted to hide a cost-benefit analysis on the move, which cost \$270,000. It was later released and claims the move would cost taxpayers at least \$25.6 million.

*The Echo* asked Mr Williams if he support this move, 'given it ap-

pears to be costly, unproven and undermines the public's confidence in politicians being accountable and acting responsibly.'

Senator Williams replied, 'I support people moving to regional areas which takes pressure off the housing market in the cities.'

'This boosts regional economies and builds confidence in business.'

'I fully support the APVMA move to Armidale because the city also has offices of organisations like Australian Poultry and Sheep Industry CRC's, CSIRO, Beef Industry Centre

continued on page 2 ➤

## Surf life savers kept busy over weekend

David Bradbury

Big waves and rough seas saw fourteen people get into trouble at Brunswick Heads over Christmas Eve, and thanks to the efforts of the local Surf Life Savers, they all were rescued.

One young Swedish woman in her early 20s became panic stricken with big waves taking her under as life savers arrived to help.

'I could see the fear in her eyes as I pulled her and her two male companions on board the rescue boat,' rescuer Graham Corley said.

Another unidentified 22-year-old Brunswick Heads man also got into trouble and was sucked out to sea. He tried swimming out of the rip but it was too strong.

'I was being sucked further out to sea and tried not to panic, but the waves kept crashing over my head and I was running out of breath,' he said.

'I felt foolish, but I quickly realised I had no choice but to put up my hand and signal for help. I was getting very weak.'

Before he knew it, a life saver on a board came to his rescue and shot on the whitewater towards shore. 'I'm sure glad they were there to come to my rescue,' he said.

Life saver Adrian Russell, who has served the Brunswick community on the beach for many years, warned of an unusually high tide running out to sea throughout the coming week till late afternoon each day.

'That is what is causing a fast outward flow of water to the deeper ocean and the rip,' Adrian said.

'It is an unusually dangerous situation until the low tide kicks in, but that won't be till later in the afternoon,' he said. 'We keep telling swimmers that's why we want them to stay between the flags.'

'They're put there for a reason. The Swedish swimmers who got into trouble did not swim between the flags.'

■ Brunswick SLSC welcomes new members, young or old. Contact the club via [www.brunswick-slsc.org](http://www.brunswick-slsc.org) or call 6685 1273 for more information.



James Beard, patrol captain Susan McCaughtrie and Matt O'har from the Brunswick Heads Surf Live Saving Club. Photo Ella Bradbury

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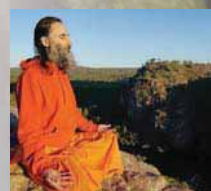
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## Man hospitalised after falling from Lighthouse cliff

The road to Byron Lighthouse was closed Thursday morning after a man fell down the cliffs at the Byron Bay Lighthouse.

NSW Ambulance told *The Echo* they were called to the scene at around 8.30am, after an incident involving a man believed to be in his 60s.

Brunswick Valley Volunteer Rescue secretary Phil Walsh also told *The Echo* that his members assisted with getting the man to safety and believes it was an accident.

'A decision was made to climb down to bring him up on a stretcher, and he was then seen to by paramedics and flown to a Gold Coast hospital.'

Mr Walsh says with the holiday break and an increase in emergency assistance, it is a timely reminder that Brunswick Valley Volunteer Rescue crews are all volunteers and that donations are needed to keep it going.

■ For more info, email [brunswick@rescue.org.au](mailto:brunswick@rescue.org.au).

## Reward offered over antisocial behaviour in nature reserves

Fed up with illegal camping and antisocial behaviour in north coast nature reserves, former Greens MLC Ian Cohen is offering a \$500 reward 'to the best candid shot of someone shitting in the bush.'

He told *The Echo* that he needs the vehicle registration of offenders too, so it can be followed up by authorities.

'Broken Head locals are now taking details of illegal camping and reporting registrations to Council,' he said.

'Also, dogs in the reserves are being photographed and sent to NPWS, along with their owners' car registrations.'

Cohen says he has had meetings with Inspector Greg Jago of Tweed-Byron Local Area Command, Council staff, National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) and locals 'who are appalled by antisocial behaviour in our nature reserves.'

'We have assurances from authorities that ranger and police activities will be upgraded.



Former Greens MLC Ian Cohen says nature reserves are being trashed. Photo Jeff Dawson

'Along our coast, our iconic national parks are being abused with illegal camping parking, which blocks emergency access.'

'Speeding on dirt roads is also extremely dangerous given the roads cannot cope

with the impact.'

As Broken Head Protection Committee director, Cohen says, 'Speeding traffic is going to cause havoc with kids on bicycles over the holiday break.'

'This is a plea to authori-

ties and the public to take action and report particularly belligerent drivers who place the public and wildlife in danger. The public must also act against this vandalism.'

■ Ian Cohen's contact is [ian.cohen.green@gmail.com](mailto:ian.cohen.green@gmail.com)

## Connor says she is still innocent of murder

Byron Bay woman Sara Connor is maintaining her innocence over the death of Bali policeman Wayan Sudarsa, despite an Indonesian police officer telling the murder trial that Ms Connor changed her story from self-defence.

Sudarsa's battered body was discovered on Kuta Beach in the early hours of August 17, and Connor is standing trial, along with her

British boyfriend David Taylor, over the murder.

Mr Sulhadi, the chief of the Denpasar Police Crime with Violence Unit, interrogated Connor and Taylor after she was arrested.

He told the court last Thursday that on the first two days of interrogation Connor had claimed Mr Sudarsa's death was self-defence but on the third day, she 'told and

showed (me) how David was struggling with the victim.'

'Sara said she hit him once when she was bitten by the victim,' Mr Sulhadi, 'but that was according to what David said. She showed me her right arm and thigh, which was bitten. I recorded it. She showed it herself, with her translator who was acting as the victim.'

Connor has reiterated her innocence, saying all she had tried to do was separate Taylor and Mr Sudarsa after the pair got into a fight over her lost purse.

Prosecutors allege Taylor became embroiled in a fatal fight with Mr Sudarsa after

the British DJ confronted the police officer over the loss of Connor's wallet.

Taylor, the court has heard, hit Mr Sudarsa numerous times, including with a beer bottle.

Before they were arrested on August 19, Connor and Taylor burnt their clothes and destroyed a number of Mr Sudarsa's personal belongings in an alleged bid to cover up evidence.

Both are facing charges of murder, fatal assault in company and assault causing death. The trial resumes on January 3, 2017.

■ AAP reporting

## Pork barrelling MPs

► continued from page 1

of Excellence, MLA and Animal Genetics and Breeding Unit just to name a few. 'There are also the excellent research facilities of UNE.

'As a result of the vision of then NSW minister for Agriculture and Rural Affairs, Ian Armstrong, Orange became home to the Department of Primary Industries (DPI) in 1992 (moving from Sydney) and both it and the city have thrived ever since.'

Local Labor MP Justine Elliot told *The Echo* that while she supports invest-



Federal Nationals senator John Williams

ment in regional NSW, it 'needs to be transparent and without huge cost.'

'The Nationals have done similar things with regional black spots for mobile phones and other regional projects.'

Byron Shire Echo archives: [www.echo.net.au/byron-echo](http://www.echo.net.au/byron-echo)

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She is like the earth – she receives, she gives, she knows. We are this beautiful life. In this self-made world man learned to show off, it is easy for you but are you brave enough to stand up for love? Be true – be simple and give your honest love and care and make sweetly and rightly love to her. It is a woman's delight and need to grow with you and glow in love. It is your most fulfilling task. For this to be, you will have to give up selfish, restless sex. Be still, drop your demand, enjoy moment to moment life.

Love life.

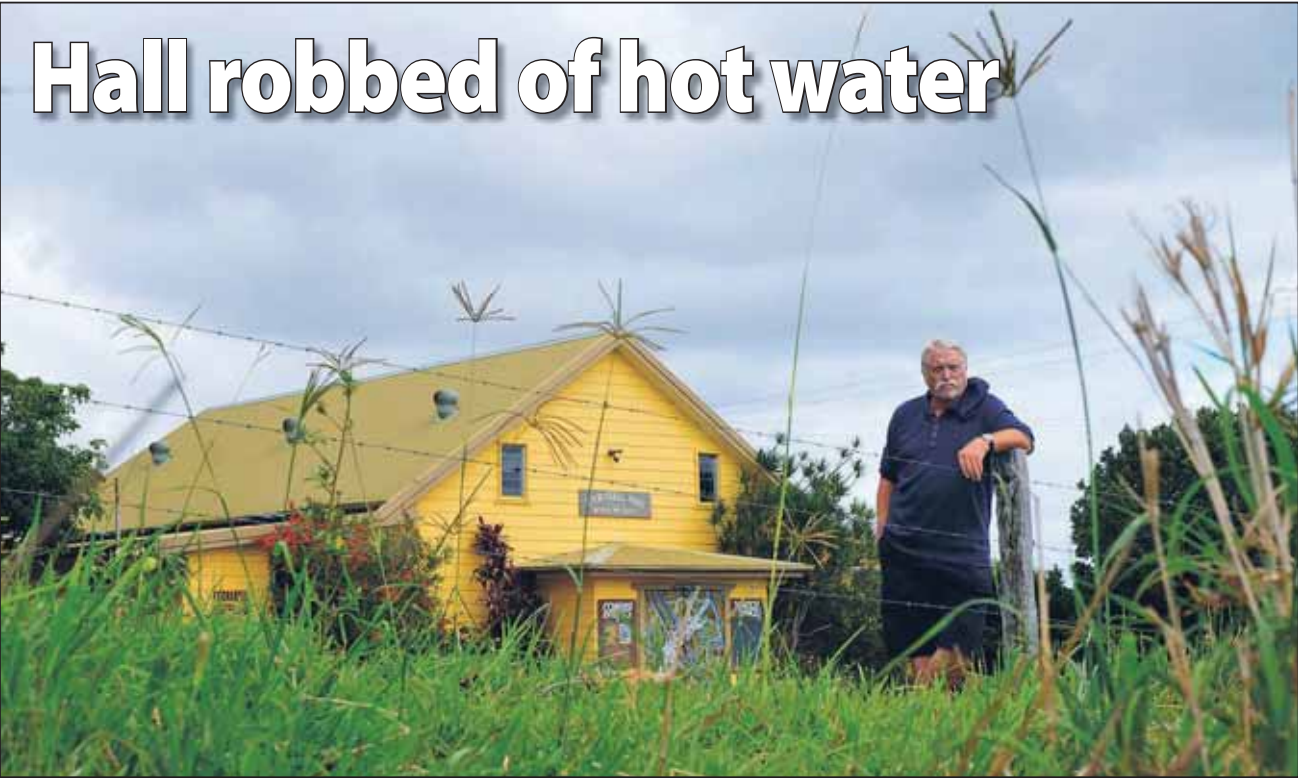
Do you excite yourself with sex-thought? It overstimulates you. It makes you dishonest in love, so you just take, but you should ask and learn to give right love. We are influenced as a child... take a drug, get used to sex, be sexy, show off, be greedy, give your attention to the newest invention, get excited... nothing will be good enough for long and such greediness supports the sex business. Worldwide he manipulates young women to play sexy for him, to be his sex object and if she makes sex with such a selfish demanding ungiving man it makes her like him. Infected and made discontent, both feel dependent on stimulation, for in truth they have not made love and so they say 'let's have some fun with a drug...' Hey man, give up, you can't just take what you want, you can't just take love! You have to give to a woman. Life's love is her gift to you, if you have earned it.

A woman today can be honest to man. If he is not honest, do not give to him, wait until he demonstrates true love. If you are honest, moment to moment and give to what is good and right, you simply feel well from the inside. With such a woman of love, you will listen to her carefully. Love is easily broken, it has to be made fresh, new, no other body belongs to you. Each of us has to stand up for love. Life felt inside is reflected in beautiful earth, universe – I belong to you.

From a Woman.

Are you a responsible, peaceful, joyful, simple and supportive man who is willing to serve in the restoration of love on earth? I have seen the Light so very bright. Honesty and Love make us grow and glow in consciousness.





**Hall robbed of hot water**  
Billy Wrencher from Coorabell Hall says beware of anyone trying to sell a cheap secondhand Rinnai 16 LPG Hot Water System and a gas regulator, as theirs was stolen recently. 'The cost of replacement is nearly \$900,' says Wrencher. 'We have to replace it ASAP as we have events coming up in the Coorabell Hall.' Anyone with information can call Billy on 0408 612 043. Photo Jeff 'Deck The Halls With Hot Water' Dawson

# Major developments decided without oversight

Hans Lovejoy

The independence of a planning panel which decides developments too large for councils has been defended by the NSW planning department. Major developments valued at more than \$20 million are decided by the Joint Regional Planning Panel (JRPP), yet according to its website, there has been nearly a 100 per cent approval rate since 2013. Additionally it appears the panel has no committee oversight. Four regional panels were established in 2009 'to strengthen decision making on regionally significant development applications (DAs) and certain other planning matters.' In November 2016, six Sydney Planning Panels (SPPs) were created, replacing the Sydney East and Sydney West JRPPs. According to the JRPP

website, 56 major developments have been approved since 2013, with one rejection and three deferrals. *The Echo* asked the planning department how the panel could be considered independent, considering the Northern panel is chaired by a former National Party MP and all panels have approved almost everything that comes before them. A spokesperson told *The Echo* panels 'are led by an independent chair that has been appointed with the agreement of [the peak body representing councils] Local Government NSW and have four other members, with the NSW government and local councils each appointing two representatives.' 'Panel members are appointed based on their ex-

pertise in either planning, architecture, heritage, the environment, urban design, land economics, traffic and transport, law, engineering, tourism or government and public administration. 'Planning panels are an important part of the planning system – ensuring independent decisions are made on projects that are significant to local communities. 'All panel members are subject to a code of conduct, and obligations under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act). 'To ensure independence, alternate members are also appointed for when a member needs to sit out on a decision because of a conflict of

interest. Previous local decisions by the northern panel include the North Byron Parklands festival trial in Yelgun and the Byron Bay bypass. *The Echo* understands that the panel will be asked to soon decide upon a controversial food-processing factory proposal, which would be located opposite the Bangalow industrial estate on Lismore Road. ■ Previous questions regarding the JRPP's independence to the JRPP and planning minister Rob Stokes's office remain unanswered. Mayor Simon Richardson previously told *The Echo* he 'agrees that the JRPP is a flawed process.'

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# Art sparkles



A man of many talents, Andrew Hayim DeVries shows his illuminations at the recent Brunswick Heads design and artisan markets. Andrew is also well known as Compost Central CEO, located in Byron Bay's industrial estate. The education, design and development facility focusses on turning organic waste into food production. For more info visit [www.hayimdeevries.com](http://www.hayimdeevries.com). Photo Jeff Dawson

# New windfarm guidelines

Windfarm guidelines released by the NSW government last week have been welcomed by the Nature Conservation Council, who say it is an important step in the state's journey to generating 100 per cent renewable energy.

Campaigns director Daisy Barham said, 'For too long, NSW has missed out on the jobs boom from renewables.'

'The 2015 Renewable Energy Action Plan Annual Report shows only 1.4 per cent of electricity in NSW comes from wind. Inexplicably, the NSW government does not have a plan to manage this

transition in a swift, orderly and just manner.

She says positive elements of the New Wind Energy Framework included an increased emphasis on community engagement and consultation, a shift away from arbitrary, strict buffer zones, and confirmation that wind turbines do not cause adverse impacts on health.

### Emphasis

She said, however, that the new framework puts too much emphasis on assessment of the visual impacts of wind turbines.

# Pulling the think tank strings

Hans Lovejoy

Anyone who doubts the influence of think tanks needs only to consider Tony Abbott's short tenure as prime minister (2013-2015).

Most of his initiatives were derived directly from a legislative wish-list drawn up by right-wing Liberal think tank, the Institute of Public Affairs (IPA).

Similarly, the left side of politics fund their own depositories of wisdom. Labor's think tank, for example, The Chifflay Research Centre, compiles reports and policy positions.

As a publicly funded think tank, The Grattan Institute has perhaps the highest public profile.

In March 2015, its director John Daley famously demolished former treasurer Joe Hockey's arguments regarding negative gearing on ABC's Q&A.

Daley then went on to spar with Malcolm Turnbull over negative gearing in April.

Who won? Probably Da-

## The 'who's who' of influence

### Right-wing

The leading right-wing think tanks that dominate the media landscape include the Institute of Public Affairs (the Liberal Party think tank), the Menzies Research Centre, the H.R. Nicholls Society, the La-voisier Group, the Mannkal Economic Education Foundation, the National Civic Council, the Centre for Independent Studies, the Samuel Griffith Society and the Sydney Institute.

### Left-wing

Leading left-wing think tanks include the Chifflay Research Centre (Labor Party's think tank), the Australian Fabian Society,

The Green Institute (The Greens), Per Capita, the McKell Institute, The Australia Institute, Beyond Zero Emissions and the Centre for Policy Development.

### Govt funded

The leading think tanks that claim they are non-partisan/and or are government funded include the Grattan Institute, the Australian Institute of International Affairs, the Lowy Institute, the Australia Institute of Policy and Science, Australian Policy Online, the Australian Research Council, the Committee for Economic Development of Australia, the The Brisbane Institute (Uni of QLD), the Development Policy Centre.

Just as politicians and parties prefer to play down their financial backers/corporate donors, many think tanks also operate under a lack of transparency when it comes to who funds their activities.

### Funding unknown

Back in May 2013, ABC's *Media Watch* asked the nation's top think tanks to provide a list of their leading donors.

Presenter Jonathan Holmes reported that, 'Four of them: the McKell Institute, The Australia Institute, The Centre For Independent Studies and the Institute of Public Affairs, said they generally don't disclose the names of their donors, [while] the Grattan Institute, Per Capita and the Centre for Policy Development do.'

Unsurprisingly, it's the right-leaning organisations who aren't keen on sharing who keeps them afloat, while the left-leaning ones are more comfortable with transparency. The full funding picture remains very sketchy indeed.

# Who's afraid of an Australian Trump?

Ngara Institute

Conditions are becoming increasingly suitable for the rise of a Trump-like demagogue in Australia.

There is wage stagnation, growing inequality, slowing 'economic growth', under-employment, more poverty, attacks on the welfare system and weakened unions etc.

To make matters worse, the Australian electorate has become more and more disenchanted with our political representatives - and who can blame them.

A recent survey undertaken by researchers at the ANU found record numbers of

people saying they no longer trusted politicians, had less allegiance to mainstream parties, and felt politicians care only about themselves.

### Failure to act

Why would we be surprised by this when our elected representatives frequently fail to enact the people's will (marriage equality, action on climate change etc.).

A failure of leadership is also when you preside over growing socioeconomic divisions. They pay themselves huge salaries and pensions, continue to cut assistance to the poor and ignore reforming corporate political donations.

The conservative right, headed by the likes of George Christensen, Tony Abbott and Cory Barnardi, are preparing to ramp up the 'Trump effect', while Pauline Hanson and her merry band of ultra-nationalists are ploughing the usual racist furrow.

Despite growing support among the electorate, Hanson is probably not the one to carry the Trump banner, but someone will.

If ever there were a time for a progressive agenda, a persuasive narrative about a decent, equitable and sustainable future, it's now.

That's why the Ngara Institute is running the 2017 Poli-

tics in the Pub series under the header: 'Life after neoliberalism - Radical scenarios for a better world.'

We don't need more critical commentary about what is - there are plenty of scribes doing just that.

We need a clear, coherent vision for a very different kind of future. But we have to tell a persuasive, workable and just story that appeals across the board, not just to the usual suspects.

■ Richard Hil, Sonia Laverty, Jeannette Martin and Jennifer Grainger are from the Ngara Institute. For more info visit [www.ngarainstitute.org.au](http://www.ngarainstitute.org.au).



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# Electorate takes softer line than polities

Michael McDonald

Australian voters tend to accept difference and change better than the politicians they voted for, judging by a recent report.

On December 19 the Australian National University released its *Trends in Australian Political Opinion – Results from the Australian Election Study 1987–2016*, written by Sarah M Cameron and Ian McAllister.

Cameron and McAllister analysed trends in public opinion over some 28 years.

Among them they looked at responses to social issues that reflect which way politicians will jump in any given

election. While much of the news reporting on the study has focused on an increasing dissatisfaction with the political class, the section on how attitudes change to major social issues is well worth a look.

## Compassionate

Most of the graphs show a move to a more compassionate, easygoing society, despite the polities running 'law and order' campaigns.

For instance, 69 per cent of those polled in 2016 believe that abortions should be able to be readily obtained compared to 46 per cent in 1979.

On the law and order issue, 65 per cent of people in 2016 were in favour of stiffer

sentences for criminals compared to 88 per cent in 1987, while the percentage of those in favour of reintroducing the death penalty has gone from 60 to 40.

The good news for north coast choofers is that those believing using cannabis should be a criminal offence stands at 32 per cent, while support for it being legalised or decriminalised has risen to 43 per cent in 2016 from 32 per cent in 1990.

The graphs produced by Cameron and McAllister show liberalising trends across many other social issues, from Indigenous rights and gender equality to 'turning back the boats'.

Even global warming is regarded by 62 per cent of those surveyed as a 'serious threat' compared to 55 per cent in 2010.

## Lessening public confidence

While Australia is by no means about to become as wildly progressive as Iceland or the Netherlands, the lessening confidence in our rulers combined with the trends on social issues tend to indicate that the use of scare tactics is running out of credibility, and that facts might now be preferred instead of bullshit.

■ Find out more at <http://australianelectionstudy.org>.

# Santa's helper, Mungo



Echo political contributor and veteran press gallery journalist/author Mungo MacCallum jumped at the opportunity to get a Chrissy pic with Santa and his favourite pooches at the Bruns Picture House.

Photo Jeff Dawson

# Greens MP call for more equity in school funding

Calls by federal Labor MP Tanya Plibersek to keep budgets for 'over-funded' private schools and not divert the cash to disadvantaged schools has been condemned by Greens education spokesperson and local MP Tamara Smith.

The comments come after Plibersek was quoted in a December 3 *SMH* story, where she told reporter Matthew Knott redistributing budgets from

wealthy to low-income schools would be a 'drop in the bucket of the extra money required' for Gonski funding.

But a November report by the Grattan Institute think tank claims to show how 'funds can be reallocated to get all schools to their needs-based funding target by 2023, without spending any more money over the next four years than the Turnbull government proposed in

its 2016 budget.' According to the institute, 'schools are not funded according to their needs-based target. Schools are funded based on a complex mix of historical arrangements and special deals.'

NSW Labor's Walt Secord is yet to reply to the *The Echo* over NSW Labor's position.

Ms Smith said, 'The main concept of Gonski school funding is to lift the perfor-

mance of disadvantaged students. Disadvantaged students, whether it be economic, social or educational disadvantage, overwhelmingly go to public schools.' She claims that Gonski funding can be met entirely from the NSW education budget if funding is redirected from the state's elite private schools with the highest Index of Community Socio-Educational Advantage rating.

## Vintage Eastern

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## New fields get workout



Members from the band Tora kicked off an impromptu soccer game at the new North Ocean Shores Sportsfield last week. The field – along with its new facilities – is located on the corner of Shara Boulevard and Brunswick Valley Way. Photo Jeff Dawson

## Bestiality, torture charges laid after Nimbin attack

Two men appeared in the Lismore Local Court last week after allegedly raping a pig and killing numerous chickens at a Nimbin permaculture farm.

The men were arrested at Teven after police issued a further appeal for witnesses to come forward following the attack on the animals

early on Wednesday December 14. Workers at Djanbung Gardens had found the dead chickens with broken necks and other broken bones, and the 12-year-old pig, Polly, was found with serious external injuries. A number of tools were also missing.

Richmond Local Area Command detectives arrest-

ed the two men, aged 20 and 22, at a Teven address about 3.45pm last week.

They were charged with bestiality and two counts of torture, beat and cause death of animal. ABC reports that the pair remain behind bars, had breached existing parole conditions and are to be sentenced next month.

## Ballina police cleared of assault, perjury

Five policemen have been cleared of charges stemming from the alleged bashing of a man in custody at the Ballina police station.

Senior Constable, Mark Woolven 45, Constables Ryan Charles Eckersley, 36, and Luke Christopher Mewing, 31, Probationary Constable Lee David Walmsley, 26, and Sergeant Robert Campbell McCubben, 49, were last Tuesday found not guilty of various charges, including assault and doing an act with intent to pervert the course of justice, almost six years after Corey Barker was taken to Ballina station in January 2011.

But the District Court jury

will continue its deliberations on Wednesday in relation to a sixth officer, Senior Constable David Hill.

CCTV footage, which appeared to show Mr Barker being thrown to the ground, attacked and dragged along the floor, was shown to the jury.

### First punch not filmed on CCTV

Some of the officers who were on duty that night later claimed in similar statements that the prisoner had thrown at least one punch first.

But the blow wasn't captured on the CCTV footage played to the jury in the early

days of the trial.

The court also heard that Hill's statement about the incident, sworn on January 19, 2011, was emailed to some of the other officers to help them prepare their own statements for the court case against Mr Barker.

Each officer's statement, read to the court, said Mr Barker had been yelling abuse and threats, and punching and kicking the walls of the perspex dock where he was initially held.

The statements were backed by CCTV footage showing Mr Barker beating and kicking out at the walls of the holding dock.

## Regional SAE scholarships on offer

Scholarships of up to \$8,000 towards tuition fees for a seven-month, full-time diploma course (or part-time equivalent) have been announced by SAE Institute.

Called the Northern Rivers Creative Media Scholarship program, it will be available for up to 50 students commencing either a Diploma of Screen and Media (Digital Video Production), a Diplo-

ma of Music Industry (Electronic Music Production) or a Diploma of Music Industry (Sound Production).

SAE Global CEO, Scott Jones, said the scholarship would provide regional students with access to valuable entry-level qualifications needed to kick-start a creative media career or progress to further study.

'As well as offering signifi-

cant employment opportunities for people living in the area, it is also home to many self-employed musicians, filmmakers, producers, directors, audio engineers and other creatives who are giving back to the community – economically, culturally and socially.'

■ For more information on the scholarship criteria visit [www.sae.edu.au/scholarships](http://www.sae.edu.au/scholarships).



## Funding our future

Have your say by 18 January

**Byron Shire Council has resolved to notify the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) of our intent to apply for a Special Rate Variation (SRV) in 2017. The increase amount will not be decided until February 2017.**

As part of the process, Council's revised Integrated Planning and Reporting documents are now on public exhibition until 18 January. They include:

- **Revised Draft Delivery Program 2014-2017**
- **Draft Strategic Asset Management Plan (General Fund)**
- **Draft Long Term Financial Plan 2016-2026**

The above documents bring together Council's various strategies, plans and budgets to provide services, infrastructure and ensure future sustainability.

A SRV is part of our **Fit for the Future, Council Improvement Program**. Without a SRV, Council's 'Base Case', as detailed within the **Draft Strategic Asset Management Plan** and the **Draft Long Term Financial Plan**, demonstrates that Council will not be financially sustainable and the condition of assets will continue to significantly decline and fail.

### Base Case - Rate peg only (no additional rate increase)

- No increase above the rate peg (in early December 2016, IPART set the rate peg at 1.5%).
- Required expenditure will significantly exceed the current budget allocation.
- Increased significant failure of high risk assets that will not be fixed immediately; this will include potential bridges, roads and building closures.
- Based on the rate peg of 1.5% for 2017/18, plus an estimated rate peg of 2.5% each year for three years; the **cumulative rate increase is 9.3%** on general rates (ordinary land rate) - excludes water, waste and sewer.

### Proposed Options

Three proposed SRV options were presented to the Byron Shire community during October and November 2016. The feedback on the options was collated and presented at the 15 December, Council meeting.

#### Option 1 - 7.5% Deteriorate (including rate peg)

- Additional \$10.78million over four years.
- Combined with proposed loan borrowings of \$6million over three years, Council will have a total funding pool of \$16.78million over four years to allocate towards asset renewal and maintenance.
- Over 4 year period, this reflects a **33.5% cumulative rate increase** on general rates (ordinary land rate) - excludes water, waste and sewer.

#### Option 2 - 10% Maintain (including rate peg)

- Additional \$16.47million over four years.
- Combined with proposed loan borrowings of \$6million over three years, Council will have a total funding pool of \$22.47million over four years to allocate towards asset renewal and maintenance.
- Over 4 year period, this reflects a **46.4% cumulative rate increase** on general rates (ordinary land rate) - excludes water, waste and sewer.

#### Option 3 - 12.5% Improve (including rate peg)

- Additional \$22.45million over four years.
- Combined with proposed loan borrowings of \$6million over three years, Council will have a total funding pool of \$28.45million over four years to allocate towards asset renewal and maintenance.
- Over 4 year period, this reflects a **60.2% cumulative rate increase** on general rates (ordinary land rate) - excludes water, waste and sewer.

### What have we been doing to improve our financial sustainability?

Through our **Financial Sustainability Plan**, we have:

1. Saved \$millions through operating efficiencies and restructuring.
2. Raised new revenue of \$2M per year through pay parking.
3. Rationalised and developed Council's property portfolio.
4. Saved \$300K per year through smarter procurement.
5. Refinanced loans and paid down debt.
6. Slashed Council's legal costs.
7. Invested in infrastructure renewal through the creation of a new Infrastructure Fund.

As at 30 June 2016, the cumulative outcomes of the Financial Sustainability Plan have yielded \$4.366million in current and future savings. The outcomes of the **Financial Sustainability Plan** are included in the 'Base Case' of Council's **Draft Long Term Financial Plan**.

### What happens next?

You have until Wednesday, 18 January to provide your feedback. Feedback from the community will be reported to Council in early February 2017 and help determine what Special Rate Variation option will be submitted to the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) for approval. If successful, the increased general rate will come into effect from 1 July, 2017.

You can find out more at [www.byron.nsw.gov.au/funding-our-future](http://www.byron.nsw.gov.au/funding-our-future). Feedback on the amended IP&R documents, and the inclusion of the Special Rate Variation options, can be emailed to [submissions@byron.nsw.gov.au](mailto:submissions@byron.nsw.gov.au)

or post to: The General Manager  
Byron Shire Council  
PO Box 219  
Mullumbimby NSW 2482

For further information, phone **6626 7000**.

[www.byron.nsw.gov.au/funding-our-future](http://www.byron.nsw.gov.au/funding-our-future)



# EPA ‘officially cautions’ NSW Forestry over destroying ancient forests

A north coast environment group has lashed the Environment Protection Authority (EPA), which it says has failed to issue NSW Forestry Corporation with fines, despite proof the corporation flouted its compliance obligations while felling trees at Cherry Tree State Forest, near Casino.

In response, EPA forestry director, Michael Hood, told *The Echo* there is now a ‘substantial investigation into allegations,’ regarding the matter.

North East Forest Alliance (NEFA) co-ordinator and audit-author Dailan Pugh said that the EPA identified 66 instances of non-compliance with logging laws, ‘though this belies the fact that a single “non-compliance” can represent hundreds of actual breaches.’

## Recorded as non-compliance

Mr Pugh says, ‘From the EPA’s figures, some 325 ancient hollow-bearing trees were illegally logged, though the EPA only count this as

one act of non-compliance,’ Mr Pugh said.

‘While this is the most comprehensive investigation of our complaints that the EPA have yet undertaken, they still failed to investigate numerous complaints.

‘For example we identified that 26 vulnerable Onion Cedars had an illegal road constructed within their buffers, but the EPA only checked eight of them.

‘Similarly of the 11 poorly drained and eroding tracks we reported the EPA only checked nine.

‘There were also numerous offences relating to koalas, yellow-bellied gliders and black-striped wallabies that the EPA confirmed but claim they couldn’t legally prove.

‘We have been finding similar breaches in all the audits we have been undertaking, year after year after year.

‘Yet the EPA’s only response is to issue 47 more “official cautions” and require yet more “action plans”.

‘These pathetic responses have been proven to be useless. The Forestry Corpora-

tion continue to deny they do anything wrong and continue to go on illegally logging.

‘The EPA are still yet to complete their investigations into eight cases of illegal roading and logging of the Endangered Ecological Community Lowland Rainforest, and hundreds of cases of the Forestry Corporation recklessly damaging retained hollow-bearing trees.

‘They say that these serious offences are subject to an ongoing investigation. We can only hope that next time the punishment will match the crime,’ Mr Pugh said.

## EPA replies

EPA Forestry Branch director Michael Hood said apart from the investigation, the EPA issued Forestry Corporation NSW with two penalty notices in the first stage of the investigation; the second stage is now complete, and the EPA is continuing a final third stage of the investigation which will be finalised in 2017.

Mr Hood said, ‘In issuing an official caution, we have made it explicitly clear to

Forestry Corporation NSW that failure to improve performance will result in the EPA escalating its response through additional, stronger enforcement actions such as additional fines, prevention notices or prosecution.’

## EPA: regulations are out of date

‘The NSW government has recognised that the current forestry regulations are out of date.

‘The government is in the process of undertaking a review of the Integrated Forestry Operations Approvals (IFOA) for coastal areas and a draft IFOA is expected to go on public exhibition next year, where members of the community will be encouraged to provide their input and feedback.’

■ The community plays an important role in helping the EPA to monitor forestry activities. If you have a concern about illegal logging or knowledge of a particular incident, report it to the Environment Line on 131 555.

# Law firm expands



The longest continuously operating law firm in the Byron Shire – and possibly the northern rivers – has just returned to practice in Ocean Shores. And with a history of over 100 years, the staff from Hungerford Lehmann are often finding interesting old documents. One of their fairly new solicitors Kirsty McKinley is pictured here with an old probate document from one of the area’s oldest families, granted at the time of WWI. In those days, such documents were beautifully hand-lettered on thick paper. Photo Jeff Dawson

### Bangalow

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Herbal Wisdom

# Banking tribunal recommended

A banking tribunal is just one recommendation to create more accountability in the finance industry, the Standing Committee on Economics have said.

Their recent report also suggests a new regime for executive accountability which would see licence breaches reported publicly for the first time. They also suggest a requirement where banks are forced to open up access to consumer data by 1 July, 2018, ‘which will give consumers much greater options when

seeking to switch banks.’

Committee chairman David Coleman MP said that the report was the first in what would become a regular series. He said, ‘Banks need to be held to account for their actions.’

‘The financial stability of our system is critical – but so is ensuring that consumers get a fair deal.’

Previous calls for a banking inquiry by Labor have been rejected by the federal coalition government, despite the coalition pushing ahead with a Royal Commission into Trade

Union Governance and Corruption.

Outspoken Nationals MP George Christiansen suggested Australia’s AAA rating could be compromised if scrutiny were applied from a banking commission.

Former Goldman Sachs banker and prime minister Malcolm Turnbull has hosed down any possibility of an inquiry, suggested there were other ways to make banks more accountable.

■ For more info visit <http://bit.ly/2ioWhDj>

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Volume 31 #29 December 28, 2016

## Dangerous thinking times

What better opportunity to examine a brief history of how the intelligentsia have been the first up against the wall in times of revolution than with the recent launch of Professor Watchlist (www.professorwatchlist.org).

Run by US far right lobby group Turning Point USA, Professor Watchlist claim paradoxically on the one hand to 'fight for free speech,' yet want to keep an eye on those pushing a 'radical agenda in lecture halls.'

While Australia is not at this point – yet – the same rhetoric can be heard in this country by similar pundits and politicians, mournful that the youth are being corrupted by Marxism and the like.

Questioning the vanilla flavour of predatory market capitalism is apparently a threat.

The distrust of knowledge and the persecution of those with it is nothing new – throughout modern times there are many reminders of how knowledge was a threat to extreme left/right dictators.

Here's a short list of extreme ideologues who purged intellectuals: Vladimir Lenin's communist Russia (1917–1924), Joseph Stalin's communist Soviet Union (1929–1953), Hitler's fascist Nazi Germany (1933–1945), fascist Francisco Franco's Spanish Civil War (1936–1939), Mao Zedong's communist China (1966–1976) and Pol Pot's communist Cambodia (1963–1997).

Most recently, the failed Turkish coup in July 2016 saw thousands of military personnel, judges and academics rounded up.

The Atlantic reported at the time that 'Turkey's higher education authority demanded the resignation of every university dean in the country in the wake of an attempted coup.'

A similar event happened with the 1915 Armenian genocide, where the Ottoman Empire (pre-Turkey) rounded up, arrested, and deported intellectuals and community leaders, who were later murdered.

If Britain had fallen to a dictator in the first or second world war, one of the first against the wall would surely have been philosopher and logician Bertrand Russell (1872–1970).

As one of the sharpest thinkers in modern history, Russell opposed the extremes of communism and fascism.

He rejected Marxism and modern communism as an 'abandonment of democracy' and a 'doctrine bred of poverty, hatred and strife.'

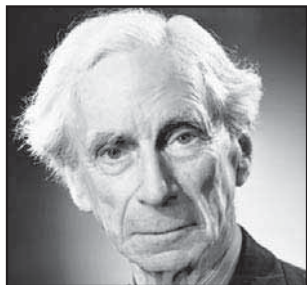
His 1956 essay, *Why I am Not a Communist* explains how why he thought the 'theoretical tenets of communism [are] false.'

On the other hand, he said of fascism that the first step towards that movement is, 'an energetic leader... who possess more than the average share of leisure, brutality, and stupidity.'

'The next step is to fascinate fools and muzzle the intelligent, by emotional excitement on the one hand and terrorism on the other.'

Hans Lovejoy, editor

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



Bertrand Russell, a bloke who liked to use his noggin.

## 2017: year of the rooster or featherduster

It was the week before Christmas, and such was the case, the bad elves were planning to blow up the place: terrorist incidents and threats around the globe, even a dastardly plot thwarted by the good elves in marvellous Melbourne.

And there was an explosion in the Canberra car pack of the Australian Christian Lobby; although unfortunately for the Lobby's head prophet Lyle Shelton it turned out to be a non-political event, despite his fervent prayers to the contrary.

But for Malcolm Turnbull, it was still a time of peace and goodwill: the ratings bomb was not dropped. To the great relief of Malcolm Turnbull and Scott Morrison, their fiddle with the Future Fund, along with persistent grovelling, had paid off: Santa Claus Standard and Poors, Moodys, and whoever the third one is allowed them to retain their AAA status – well, at least until the new year, so the holiday break can proceed on schedule, as long as you discount Cory Bernardi.

As the invaluable Ross Gittins has pointed out, the ratings agencies actually don't matter much; whatever credibility they once had was demolished by the GFC. But the self-appointed arbiters of fiscal virtue continue to cower politicians across the world.

The reality is that they have little or no power; their influence comes from the perception of power – rather like Cory Bernardi, in fact. In the global economy, investment decisions are not made by self-appointed bean counters in their darkened rooms, but on the hard facts surrounding the returns likely to be screwed out of nations who can be sufficiently desperate to accommodate their rapacity.

But tell that to Turnbull and Morrison (not to mention Bill Shorten and Chris Bowen) who have elevated the teetering edifice of the AAA rating into an icon rivaling the Australian flag – a kind of national virility symbol, where even the smallest evidence of a droop portends disaster and chaos.

This has given the agencies the ability to engage in a prolonged prick-tease: will they or won't they downgrade? The closest analogy is, remarkably, the Great Barrier Reef. In a similar manner the bureaucrats of

engage up for the new year, when, yet again, they will be expected to provide, if not answers, at least a smattering of progress?

We have been reliably informed (well, by the Murdoch press, which is the best thing we have for a conduit to the prime minister's office) that our glorious leader is preparing to make a major statement (yes, another one) outlining his agenda in the early days of 2017. This new national economic plan is to be all about delivery – budget repair, responsible fiscal management, far-reaching but practical.

*Malcolm Turnbull's new year's resolution is a horribly straightforward one: grow a pair, or at least one small one to start with.*

by Mungo MacCallum



UNESCO constantly threaten to list the reef in danger – it could be moved down the world heritage listings.

Obviously their decisions will have no direct effect on the reef itself, but they could – indeed, probably would – affect the Australian tourist trade, and it is for that reason that our various governments, mainly those in Canberra and Brisbane, are running, leaping and crawling to their supposed masters.

And this, perhaps, is the good news: the imaginary threats are the most likely incentive for action. Without the ratings agencies and the world heritage commission our various administrations would most likely just bumble along as usual. So perhaps the shiny bums of Paris and New York are not merely parasites; they are more in the nature of gadflies.

Which brings us to the real question: what, if anything can Turnbull and Morrison scav-

And above all it will be firm, but fair. There will be losers, but they will be across the board. So probably everyone will hate it, not just the usual victims.

The theme of this manifesto is not yet decided, but it is unlikely to reprise jobs and growth, given that unemployment has just risen and the GDP has just plummeted. Nor will there be a lot spoken about innovation, which the punters now realise is newspeak for insecurity, job losses and lower wages.

But for the formula to be even half-way credible, it will have to be fairly drastic.

Turnbull will have to break the habits of the last year and embrace a smidgen of daring, even of conviction. He will have to abandon his easy lines about how awful the Labor Party is, was, and always will be; he will have to start taking responsibility for his own government while he still has it. In short, he will have to be positive.

This will not be a simple task, given the multiple balls and chains with which his party have garlanded him, and the masochistic eagerness with which he has embraced them.

But to secure the goodwill of the ratings agencies – and, perhaps more importantly, to show some spine if they abandon him – there is no alternative.

So Malcolm Turnbull's new year's resolution is a horribly straightforward one: grow a pair, or at least one small one to start with.

His swansong for 2016 was to put a tiny toe in the water: he addressed the Republican Movement shindig and said that he was really, truly, still one of them. But – and with Turnbull these days there is always a but – the time to raise the masses was not yet.

It would be only courteous, not to mention prudent, to wait until the long-lived royal boiler, our beloved queen Lizzie, finally dropped off the twig.

Then perhaps, after a decent interval, we might begin to consider thinking about commencing a tentative campaign towards an initial plebiscite towards – who knows? A full-scale referendum.

It is more than 17 years since the last one, but Turnbull is still not ready to get back on the horse. And judging by the furious mutterings of the right wing over even this timorous proposal, he may never manage the remount.

And so, as the promise of a new year emerges, the Prime Minister fades even further into the sunset.

The Chinese will be celebrating the year of the rooster.

But for Malcolm Turnbull it is more likely to be just another year of the chicken. If not the feather duster.

### The Byron Shire Echo

Established 1986



Nicholas Shand  
1948–1996  
Founding Editor

General Manager **Simon Haslam**

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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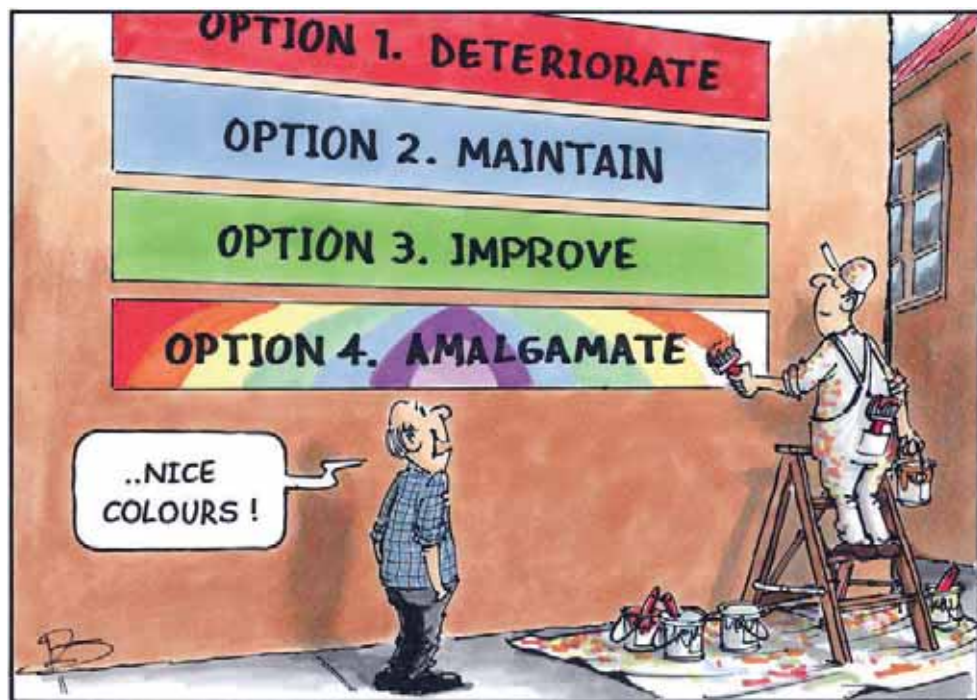
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**Bangalow campaign**  
I applaud the Farms Not Factories campaign recently launched by the Bangalow community to stop a massive industrial development at 201 Lismore Road on land zoned for agriculture. Taking action to protect good quality farmland is not only timely but indeed forward thinking.

Bangalow has some of the best agricultural land in Byron Shire. Rich soils, high rainfall, and an ideal sub-tropical micro-climate make our agricultural land some of the best in NSW.

Recently Southern Cross Uni Lismore received \$2 million from the NSW Dept of Primary Industries to research organic farming practices in the region. Our Shire has a great opportunity to lead the way in agricultural practices.

It would be reckless planning on a local or state level to allow large factories or an industrial estate to sterilise productive farmland when agribusiness could be an important part of our region's future.

Agriculture is highly vulnerable to climate change but also has the distinction of offering a solution to the problem. In a recent report from the UN climate talks (Nov 7-18) in Marrakech there was a blunt warning about the need to protect agricultural land for an uncertain future.

Crops and trees can only be grown on good quality agricultural land, while industrial estates have far more options as to where they are located.

Land identified and zoned for primary production (RU1) is one of our Shire's

greatest assets. It should not be rendered useless by inappropriate development.

I support the Bangalow community in saying NO to this inappropriate use of agricultural land.

**Sue Taylor**  
Bangalow

## ABC leached

Under the new MD Michelle Guthrie, structural changes are planned to the national broadcaster. These changes will be effected by her appointment of Jim Rudder as a consultant. Both are ex-employees of the Murdoch conglomerate. It is no news that the Murdoch media is philosophically and culturally opposed to all aspects of public broadcasting.

ABC is losing dozens of staff and journalists, specialist programs and the cultural gem Radio National will be neutralised. There is no assurance that *Lateline*, the widely-respected TV news show, will continue next year.

Malcolm Turnbull, cultural traitor, now refers to Our ABC as the 'elite' media!

Both Mr Turnbull and Ms Guthrie are well advised to check out social media where four separate petitions are running objecting to ABC changes – *Catalyst*, the TV science show, axed, all but one Radio National music show gone and of course staff cuts, 17 from the science unit alone. Online we have lost *Fact Check*, a handy check on politicians' veracity.

In a so-called post-truth world, we need media we can rely on, programs like *Four Corners* and *Background Briefing* and especially a balanced news service. Without accurate information we are

malleable flotsam, with no more substance than jelly!

Aunty ABC, warts and all, is the gal we are accustomed to rely on. Staunch the wounds! Speak out! Keep it that way!

**Jill Keogh**  
Convenor, ABC Friends  
Byron Bay

## Dog attack

I would like to thank the friends and people unknown to me who came to my assistance when I was attacked by a dog near the corner of Dalley Street and Burringbar Street in Mullumbimby on Monday December 19.

I suffered a fractured wrist requiring surgery and the insertion of a metal plate and screws. I also suffered a fractured vertebra that will require months of rehabilitation.

I'd like to also thank the police who attended the scene and the staff of the Mullumbimby Ambulance, Byron Bay Hospital and Tweed Hospital for their professionalism and care.

**Kelvin Davies**  
Mullumbimby

## Being hopeful

Thanks so much to Hans Lovejoy for the wonderful 'Post-fact survival kit' (*Echo*, December 21). Actually, you could have added love-joy into the prescriptive mix!

But let's also be wary of buying into 'post truth', 'post ethics' and post whatever. Yes, Trump is a pathologic liar, but so are many, many others: telling fibs, being economical with the truth, spin-doctoring are the common currency of our times.

However, despite all the postmodern BS peddled in the 1990s, certain truths/

facts do exist: Aleppo, Berlin, Iraq, Yemen, climate destruction, inequality, greed, etc.

But there are other truths about how a better world might be constituted: social justice, human rights, peace, sustainability, kindness, compassion, respect etc. Millions have fought for these principles and the great social movements of recent times are testament to their enduring success.

Don't despair about Trump, Hanson, Bernardi and their ilk. They'll pass. We have to help them pass. This means getting active in the progressive movement of your choice, articulating a persuasive story of a better world, not buying into terminal pessimism, and not getting all gushy Pollyanna-ish.

Yes, we must recognise the complexities of history and the present, but our energy will come from the realisation that what we do, how we act (along with others), can and will change the world. 'Despair,' says Naomi Klein, 'is an indulgence.' She's right.

Progressives have the weight of evidence on their side. In brief, the current system is cactus, and we have a great story to tell about a more equitable, liveable future.

I have a few heroes: Howard Zinn is one of them. This is really worth reading:

'To be hopeful in bad times is not just foolishly romantic. It is based on the fact that human history is a history not only of cruelty, but also of compassion, sacrifice, courage, kindness.

'What we choose to emphasise in this complex history will determine our lives.

If we see only the worst, it destroys our capacity to do something. If we remember those times and places – and there are so many – where people have behaved magnificently, this gives us the energy to act, and at least the possibility of sending this spinning top of a world in a different direction.

'And if we do act, in however small a way, we don't have to wait for some grand utopian future. The future is an infinite succession of presents, and to live now as we think human beings should live, in defiance of all that is bad around us, is itself a marvellous victory.'

**Dr Richard Hil**  
Convenor, Ngara Institute

## Monster rate rise

Councillors are held on a short leash. Complex financial information was released only a few days before a crucial meeting to decide the financial future of the Shire and the potential ruin of individuals.

It is clear now that figures have been massaged to create an artificial crisis. Remember Tony Abbott's budget crisis? This is Byron's version, but fully supported by a 'progressive' council, which would be up in arms on other levels.

Seventy per cent plus of residents are opposed to a special rate rise, but 100 per cent of councillors are swimming with the stream created by dodgy figures and processes, such as making critical ratios worse than they are. Something does not add up.

Some feel threatened by the stick called amalgamation. Infrastructure backlog is

a problem all over NSW and Australia. No amalgamation will solve that.

Others smell the honey pot of gold, a huge solidarity contribution by the rate-payers, mainly from Byron Bay, who already pay triple the amount folk in the hinterland do.

Money has also been re-directed from designated purposes. Available funds did not go towards reducing the backlog but were used to improve and create new infrastructure.

Wondered about all this wonderful activity in road-works? It's done now, so figures look too bad in future years, which nicely puts pressure on the demand for special rate rises.

Now all new staff and machinery have been employed and those need to be kept occupied in the future. How about sensibly spreading the work over a longer time period? Who checks what is new and what helps the backlog?

Deafening silence, when it comes to alternative scenarios. Just dismissed out of hand.

The rate rise, once implemented, is forever fixed. No going back. Ever. Make your voice heard.

**Jens Krause**  
Byron Bay

## Finding causes

Pacifism is not a 'do-nothing' position. ('Post-fact survival kit', *Echo*, December 21). It consists firstly of acceptance that a particular horrible manifestation has occurred on the earth plane for good reason. Secondly, it involves finding causes of why it arose and then acting to short-

continued on page 11 ►

# THE RAILS

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**Monday 2 January**  
**SHARON SHANNON**

**Tuesday 3 January**  
**SHARON SHANNON**

**Wednesday 4 January**  
**THE ALAN KELLY TRIO**

**LOST**  
?   
HAS ANYONE SEEN WHERE 2016 WENT?

**HAPPY 35TH BIRTHDAY, RAILS!**

## Letters to the Editor

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

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Magnus Carlsen's won his 2016 World Championship defence against Sergey Karjakin brilliantly.

**Carlsen vs Karjakin**  
New York World Ch. Rapid Playoffs Game 4  
Carlsen has gone all-in by checking on c8, meaning that if White does not have the coming queen sacrifice, he would actually lose.  
50.Qh6+!! 1-0The theme had already been seen at the Groningen tournament of 1946, Ossip Bernstein winning with a vertical version of the mate.  
(See diagram at top of next column)**Bernstein vs Kotov**  
Groningen 1946

Black has just played 48...Qg6-e4, with serious counterplay unless White's attack crashes through immediately...

49.Rh8+ Kg6 50.f5+! 1-0 Black does not wait to see 50.f5+! exf5 51.Qxh6+!! gxxh6 52.Rag8 checkmate!



The most complex example of the Carlsen Combination came in an obscure Soviet game from 1979.

**Popov vs Novopashin**  
USSR 197927...Rxd2+?! 27...Qf6 28.Qb2 leaves White OK.  
28.Qxd2 Qxe4+ 29.Kh2 Qxc4 30.Ng6+ hxg6 31.Rxf8+ Kh7 So far, so good, Black probably thought, until White found. 32.Qh6+!! 1-0 32.Qh6+ gxh6 33.Rxb7+ and Black's pieces cannot interpose on the seventh rank.

# Will 2017 be the last stand of clean energy technology deniers?

Giles Parkinson

Two major forces stand opposed in 2017. One is the falling cost of clean energy technology – solar, wind, storage and other smart controls – that is heralding what Alan Finkel calls an 'unstoppable' energy transition away from centralised, polluting fossil fuel plants.

Solar now costs less than \$30/MWh in many major economies, wind energy is about the same. As Bloomberg recently pointed out, this makes them cheaper than any new generation, and cheaper than much existing generation.

Battery storage costs have fallen 50 per cent in 12 months, and energy experts are freely talking about new energy systems with concepts such as localised and shared energy, zero marginal costs, and even 'free energy'. Electric vehicles, inspired by Tesla, are also on the rise with major car makers investing billions in new electric models.

## Jackpot

The other major force is political – funded, aided and abetted by the very fossil-fuel interests threatened by renewables, storage and EVs. They've hit the jackpot in Washington, and when Donald Trump moves into the White House on January 20, he will be accompanied by a cabinet notable for its collection of climate change deniers, fossil fuel lobbyists and billionaires. And with the Exxon Mobil CEO and chairman as secretary of state.

Can you pick a winner? It's hard to imagine any political force standing in the way of cheaper technology alternatives for long, despite what has happened in some hermit kingdoms. But you can bet that the Trump administration will seek to tilt the table to help incumbent interests fill their pockets as quickly and for as long as they can.

This will have an impact on Australia, too. Australia finds itself at the cutting edge of this energy transition, with a huge natural and technological advantage, and with even greater motivation (enormous electricity costs and a dirty inefficient grid).

But it also boasts a powerful fossil-fuel incumbency. The Trump administration will encourage the climate



deniers and vested interests within the ruling Australian coalition, and there are many.

The Frydenberg Review of climate change policies should be promising, but it has already been hamstrung by Malcolm Turnbull's subservience to the far right.

The only hope will be that the review by chief scientist Alan Finkel will provide some clarity, and may actually be read by the government. Just how long will it take to sink in?

The first draft was promising, so much so that it could turn out that the South Australian blackout was the best thing that happened to renewables in Australia: it did not signal the death of wind and solar, as the media screamed, but it did highlight how dirty, costly and ill-fitted Australia's ageing grid is to the modern era.

## Free energy

On the technology front we are going to see numerous changes.

The first is the concept of free energy: Elon Musk gave us a taste of the future when he unveiled the solar roof in November. No, it's not the first solar roof on the market, and it probably won't be seen in Australia for a few years.

But the implication is clear: solar generation built into infrastructure, thereby coming at no extra cost to consumers. Utilities and their economists are going to struggling to get their minds around this. It is diametrically opposed to anything that they had ever considered.

Battery storage: The economists are already struggling with zero marginal cost from wind and solar, and now this output can be stored cheaply. Energy is shifting rapidly from centralised to distributed en-

ergy – and battery storage will play a key role.

Australia, with its high electricity costs caused by greedy government network owners, will be at the forefront and lead the first mass-market take-up of storage.

Devices will get cheaper, more powerful, and easier to use. The price cuts will likely be visible from February or March when the Tesla Powerwall 2 arrives and its competitors are forced to cut prices or roll out more cost-effective models.

## Costs fall

Expect to see more trials of the likes of AGL's virtual power plants, the network offset trials by SAPN, Ausnet and others, and the power-sharing technology liberated by blockchain software and being rolled out by Powerledger and AO4 and the like.

Solar and wind costs will continue to fall. In Australia, that could be significant as the backlog in large-scale renewables projects finally breaks: expect to see numerous large-scale solar projects, many of them displacing second-tier wind developments.

'Merchant' models will be the vogue for a while, before the big retailers wake up and lock in more projects on contract, particularly as consumers rail against the soaring cost of the 'green energy' component of their bill, caused only by the retailers' own failure to invest.

But it's not the technology that is the major concern; it is the politics, and the potential for powerful interests to bamboozle politicians and encourage them to make dumb decisions about energy choices – or in the case of the Australian federal government, no decision at all.

The Finkel review will be

critical to cut through the myth-making of technology deniers and myth-makers. But it will likely take time to sink in, presuming that anyone in the coalition actually reads it.

The mainstream media could play a constructive role, but there is not much hope there. They seem completely enthralled by incumbents and completely uninterested in the potential of new technologies.

It is disconcerting enough that most energy market and pricing regulators seem to think that their primary role is to protect the incumbent over the consumer – see the way they protect network revenue, how they demonise renewable incentives as a 'transfer of wealth from the generators to the consumers'.

## MSM fail

Consider the mainstream media response to Reneweconomy's revelation that BHP's Olympic Dam 'black-out' in December wasn't actually a blackout at all, but a contracted 'load shed' over a three-hour period (70MW from the 170MW they were using). Most they completely ignored it. 'Splitting hairs' sniffed the AFR.

Don't expect much from the ABC either. When the excellent Finkel review was published, chief political reporter Chris Uhlmann tweeted with glee, and then congratulated himself in subsequent tweets for his prescience.

For some reason, as The Climate Institute's John Connor quickly pointed out, Uhlmann completely ignored the next sentence in Finkel's summary: 'Fortunately, solutions are available to effectively integrate variable renewable electricity generators into the electricity grid.'

Finkel even put it in very big type later in the report so that even ABC political editors could find it.

It just goes to show, it's going to be a long year. As Connor pleaded with Uhlmann over Twitter, 'all we want is a mature debate'. The chances are that we won't get it: Technology marvels on one hand, and Trump, post-truth, ideology and media indifference and ignorance on the other.

■ Article first published on Reneweconomy.com.au, of which Giles Parkinson is the editor.



## Humans flying high

Story & image S Sorrensen

Brisbane. Tuesday, 10.20pm.  
Oh, come on... On stilts?  
You have to be joking.

Two large men in Indian-type attire (epaulets and turbans) are standing on a metal construction two metres from the ground. They're ready to jump.

I've never seen a Cirque du Soleil performance before. I have, however, seen a lot of other live shows: music, poetry, comedy, circus, burlesque, pole dancing... I'm a performer myself and have always been attracted to the stage. (Some say it's an ego thing; I say it's exactly the opposite: not an inflated sense of self but rather a deep insecurity that drives me to seek the approval of others.)

I have seen a lot of live shows, but this is something else. This show exemplifies everything I love about live performance. The connection between performer and audience is not digital. It's face-to-face book. No phone, internet or reception required. Just presence (and popcorn).

Actually, this show epitomises everything I love about humanity. (Yes. I do love humanity. Not all of it, sure, but a lot. Okay, some...) There is skill and celebration, empathy and comedy – but most of all, there is that unique thing that makes us human: the awareness of our mortality. (This drives the celebration, the comedy and the empathy.)

From when house lights dimmed and only the blue light of a hundred phones pricked the darkness of the big top like unblinking stars, there was an electricity in the air. The performers and the audience both sucked it in. There was communion,



a shared experience. A buzz. This is what happens when humans get together.

Okay, not always. Sometimes when humans get together, you get war, climate change or religion. But here is not a posse of politicians or priests; here are humans.

The two big blokes, standing shoulder to shoulder atop the tower, exchange glances. They're about to jump onto the teeterboard below them. For those of you not in the circus know, a teeterboard is that seesaw thing that acrobats use to get height. Someone – or in this case, two someones – jumps from the metal tower onto one end of the teeterboard which sends the someone standing on the other end (the flyer) flying high. I did this once with my sister in a playground at Gympie. She went really high. (Three-year-olds don't weigh much.)

I peek guiltily at my sister sitting beside me. She's wearing the same eyebrow-raised, mouth-opened look of expectancy she wore just before I jumped from the slippery slide onto the seesaw way back then. I wonder if she remembers.

I should apologise to my sister for jumping onto the seesaw. I mean, it wasn't an accident. I meant to do it. She

was just sitting there, distracted by children screeching on the swings, when she should have been looking at me. Hell, I was about to slide down the slippery slide on my stomach. Forwards. But she wasn't even looking at me.

So I jumped.

The men jump.

The thing is (the two men hit the teeterboard) the flyer is wearing stilts. Yes, stilts. And they're long stilts. He is catapulted roofwards, his stilts tracing somersaults against the big top's canvas.

I'm not generally given to involuntary sounds – apart from a sigh on election day, a groan at orgasm and a smacking of lips at sunset's first sip – but a gasp escapes me as the spinning stiltster reaches his apex and starts his descent to ground, where only a mattress awaits him.

My sister is shrieking – a similar sound to that which she made as she flew into the jacaranda tree all those years ago – as the stilted flyer nails a perfect landing on the mattress. Stilts first, legs unbroken, standing. Not even a stumble.

People. They're great.

■ See more of S's work at [Echonetdaily.net.au](http://Echonetdaily.net.au)  
[echo.net.au/here-and-now](http://echo.net.au/here-and-now)

### LETTERS

► continued from page 9

circuit those causes. It does not have to do with fighting the horrible manifestations as they arise.

Not disconnected from the above, the article on fire ants gives no indication of how they are part of the balance in their country of origin. Rather than considering eradication, look at the causes of how they become imbalanced!

It is not enough to say the ants have been human-imported. Life attempts to be in any niche available to it.

Consideration of eradication of horrible manifestations after they arise is part of a pro-death society. A pro-death so-

ciety kills the environment on which it depends.

Geoff Dawe

Uki

### Coal crazy

The Indian company, Adani, which is extracting coal at the Great Barrier Reef, is to be charged by the Indian government with crime and corruption. Adani has been accused of also utilising offshore havens.

Australians are well aware of the great tragedies surrounding the health of the Great Barrier Reef. They are also aware that the Turnbull government has promised a billion dollars of taxpayers' money to support the

infrastructure of Adani.

Given these facts I now wait with bated breath to see what Mr Turnbull and his government will do with taxpayers' money. Will he have the guts to stand up to this company with a principled representation on behalf of all taxpayers, or will he keep pedalling backwards with inane 'polly-speak'?

If Adani gets the billion dollars we can say that we are all well and truly (that rude word) in Australia. to say nothing of the environment! Let's hope Turnbull has the guts to reject this project given the current situation.

D J Faith  
Newtown



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**1pm-2.30pm Raw Chocolates** with Krystle Gallard  
Tasty treats using essential oils

**3pm-4pm Stretching/Pilates** with Krystle Gallard  
Using oils to take your practice to the next level

### THURSDAY 29 DECEMBER 2016

**11am-1pm Make & Take** with Judi Minckler  
Blend & take home your own perfumes & remedies

**1.30-2.30pm Home Essentials** with Adheesh Piel  
Intro to essential oils

**3pm-5pm Abundant Business** with Adheesh Piel  
Work happily & ethically to create your personal dreams

### FRIDAY 30 DECEMBER 2016

**11am-12pm Raw Chocolates** with Adheesh Piel  
Cooking with essential oils

**1pm-2.30pm Emotional Freedom Technique** with Adheesh Piel  
Work on your senses to rewire your brain for emotional balance

**3.30pm-5pm Home Essentials** with Adheesh Piel  
Intro to essential oils

### SATURDAY 31 DECEMBER 2016

**11am-1pm Secret Womens' Business & Ageing Well** with Judi Minckler  
Come & discover your most potent female powers

**1.30-3.30pm Hand & Foot Massage** with Adheesh Piel  
Essential oils for your big night out

### MONDAY 2 JANUARY 2017

**11am-1pm Cleanse & Restore** with Judi Minckler  
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**1.30pm-3pm Home Essentials** with Adheesh Piel  
Intro to essential oils

**3.30-5.30pm Abundant Business** with Adheesh Piel  
Work happily & ethically to achieve your personal goals

### TUESDAY 3 JANUARY 2017

**11am-1pm Chakra Balancing** with Judi Minckler  
Using oils to balance your energy

**1.30pm-3pm Raw Chocolates** with Deborah Husbands  
Tasty treats using essential oils

**3.30pm-5pm Abundant Business** with Deborah Husbands  
Work happily & ethically to achieve your personal goals

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# A pleasant stroll across the landscape of philosophy

In TheConversation.com, various philosophers advise on the works of various philosophers for summer reading

Philosophy can seem a daunting subject in which to dabble. But there are many wonderful books on philosophy that tackle big ideas without the reader requiring a PhD to digest them. Here are some top picks for summer reading material from philosophers across Australia.

## Shame and Necessity

by Bernard Williams

After a year of Brexit, the return of Pauline Hanson and Donald Trump, many of us are wondering about the state of our public culture. Are we undergoing some kind of seismic cultural and moral shift in the way we live?

However, the ancient Greeks would have been familiar with these phenomena for all kinds of reasons. They understood how anger, resentment and revenge shape politics. And they had some pretty interesting ways of dealing with outbreaks of populist rage and constitu-

tional crises. Our language is still littered with them: think 'ostracism', 'dictatorship' and 'oligarchy' (let alone 'democracy').

So, this year, among all the noise, I found myself driven back to the Greeks, and especially to some of the ideas that pre-date the great philosophical titans of Plato and Aristotle.

Bernard Williams was one of our most brilliant philosophers, and *Shame and Necessity* is one of his best books. Stunningly – just given how good this book is, and how deep it goes into the classical mind – he didn't consider himself a classicist, but rather a philosopher who happened to have benefited from a very good classical education. As a result, he is a delightful guide across the often rugged philosophical, historical and interpretive terrain of pre-Socratic thought.

It might seem daunting at first, but the book is an elegant, searching essay on the ways in which we are now, in so many ways, in a situation more like the ancient Greeks than we realise. But



Photo David Blackwell flickr.com/photos/mobilestreetlife

it's not a plea for a return to some golden age. Far from it. Instead, it challenges some of our most fundamental conceptions of self, responsibility, freedom and community, inviting us to think them afresh.

The heroes of his tale are, interestingly enough, not the philosophers, but the tragedians and poets, who remind us of the complexity, contingency and fragility of our ideas of the good. Although almost ten years old, it's a book that gets more interesting the more often you return to it. It's never been more relevant, or more enjoyable, than now.

– Duncan Ivison,  
professor of political  
philosophy, deputy vice-  
chancellor (research),  
University of Sydney



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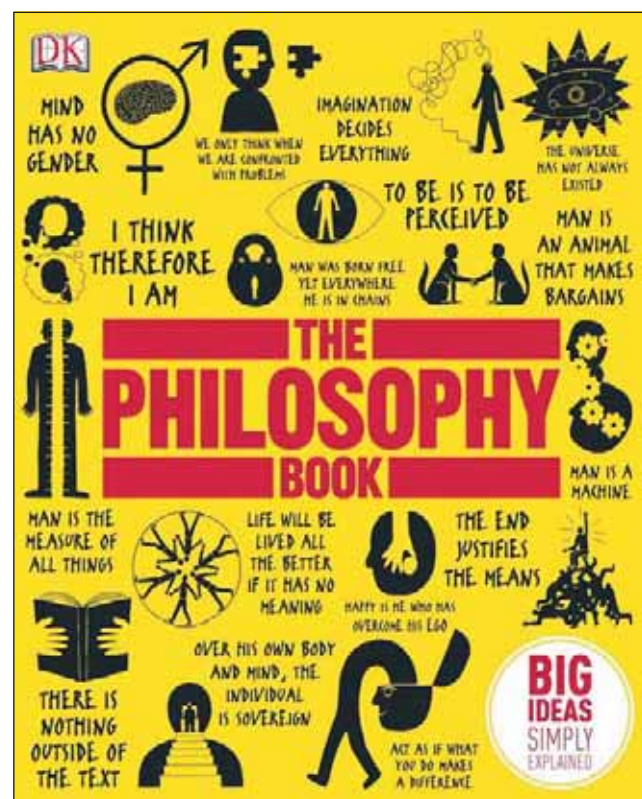
## The Philosophy Book

by Will Buckingham

Remember when the *Guinness Book of World Records* was the best gift ever for the little (or grown-up) thinker in your family? Well, if you've been there, done that for a few Christmases in a row and are in need of an exciting, innovative gift idea, try DK's big yellow book of intellectual fun: *The Philosophy Book*.

With contributions from a bunch of UK academics, this A4-sized tome is decorated with fun illustrations and great quotes from the world's best philosophical thinkers.

The structure of the book is historical, with between one to four pages allocated to the 'big ideas' from ancient times all the way up to contemporary thought. It is accompanied by a neat glossary



and directory: a who's who of thought-makers.

The focus is on the traditional western approach to philosophy, although some Eastern thinkers are included. Each historical section – Ancient (700-250 BCE); Medieval (250-1500); The Renaissance (1500-1750); Revolution (1750-1900); Modern (1900-1950); and Contemporary (1950-present) – is divided into classical philosophical ideas from that time period.

There are 107(!) in total, including Socrates' 'The life which is unexamined is not worth living', Rene Descartes' 'I think therefore I am', Thomas Hobbes' 'Man is a Machine', Ludwig Wittgenstein's 'The limits of my language are the limits of my world', and even Slavoj Žižek's analysis of Marx, just to name a few.

The reader can trace the history and development of philosophical thought

throughout the ages, in the context of what else was occurring at that time in the world.

This gift would be suitable for ages 12+ as it is written in ordinary, accessible language. But, be warned... after reading this, your Boxing Day is likely to be filled with questions such as, 'what is truth?', 'how can we think like a mountain?', 'can knowledge be bought and sold?', and 'how did the universe begin?'

– Laura D'Olimpio, senior  
lecturer in philosophy,  
University of Notre Dame  
Australia

## On Bullshit

by Harry G Frankfurt

When someone asks you 'where do I start with philosophy?', it's tempting to point them to a book that gives an overview of the history, key

figures and problems of the discipline. But what about someone who doesn't even want to go that far? Not everyone's prepared to slog their way through Bertrand Russell's *History of Western Philosophy* like my optometrist once did; every time I'd go in for new glasses he'd give me an update on where he was up to. And even if they're prepared to put in the effort, some readers might come away from such a book not really seeing the value in philosophy beyond its historical interest. It's easy to get lost in a fog of Greek names and isms until you can't see the forest for the trees.

There's one book I recommend to everyone even if they have no interest in philosophy whatsoever: Harry Frankfurt's classic 1986 essay *On Bullshit*, published as a book in 2005. It's only a few pages long so you can knock it over in a couple of train trips, and it's a great example of philosophy in action.

Frankfurt starts with the arresting claim that:

'One of the most salient features of our culture is that there is so much bullshit. Everyone knows this. Each of us contributes his share. But we tend to take the situation for granted.'

In the best tradition of the discipline, Frankfurt takes something we don't even typically notice and brings it into the light so we can see just how pervasive, strange and important it is.

Bullshit, Frankfurt argues, is not simply lying. It's worse than that. In order to lie, you first have to know the truth (or think you do), and you have to care about the truth enough to cover it up. To that extent at least the liar still maintains a relationship to the truth.

The bullshitter, by contrast, doesn't care about the truth at all. They just want you to believe what they say. What they tell you could even be true, for all they care, it doesn't matter, so long as you buy it.

The lying/bullshit distinction is a remarkably useful analytic tool. Be warned, though: once you have it, you'll be seeing it everywhere.

– Patrick Stokes, senior  
lecturer in philosophy,  
Deakin University

■ See more philosophers' recommendations at <http://bit.ly/theconphil>.



# Britain succumbs to the snoopers' charter

Daniel Sage

We are nearing the end of one of the craziest years in memory, an early contender for weird year of the century, and possibly as precipitous to our species as the year when an asteroid hit the Yucatán Peninsula and wiped out the dinosaurs, leaving the planet free for our little primate ancestors to grow big and brainy (and start taking over everything in sight).

2016: Tectonic political shifts, record population, a planet under pressure. Rock stars, movies stars, kings and presidents passed in droves. Global temperatures hit a new high. Donald Duck took the White House. Britain struck out for the high seas on its own. Refugees surged across borders. The moon shone blood red one month, and supersized the next.

## The left atrophies

Aided by a sensation-gorged mainstream press, we see nationalist leaders adopt left-wing poses. The left atrophies, stunned, haemorrhaging power. The French may get Le Pen. Trump is a Neanderthal. A new normal is up for grabs but alas the rules of engagement are at an all-time low, with trolls, fake news and unfettered bigotry contaminating all discussion.

We've got used to living in uncertainty, knowing only there is more to come. No wonder comfort food is having a little revolution of its own. Restaurants mint silver from our fears, serving macaroni cheese and bread-and-butter pudding. Hamburgers have taken over every high street here in London in a swarm of oozy stuffed baps piled high and with every conceivable dish on the side.

There is something sadly punctured in the happy bubble of the capital's multicultural air, a fear the party may be over, that the merry mingling of so many different cultures is threatened by what the grey suits have allowed



News for two. Source: Media Vision

to happen and a media-bamboozled populace voted in. Democracy itself, so long sacrosanct as an untouchable given of our modern world, wobbles like jelly in a rising gale.

## Draconian

On this small island on the edge of a cold ocean, the most draconian state surveillance powers in the West were passed into law. Going further than in many autocracies, the new Investigatory Powers Bill, or 'snoopers' charter' as it's widely called, requires internet and phone companies to keep records of all web activity, emails, calls and texts for up to a year, and to make them readily available to a wide range of authorities who may want a peek.

Whatever it takes to stop terrorism, goes the official line. But, survey the wildly shifting government back-drop: it's not a stretch to envision a far less rigorous use of this apparatus than our present mob says they'll follow. The system has been installed. Big Brother can watch us on every channel. Even if the current lot keep their snouts out of our business, we're potentially one election away from a snoopers' paradise.

All this passed into law, amazingly, with next to no obstruction. A few hands were put up (submitting 96 recommendations) but not a single restriction or covenantal change was made to the bill, which is virtually unprecedented. The use of encryption, the one obstacle to the charter's efficacy, is under review for a potential veto.

## Distracted public

Now, only days after becoming law, there is an outcry. Hundreds of thousands of signatures already collected oblige Parliament to debate the matter, but it is too late.

The bill was waiting in the wings since 2007 and its timing could not have been better, with politicians and public alike distracted by Brexit, Trumpet and crises all around.

As the motto at the Conspiracy Theorists Association might read, you couldn't make it up.

The freedoms and discretion the internet promised may soon be available only on the dark net, or by using special virtual private networks (VPNs), subscriptions to which are skyrocketing.

Meanwhile, a new phe-

nomenon is shaking the knowledge tree with the spread of false information in fake news stories. Still a relatively low-key problem in Australia, where news comes mainly via a few major players, elsewhere it's causing serious trouble.

## Fake news

Some is politically motivated, such as stories about the rape of a 13-year-old girl by Muslim refugees in Germany, which caused demonstrations across the country and undermined pro-refugee prime minister Angela Merkel who is up for re-election in the autumn. After extensive coverage, it was proven to be untrue. Russia is the prime suspect: they are disgruntled at Merkel's 'meddling' in the Ukraine. Other rumours suggested Merkel was in the East German secret police, the Stasi, and is Adolf Hitler's daughter.

People believe this stuff, much of it garnered on social media as well as in the press, and then vote in elections. This year, major decisions in many countries have been coated in this dross and sewage. How to verify? No-one yet knows. But it does remind us that everything we read is

possibly made up, or at least tilted and spun, by those with vested interests.

So... batten down the hatches, don't be naughty, don't go online, don't get caught, change your name, jump around! And enjoy happy holidays. Let's all

make a New Years resolution to shine upon some positive revolution.

■ A former Byron Shire resident, Daniel Sage is a London journalist and author of the novel *Fall Curve*. See more at [danielsage.co.uk](http://danielsage.co.uk).

## South JONSON STREET

Walking south down Jonson St takes you away from the beach to the calmer southern end where the locals shop and hang out. There is plenty of parking on the street, in the Woolworths carpark and behind the shops. From here you can explore some of Byron's best loved, locally owned businesses.

## EFA looks at Australia under surveillance

Established in January 1994, Electronic Frontiers Australia ([efa.org.au](http://efa.org.au)) is a national, membership-based non-profit organisation representing internet users concerned with digital freedoms and rights. EFA is independent of government and commerce, and is funded by membership subscriptions and dona-

tions from individuals and organisations with an altruistic interest in promoting civil liberties in the digital context.

EFA's major objectives are to protect and promote the civil liberties of users of digital communications systems (such as the internet) and of those affected by their use and to educate the community at

large about the social, political and civil liberties issues involved in the use of digital communications systems.

In 2016 EFA launched a digital rights campaign, the primary concerns of which included:

- privacy – including mass surveillance and privacy protections;

- access – including net neutrality and digital inclusion (supporting the 2016 National Year of Digital Inclusion);

- censorship – promoting freedom of expression online; and

- digital citizenship – promoting respect and tolerance and resisting harassment.



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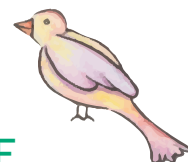
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Re opened Wednesday 28th Dec – 8am–3pm

Thu 29th 8am–3pm

Fri 30th 8am–3pm

Sat 31st 8am–1pm

**Mon 2nd–Closed**

Tue 3rd 8am–3pm

Wed 4th 8am–3pm

Thu 5th 8am–3pm

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Normal trading hours from 4 January 2016.

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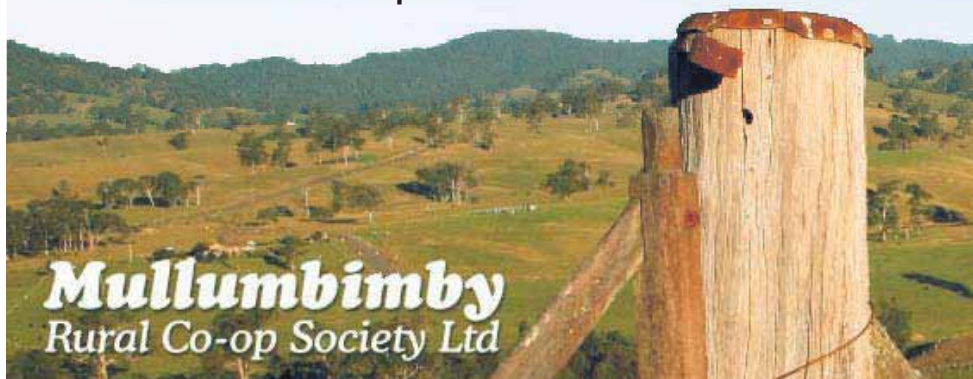
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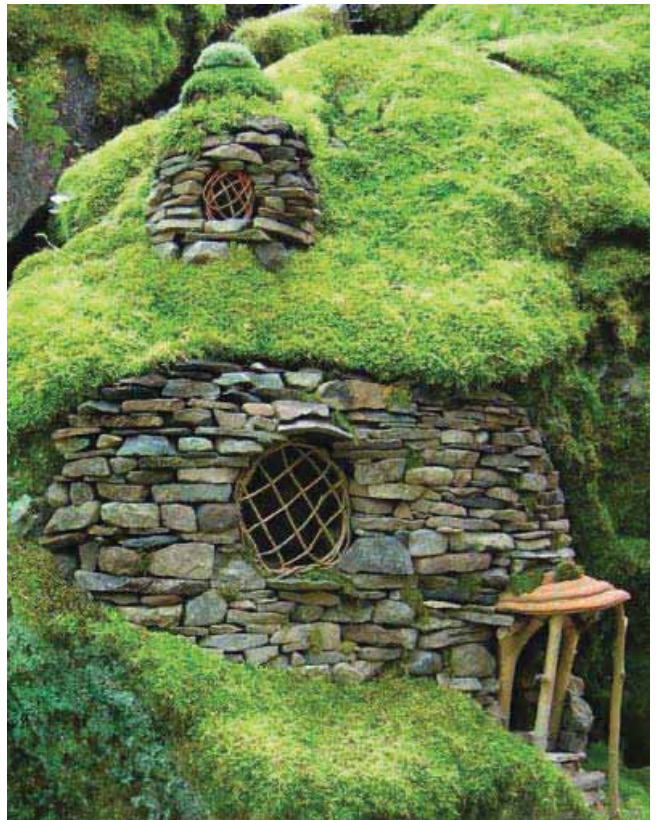
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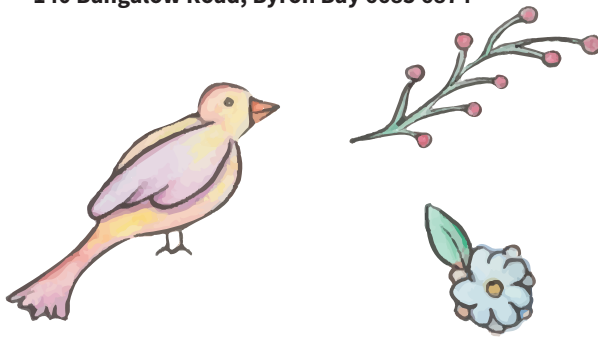
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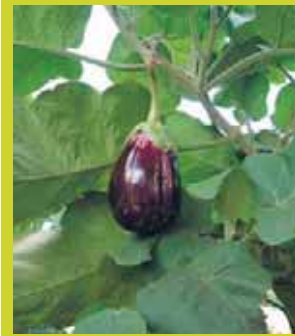
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# Home & Garden

## BYRON DESIGNWORKS

Seasonal sales abound but you will not want to miss the one at Byron Designworks where there are bargains to be had across the store.

For those of you who like to replenish your Christmas decorations at sale prices there is 30 per cent off remaining trees and 50 per cent off tree and table trimmings.

All furniture is reduced with some floorstock items now 40 per cent off. Dining settings, daybeds, storage, display, outdoor... The more you buy the better the deal.

The array of cushions is still amazing but we do need to make space for new arrivals. Our friendly staff can help you mix and match. Lamps, rugs and homewares are also reduced.

Sale starts 28 December and runs until 14 January but we are closed 1 and 2 January so our staff can also have a Happy New Year!

**Byron Designworks, 3 Ti Tree Place 6685 5714**

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## 'THE PESTIES IN BLUE'

That's right, 'The Pesties in Blue', our team at Active Pest Management, with a tip for this summer season.

THE TROUBLE WITH TERMITES... yes, termites can spell T-r-o-u-b-l-e with a capital \$. Has your home been inspected for termites in the last 12 months?

Here's why annual inspections are so important, particularly in the northern rivers:

Termites love three things: Timber (your home), moisture (leaking taps or pipes), and humidity (our wonderful climate).

Termites are secretive and almost silent – eating from the inside out, away from sunlight. It takes a trained eye to know they are there.

Wooden structures nearby established colonies can be attacked via underground tunnels. Even indoor plants or broken tiles can invite termites into your home.

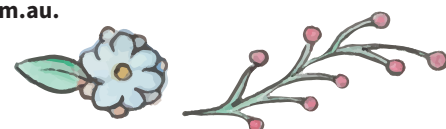
MINIMISING TERMITE RISK – Despite alarming statistics, you can spot a termite infestation before they cause extensive damage if you know what to look for. Signs can include mud



tubes or 'galleries' along foundations, near pipes, in your roof space, or soil crammed into cracks in mortar or construction joints.

BOOK YOUR INSPECTION – The standard Home and Building Insurance Policy won't cover the repair costs of termite-infested structural and decorative timbers. So, if you haven't had a recent termite inspection on your home, The Pesties in Blue are fully licensed and insured Timber Pest Inspectors. We conduct a thorough inspection on an average 3- to 4-bedroom home for only \$140 (ex GST). Our service includes a thorough assessment and a comprehensive written report in accordance with Australian Standard 3660.2-2000.

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## Property insider

### What I love about Ocean Shores

Property Insider asked Julie-Ann Manahan what makes Ocean Shores such a great place to live in. This is what she had to say:

It was the relaxed north coast life-style and the beautiful unspoilt beaches which initially drew me to the Ocean Shores area. Since settling in the region, I have discovered the wonderful sense of community and the valued support of locals.

It is the sense of community that makes Ocean Shores such a wonderful place. That, and of course the proximity to beautiful beaches, the convenience of having a shopping centre only a hop, skip and jump away, and the fact that you're tucked away but within moments you can be on the freeway to head to either airport within 30 minutes. Having a beautiful city like Brisbane only a 90 minute drive away is such a bonus.

We also have a wonderful golf course, Country Club and Tavern. Ocean Shores truly offers the best of all worlds.

We love the diversity this area offers, and Ocean Shores is central



Julie-Ann Manahan

to it all; from the bohemian vibe of Byron Bay and Mullumbimby, to the intense natural beauty of the hinterland and the gorgeous unspoilt beaches that line our coast. There's such a range of delightful eateries and cottage industries on the north coast. We have so many brilliant opportunities around us here.

In Ocean Shores there's a broad range of property types on offer, from beach shacks to large properties and everything in between. You can find your own little corner of paradise at an affordable price, but you still have easy access to nearby facilities when you want a dose of city life. It's perfect!

## 'Build Your Future' Lismore housing subsidy scheme

The ongoing discussion about the dwindling supply of affordable housing in Byron Shire has placed other options into sharp focus. Lismore City Council has just launched a comprehensive marketing campaign to highlight the range of housing lots available on six exciting new developments within the city.

The campaign is linked to the 'Build Your Future' Lismore Housing Subsidy scheme, wherein up to 200 intending homeowners are eligible to receive \$20,000 each to help them purchase land and build the home of their dreams.

The six developments are sited throughout the Lismore Urban Area and include Altitude Eco Village, Sanctuary Hill, Valley View Estate, The Plateau, Echo Glen, and Airforce Road. They include a wide of housing types with an emphasis on sustainable design and affordability.

The \$20,000 subsidy is available for a wide range of families and individuals whose annual incomes do not exceed very reasonable limits. These upper income limits include \$88,000 for a single person, \$97,000 for a sole parent with two children and \$135,000 for a couple with three children, for example.



Lismore's population is set to increase by 6,000 people over the next 20 years. Employment is buoyant and prospects for future economic growth are exciting. More than \$340m worth of development activity took place in Lismore in 2016, reinforcing the city's role as the regional centre for health, education, business, professional services, retail, hipster culture and the arts.

Rainforests, national parks and beaches are just a short drive away. Lismore is the sporting capital of the far north coast and it's the perfect place to raise families and enjoy all that the city, villages and surrounds have to offer. Nationally-acknowledged regional arts company

NORPA and Southern Cross University are both based in the city and a new Lismore Regional Gallery will open in the CBD next year.

■ Visit [buildyourfuture.net.au](http://buildyourfuture.net.au) to view and download the application forms, or phone 1300 878 387 for more information or to have the forms posted to your address. But act promptly – the \$20,000. The Lismore Housing Subsidy ends on March 30, 2017.

### HAVE ANYTHING TO LET US KNOW ABOUT?

Any new faces? Career milestones? Exceptional results? Market observations? Email [propertyinsider@echo.net.au](mailto:propertyinsider@echo.net.au).

#### Auction



### Brunswick Heads 30–32 Tweed Street

3 2 0

#### AUCTION – COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL – REDEVELOPMENT?

This iconic commercial premises along with the 3 bedroom cottage has been owned by the same owners for the past 20 years.

'Do not miss this opportunity'.

Property is a visible corner position with land size 345m<sup>2</sup>.

**Auction** 21/01/2017 at 11.30am at Brunswick Heads RSL Auxiliary Hall  
**Contact** David Holden 0435 789 677

**LJ Hooker Brunswick Heads**  
02 6685 0177

#### Auction



### North Ocean Shores 1 Kallaroo Circuit

#### AUCTION – BLANK CANVAS, BEACH SIDE

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The owner will consider offers prior to auction, so grab your architect or draftsman get the

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**Contact** Peter Browning 0411 801 795 or David Holden 0435 789 677

**LJ Hooker Brunswick Heads**  
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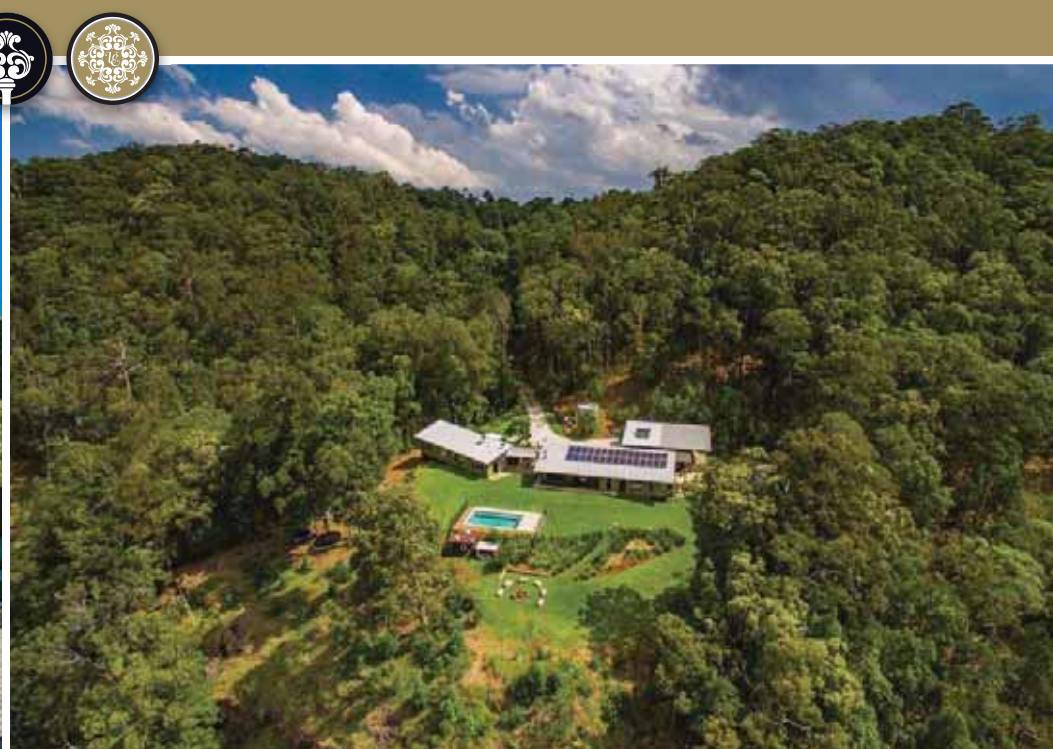
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### Ad Astra

Location: Eureka, NSW  
Land Size: 13.62 ha

5 6 5  
Expressions of interest



### Miri Miri

Location: Tallebudgera Valley, QLD  
Land Size: 8.49 ha

4 2 4  
Price on application



### Friday Sabai

Location: Tintenbar, NSW  
Land Size: 2.02 ha

5 3 2  
Expressions of interest



### The River House

Location: Coorabell, NSW  
Land Size: 43.16 ha

5 5 14  
\$3.7 million

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### Dunes On Shelly Beach

Location: East Ballina, NSW  
Land Size: 0.82 ha

62 15  
\$3.6 million



### Mountain Views

Location: Uki, NSW  
Land Size: 30 ha

4 3 4  
\$2.5 - \$2.7 million



### Lume 2-3 bed apartments

Location: Kangaroo Point, QLD  
Apartment Sizes: 90 - 149 m<sup>2</sup>

2-3 2 1-4  
Price on application



### Gasworks Residences

Location: Newstead, QLD  
Apartment Sizes: 77 - 119 m<sup>2</sup>

2+ 1-2 1-2  
From \$500,000 - \$725,000



### The Old Possum Creek School

Location: Possum Creek, NSW  
Land Size: 0.80 ha

6 4 23  
\$3.1 - \$3.4 million



### Kaylani Beach Houses

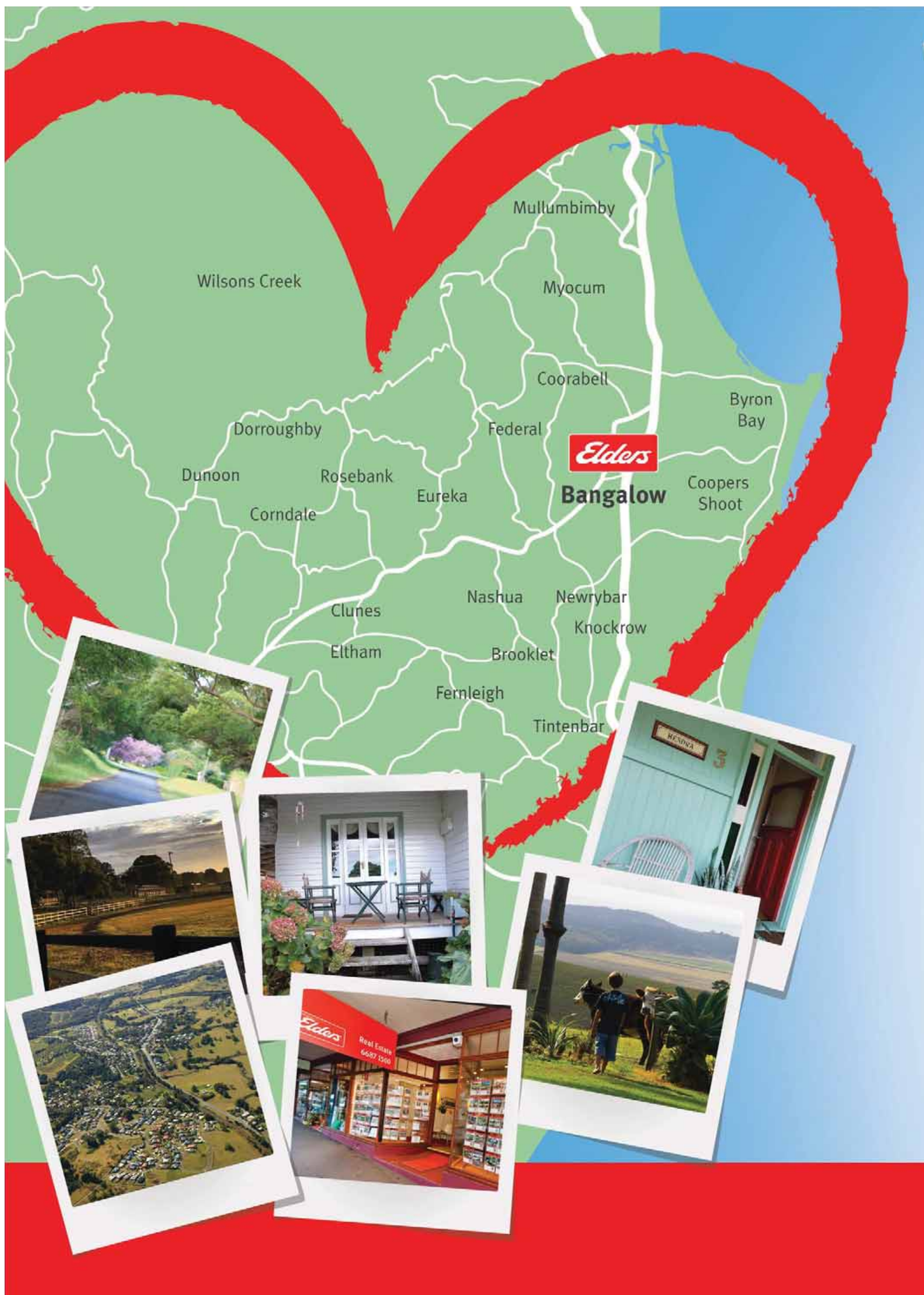
Location: Byron Bay, NSW  
Build Size: 296.5 m<sup>2</sup> (approx)

4 4 2  
Price on application

*Unique Estates is a boutique real estate agency specialising  
in marketing luxury properties for sale and rental*











## Elders Real Estate Bangalow team

With a **wealth of local knowledge** and actual first hand experience with buying and selling in Bangalow and surrounds, Elders Bangalow knows more than a thing or two about property in the Hinterland.

Located in the centre of the main street of town, we have our finger on the pulse of this vibrant community.

**Our dynamic, friendly team** of highly experienced, dedicated individuals is passionate about property. We each have our own professional approach to our work, but we all work towards the same goal of making **buying, selling, renting or investing as stress-free as possible** for all concerned.

We are very proud of the **record sales figures** we consistently achieve in our area, and the awards we receive within the wider Elders network. Our sales agents have exceptional negotiation skills and real understanding of the local lifestyle and market. We love nothing more than **finding the right buyer for the right seller at the right price.**

Elders Bangalow is more than just your local real estate agency. **We live in this area and love it**, and we enjoy giving back. We are actively involved in a number of community, sporting and social events in the town and surrounds from being major sponsors of the famous Billy Cart Derby and the Bangalow Show, right through to supporting local junior sporting teams.

That's why Elders Real Estate Bangalow is the **Heart of the Hinterland.**



## Bangalow - The Heart of the Hinterland



## New Beet on the Beat

Story by Vivienne Pearson



A great deal of thought has gone into a new vegan restaurant – *The Beet* – that has opened in Byron Bay.

The thoughtfulness towards customers extends to people on all parts of the vegan spectrum.

Firstly, to vegans. 'We wanted to put more options out there for vegan people,' says co-owner Heather Myers. 'It can be hard to get a good meal out.'

Equally, *The Beet* is for people who are curious about veganism and those 'transitioning' towards this way of eating. 'Most people become vegan for issues of ethics but that doesn't mean they don't like the taste or texture of meat,' Heather says.

Heather, who became 'mainly vegan' a year ago, understands this conundrum. She eats vegan at home but says she tends to 'slip up' when eating out. 'I'm a really social person and there are pressures to eat differently when you are out,' she says.

This is why *The Beet* offers meals that are tasty and texture-full. 'A lot of people think vegan food is all salads and lentils,' says Heather. She stresses that, while those options are fine, *The Beet* wants to offer more options more suitable for a special night out – something you wouldn't be likely to cook yourself at home.

There is a 'Beet Burger' (try saying that three times fast without lapsing into saying 'beef') that has eggplant parmigiana as the 'meat' of the burger, along with avocado, witloaf and sauerkraut, all on a beetroot-coloured bun.

There is also Vegan 'Pulled Pork' Crespelle, that uses jackfruit as the 'stand in' for pork. 'When you cook the jackfruit, it breaks down like pulled pork,' explains Heather. She tells me that this is currently an on-trend dish in the vegan world: 'It's not a unique concept but we do it differently; elegantly with more of a French feel.'

There are a couple of raw dishes, including raw cakes for dessert. 'Cooked desserts are coming down the track,' says Heather.

**Heather, Aaron, Jesse (3) and Brody (1)**

*The Beet* is a team effort. Heather and husband, Aaron Bilbija, are co-owners and creators. Aaron's parents and brother are both in the background as investors as well as in the foreground assisting with set-up and caring for Heather and Aaron's two (soon to be three!) young sons (Jesse, aged 3 and Brody, aged 1).

The Head Chef is Sebastian Goldhorn who, after years working in fine dining in Sydney, converted to veganism and was eager to have the opportunity to lead a kitchen without meat, and be able to use his knowledge and skills to help transform some of Heather and Aaron's ideas into reality.

The other group that *The Beet* is pleased to be catering for are friends of vegans. 'We're getting a good response from non-vegans,' says Heather, saying that they've had people confess that they didn't realize they could get vegan food that is like 'real food'. 'Vegans are finding it a relief to be able to go out to dinner with their friends without having to worry about whether they will be able to eat anything, or having to ask about every dish.'

'We want to make vegan food more accessible,' Heather concludes.

Given the thoughtfulness that can be seen in every aspect of the new restaurant, I assumed that there would be a detailed story about the name: 'The Beet'. When I ask about the name, Heather firstly notes: 'We don't want to have beetroot in every dish, though funnily the House Made Beetroot Gnocchi is proving to be their most popular dish.'

And the inspiration for the name? Says Heather: 'I just thought naming it after a vegetable would be good' It seems that this is one aspect of this new business that didn't require too much thought!

**The Beet Vegan Restaurant, Shop 6, North Byron Plaza (near Woolworths) Byron Bay. Lunch 12–3pm, Dinner 5.30–9.30pm, Tuesdays–Sundays. @thebeetbyronbay**



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Every **Wednesday & Thursday** from 5pm - Eat in Or Takeaway  
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House-made Spelt Fettuccine Boscaiola.

## Throw more than a prawn on the barbie

Story by Vivienne Pearson



The four authors



everything together. 'I worked on getting recipes out of heads and onto paper,' she summarises. Extra recipes were needed, so Sarah developed new takes on classic recipes, such as Seafood Pie.

In need of a last-minute gift for the cook in your life? Or maybe some inspiration for a seafood-based Christmas lunch?

More than 130 recipes, *The Australian Fish & Seafood Cookbook: The Ultimate Kitchen Companion* might be just the catch you need. One of the four authors, Sarah Swan, is co-owner of 100 Mile Table, located in the Byron Arts & Industry Estate.

'Because it's big, heavy and glossy, people assume that it will be a restaurant-focused book,' she says. 'But it's aimed across the board. There are some more complex recipes suited to those with a cooking background but also plenty for those cooking at home.'

Sarah says that the book, which was published in November, was developed over a two-and-a-half-year period. 'The three other authors brought different skills,' she says. 'John Susman is the seafood market guru of Australia, Anthony Huckstep is a restaurant reviewer and writer, and Steve Hodges is the best seafood chef in Australia.'

Sarah, who is a chef and recipe developer (and worked for Neil Perry's Rockpool Group), was brought in to help pull

The book, which includes photographs of fish species as well as the finished dishes, has been ringingly endorsed by a who's who of the industry. 'A book Australia not only wants, but needs, written by the only people in the country truly equipped to tackle the task,' espouses food reviewer John Lethlean. 'This tome is the next best thing to having [John Susman] expand on his fascinating subject in person,' writes Maggie Beer.

It has been well received locally too. 'We're thrilled,' says Sarah. 'We're selling more locally than we thought. There will be many people heading down to Bay Seafood to buy fish!'

Sarah's pick for a seafood recipe for a Byron-filled summer? The Ling Burger – see recipe opposite. 'It is simple, fresh and you can easily substitute other fish,' she says.

Sounds perfect. Who's cooking?

*Australian Fish & Seafood Cookbook: The Ultimate Kitchen Companion*, authored by: Susman, Huckstep, Swan & Hodges, published by Murdoch Books.

**Available from 100 Mile Table, Harvest, Red Ginger, Mary Ryan's Bookstore and most big booksellers. RRP: \$79.99**



Tallow Beach

Sera J Wright is a local Byron Bay travel, landscape and lifestyle photographer, born and raised in Byron Bay, and is the fourth generation of a local Byron Bay family. Her unique style and eye for pastels has set her apart and prints of her photos can be found hanging on walls worldwide. She has 50,000+ followers on Instagram – @photography\_byron\_bay – and has worked for tourism boards within Australia and overseas to promote their destinations. Her images are available for purchase as prints and canvas from her online store – [www.photographybyronbay.com.au](http://www.photographybyronbay.com.au).



# Good Taste

## Eating Out Guide

### BALLINA



#### Ballina RSL Club

River St, Ballina  
Phone **6681 9500**  
www.ballinarsl.com.au  
Open 7 Days  
Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner  
and Snacks

#### 'A Taste of Asia' Buffet

New Years Eve  
Saturday 31 December  
from 5.30pm - Spinnakers  
Adult \$23.50, Child 12/U \$12,  
Child Under 5 Free

### BANGALOW



#### Bangalow Dining Rooms

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Open 7 days  
Lunch: 12 - 3pm  
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All day bistro menu  
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FOOD GUIDE  
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### BILLINUDGEL



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### BYRON BAY



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Full Cocktail & Wine Bar.  
Extensive Menu Includes  
Tapas, Mains, Desserts and  
Famous Woodfired Pizzas.  
25 Childe St, Byron Bay  
**6680 9452**

#### New summer menu out now!

Share plates, mains, desserts and famous Treehouse wood-fired pizza. Our kitchen is open all day and night. Presenting incredible original music in Byron's most intimate atmosphere.

Check our website or Facebook for the gig guide.  
**facebook.com/treehouse.belongil**  
**treehouseonbelongil.com**



#### Italian at the Pacific

Open for Dinner & Cocktails  
7 days from 6pm till late  
Next to the Beach Hotel  
Bay Street  
**6680 7055**  
italianatthepacific.com.au

Italian at the Pacific provides a bustling atmospheric restaurant, dishing up contemporary inspired Italian cuisine and some of Byron's finest cocktails and wines.



#### Happy Chilli Garden

Open 7 days 12pm till late  
Byron St (opp Aldi) Byron Bay  
P **6680 9191**  
F **6676 4869**  
M **0403 516 793**  
happychilligarden@hotmail.com

Hong Kong chef specialising in  
Chinese and Malay foods

Fully licensed  
Dine In / Takeaway / Home Delivery Available



#### Succulent Café

Experience Western fused  
Northeast Asian Cuisine  
3/8 Byron St, Byron Bay  
P **6685 5711**  
We take bookings for Christmas  
& new year parties.  
Takeaway Available. BYO.

**Brekkie** Tues-Sat 8am-11.30am  
Sun 8am-2pm

**Lunch** Mon-Sat 12pm-2.30pm  
**Dinner** Mon-Sun 5.30pm-9pm

Lunch Specials - Mon-Fri  
Delicious Northeast Asian Cuisine

### BYRON BAY

### >> CONTINUED



#### Muoi's Feast Azuras Garden

11 Fletcher St, Byron Bay  
Lunch Tues-Sun  
Dinner Mon-Sat  
P **6685 7557**  
FB: Azura's garden/Muoi's feast

#### NOW OPEN FOR LUNCH AND DINNER

Azura's Garden is adding European cuisine influence to Muoi's feast Asian heritage. Come discover the new summer menu and relax in our charming alfresco "Hidden in the heart of Byron Bay". Fully licensed / BYO wine.



#### Byron at Byron

77-97 Broken Head Road,  
Byron Bay

**6639 2111**  
**thebyronatbyron.com.au**

#### Peaceful dining by our tranquil rainforest

Open seven days: breakfast, lunch & dinner

Thursday Farmers Market Dinner  
2 courses \$52 per person



#### Sura Asian Cuisine

4/84 Jonson St,  
Byron Bay  
Phone **6685 7732**  
sura.asian.au@gmail.com

Korean chef specialising in Korean and Cantonese  
BYO

Booking any celebration party available included Karaoke, DJ

#### \$12 All-day Special

Dine In, Takeaway and Home Delivery Available  
Open 8am until late - Monday to Saturday  
Facebook Sura Asian Cuisine Restaurant



#### St Elmo Dining Room & Bar

Mon-Sat: 4pm til late.  
Sun: 4pm til 10pm.  
Cnr Fletcher St and Lawson Lane, Byron Bay  
**6680 7426**  
www.stelmodining.com

St Elmo is a place where you can enjoy great company, first-class food, sophisticated cocktails and an extensive wine list. St Elmo is plating up modern Spanish cuisine to be enjoyed amongst friends and family. Our menus change regularly and feature daily specials.



#### Warung Bagus

3/14 Bay St  
(opposite the surf club)  
7am-5pm daily  
Dine in or takeaway  
**6685 5194**

#### Open Christmas Day

Casual beachfront cafe with indoor/outdoor seating and sea views.

All-day breakfast, Indonesian lunch, plus snacks and coffee, juices, smoothies and cakes. Gluten-free specialists with a great variety of vegan options plus beef, chicken and fish.

Follow us! @warungbagusbyronbay



#### Hog's Breath Cafe

Open 7 Days,  
11.30am-2.30pm  
Dinner from 5.30pm  
9/4 Jonson St, Byron Bay  
**6685 5320**  
www.hogsbreath.com.au

Hog's Breath Cafe's menu just got better with some mouth-watering new steaks, salad, pasta and an abundance of delicious dessert selections. As usual, the diverse menu also offers chicken, seafood, snacks, burgers, ribs, kid's meals, a range of Lite Options, plus their famous Prime Rib Steak - slow cooked for up to 18 hours for maximum flavour and tenderness. Kids eat free Mon - Wed nights and you can grab lunch for just \$9.90, so there's something to please the whole family.



#### Legend Pizza

Open 7 days  
9am till after midnight  
Shop 1 Woolworths Plaza  
90-96 Jonson Street  
**6685 5700**  
www.legendpizza.com.au

#### FRESH PIZZA BYRON STYLE

Check us out on  
facebook.com/byron.legendpizza  
Scan code for our menu!  
BYO  
Home delivery 7 days  
**Established 1992**



#### Targa

Cafe • Restaurant • Bar  
11 Marvell Street  
Byron Bay  
**6680 9960**  
**targabyronbay.com**  
**targabyronbay@gmail.com**

#### Modern European

**Breakfast/Lunch:** 7 days from 7am  
**Dinner:** Tues-Sat from 5.30pm

**Bar:** From 10am, with or without food  
**Coffee:** Genovese, all day  
**Venue:** available for events up to 60 guests  
**Wi-Fi**



#### Fishheads

Open seven days  
7.30am till late  
Coffee, breakfast, lunch,  
dinner, functions and  
weddings. Fully licensed.  
1 Jonson St, Byron Bay  
**6680 7632**

#### BEACHFRONT DINING NEW YEARS EVE

Only \$130 per person

5 courses & glass of sparkling wine  
Exclusive use of the table until 1am

**functions@fishheadsbyron.com.au**  
**www.fishheadsbyron.com.au**



#### Basiloco Ristorante Pizzeria

Wood fired pizzas & real  
Italian cuisine  
We do special events functions  
See menu, book a table, or  
order **take away**  
**www.basilo.co**  
30 Lawson Street **6680 8818**

#### Now open for lunch 12pm till late 7 days

**Lunch special 12 to 5pm**

**1 course + drink \$19 / 3 course + drink \$35**

**Aperitivo 3 to 5pm**

**Free tapas with cocktails**

**Kids meals starting from \$9 Dinner starts 5.30pm**

ADVERTISING ENQUIRIES: [adcopy@echo.net.au](mailto:adcopy@echo.net.au) | **6684 1777** | [echo.net.au/good-taste](http://echo.net.au/good-taste)



# Eating Out Guide

## BYRON BAY continued



### The Rocks @ Aquarius

Breakfast/Lunch  
7 days from 7am  
16 Lawson St, Byron Bay  
Reservations **6685 7663**  
therocksbyronbay.com.au

The Rocks @ Aquarius has been beautifully renovated, and boasts a wide array of locally sourced brekky dishes, Byron Bay Coffee and fresh juices and smoothies to enliven the senses and prepare you for the day ahead. Late riser? Join us for lunch 12–2pm, when you can grab a selection of burgers, salads, fresh rolls or one of our daily \$10 specials! Here at *The Rocks*, we are a fully licensed cafe, which means you can enjoy an ice-cold beer, a sumptuous wine or a hand-crafted cocktail with your meal!



### Pizza Paradiso

Open 7 days from 5pm  
Suffolk Park Village Centre  
**6685 3101**  
Facebook, Instagram  
pizzaparisobyronbay.com

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

**Live local music Fridays & Saturdays**



### Success Thai

Mon-Fri 12-3pm  
Dinner 7 days from 5pm.  
3/109 Jonson St, Byron Bay  
**6680 7798**  
www.facebook.com/  
pages/Success-Thai-Food/237359826303469

**Open for lunch on Christmas Day  
Open for lunch on New Years Eve 31 Dec.  
Please note we are not open for dinner on  
Christmas Day or New Years Eve.**

All your favourites every lunch and dinner. Experienced Thai chefs cooking fresh delicious Thai food for you.

Fully Licensed and B.Y.O. for wine.  
Welcome for lunch, dinner and take-away.



### Lemongrass

Dinner Mon-Sun  
Lunch on weekdays  
Closed Tuesdays  
Shop 3/17 Lawson Arcade  
Phone orders welcome  
**6680 8443**

The only exclusively Vietnamese restaurant in town, this intimate space spilling out into a courtyard offers up fabulous dishes packed full of herbs, spices and varied textures. The traditionally light and healthy style of cuisine ensures the freshness and natural tastes of food are preserved as much as possible. It's a popular spot so bookings are recommended.



### Naked Treaties RAW Bar

Raw, Vegan, Local, Organic and Paleo. Gluten, Dairy and Sugar free.  
2/3 Marvell St  
www.nakedtreaties.com.au  
Insta **#nakedtreaties**

### LIVING FOOD, LOVING VIBRATION

Nourishing Vegan, Raw + Cooked, Plant based food, Epic Smoothies, Organic Coffee and Chai on our Creamy House-Made Almond Mylk.

7am–4pm, 7 days + Friday Nights coming soon!



### Main Street

Open 7 days a week from 11.30am till late  
18 Jonson Street  
**6680 8832**  
Call to make reservations or for takeaway orders.  
Group bookings available

### NEW YEARS EVE CELEBRATIONS AT MAIN STREET BURGER BAR

Doors at 8pm, DJs until 2am  
Bubbles and food on arrival  
Cocktails, wine and beer available until 2am  
Tickets available now at Main Street.  
**www.mainstreetburgerbar.com**



### Luscious Foods

Mon-Fri 7.30am–3pm  
1/6 Tasman Way, Byron  
Arts & Industry Estate  
BYO & RSVP  
**6680 8228**  
www.lusciousfoods.com.au

Contemporary and Middle Eastern flavours

- Breakfast and lunch
- Wood-fired pizzas
- Fresh juices
- Great coffee

Pizza deliveries now available Thursday, Friday, Saturday nights to Sunrise, Arts & Industry Estate and Ewingsdale



### The Restaurant @ Rae's

6–8 Marine Pde,  
Wategos Beach, Byron Bay  
Bookings essential **6685 5366**  
contact@raes.com.au  
raes.com.au

Lunch and Dinner 7 days

Beachfront Dining  
Fresh Local Produce  
Seafood Degustation



### Cafe Novella

Open 6.30am–4pm Sun–Wed, 6.30am–late Fri–Sat  
Now licensed & takeaway  
Bay Street opp Main Beach & Surf Club  
For bookings: **6685 7348**

### Early Riser Special from 6.45am–8.30am every day

Bacon or Avo & Egg Roll + coffee just \$12

Date night Friday - 2 mains & chef's choice of entrée for just \$40 every Friday night



### The Beet Vegan Restaurant

Open Tuesday – Sunday  
Lunch 12-3pm, Dinner 5.30-9.30pm  
Shop 6 Woolworths Plaza  
90-96 Jonson Street  
Bookings: **6685 6520**

### NOW OPEN!

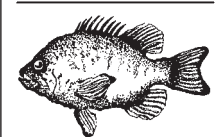
Serving modern vegan food for lunch and dinner. Breakfast coming soon.

Byron Bay's first 100% vegan restaurant. Ethical. Compassionate. Healthy. Delicious.

Facebook/Instagram: @thebeetbyronbay

## KINGSCLIFF

### FINS



### Fins

Salt Village, Kingscliff  
**6674 4833**  
dining@fins.com.au  
Dinner daily 5–10pm.  
Lunch Fri-Sun 12–3pm.



GOOD FOOD GUIDE  
CHEFS HAT EVERY  
YEAR SINCE 1998

### Celebrating 25 years

Fins is the destination restaurant for fine local seafood. Long lazy lunches on our veranda. Afternoon oysters, Champagne and cocktails in our RAW BAR.

Intimate fine dining of an evening.

**Proudly awarded Chef Hats for the past 22 years**

## MULLUMBIMBY



### Spice It Up Thai Restaurant

Open Wednesday–Sunday  
Dine-in or Takeaway–from 5.30pm  
**6684 2209**  
Mullumbimby  
Bowling Club

Experience the real taste of Thailand. Using local produce, local staff. Free courtesy bus provided for pick up and drop off!

**20 years' experience in the art of Thai cooking.**

*Thai Restaurant*  
The real taste of Thailand...



### Puremelt Chocolate Lounge

Open 7 days  
Mon–Thurs 7am–5.30pm,  
Fri, Sat 7am–8.30pm  
Sun 8am–2pm  
53 Stuart St, Mullumbimby  
**0406 422 465**

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.



### Poinciana

Station St, Mullumbimby  
Poincianamullum.com  
Open 7 days from 8am  
BAR Thurs – Sat  
DINNER Fri & Sat  
BOOK **6684 4036**

### WINE, DINE, SHINE

follow your senses - dining, music & social experience organic, spray free, vegan variety, quality local produce



### Yaman

Open seven days  
8am to 9pm  
62 Stuart Street,  
Mullumbimby  
**6684 3778**  
**0431 428 108**  
www.yamancatering.com.au

### Traditional Yemen Food

Choose from our delicious plates and experience the tastes of one of the oldest surviving distinct cultures in the world today.

## NEWRYBAR



### Harvest

18-22 Old Pacific Highway  
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, a la carte menu & bar snacks

Located in the Ocean Shores Country Club  
**6680 1809**

### COAST RESTAURANT

Mon: Burgers and beer \$15

Tue: Asian night, pan Asian menu changes weekly

Wed: Schnitzel, chips, salad & gravy \$10

### DECK OPEN DAILY

from 8AM

for breakfast, lunch, coffee and cake.

## CATERING



### Celebrations Catering By Liz Jackson

Celebration cakes  
Personal catering services  
Event co-ordination and management

E: lizzijackson@gmail.com

**P: 0414 895 441**



### The Healthy Gourmet

Gluten & Allergen Free  
Raw Foods  
Vegan  
Vegetarian  
Paleo  
Organic

Catering - Personal Chef

- Romantic Dinners for Two - Cooking Classes -  
Cooking Competitions - Hens' and Bucks' Nights

- Health Retreats & Workshops -

Personal Assistant - Event Planner

**alessandra@thehealthygourmet.com.au**  
**0404 871 015**

READ IT ONLINE :  
**echo.net.au/good-taste**

FOR ADVERTISING ENQUIRIES CONTACT THE ECHO SALES TEAM:  
**adcopy@echo.net.au | 6684 1777**

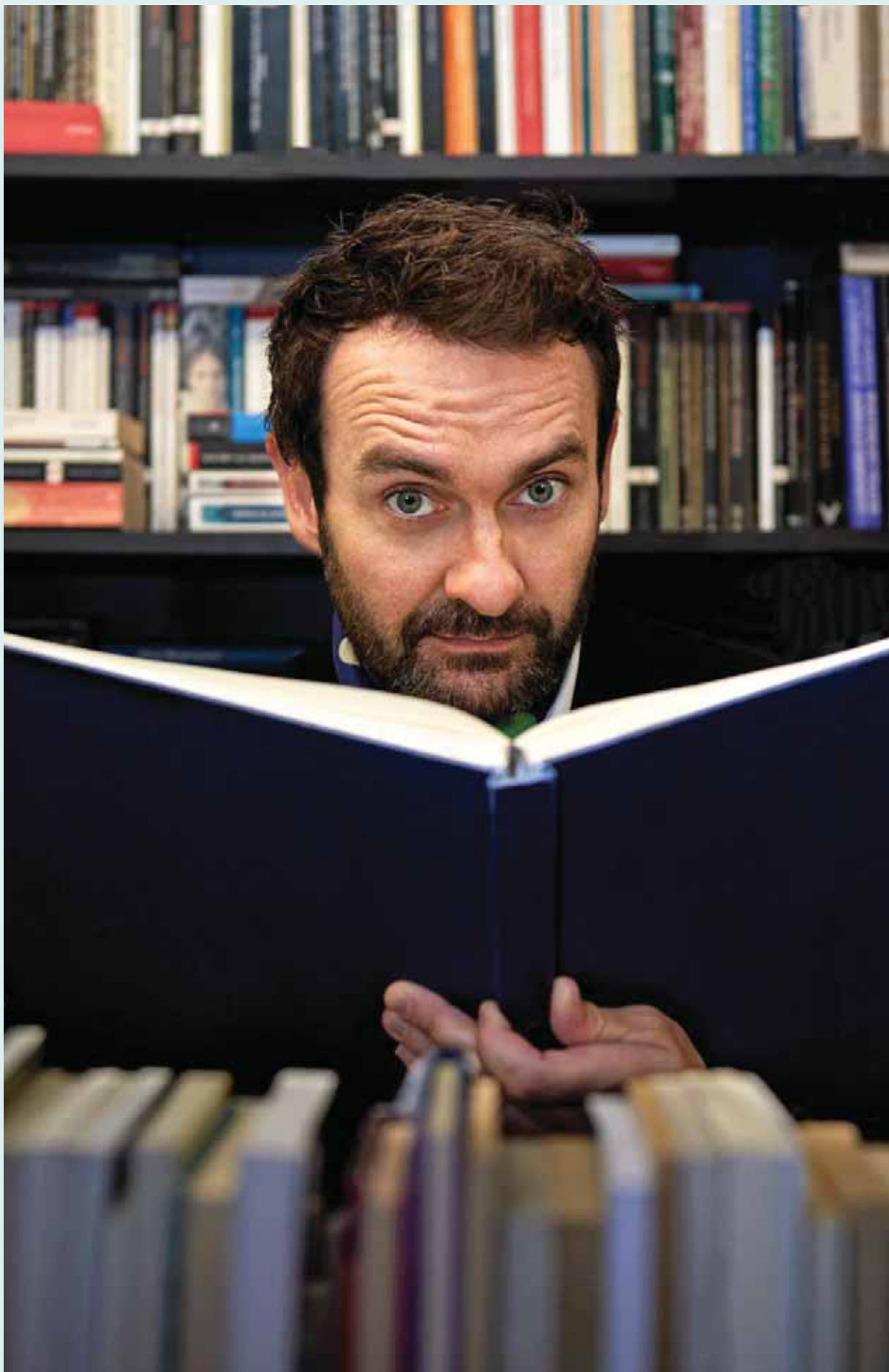


# New years eve



NYE LIVE MUSIC ROUNDUP P26

## GET PEOPLE DOWN TO YOUR LEVEL THIS NYE



LAUGH YOUR WAY INTO 2017 WITH THE CREW FROM THE *BIG GIG* WHEN THEY PRESENT *BLING AT THE BOWLO* FEATURING THE UK'S TIME OUT COMEDY AWARD WINNER, GORDON SOUTHERN.

This is the first time the Big Gig has had an international comic headline and they're pretty excited... so we got to know a little more about Gordon.  
**When I was growing up I thought that I would be...**

About 12 foot tall when it was over. I achieved 50 per cent of that ambition and promptly stopped practising basketball.

**Something I have never understood is...**

Italian.

**My favourite dance move is...**

the robot. Sadly automation has taken lots of jobs from the manufacturing industry; this is a chance for us humans to take one back.

**Having kids has taught me...** that I must return them at once to their parents or guardians.

**When in Rome...**

Speak Italian, dickhead.

**My biggest fear performing is that...**

robots will one day dance better than I do.

**My favourite jokes are the ones...**

that end with a nun and travelling salesman in a compromising position.

**My mother always said...**

I'm not your real mum. But Dave will always be mum to me.

**My biggest nightmare...**

suckling Dave.

**I am frightened of...**

see above.

**When I am alone...**

Each morning I sit down at my desk and attempt to write the greatest comedy show ever. Then I check to see if there's anything interesting online,

then it gets dark and I go to the pub. I'm guessing Shakespeare would have got less written too if he'd had LOL cats to watch.

**The last time I cried...**

I can't say. But I'd advise you that snorting crushed-up wasabi peas for a bet is not a dignified way to make a living.

**I always thought God...**

would be taller, 12 foot or so. Guess he made us in his image after all.

**If I were a rock star I would have liked to have been...**

In the Beatles, just for a few days... like that drummer in Australia.

**I always thought I'd marry...**

at least once and so far I'm on schedule.

**Being a comedian...**

is the hardest job in the world, a soldier once told me. He'd been shot at earlier that week.

**This NYE...**

I'll resolve to be a better person at some point, or be with a better person and drag them down to my level, whichever is easier.

With Mandy Nolan as MC and the spectacularly funny Lindsay Webb as support. An in-demand national headline, this makes the *Big Gig Comedy Night of Bling* at the Ballina RSL Bowling Club something special indeed. Wear your blingiest bling and bring the sparkle on!

NYE Ballina RSL Bowling Club. Doors 6.30pm. Show 8pm.

Show tickets \$30.

18+ show

**Tickets available at the club or online at [ballinarsl.com.au](http://ballinarsl.com.au).**



# New years eve

## NYE LIVE MUSIC



SABROSA SOUND SYSTEM PLAY NYE AT THE BREWERY

### AT THE RAILS

Strap in for a big night of music at the Rails for NYE. Featuring the rollicking antics of the **Bohemian Cowboys** from 8pm and **Marshall Okell** from 10.30pm. Marshall is the winner of the Best Blues and Best Male Vocal at the NCEIA Dolphin Awards this year. Okell is also Music Oz's Blues and Roots Artist of the Year. He combines his love for legendary soul and blues singers with his undisguisable Hendrix's 70s sound. The result is a deep, raw,

honest, dirty blues sound that grabs you by the throat and then soothes you with a sweet honey of musical medicine. There are pure guts, sweat and emotion in his latest material that leave you exhausted and elated in their wake. Tix \$20

### A TROPICAL BREW

Dust off your tropical shirts and get yourself lei'd, because the Byron Bay Brewery is ringing in 2017 with a massive **FREE**

**Hawaiian party.** Featuring a huge entertainment lineup, headlined by **Sabrosa Sound System** spinning rare vinyl with live percussion and dance. As this is a free event, bookings are essential!

### DIRTY RIVER DUO

Dynamic duo Jimi and Lea are passionate storytellers who have the ability to make any song their own. Not ever wanting to be labelled as fitting into a particular genre, they find their style

in everything from heartfelt folk ballads to soul, funk and alternative country blues.

**Dirty River Duo** aims to take their audience on an epic musical journey. Individually they each bring something unique to the sound, but together they create a vibe that has been very well received in the local area. They play Eltham Hotel this NYE.

### ART YARD

The Arts Yard in Bangalow is a collective of 11 local artists of different mediums. They are inviting you to the beautiful small property of lush gardens to come and create. At present there are 11 commercial tenants who live in the northern rivers who work at the Arts Yard. Gabriel Rosati – Artist Sculptor, Kerry Stanton – Ceramist, Jodi Green – Artist and drum maker, Arterium – Photographer/Videographer/Musician/Poet, Dan Buckley – Photo/Video/Audio Engineer/Artist / Musician, Simon Jardine – Drone builder and photographer, Wolf – Metal Artist and Sculptor, Clare – Tattooist, Paul Hunt – Caretaker/musician/poet/writer and Elka & Syril – Seamstress and Clothing Designers. The New Years Celebration will be a fond farewell to 2016 and an inspiring show of ceremony, music, dance, art, connecting



DIRTY RIVER DUO AT THE ELTHAM HOTEL NYE

with respect for the Indigenous community, the whole northern rivers community and friends and family. Girls are going ALL OUT with ball gowns and boots and the guys expressing their inner boho gypsy. The evening will start

with an Indigenous ceremony with a respected elder followed by acclaimed local 6-piece band **Foxfires and DJ Jade Supanova**. There will be pizzas and a spit roast as well.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 30

# NEW YEARS EVE RAFFLES & FREE LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

MYSTERY GIFT CARD GIVEAWAY  
**\$2000 IN PRIZES**  
BURST A BALLOON TO REVEAL YOUR PRIZE

Tickets on sale 6pm; drawn from 7:30pm

**\$1500 CASH PROMOTION**

With every bar purchase from Saturday 24th December to Sunday 1st January 2017 receive a **FREE** ticket to **WIN A CASH PRIZE** on New Years Eve each hour.

**MUST BE HERE TO WIN!**

NSW Permit Number: LTPM1/12/01261



THE  
**Cath Simes**  
BAND

SATURDAY  
31 DECEMBER  
8:30PM  
PACIFIC ROOM

**Ocean Shores**  
country club

P 02 6680 1008  
Orana Rd, Ocean Shores NSW  
[www.oceanshorescc.com.au](http://www.oceanshorescc.com.au)

FREE COURTESY BUS PHONE FOR AVAILABILITY



New years eve



# SPICE IT UP

Thai Restaurant

**MERRY CHRISTMAS &  
A HAPPY NEW YEAR**

**FROM THE  
SPICE IT UP TEAM**

**MULLUM  
BOWLING CLUB  
RESTAURANT**

**FREE**  
Courtesy bus  
available

**OPEN WED-SUN FROM 5:30PM  
DINE IN OR TAKE AWAY**

**CLOSED CHRISTMAS DAY & NEW YEARS DAY**

**~ 6684 2209 ~**

# New Years Eve Party

## Mexican Fiesta Ole!



*Grab a sombrero & come party  
with Team Tav this NYE!*

*Margaritas, spicy treats, plenty  
of tequila and sex on the beach!  
Karaoke, games & prizes!*

  
**ocean shores**  
TAVERN  
*I luv the Tav*

**Happy New Year from Team Tav!**

Courtesy Bus to get you home 6680 3222

# ALOHA 2017!

**CELEBRATE  
NEW YEAR'S EVE AT THE**

# BYRON BAY BREWERY



**BYRON  
BAY  
BREWERY**

## FREE ENTRY

**THROW ON YOUR TROPICAL SHIRT,  
DON YOUR FANCIEST LEI...  
WE'RE HAVING A HAWAIIAN PARTY!**

**FEATURING  
FIRE DANCERS**

**HAWAIIAN BAND ALOHA BABY (8PM-11PM)**

**SABROSA SOUND SYSTEM SPINNING RARE VINYL WITH  
LIVE PERCUSSION AND DANCE (11PM-1AM)**

**BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL**

**PLEASE CALL (02) 6639 6100**

**[www.byronbaybrewery.com.au](http://www.byronbaybrewery.com.au)**

Get the facts **DRINKWISE.ORG.AU**



Cape Byron Lighthouse, Byron Bay

# First Sun

New Year's Day 2017

5.15am

## First Sun Schedule of Events

*Presented by Crystal Castle Facilitators  
Seriya Cutbush, Matty Rainbow & Stephanie Medew*

- |        |   |
|--------|---|
| 5.15am | First Light Crystal Bowl Soundscape   |
| 5.35am | Guided Meditation   |
| 5.50am | Silent Intention as the Sun Emerges   |
| 5.55am | Chant for Peace   |
| 6.00am | Universal OM  |
| 6.10am | Bunyarra Dancers  |
| 6.30am | Your Choice of Activity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Yoga for Body, Mind &amp; Soul</li><li>- Kahuna Hawaiian Empowerment</li><li>- New Year Intention activities</li></ul> |
| 7.15am | First Sun wrap up<br><i>Blessing to You for 2017</i>  |

Join us in a sacred dawn ceremony at the **Cape Byron Lighthouse** to welcome the New Year on the first rays of sunlight to touch Australia.

Together we will connect with the light within us, set our intention for love, light, harmony and peace in the coming year, and radiate it out to the world on the rays of the rising.

BYO  
YOGA MAT  
& New Year  
Intentions

**FREE**

Shuttle bus from  
4.30-8.30am  
Clarks Beach carpark  
**NO CAR ACCESS**

Stay connected



First Sun NYD Byron Bay



CRYSTAL CASTLE  
& shambhala gardens



WET WEATHER VENUE: BYRON COMMUNITY CENTRE



4PM  
TIL LATE

# Soul St NEW YEARS EVE Byron Bay

SPECIAL GUEST  
LAKE STREET

A family friendly, alcohol free New Years Eve event in Jonson St + Railway Park..

Lake Street Dive | The Cassettes | Kyle Lionhart & Band | Dandyman | Mobstars!! | DJ Renee Simone | Spaghetti Circus | Tommy Franklin | Ilona Harker | Circus Arts | Hunter + Smoke | Bradley Stone | DJ Pob | Mae Wilde | Shaunti Light Show | Romi Sounds | Shelly Brown | Billy Tempest Fire Dancers | Fun Maker Silent Disco | Chalk Art  
Plus many great market stalls and tasty food!



\* No fireworks \* No beachfront events on New Year's Eve  
\* No drinking in the streets \* Additional Police \* No Street Camping

## Park for FREE

**FREE PARKING** in **Butler Street Reserve** on Saturday, 31 December until 1am Sunday, 1 January.



You can also catch the Falls Festival bus from Suffolk Park into the town centre on New Year's Eve. Look out for the Blanch's buses.

Or catch the Night Rider Bus from 11pm to 4am for only \$5 per person - from Sunrise to Suffolk Park.

## Road closures

Road closures in Byron Bay for New Year's Eve include:

- no parking from Saturday 6am, 31 December 2016 in parts of Jonson St (near the Byron Community Centre), Lawson Street South car park, Main Beach car park and in Bay Street between Jonson and Middleton Streets;
- Jonson Street will be closed in stages between Byron and north of Marvel St from 12noon and between Lawson and north of Marvel from 1pm, 31 December 2016 to facilitate the market stalls and Soul Street NYE event.

All closures will conclude by 8am, 1 January 2017. Signed detours will be available and delays can be expected. The taxi rank will move, for the duration of the road closure, to the main bus stop - the main bus stop will temporarily be relocated to the taxi rank, just south of the main bus stop (northbound) near Marvel Street.

Find out more at [www.byron.nsw.gov.au](http://www.byron.nsw.gov.au)



The early bird catches the first sun.  
**Sunday, 1 January**

Welcome the New Year and be part of our early morning (5.15am sharp), family friendly event at Cape Byron Lighthouse. Catch the first glimpse of the sun as it breaks through the sky at our silent sunrise meditation; a radiant, peaceful and healthy start from the inside out. The true essence of Byron!

**Walk or catch the shuttle bus (5am – 8am) from Clarkes Beach car park.**

Presented and hosted by Byron Community Centre.



# New years eve

# NYE LIVE MUSIC



THE CASSETTES AT SOUL STREET IN BYRON FOR NYE

## CONTINUED FROM PAGE 26

as chai and sweets available. Tickets are limited though still available now at [www.bit.ly/bohemiangypsyball](http://www.bit.ly/bohemiangypsyball) phone Paul Hunt on 0459 975 849 for any queries.

## SOUL STREET FOR BYRON

Soul Street is Byron Bay's alcohol-free event designed to help keep streets safe, and

celebrations family oriented in support of Byron's vision of reclaiming the streets on what used to be a bit of a hairy night of mayhem. And it's worked. This is the fourth year of Soul St NYE, and with the last two resulting in no arrests, no dramas and a safe night success story, Byron is onto a good thing and sticking to it. The soul is back in Byron Bay on NYE! Hooray! Part of Jonson St is closed to traffic all the way to Lawson St as the Soul Street zone for the evening

as part of the Safe Summer in the Bay initiative created by the Community Summer Safety and Cultural Activities Committee.

There will be three stages – a DJ stage near the NAB, one in Railway Park and the main stage outside the Byron Community Centre.

This space becomes a hive of activity with stilt walkers, roving artists, circus acts, dancers, flash mobstars and more, which creates plenty

of colour and movement and of course there is music music! The lineup this year will include all the way from Brooklyn, Lake Street Dive, Kyle Lionhart Band, Dandyman, Mae Wilde, Hunter and Smoke, Bradley Stone, Bunyarra Dancers, The Cassettes, Romi Sounds, Billy Tempest Fire Twirlers, Tommy Franklin, Spaghetti Circus, Silent Disco, DJ Pob, Shelley Brown, Renee Simone and Spectral Boogie laneway disco and more.

Bring the kids out from 4pm and venture through the heart of town which will be full of music stages, artisan stalls, food stalls, hang-out zones, laneway discos, craft activities and loads of other entertainment till late.

## KARAOKE AT THE TAV

If you want to be the star of the show this NYE then head on down to the Ocean Shores Tavern for the Karaoke Mexican Fiesta presented by **Northern Sounds Karaoke**. Start practising those big hits, and find yourself a big hat, because this could be the night to remember...or with a little friendly tequila, perhaps forget....

## NYD YOGA

Join in a sacred dawn ceremony at the Cape Byron Lighthouse to welcome the 2017 New Year on the very first rays of sunlight to touch Australia. Together people will be encouraged to connect the light within, set our intention for love, light, harmony and peace in the coming year, and radiate it out to the world on the rays of the rising. The First Sun event is the perfect way to start your New Year

with the right intention. Beginning the morning at 5.15am Crystal Castle presents a First Light Crystal Bowl Soundscape, followed by a guided meditation. As the sun peeks over the horizon be some of the first in Australia to set your intention. Chant for Peace, a Universal OM and a performance by local Bunyarra dancers, which will certain set the tone and energy for 2017. Finally you are invited to join in either FREE Yoga, Kahuna Hawaiian Empowerment or other activities set around the lighthouse to complete the morning. There will be no parking/restricted access at Cape Byron Lighthouse on the morning so be sure to park your car at the Clarkes Beach Carpark and catch the FREE shuttle buses between 4.30am and 8.30am. Please like and follow us on Facebook for regular updates: [facebook.com/FirstSunNYDB Byronbay](https://facebook.com/FirstSunNYDB Byronbay).

## NEW YEARS IN KOHINUR

It's the sweetest hall in the forest and what better way to bring in 2017 than with your local community in your beloved community built hall!

Dance with the forest people for the Forest Stomp with **DJs MAGU, POB, Jimmy D, Trip**







# New years eve



## NYE LIVE MUSIC

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 30

**Syndicate, Amazon, SheJ, Crystal Digit....** and more

Opening Ceremony, market stalls, Healing Space, kids' space. Catering by Byron Barista School/Eastern Espresso. From 3pm. Tix \$50 at Main Arm Store or Mullumbimby Bookstore

## GET YOUR NYE FERAMONES PUMPING

For more than ten years, the six members of the **Feramones** have refined a repertoire of some of the greatest and most sophisticated rock songs of the 60s, 70s and 80s. Songs that are universally known and loved, that transcend the generation



LAKE STREET DIVE AT SOUL STREET IN BYRON FOR NYE

gap but which require the Feramones' rare level of craftsmanship to faithfully deliver. If there's a dancefloor, the Feramones will keep it busy. Catch them on **NYE** at the **Byron Bay Golf Club**.

## LATIN LOVE FOR LENNOX

**O.L.B. (Oz Latin Brothers) Music Production Band** has been performing for more than 16 years entertaining audiences all the way from Sydney to Brisbane. Based on the Scenic Rim of Gold Coast, O.L.B. has been entertaining audiences at various venues on the Gold Coast with their infectious blends of latin music of salsa, bachata, cha cha cha, merengue, mambo and more! O.L.B. are four brothers: Manfred Ugarte (lead

vocals, pianist), James Ugarte (bass guitar, backing vocals), Shannon Ugarte (saxophone, backing vocals), and Paul Ugarte (trumpet, backing vocals) and other support musicians who are also part of the main act. They play **Club Lennox** on **NYE** from 8pm.

## SIME OF THE TIMES

Catch **The Cath Simes Band** this **NYE** at the **Ocean Shores Country Club**. Cath Simes Band is a dynamic four-piece that captivate audiences where ever they perform. This band plays all your favourite songs. Hits through to current chart toppers, they are the party band to get you up dancing! Fronting the band with excellent delivery and

vivacious presence on and off stage, it is no surprise singer Cath Simes is surrounded by such a brilliant calibre of musicians. **Pacific Room** from 8pm.

## GETTING ARTS IN THE YARD

The Arts Yard in Bangalow is a collective of 11 local artists of different media. Earlier this year they decided to co-create a **New Years Eve Ball** for local people looking to have a fun dress-up evening to welcome 2017 and experience some great local entertainment. They will start the evening with an Indigenous ceremony followed by acclaimed local six-piece band **Foxfires** and **DJ Jade Supanova**. There will be pizzas and a



OZ LATIN BROTHERS AT CLUB LENNOX ON NYE

spit roast as well as chai and sweets available. Tickets are limited though still available now at [www.eventbrite.com.au](http://www.eventbrite.com.au), or phone Paul Hunt on 0459 975 849 with any queries.

## NYE AT THE NORTHERN

**Tropical Zombie** are six mates renowned for their high-energy shows that guarantee to get even the most well-planted wallflowers out of their pots and on the dance floor. They join **The Ruminators, Chase City, Ivy & DJ Chris Bradley** at the **Hotel Great Northern** for **NYE**.

For tickets go to [thenorthern.com.au](http://thenorthern.com.au).

Show tickets \$30. 18+ show. Tickets available at the club or online at [ballinarsl.com.au](http://ballinarsl.com.au).

## SO NEIL, SO REAL

Neil Diamond is among the world's best-selling artists and has proven to be one of the most enduring and popular entertainers of our time. *The Neily Diamond Show* is a tribute to the man and his songs – by a fan, for the fans. You will not see a singer trying to make believe he is Neil Diamond (even though you will swear that it is Neil himself onstage); instead this is a reverent nod by an entertainer who has, since an early age, been moved by the power of the music. You will find that you will sing along all night, and dance, and laugh, and perhaps even shed a tear at the heartfelt renditions of some of Neil's more moving songs.

**Neily Diamond Show** at **Byron Bay Bowling Club** on **New Years Eve** from 8pm with Roo from 6pm.



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TO JAN 4TH

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to yours!

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We will be taking a 'little break' from 5pm Friday 30th December and reopening 9am Tuesday 3rd January 2017.

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# Harcourts Northern Rivers



## Eltham 39 Federation Drive

5 3 4

39 Federation Drive, Eltham

Enjoying spectacular views across the Eltham valley to the ridgeline beyond, this spacious family home presents an ideal opportunity to acquire a quality holding with room to spread out and potential income.

**For Sale** \$895,000

**View** 7 days by appointment  
[www.harcourts.com.au/NNR2598](http://www.harcourts.com.au/NNR2598)

**Ballina/Byron Team**  
**M 6686 1100**  
Harcourts Northern Rivers



## Eltham 20 Federation Drive

3 2 1 2

Majestic Eltham

Set well back on your private 3 acres is this 300m2 quality home featuring 3 large bedrooms plus a study. The main bedroom is spacious with spa en suite and built-in robes. Relax in comfort and space in the large air-conditioned open plan living area.

**For Sale** \$899,000

**View** 7 days by appointment  
[www.harcourts.com.au/NNR2628](http://www.harcourts.com.au/NNR2628)

**Ballina/Byron Team**  
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Harcourts Northern Rivers



## Teven 433 Teven Road

4 3 3

Federation Homestead

This beautiful federation home, set on 1.9 acres (approx.), is elevated with a northerly aspect and offers a relaxed lifestyle with the convenience of Ballina only 10 minutes away and the beautiful Macquire's Creek straight across the road.

**For Sale** \$830,000

**View** 7 days by appointment  
[www.harcourts.com.au/NNR2664](http://www.harcourts.com.au/NNR2664)

**Ballina/Byron Team**  
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Harcourts Northern Rivers



## East Ballina 56 Eyles Drive

4 2 2

Is This East Ballina's Best Buy?

Here's your chance to secure an enviable lifestyle by moving into this peaceful, family-friendly pocket of East Ballina, opposite the Golf Course and a short walk to East Ballina Shopping Centre and Southern Cross School K-12.

**For Sale** \$720,000

**View** 7 days by appointment  
[www.harcourts.com.au/NNR2672](http://www.harcourts.com.au/NNR2672)

**Ballina/Byron Team**  
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Harcourts Northern Rivers



## Byron Bay 105 Paterson Street

Opportunity To Add Value

Located within an easy stroll to Byron's vibrant town centre, schools and beaches, this classic Byron cottage offers a highly desirable location. Built to last, with quality construction, hardwood frame, the home has the bones for a great renovation/extension, with large rooms, high ceilings and hardwood floorboards. The block is approximately 630sqm and elevated giving potential for extensions with an excellent outlook.

**For Sale**

\$1,100,000

**View** By Appointment 7 Days  
[www.harcourts.com.au/NNR2679](http://www.harcourts.com.au/NNR2679)

**Byron Team**  
**P 6685 6552**  
[info.ballinabyron@harcourts.com.au](mailto:info.ballinabyron@harcourts.com.au)  
Harcourts Northern Rivers



## Byron Bay 5 Somerset Lane

3 3 2

"Santorini Villa" is a lush mediterranean-style beach house within minutes walk to Byron Markets, beaches, shops and restaurants. Offering 3 large bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, beautiful open plan living zones opening onto multiple courtyards, gardens and lawn areas. Soaring ceilings, funky colourful decor, terracotta flooring and rendered walls make the home a beautiful place to live. Private and secure, this is one of Byron's gorgeous hidden gems.

**For Sale**

\$1,595,000

**View** By appointment 7 days  
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**P 6685 6552**  
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Harcourts Northern Rivers

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# Harcourts Northern Rivers



**Alstonville 233-245 Duck Creek Mountain Road**

7 5 6 5

## Stately Sanctuary

Commanding a hilltop position with ocean views to Ballina, this grand residence stands as a shining example of stately colonial-style architecture. Traditional features including colonial windows, high ceilings & lead-light entry combine to make a strong impression.

**For Sale** \$1,650,000

**View** By Appointment 7 Days  
[www.harcourts.com.au/NNR2582](http://www.harcourts.com.au/NNR2582)

**Ballina/Byron Team**  
P 02 6686 1100  
Harcourts Northern Rivers



**Ballina 11 Namitijira Place**

8 8 4 4

## Block Of 4 Units

Superbly positioned within moments stroll of the Ballina CBD, surfing beaches, Richmond River and all the amenities Ballina has to offer. This rare opportunity offers a great investment with long term upside.

**For Sale** \$1,200,000

**View** 7 days by appointment  
[www.harcourts.com.au/NNR2749](http://www.harcourts.com.au/NNR2749)

**Ballina/Byron Team**  
M 6686 1100  
Harcourts Northern Rivers



**Mcleans Ridges 266 Cowlong Road**

8acres 4 2 2

## 8 Beautiful Acres - Home, Plus Shed

This quality 4 bedroom home occupies a prime position on the Ridge with this stunning, gently sloping acreage. Features an amazing kitchen, spacious modern interior, indoor/outdoor room with pizza oven.

**For Sale** \$829,000

**View** 7 days by appointment  
[www.harcourts.com.au/NNR2743](http://www.harcourts.com.au/NNR2743)

**Ballina/Byron Team**  
M 6686 1100  
Harcourts Northern Rivers



**Modanville 17 Dunromin Drive**

5 3 5

## Drinks At Sunset

Set in an attractive court and framed with beautiful gardens, this stunning homestead offers an easy-care lifestyle with the room for a big family and the tranquillity for anyone seeking a sanctuary to call home.

**For Sale** \$925,000

**View** By Appointment 7 Days  
[www.harcourts.com.au/NNR2592](http://www.harcourts.com.au/NNR2592)

**Ballina/Byron Team**  
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**Goonellabah 1/602 Ballina Road**

3 1 1

## Absolutely Awesome Return

\*\*\* 7% RETURN (approx.) \*\*\*

Located in a superb position just a short walk to schools, TAFE and minutes to Lismore town centre, this spacious townhouse is beautifully presented and absolutely gorgeous.

**For Sale** \$254,000

**View** 7 days by appointment  
[www.harcourts.com.au/NNR2687](http://www.harcourts.com.au/NNR2687)

**Ballina/Byron Team**  
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Harcourts Northern Rivers



**Goonellabah 11 McIntosh Road**

5 3 2 4

## Hinterland Resort On An Acre

Showcasing stylish interiors with a resort-style 1 acre, Multiple open plan living areas provide space for every member of the household including huge a sunroom to create that idyllic indoor/outdoor lifestyle.

**For Sale** \$949,000

**View** By Appointment 7 Days  
[www.harcourts.com.au/NNR2463](http://www.harcourts.com.au/NNR2463)

**Ballina/ByronTeam**  
P 02 6686 1100  
Harcourts Northern Rivers



**West Ballina 1/3-13 Sunset Avenue**

3 2 2

## A Private Oasis

This three bedroom North facing villa located at the end of the complex giving you space and extra privacy has been meticulously updated. High quality appliances and fittings, LED lighting, Air conditioning, ceiling fans, tinted windows and blinds.

**For Sale** \$489,000

**View** 7 days by appointment  
[www.harcourts.com.au/NNR2637](http://www.harcourts.com.au/NNR2637)

**Ballina/Byron Team**  
M 6686 1100  
Harcourts Northern Rivers



**Wardell 5 Richmond Street**

1111sqm 4 3 2

## A Beautiful Place To Call Home!

This lovely 3 bedroom home is located on a large 1110 sqm waterfront block in the popular village of Wardell. Waterviews are enjoyed from most rooms. This is the sea change you've been looking for. Enjoy the open plan and functional layout of this two storey home with potential

**For Sale** \$799,000

**View** By Appointment 7 days  
[www.harcourts.com.au/NNR2725](http://www.harcourts.com.au/NNR2725)

**Ballina/Byron Team**  
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Opportunity to add Value

105 Paterson Street, Byron Bay

3 1 1

\$1,100,000



Located within an easy stroll of Byron's vibrant town centre, schools and beaches, this classic Byron cottage offers a highly desirable location. Built to last, with quality construction, hardwood frame, the home has the bones for a great renovation/extension, with large rooms, high ceilings and hardwood floorboards. The block is approximately 630sqm and elevated giving potential for extensions with an excellent outlook. You will love this location within walking distance of schools, Roadhouse, Green Garage and town centre. Perfect for a holiday home, rental/investment or move in and enjoy the breeze, cafes and surf... Properties such as this do not last long so call HARCOURTS today for your personal inspection



Open: 7 days by appointment  
Contact: Steve Leslie 6685 6552  
Harcourts Byron Bay

Nothing to Spend

2 Nargoon Court, Ocean Shores

3 2 2



If you are looking for a property where all the hard work has been done, look no further. Stone retaining walls level out this 1145m2 block, which helps in garden maintenance. Enjoy quiet pockets of the garden where you will be visited by ducks and parrots. The garden is a picture and certainly low maintenance. The home offers three bedrooms, main bedroom with ensuite and built-in. It includes formal lounge and dining with split-system air-conditioning. For those who enjoy entertaining/partying the kitchen/family room opens onto a generous tiled covered barbecue area. The maintenance on this property has been impeccable to the point there is nothing to spend, just move in!



Inspect: By appointment  
Contact: David Holden on 0435 789 677.  
LJ Hooker Brunswick Heads



Beautiful modern family home 3 1 1  
45 Orana Road, Ocean Shores  
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✓ 3 bedrooms all with built-ins.  
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Inspect: 10.30am Saturday 7 Jan, 2016  
Contact: Nir Arenzon 0423 416 303



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123 Bonnydoon Rd, Uki  
Come and feel the natural ambience of this lovely acreage property.  
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✓ Fully renovated bathroom  
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✓ Imagine your family and friends frolicking around in the above ground pool during the summer months  
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paul.sheehan@raywhite.com  
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- 35a Belongil Crescent, Byron Bay. Thu 12-12.30pm
- 1 Mahr Place, Suffolk Park. Thu 2-2.30pm
- 35 Parrot Tree Place, Bangalow. Fri 10-10.30am
- 6A-D/155 Broken Head Road, Suffolk Park. Fri 10-10.30am
- 115 Station Street, Mullumbimby. Fri 11-11.30am
- 14 Orchid Place, Mullumbimby. Fri 11.30-12pm



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### The Legal Light

Kym Luke



### Sea change -- you took the plunge. Now what?

In my last column, I spoke about the advantages of contacting a local lawyer as your first step towards making a sea change and moving to our beautiful Green Coast region.

Are you now ready to buy? Here are few tips.

**Are you experienced?** Make sure your lawyer is very experienced in property law. You don't want to risk a huge transaction with someone with little experience. You should be able to talk to your lawyer like an old trusted friend, so make sure you retain someone who you connect with and who understands you.

Knowledge is power. Do your research. Get a report which shows you all of the recent prices paid for property in the local postcode. Get a pest and building inspection done. Talk to council about what developments are occurring or likely to occur in the local area that might affect the property you're looking at. Talk to experts like planners, builders, designers and decorators to get a clear understanding of what you can and can't do to the property, what the latest trends are and the likely costs.

**Before you apply!** Did you know that any application you make for finance is recorded on your credit report? A great finance broker will already know whether you are going to be successful in your application, before you apply. There might be a number of things you need to do to get ready to make a loan application, for example getting your tax done or closing off other small loans and credit cards which will significantly increase your chances of success.

**Stick to your guns.** Ensure you have expert financial advice on what price you should be paying. Don't pay more. If there is an auction, I suggest you and your partner should write down your agreed limit on a piece of paper beforehand. Be patient, take time to find the right place for you, for the right price.



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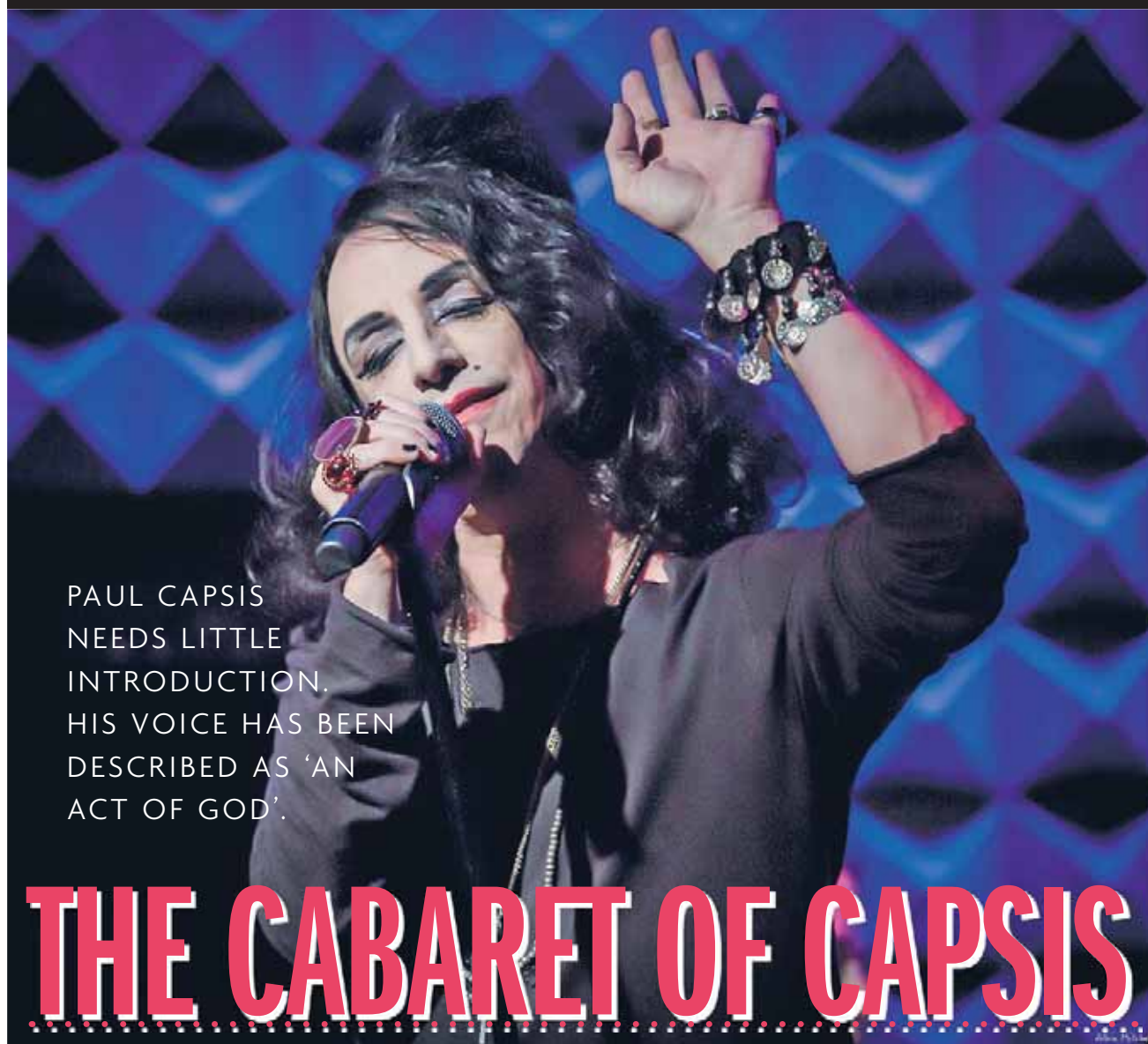
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## THE CABARET OF CAPSIS

When he presents his show *Addicted to the Nightlife* at Lismore City Hall, be prepared to be seduced by this strong yet deceptively fragile powerhouse.

**I note a lot of the songs you sing are from singers such as Judy Garland, Billie Holiday, Amy Winehouse... People with a shitload of talent and a shitload of pain. Why do you think their stories and their music continues to touch us so deeply?**

I think they brought themselves into what they do. With someone like Judy Garland, the power of her voice, there's a vibration in the singing that connects with people and goes much further than pleasant listening.

With Janis Joplin there was a toughness to hide the stuff she went through – being a woman, and not fitting a stereotype. I don't know if you could have a Janis Joplin today. I can't imagine the music industry getting behind someone like her today. They'd be saying all the things about her physicality that she railed against. Rather than hiding it, she embraced it. She was acutely aware of how people viewed her; she just shoved it in everyone's face. She went harder.

**The media has carried some heartbreaking stories of late**

**of young boys being bullied at school for being gay or transgender. How did you develop such a strong sense of who you were?**

I think I was very lucky to be raised by my Maltese grandmother, who was an extraordinary woman with incredible inner strength. She survived great difficulties and I grew up listening to her stories, observing how she was in the world and how she was with people – I think that helped me.

But it wasn't easy for me. There were dreadful times at school. It wasn't until I went to school that I discovered that there was something 'wrong' with me. When I had to mix with other children and they made it clear to me I was strange. I didn't have any understanding of these words they were throwing at me – poofter and things like that. I didn't know what those things were. I was a child.

They made me think I was different. But it wasn't just me – it was someone who brought salami to lunch, someone who was fat, someone who had a runny nose. There were all sorts of reasons kids would pick on you.

My family didn't know how to stop it or fix it. No matter how many visits to the school, they couldn't stop it. I had to work

out how to survive it and I almost didn't survive, but I did.

When that young man committed suicide, it brings it all back to me. I sometimes wonder if it's more difficult now than when I was at school because you would be told in your face that someone was waiting to bash you after school. There was none of the online aspect.

For me, part of my survival was discovering music. The people I was listening to, the people I started to observe, the people I was drawn to – they were tough people and they were no-nonsense people who were absolutely determined to be themselves regardless.

That experience at school has made me very wary. I've never thought 'Oh we're fine, we have all these freedoms; I've always thought it all could turn on a dime. It only takes one powerful person, someone like Abbott or Trump to say, 'No, I don't want you to have any freedom, let alone marriage, because my god tells me you're not worthy'. Career politicians play games with these issues just for votes.

**How did your Maltese heritage impact on your journey; was it part of the bigger picture of being an 'outsider'? Do you think this is what makes you such a powerful and unique performer?**

Actually the Maltese tend to blend whenever they go to different countries. They're not like the Greeks. My father and his family were adamant they would always be Greek regardless of where they were. My dad and his mother were born in Egypt but they didn't identify as Egyptian, they identified as Greek. I was brought up to believe that I wasn't Australian, that I was Greek and only Greek. But I always felt I was Maltese because my Maltese grandmother raised me. I didn't understand Australia as a child. Up until I went to school, I was a Maltese Greek child; there was nothing about Australia.

From both sides the importance of work was drilled into me, maybe to a ridiculous degree. My grandmother would say, 'Never expect anyone to give you anything, because they won't. You have to work hard and you have to be good at what you do.' My grandmother was loved by her bosses because she gave her entire being to work no matter if she was sick or not in the mood. There was a sense of sacrifice to having a job, to paying your bills, to sending your kids to school; it was pretty overwhelming as a child. It made me think I never wanted to be an adult.

I still have that work ethic. It's been 34 years now. In my profession I go through periods when I'm not working and I have learnt not to panic. I'm not very good at relaxing, winding down, letting go. I am really looking forward to going up to Lismore and after the shows having a day or two of breathing and just enjoying the surrounds.

**You are so incredibly unique. What gave you the self-belief to really step into your voice?**

I think the people who inspired me. Those people create the space. You can wonder about how unusual they are, or how bizarre they are; yet somehow they've managed to make it.

Someone like Reg Livermore, who was an Australian household name. Or when I was 10 years old there was Skyhooks on *Countdown* vamping it up with lots of makeup, singing about masturbation. I didn't even understand the lyrics – that wasn't until I was much older and I was thought, 'Oh my god – I was blasting out this album on my mum's stereo!'

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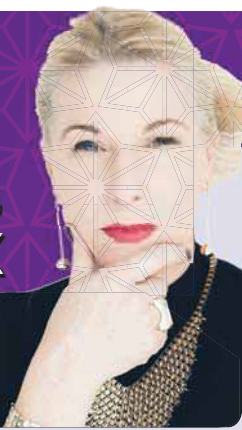
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## FINDING YOUR EDGE

When I was a kid trampolines didn't have nets. And somehow we survived. In order to sustain a summer without broken bones you had to make sure you didn't backflip onto the lawn and onto your head. When you poured dishwashing liquid onto the mat and turned the hose on, you had to be especially careful. There was no containment. Small bodies could easily go hurtling into space. Or a tree.

But falling off wasn't the only risk imposed by this much-loved jumping device. The springs provided a kind of medieval torture zone that

snapped at small fingers and uncovered genitals. You didn't jump in the nude. Or if you did you only did it once.

We not only lived through unnetted flight, we also lived through exposed springs. Every kid from my generation experienced at least one genital-crunching landing that saw the soft flesh of the inner thigh pinched into one of the coils. Every family had at least one kid trapped in the springs by their balls.

The middle of the trampoline offered bouncing bliss. The edge offered broken bones and mangled flesh. It taught

us that within most incredibly joyful pleasurable experiences, there is an element of danger. That was how you learnt to set limits. It wasn't just learning to jump on a springy surface, any moron can do that; you had to learn the areas where it was safe and you developed the ability for self-care. You had to be aware that jumping near an edge leads to pain.

If you ignored this basic tenet of self-regulating, pretty soon fun turned into hospital and a long wait in the emergency department. When I was a kid this knowledge acted as a kind of 'net'. It protected us, not with an actual barrier but with consequences. This made kids jump in the middle. They even took turns because too

many kids on the tramp meant the skinniest little bugger was going to be catapulted into the neighbour's garden. (Unless of course you were doing it on purpose.)

At a backyard party at my place the other day I watched a small child approach our backyard trampoline. We don't have a net. Children must set their own boundaries on my play equipment. Small child scrambles up onto trampoline. Small child has one jump on the very edge of the equipment allowing its body to fly freely in the air. It is a child without limits.

It is clear as the child is airborne that it is of the netted generation. It has never had to redirect its flight before and

so flies off onto its back. Small child lies winded in shock. Poor thing was bawling but it was okay. Small thing just learnt an important life lesson. The edge exists. You don't want to fall off the edge.

The net exists so parents can zip children into the trampoline enclosure and drink chardonnay on the lawn, knowing the won't have to drink-drive to the hospital in the next hour. I worry about this generation of kids growing up with no sense of an edge. How do you set your own limits if they're artificially imposed?

For the long-term safety of all our children we need to remove the nets from trampolines. Sure, there will be

longer queues of children with broken arms at ED but maybe fewer of them will fall to their death from balconies at Schoolies. Hardly anyone in my generation fell off balconies.

We either remove the nets from trampolines, or we start netting highrise balconies. This is how we protect people from danger: we assume they're stupid and should not be allowed to take calculated risks, so we remove the risk. It seems counter-intuitive to me; surely if you teach people that risky behaviour isn't risky, then you've just created even more stupid people. Stupid people who think that to reduce risk it's the world that should change and not them. Nets are for volleyball or cricket, not trampolines or beaches. Take the nets away and learn to manage risk.

There was this energy; something about the way they looked, the way they performed. They made a little bit of theatre with their pop. They were all playing characters.

**And that voice of yours? Could you always sing? Where did this extraordinary talent of yours actually come from?**

I never considered being a singer when I was young. The only person I would ever have the gumption to sing in front of was my grandmother and that was because she was completely non-judgmental and had total unconditional love. She never made any comment, she just let me be. Not like my Greek grandmother, who was the walking rulebook.

Whenever I sang it used to be mimicry and it used to be funny. I was involved with Shopfront community theatre and one day a director came up to me and said, 'You can really sing'. I said, 'No I cant, I'm not a singer'. Then she said that dreaded thing, 'Well, you're going to sing in the next play'. I was terrified because I just didn't know how; I didn't have the mechanisms or the technique. When I did it and I wasn't booed off stage I realised I liked the way I felt. It was a powerful and emotional thing.

**What should we expect for your show *Addicted to the Nightlife* being presented by NORPA and Tropical Fruits?**

A big mixture of songs from across my career that I love to perform. It's my first time at NORPA and Tropical Fruits. I've heard that Tropical Fruits feels like the early days of Mardi Gras and I want to experience that again. I want to celebrate in a way where I've come from and what I've done. I think I might do a number from *Cabaret*, which is what I'm rehearsing right now, so the show will cover the whole gamut of my singing career.

Paul Capsis in *Addicted to the Nightlife* NORPA at Lismore City Hall. **Thursday 29 December** and **Friday 30 December**, 8pm \$50.

Bookings: [www.norpa.org.au](http://www.norpa.org.au)

## Live Music



## THE CAT EMPIRE &amp; XAVIER RUDD ARE COMING!

Widely held as two of Australia's most outstanding live acts, **The Cat Empire** and **Xavier Rudd** will hit the highways together for the first time in January and February 2017 for a series of unique concert events to be held in picturesque open-air settings. Xavier Rudd's

diverse and acclaimed career is going from strength to strength, with his message of global togetherness, acceptance and respect as well as his dynamic musical connection gaining him more than 700k combined online followers and further solidifying his place as one of Australia's greatest artists, activists and spirits. For over a decade, virtuosos The Cat Empire and Xavier Rudd

hold commonalities; they've remained current in global markets while treading a path less travelled, continually doing it in their own way. Celebrated for their individual genre-crossing sounds and their enduring careers at a global level, they've accrued massive followings throughout Europe, Canada, the USA, South Africa and South America with their legendary live performances. Their incredible musicianship

has resulted in successful sold-out tours year in and year out, both increasing awareness by putting their music into the hands of overseas travellers who then took their tunes home in their backpacks and spread the word organically across the globe.

**Saturday 4 February at Red Devil Park** in Byron Bay. Tickets from Ticketmaster – [www.ticketmaster.com.au](http://www.ticketmaster.com.au).

CONTINUED p40 .....➔

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# THE STRUMBELLAS

THE STRUMBELLAS ARE A CANADIAN ROCK BAND WHO PLAY ALT COUNTRY, INDIE ROCK AND SOMETHING THEY'VE BEEN CALLING FOLK POPGRASS.

A feature at Bluesfest, they revealed a few dark secrets about their musical raison d'être. Simon from the Strumbellas revealed all on the Blues Blog...

**What is the one song that reminds you of growing up, and why?**

Bruce Springsteen – *I'm Going Down*. My dad was a lawyer and he traded his services for a sports car and we used to drive around country roads blasting that song.

**What is the song/s that get you on the dance floor every time?**

At home – my kids are obsessed with Fitz and the Tantrums / *Can Make Your Hands Clap* so I've danced to that song 78 times in the last month.

**What is the song/s that's always busted out when no one is around; why?**

Celine Dion – *The Power of Love*. It reminds me of my grade eight girlfriend and so, whenever I listen to it, it takes me back to when I was a kid.

**What is the song/s on high rotation in your car at the moment?**

This is going to sound opportunistic, but I really actually am on a Silverchair kick right now. I listen in awe at how 16-year-old kids can create such a masterpiece of a record with *Frog Stomp*.

**What was your wedding song?**

Bruce Cockburn – *One Day I'll Walk*.

**Your favourite song/s to cover at the moment?**

I don't cover songs because I can never remember the lyrics. But if I did cover a song, it would be *Old Man* by Neil Young.

**If you could sing a duet with anyone, dead or alive, who would it be and what would be the song?**

*Bohemian Rhapsody* with Freddy Mercury. I would take the high parts (wink, wink).

**Your all-time Blues hero is... Why?**

Robert Johnson because the mystery behind his selling his soul to the devil is one of the most fascinating stories in music.

For more info go to [bluesfest.com.au](http://bluesfest.com.au).



2015 saw the release of *Lloyd Cole and the Commotions Collected Recordings 1983–1989*. The release saw a resurgence in acclaim for the artist prompting a new anthology *The Lloyd Cole Songbook: 1983–1996*, which spans the classic period of the Commotions, along with his subsequent and substantial four solo albums and a 'lost' fifth album.

The English singer/songwriter will perform songs from throughout the period showcased in this anthology on his international tour *The Retrospective*, which comes to Australia in January 2017.

Lloyd Cole is no stranger to Australian shores. From his time as frontman for The Commotions and their stadium tour of 1986, through to his Standards Australian Tour of 2014 and the many solo tours he has performed between, Lloyd has proved a very welcome visitor, regularly selling out shows right around the country.

Looking back, Cole reflects on the heady days of vinyl.

'I think there's something satisfying about having something in your hand,' he mused. 'I remember when I had *Never Mind the Bollocks* or *Aladdin Sane* and took it home, it was a different sort of experience holding the album...'

For this tour Cole revisits songs he wrote and played when he was 23.

It's something that comes a lot easier these days.

'It was more difficult for me playing songs that were 15 years old in my 30s than it is now. Then I felt the difference in myself as a younger person. I could still remember what it was like to be 23; now I can't remember what it was like to be 23 or 30!'

Cole has always taken his songwriting seriously. Inspired by Gore Vidal's quip in *On the Road* where he says, 'That's not writing, that's typing', he was focused on making music that lasts.

'I don't want to make records that have lots of throwaway stuff,' says Cole. 'We worked hard to make sure we didn't include our mistakes on our records, and so it's been quite nice. I thought it would be weird to not play any songs from the last 20 years but it hasn't been weird at all; you get to a certain age when you realise it is good to look back once in a while.'

At the same time, Lloyd Cole is no nostalgia junkie, and he's reflective on a career that has had its ups and downs.

'My life hasn't gone as smoothly as I ever hoped. I was richer for the first 10 years of my career than I thought I would be and the next 10 years I was poorer than I thought I should be...' The music industry is a fickle mistress.

Cole reluctantly admits these days he's what the industry categorises at 'a nice artist'.

'I have sort of been pushed into a corner. I don't feel I should have to be a niche artist but I have been made one. I have been lucky that mostly people almost haven't written negative things about me. The lack of critical success wasn't wearing, but I found a way to have a career away from the mainstream.

'I just wanted to make music and have that music have a chance to be successful. I like that you make the music without any kind of expectation. The minute you think about the audience you are dead...'

Lloyd Cole will be playing two sets. The first is solo and the second is with his 24-year-old son William.

'He looks like me when I used to look like that,' laughs Cole, who relishes playing with his kid.

'It's lovely – he is a great musician. He is a much better guitar player than I ever will be!'

**Lloyd Cole plays QPAC in Brisbane on Tuesday 10 January.**

.....CONT. FROM p39 **Live Music**



PERCUSSION GARDEN PRESENT SHAMAN AT ST FINBARR'S PRIMARY SCHOOL HALL IN BYRON ON WEDNESDAY 4 AND FRIDAY 6 JAN



THE PARCELS PLAY THEIR FINAL SHOW AT THE BYRON THEATRE 7 JANUARY

## IN THE PERCUSSION GARDEN

The people who created the Young Drums Percussion Orchestra present their brand new show: **Shaman**.

A multi-media mix of extraordinary percussion and theatre, created by Peter Jäggel, it is an exploration of the oldest and most ubiquitous of all the drums, the Frame Drum. The drum of the medicine man, the wise woman, and the minstrel poets of the ages, it is the drum of the storyteller. The drum of the shaman!

It is the drum of healing, a drum of the spirit, and a drum of magic!

You will see and hear frame drums of many styles and sizes from small hand-held instruments to Australia's largest frame drum, the gigantic and awesome 2-metre, soul-shaking, 'Thunder-maker'.

You will see virtuosic percussion performances wrapped around a multi-media show featuring artworks by acclaimed northern rivers artist Hamish Graham.

Along with the frame drum the Percussion Garden group will perform music of the Orient upon the immensely powerful Taiko Drums.

The Percussion Garden band, Drum Jungle, perform original contemporary rhythm music and arrangements of works ranging from Frank Zappa to JS Bach: Afro-Cuban, jazz, funk, Arabic and other world music genres.

The women of the newly formed Northern Rivers Taiko group Thunderland will also perform for you!

Come along with your friends to enjoy this incredibly innovative percussion music show.

**Wednesday 4 and Friday 6 January at St Finbarr's Primary School Hall** Byron Bay.

Doors open at 7pm, show starts at 8pm.

Tickets available at the door and other venues TBA.

\$30 Adult | \$15 Child | \$25 Con | \$75 Family of 2 adults 2 children

## PARCELS FROM BERLIN

Byron-bred and Berlin-dwelling band, **Parcels**, have kicked off their first Australian tour since signing with mega-hip Parisian label Kitsuné, and have added a new Byron farewell show before they head back to Berlin.

The Aussie-born five-piece were welcomed home in style with a packed-out crowd at Byron's Great Northern Hotel with their version of David Bowie's *Let's Dance* being the talking point of the evening. 'It's hard to see this Australian trip as a "tour" really', said the Parcels boys. 'We're playing 12 shows over the month but we're able to spend time every week just hanging out in our old hometown, Byron Bay, before we drive to the next show. Sun, beach, friends, it's a true summer holiday! It's strange to be back after so long and we all struggled with some post-travel sickness but it's absolutely beautiful here and the lifestyle change is refreshing after a hectic Berlin year.'

Parcels play on **7 January** at the **Byron Theatre** with Vinnie Laduce and Merryn Jean. Tix available at [www.byroncentre.com.au/whats-on](http://www.byroncentre.com.au/whats-on).

# LLOYD COLE

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- FRI 20 SUTHERLAND ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE
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**SANGEET MISHRA IS THE SPECIAL GUEST OF TAHIR QAWWAL AT THE BYRON THEATRE 6 JANUARY**



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**VIEUX FARKA AT THE MULLUMBIMBY CIVIC HALL ON THURSDAY 5 JANUARY**

## MUSIC WITH A VIEUX

The son of the late Malian guitarist Ali Farka Touré inherited his dad's dazzlingly fluid phrasing but clearly also digs the fiery African blues rock of bands such as Tinariwen. Here, Vieux Farka joins American peers for a crossover set that slays.

Join us at the Mullumbimby Civic Memorial Hall for an unforgettable musical experience with **Vieux Farka Touré**.

Vieux's live performances are nothing short of breathtaking, highly energised, and dazzling crowds with his speed and dexterity on the guitar, and his palpable charisma.

**Thursday 5 January** at the **Mullumbimby Civic Hall**. Starts at 7.30pm.

## SANGEET JOINS TAHIR

Special guest **Sangeet Mishra** from India will be performing alongside **Tahir Qawwal** on 6 January for the Byron Theatre's annual Sufi Qawwali concert. Due to perform at Woodford Festival again over New Year, Sangeet Mishra is a gifted musician who plays a classical string instrument called the sarangi. This instrument is able to produce a huge range of tonal colour and emotional nuance, requiring a very high level of skill to master. Sangeet has performed previously in Australia with his father and teacher Pt Santosh Mishra.

North Coast news daily: [www.echonetdaily.net.au](http://www.echonetdaily.net.au)



**BIGGY P, PLAYING HOTEL BRUNSWICK ON THURSDAY AND BANGALOW HOTEL ON NYE**

To see this sort of classical musicality in Byron Bay is a rare treat that everyone can savour. In older times qawwali music was accompanied by the sarangi, so Tahir Qawwal is thrilled and honoured to have Sangeet Mishra play with his Sufi music ensemble.

**Sufi Qawwali at Byron Theatre 6 January** – [byrontheatre.com](http://byrontheatre.com).

## FREQ OUT!

**Earth Frequency Festival** is a four-day outdoor festival, based in southeast Queensland, Australia. While drawing from many cultural niches such as transformational festival, tribal gathering, doof and boutique festival, the aim of Earth Frequency Festival is to go beyond these traditional tags and to exist as a multi-faceted gathering focused broadly on creativity, community, connection, intention and inspiration. Their aim is to create nothing short of a life-changing, transformative experience.

Nurtured by the setting of the beautiful Australian outdoors, we gather together to celebrate life with music, art and other creative forms, and to educate, connect, heal and inspire.

Over the four days you can expect a full range of music, performance, arts, lectures and workshops, creative activities and market stalls. For those attending, it may just be the defining weekend of your summer! Earth Frequency Festival is an inclusive, community-minded event. We aim to provide a meeting place – people from many different backgrounds, ages and walks of life come together with the shared interests of music, nature, technology, culture, community and peace. Now in its second decade, Earth Frequency Festival has grown and evolved to become a calendar highlight for the southeast QLD / northern NSW region and beyond.

**17-20 February** at **Ivory Rock**. Tickets at [earthfrequency.com.au](http://earthfrequency.com.au).



## WHY DON'T YOU JUST ZEN SPANK ME?

Jesse Thomas-Hall is a Zen Spanker. If you're like me you won't know what the hell that is. Just what does a fellow who's been following the path of inner alchemy who has mastered meditation, martial arts, Chi Gon, sexual alchemy, energetic healing and self-transformation mean when he tells me he's a Zen Spanking practitioner and instructor. I get the feeling this was not a suggestion from his school guidance counsellor. Okay, so my pants aren't down but I'm bent over in anticipation...

'Zen spanking is in the niche that I refer to as conscious kink,' says Jesse.

Jesse explains how he tries to marry kink, as in BDSM (Bondage & Discipline, Sadism & Masochism – basically being tied up and punished), with Tantra.

'Tantra is very yin,' he reassures me. 'It's very holistic. With kink, it's much more yang – basically it's about intensity.'

Weirdly I'm more comfortable with kink.

Okay. I think I am going to need more information. I can tell that Jesse has done this before. I guess that makes me submissive. But interestingly in his play, the submissive maintains control.

So what actually happens in a Zen Spanking session?

'In the format you explore impact play – pretty much any sexual play that two people or more engage in where one of them is getting struck by the other – that can be done by all sorts of implements, floggers, paddles... you can spank with your hands.'

You will be relieved to know that in Zen Spanking it's just bare hands. Put your floggers down. (I really have to get a flogger.)

Jesse classifies the body to help keep the Zen Spanking 'safe'.

'You have different areas of the body classified in the different ways. The buttocks are a green zone; they are fleshy and you won't do any damage by striking them quite hard.'

I think we can all attest to that.

'The buttocks can take a lot of intensity,' says Jesse. Once again I have to admit he's right. The butt can really take some punishment.

'The base of the feet is also a green zone. They are the only two green zones,' according to Jesse. Then we move onto yellow.

This is still an area that is safe to strike but can't take as much as the green. Here we are talking about backs of calves and thighs.

However if you are in the red zone, you have to be really careful; you can't really spank but if you do you have to be very gentle. Red Zone is a place like the anus or vagina. Ay Caramba! And there's a purple zone too. The testicles.

Generally the Purple Zone is off limits. Unless it was communicated otherwise. Communication is key in Zen Spanking.

'You have to communicate what you are comfortable with,' says Jesse.

'We pair up and start connection practices. We talk about the structure of the experience – in connection we practise meditation.'

We do eye-gazing with the partner to meet them in the space and feel into them and we connect the breath to energy. These are ways to create opening; it's designed to help people open and to connect energetically. Jesse demonstrates with a partner before the Zen Spanking begins.

Now you have to decide. Are you top or are you bottom?

The top is the person giving the spank and the bottom is the person receiving. This is where Zen Spanking differs from kink.

'Normally the top would be in charge; they are the boss and there would be a safe word in place for the bottom.'

In zen spanking top and bottom switch it up in the power department and it's the bottom person who is empowered with the control.

'The top is in service to the bottom,' says Jesse 'and tries to create an experience they want to have because the person on the bottom has to keep letting them know.'

From what Jesse says, your idea about what is going to fulfil you can be very different in practice. Hence the need to have the connection with your spanking partner.

'You have to feel into it,' says Jesse. 'You want the greatest opening, and that is tuned in on the bottom, and feeling if the experience is open or closed. Likewise the person on top has to feel into it as well. You have to ride the edge of what you can handle. The real gift and the real power in the experience is in the space held by the bottom; they are in surrender and experience opening – you can reach altered states of consciousness. The person on the top has to support that. Sometimes it's pleasurable. The person on the bottom will be having orgasms without genital interaction. Sometimes the people have processes where they break down and cry. It can bring up unresolved emotion and it will pass. You want to allow them to express themselves.'

So I still can't decide if I'm top or bottom. I'm thinking I'm more of a top, but then the bottom has control, and I do like a fair whack of that. Oops, pardon the pun. (That's my safe word.) And I do have a pretty substantial green zone. I could be a park.

What I want to know now, is it pants on or pants off?

'It depends on the context,' says Jesse. 'I usually make people keep underwear on although at Taste of Love it could very well be naked. I will feel into what the feel is with nudity and how comfortable people are with being nude.'

As I suspected, it's more fun nude. Everything is more fun in the nude. Except perhaps parent-teacher nights.

'Skin on skin is a deeper connection than skin through cloth...'

Something Jesse is keen to communicate is something he calls 'aftercare'.

'The other massive gift in this experience is not just the gift of being spanked, it's the aftercare. I feel aftercare is even more important than the spank itself. If someone has an opening they can be vulnerable and after each practice we have 5-15 minutes of aftercare time when the top holds the bottom like a baby and they care for them. This is a time where you reflect experiences and say what felt good.'

Nothing like a loving cuddle after a good hard spanking. I'm there.

**The Art of Zen Spanking** is one of the unique experiences available at the **Taste of Love**, Australia's biggest Tantra Festival.

**20-22 January** at the **Byron Community Centre**. For ticket and program information go to [tasteoflove.com.au](http://tasteoflove.com.au).





**Stars with Lilith**

This week genial Venus does a happy dance with Saturn, Jupiter and Uranus – planets of organisation, extravagance and unexpected fun – for a celestial blessing of goodwill and end-of-year cheer...

**♈ ARIES:** Overheating's always your biggest no-no, so go easy on the stimulants this week. If festive frictions send you straying towards the impatient zone, switch instantly to cruise control. Speak softly, even through gritted teeth. Keep it friendly, find your smile, use your inimitable sense of humour and enjoy a jovial, joyous closure to the old year.

**♉ TAURUS:** Earth-sign Taurans are strongly in synch with seasonal cycles, so use midweek new moon's lunar portal for planting the intentions of what you'd like to see flourish and grow in the coming months. The true spirit of New Year is a willing heart to make a fresh start.

**♊ GEMINI:** This week has its frustrations and complications – along with plenty of temptations. And since it's the season of unreason, why resist? The number-one benefit of Mercury retrograde is a welcome slow-down of the rat race to a more cruisy, comfortable pace, so you can soak up some intimate, low-key, New Year vibes.

**♋ CANCER:** The planets of manifestation, celebration, mucho gusto and surprise delights all in benign alignment shower you with cosmic bounty for your entry into the new year. After which, the more time you can spend chillaxing and pottering thoughtfully round Crab casa till Mercury picks up the pace next week, the better...

**♌ LEO:** Whether you're drawn towards the orbit of other people's celebrations or invite a chosen few into your own more intimate festivities, an attitude of gratitude is definitely this week's best accessory for dealing with whatever happens – or doesn't happen, according to plan. Your primary holiday survival strategy? Adaptability.

**♍ VIRGO:** This week's rich festive warmth isn't without a degree of astral turbulence, so allow extra time for the unexpected and be patient with arrangement changes. If you need to debrief or download, try trees – they're excellent listeners. Stay hydrated. Remember to pat yourself on the back for everything you've achieved. Happy New Year...

**♎ LIBRA:** This week Libra's lead planet Venus fills your party glass way past full with a sparkling mix of young and old, varying likes and requirements, styles and values. All of which you can blend into an harmonious cocktail – or salad, if that's more your thing. Feeling really creative? Add some spiritual elements to material ingredients.

**♏ SCORPIO:** New Year vibes are suggesting cosyng-up with your close homies: either entertaining at home or in a local community gathering that strengthens bonds, deepens ties. Your only cosmic caution is against burning the festive candle at both ends, so welcome in the new year nice and easy, slow and pleasy.

**♐ SAGITTARIUS:** Your ruler Jupiter nicely aligned with Venus, Saturn and Uranus is the best possible end of year news. You may need to cool the excitement though, lest you morph into a human volcano. If you need to let off steam, be positive and proactive, kind and considerate – as in friendly persuasion.

**♑ CAPRICORN:** The sun singing Happy Birthday Capricorn rockets you into the spotlight for end-of-year merrymaking, social syncopation, vibing and imbibing. With midweek new moon in your sign, you primo list-writers might consider two New Year lists: what you definitely no longer need, and what you absolutely want to attract.

**♒ AQUARIUS:** One of your many Aquarian skills is the ability to combine old and new, traditional and contemporary, retro and current, and this week's assorted celestial ingredients are ripe for harmonious blending. Venus and New Years Eve moon in Aquarius give your peacemaking, problem-solving talents a workout, rewarded by happy holiday highs.

**♓ PISCES:** Festive events inevitably spawn some forceful dynamics and high-voltage emotions; knowing this, you can nimbly sidestep becoming the fish filling in a sandwich of other people's competing agendas. The super-power surge of Mars in your sign is just the ticket for bringing joy to the world, spreading peace on Earth.

## CULTURE



### WOMEN LIKE US IN BALLINA

Get those scooters on charge and get to the **Ballina RSL** when Mandy Nolan and Ellen Briggs present **Women Like Us**, the sensation that's been called 'a two Tena pad show'.



AUSTEN TAYSHUS AT THE BYRON SERVICES CLUB ON MONDAY 9 JANUARY

Two women of wit doing one hour of standup each. It's the full show. Wild, wondrous and totally irreverent. Come and celebrate your dysfunction with these middle-aged hornbags. **Friday 6 January**, 8pm. Tix at [ballinarsl.com.au](http://ballinarsl.com.au) or at the club.



THOMGALLERY IS NOW SHOWING THE WORK OF CONCHITA CARAMBANO AND IS OPEN THURSDAY-MONDAY MIDDAY-5PM (OUTSIDE HOURS CALL 0411 813 999)

### MANY AUSTEN TAYSHUS RETURNS!

There are few comics with the tenacity and killer instinct of Austen Tayshus. The comedy superstar who first came into being in 1981 has the ability to take a room hostage just with his tongue. Topical, dangerous, irreverent, he's the High Priest of Satire, unflappable and relentless. He's the closest thing the Australian comedy scene has to Bill Hicks. Except Austen is very much alive. Every show is unique. He has the ability to weave current politics, what's happening in the room, philosophy, anthropology, religion and of course sport – and let's not forget the pope – into one gag.

Tayshus is a man of controversy. There is no subject he won't dissect. Uncomfortable, confronting, but always illuminating, an Austen Tayshus show is both comic and cleansing. Austen remarked once that he sees his role as being a social agitator, as the prick in the paw that makes the public think. He doesn't need you to like him. In fact he'd probably prefer if you didn't.

**Austen Tayshus** headlines at the **Byron Services Club** on **Monday 9 January**.

Doors 7pm. Show 8pm. Tickets \$20/25 at the club or online at [mandynolan.com.au](http://mandynolan.com.au).

### THOMAS UP FOR CONCHITA

**Thomgallery** is now showing the work of **Conchita Carambano** and welcome all to come and view her stunning abstract works. To view outside these hours, phone 0411 813 999.

### FURTHEST UP THE BEACH

The **Byron Bay Surf Festival** is stoked to announce it will host the second edition of the McTavish Trim.

The McTavish Trim – Furthest Up The Beach, is a unique surfing event whereby the longest distance surfed is the goal for each of the 12 invited trimmers. Surfboards must be more than 10 foot in length, requiring a significant amount of skill and panache to surf. The event will take place during the always popular freestyle and stoke surf sessions, on the Sunday of the festival, which could not be better this year with the unique addition of the Trim. On this stoke-filled day you'll also enjoy the classic surf sessions, which this year include torpedoes (bodysurfing), finless (timber, surfmat or softboards), fish, logs, mermaids (gals only), Tandem, and the partywave! These sessions are non-competitive and are more



SAE INSTITUTE HAVE JUST ANNOUNCED REGIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM WITH INFO SESSION AT THE BYRON CAMPUS ON 19 JANUARY

or less based on artistic interpretation with a decided peer vote for which waverider shows the most pure stoke and freestyling fun on any particular wave during each of the sessions.

**Sunday 26 February** at **Wategos!**

### FOR HIS BIG HEART!

Most of the Shire would be aware of the work of **Paul Barrett** and the Samba-Blisstas. Moving here around a decade ago Paul kicked off community drum groups with his ensembles leading and opening festivals and events throughout the region. Sadly three weeks ago Paul had a major heart attack and remains in hospital. He gives so much to the community, near and far.

A **GoFundMe** page has been set up for him and community members are being asked to donate to: [www.gofundme.com/3134voo](http://www.gofundme.com/3134voo).

### SAE'S \$ FOR CREATIVES

Recognising the value of the creative industries to the NSW northern rivers – and the employment opportunities this sector offers local youth, mature age students and career changers – SAE Institute has announced a **2017 Northern Rivers Creative Media Scholarship** program.

A scholarship amount of up to \$8,000 will be available for up to 50 students commencing a Diploma in Screen and Media in Digital Video Production, Music Industry in Electronic Music Production or Sound Production. The scholarship provides approximately \$8,000 towards tuition fees for a seven-month, full-time Diploma course (or part-time equivalent).

To apply, students must meet SAE's diploma enrolment criteria and scholarship criteria, which include residing in the northern rivers region during their studies, and participating in an interview process to determine motivation, aspirations and creative-media experience. For the purpose of the scholarship, the northern rivers region includes Byron Shire, Ballina Shire, Lismore City, Tweed Shire, Richmond Valley, Kyogle Shire and Clarence Valley councils. This scholarship will also be made available to students who have already enrolled to commence a Diploma at SAE Byron Bay in February 2017 and meet the scholarship criteria.

A scholarship information session will be held at Byron Bay campus on 19 January 2017 at 4-7pm. Applications for scholarships close on Monday 23 January 2016.

For more information visit [sae.edu.au/scholarships](http://sae.edu.au/scholarships).



**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

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BY JOHN CAMPBELL



# HEALING THE PLANET AT STARLIGHT

SERIYA CUTBUSH IS A BYRON YOGINI, WHOSE EXPOSURE TO HER MOTHER'S YOGI AND HEALER LIFESTYLE, HAS LEFT STRONG IMPRESSIONS ON HER BEING.

Her journey guided her to practising and studying meditation and healing throughout Asia, the Middle East, Europe, Central and North America, deepening her knowledge and understanding, and realising her own intuitive relationship to herself, her community and the divine. She is one of the many featured presenters at the **Starlight Festival of Healing** at the **Bangalow A&I Hall** over **5-8 January**.

## What is a yogini?

A yogini is a female yogi. A yogi is someone who has dedicated themselves to living a yogic lifestyle by practising yoga on all levels, not just the physical.

## How did you find yourself on the yoga path?

I grew up in the Byron Shire with my parents practising a lot of meditation, yoga and chanting at home. From when I was born until my teenage years I was travelling a lot to India and also living in different ashrams with my family in different parts of the world. This was my foundation. And then I rebelled against it all as a teenager, only to rediscover it within my own direct experience as a young adult when I was living overseas and fractured my tailbone. That period led me to seriously reflect on how I was living my life and guided me to spend my twenties travelling the world in search for the answers about who I really was. Over time I was led to the Sivananda tradition where I began to study and practise the asanas, philosophy, ritual, chanting and power of breath within that lineage.

From then on I kept opening more and more, studying with different teachers, different traditions and, most importantly, unleashing more of my own practice.

## What do you offer to people in your workshops?

I have so many passions. So I just simply share these within my workshops. I share what works for me and if it has helped me along the way then I trust it may also help others. Working with crystals, mantra, sound, yoga, chakras, and meditation are some of the focuses within my retreats. It's important to me that I offer a space where people can experience for themselves rather than feel like someone is 'teaching'. I love to empower others in using tools to discover more about themselves. If we just listen to what our heart resonates with then that in itself will often crack us open and increase the desire for more!

## What will you share at Starlight Festival?

A nourishing Crystal Bowl Sound Healing journey for deep relaxation and balance. A guided chakra meditation journey to discover more about our own energy system and how to keep it in tune. A heart opening yin yoga class to support us in opening to love for self and others. A kirtan chanting session, which is a meditation that activates the devotional parts of ourselves that are ready to just let go, surrender and sing!

For tickets and session times go to [starlightfestival.com.au](http://starlightfestival.com.au).

Read the full article at [echo.net.au/healing-the-planet-at-starlight](http://echo.net.au/healing-the-planet-at-starlight)



# THE EDGE OF SEVENTEEN

If we can agree that *Easy A* (2010) set a new gold standard for the contemporary teen-flick, high-school dramedy (and I won't hear a word spoken against it), then you should not disregard this smart, funny, hip and, in the end, gorgeously coy and touching movie. A bizarrely dressed outsider at her junior high, Nadine (Hailee Steinfeld) is consumed by manic self-absorption. As a confused teenager, her problems are the only things that matter in her crazy unknowing world. She fights constantly with her widowed mother (Kyra Sedgwick), cannot abide the self-confidence of her handsome older brother, Darian (Blake Jenner), and is unable to find any way of being noticed by the cool guy in a senior year. When Krista, her bestie (Hayley Lu Richardson), hooks up with Darian, Nadine falls into a black hole of fury and alienation. Her only confidante is the history teacher, Mr Bruner (Woody Harrelson). Writer Kelly Fremon Craig's debut as director is incredibly assured – perhaps because, as a woman, she has a better understanding of Nadine, as well as her mother and Krista, who are never secondary players. As a result, her movie is instantly likeable for its recognisable characters and the everyday scenarios in which they find themselves. Bucking the established norm for the youngsters in American films to be portrayed as experienced and capable beyond their years (it is so irritating), Nadine simply cannot cope with the maelstrom of emotional (if overblown) crises in which she finds herself. It is a performance of captivating ingenuousness from Steinfeld, wavering wildly from the frustrating to the heart breaking. She gets there in the end (and what a beautiful ending it is) but along the way the viewer is reminded at every turn that nothing can ever be taken for granted, that all that glitters is not gold, that love can be elusive, even when it is staring you in the face, and that growing up involves stumbling over an edge from which there is no return. One of the year's best.



# A UNITED KINGDOM

Hands up if you know anything about the modern history of Botswana and its King Seretse... I only had the vaguest idea of where exactly Botswana is myself, but events there shortly after WWII exemplified the attitude of white colonialists to their coloured subjects. The country was a protectorate of the United Kingdom, with Seretse's uncle as its token ruler while Seretse (David Oyelowo), the heir to the throne, was studying law in England. When he met and married Ruth Williams (Rosamund Pike), a white woman, in 1947, their marriage was met with outrage at Westminster, and even in Botswana itself, where it antagonised those traditionalists who could not accept Ruth as the 'mother of the nation'. The first part of the movie is primarily concerned with the challenges that a racially mixed marriage presents to a narrow-minded, anally conservative, Cory Bernardian society – the couple were generally treated with contempt, to the point that Ruth was disowned by her father. Director Amma Asante's treatment of this issue feels strangely passé, Mills and Boonish even, but it can't do any harm to remind people of racism's crudity and ugliness. The story is cranked up a gear when Seretse decides to return to Botswana with Ruth to assume his role as king. The idea is abhorrent to the Empire, with those in the Foreign Office wishing in no way to get off-side with South Africa, where the disgusting practice of Apartheid was being introduced. Both Seretse and Ruth have to deal with the unctuous Alistair Canning (Jack Davenport), the diplomat overseeing Britain's interests in southern Africa. As a sort of Sir Humphrey Appleby with scales and venom, Davenport nearly steals the show in a fabulously hateful performance. The Machiavellian manoeuvrings on both sides are abridged for the purposes of the narrative, but Winston Churchill, elected prime minister as the matter was coming to a head, emerges from of the affair looking like a total grub. It is a simple tale well told, with an enlightening postscript.

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**Wednesday Dec 28 - Final**

Allied	11:00am
Fantastic Beasts AWTF	1:15pm
I, Daniel Blake	3:45pm
Allied	5:45pm
Arrival	8:00pm

**Thursday Dec 29 - NEW**

The Family Fang	11:15am
I, Daniel Blake	1:15pm
Fantastic Beasts AWTF	3:15pm
Queen of Katwe	5:45pm
Allied	8:00pm

**Friday Dec 30**

Fantastic Beasts AWTF	11:15am
The Family Fang	1:45pm
I, Daniel Blake	3:45pm
Allied	5:45pm
Queen of Katwe	8:00pm

**Saturday Dec 31**  
Closed Happy NYE!

**Sunday January 1 2017**

Allied	10:45am
Queen of Katwe	1:10pm
Fantastic Beasts AWTF	3:30pm
The Family Fang	6:00pm
Allied	8:00pm

**Magic Monday Jan 2 Tix \$11**

I, Daniel Blake	11:15am
Fantastic Beasts AWTF	1:15pm
The Family Fang	3:45pm
Allied	5:45pm
Queen of Katwe	8:00pm

**Tuesday Jan 3**

The Family Fang	11:15am
Queen of Katwe	1:15pm
Allied	3:45pm
I, Daniel Blake	6:00pm
Fantastic Beasts AWTF	8:00pm

**Wednesday Jan 4**

Queen of Katwe	10:45am
I, Daniel Blake	1:10pm
Fantastic Beasts AWTF	3:10pm
Queen of Katwe	5:40pm
Allied	8:00pm



## THURSDAY 29

- GREAT NORTHERN HOTEL, BYRON **THE VANNS, PANDEMIC, SEASIDE**
- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON 7PM **PINK ZINC**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 5PM **JOCK BARNES** 8PM **BYRON HOUSE MAFIA**
- STICKY WICKET, BYRON 9.30PM **TOM BAILEY**
- WOODY'S SURF SHACK, BYRON 9PM **LOCKHART**
- TREEHOUSE, BELONGIL 7.30PM **GARRETT KATO**
- BANGALOW HOTEL 6PM **ROCK'N'ROLL RODEO WITH 5 LOCAL BANDS**
- BANGALOW BOWLING CUB 7PM **ROCK'N'ROLL DANCING**
- BRUNSWICK HOTEL 7PM **BIGGY P**
- LISMORE CITY HALL 8PM **PAUL CAPSIS**
- PHOENIX RISING, NIMBIN 12.30PM **LIQUID AMBER**
- KINGSCLIFF HOTEL 7PM **ARCHIE RYE DUO**
- CHINDERAH TAVERN 6.30PM **NICKY CONVINE**
- CURRUMBIN RSL 2PM **BILL JACOBI**

- BYRON **GOONS OF DOOM, WASH, ISRAELI CHICKS**
- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON 7PM **THE NINTH CHAPTER**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 6PM **SCOTT DAY VEE** 9PM **NINJA HOUSE**
- MISS MARGARITA, BYRON 9.30PM **LUKE MORRIS**
- DENNING PARK, BYRON 6PM **CIRCUS ARTS**
- STICKY WICKET, BYRON 9PM **LOCAL DJS** 9.30PM **NICK CUNNINGHAM**
- WOODY'S SURF SHACK, BYRON 9PM **SQUEAK LEMAIRE**
- TREEHOUSE, BELONGIL 7.30PM **ADAM HARPAZ**
- SUN BISTRO, SUNRISE 5PM **JIMMY & LEE**
- PIZZA PARADISO, SUFFOLK PARK 7PM **PHIL & TILLEY**
- BANGALOW HOTEL 7.30PM **MAD MULE**
- BRUNSWICK HOTEL 7PM **PINK ZINC**
- MULLUMBIMBY FARMERS MARKET 8AM **TOM DIBB**
- MIDDLE PUB, MULLUMBIMBY 8PM **KRAPPYOKEE**
- OCEAN SHORES COUNTRY CLUB 6.30PM **CAVO & PIGEON BOY**
- BILLINUDGEL HOTEL **DUNEEVEN**
- LENNOX HOTEL 8.30PM **DAN**

## FRIDAY 30

- GREAT NORTHERN HOTEL,

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FOR MORE DETAILS CHECK WWW.BYS.ORG.AU/WHATS-ON OR CALL 66857777

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INFO DAYS: 18 & 25 JAN  
11AM

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WED 1 & 8 FEB  
4.30-7.30PM

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THE YAC WILL BE CLOSED FROM 22 DECEMBER TILL 9 JANUARY! HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



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p: 6684 1777 f: 6684 1719 e: gigs@echo.net.au  
w: echo.net.au/gig-guide

CLARK BAND 11.30PM DJ  
KOBY BRADLEY & CREW

- BALLINA RSL BOARDWALK 8.30PM **CATH SIMES BAND**
- LISMORE CITY HALL 8PM **PAUL CAPSIS**
- PHOENIX RISING, NIMBIN 12.30PM **BEETLE JUICE**
- KINGSCLIFF BOWLING CLUB 4.30PM **ROD MURRAY DUO**
- KINGSCLIFF HOTEL 7PM **RAKU O'GAIA**
- SEAGULLS, TWEED HEADS 7.30PM **JOCK BARNES**
- CLUB BANORA 7PM **CHRIS COOK BAND**

## SATURDAY 31

- GREAT NORTHERN HOTEL, BYRON **TROPICAL ZOMBIE, THE RUMINATORS, CHASE CITY, IVY**
- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON 8PM **BOHEMIAN COWBOY** 10.30PM **MARSHALL**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 8PM **NYE PARTY**
- DENNING PARK, BYRON 1.30PM **CIRCUS ARTS**
- JONSON STREET & RAILWAY PARK, BYRON 4PM **SOUL STREET WITH LAKE STREET DIVE, THE CASSETTES, KYLE LIONHART BAND, DANDYMAN, DJS, SILENT DISCO & MORE**
- BYRON BOWLING CLUB 6PM **ROO** 8PM **NEILY DIAMOND SHOW**
- BYRON BREWERY 7PM **NYE HAWAIIAN PARTY WITH SABROSA SOUND SYSTEM**
- BYRON GOLF CLUB **THE FERAMONES**
- STICKY WICKET, BYRON 9PM **NYE DJS**
- WOODY'S SURF SHACK, BYRON 9PM **DJ ASH BARLOW & GUESTS** 10.30PM **SQUEAK LEMAIRE**
- BANGALOW HOTEL 9PM **RAGGA JUMP, BIGGY P**
- THE ARTS YARD, BANGALOW
- OCEAN SHORES COUNTRY CLUB 8PM **CATH SIMES BAND**
- BILLINUDGEL HOTEL 7PM **SHYBABY & MORE**
- NORTH BYRON PARKLANDS, YELGUN **FALLS FESTIVAL**
- HARVEST, NEWRYBAR 7.30PM **BLACK & WHITE PARTY WITH DJ BEAVER**
- CLUB LENNOX 8PM **OZ LATIN BROS**
- BALLINA RSL BOARDWALK 6.30PM **STU BLACK** 9.30PM **CLASSIC CREEDENCE**
- BALLINA RSL BOWLING CLUB 8PM **BIG GIG COMEDY WITH GORDON SOUTHERN, LINDSAY WEBB, MANDY NOLAN**
- BALLINA RSL 9PM **GLENN SHORROCK & MILO GREEN**
- ELTHAM HOTEL 6PM **ANDY BUCKLE & DIRTY RIVER DUO**
- SHEOAK SHACK, FINGAL HEAD 2PM **HUGH JONES** 7PM **PETER HUNT & THE HUMMIN'**
- NIMBIN BUSH THEATRE 9PM **AKIL THE MC & SUPPORTS**
- KINGSCLIFF HOTEL 6PM **LISA HUNT & MR ED**
- KINGSCLIFF SURF CLUB 8.30PM **DAN HANNAFORD**
- CHINDERAH TAVERN 6PM **SALLY SA DUO** 8PM **SWAMP CATZ**

BOHEMIAN GYPSY BALL  
FEATURING FOXFIRES, DJ  
JADE SUPERNOVA & MORE

- BRUNSWICK HOTEL 6PM **THE PREATURES**
- SOUNDSHELL, BRUNSWICK HEADS 10PM **A LITTLE MORE PRE-FRONTAL CORTEX AND LESS AMYGDALA, PLEASE: THE UNHEARD CALL FOR SANITY FROM THE INTELLIGENTSIA. EXPECTED AUDIENCE IS TWO PELICANS AND A SEAGULL**
- KOHINUR HALL, MULLUMBIMBY 3PM **FOREST STOMP WITH DJS MAGU, POB, JIMMY D, TRIP SYNDICATE, AMOZON, SHEJ, CRYSTAL DIGIT & MORE**

## SUNDAY 1

- GREAT NORTHERN HOTEL, BYRON **JESSE PUMPHREY**
- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON 7PM **RAGGA JUMP**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 4.30PM **THE FERAMONES** 8PM **SAFARI DJS**
- BYRON LIGHTHOUSE 5.15AM **FIRST SUN**
- BYRON THEATRE 1PM **THREEPENNY OPERA**
- STICKY WICKET, BYRON 10PM **ROMI SOUNDS**
- TREEHOUSE, BELONGIL 2PM **THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT BLOODY MARY DJS**
- BRUNSWICK HOTEL 4PM **THE LYRICAL**
- MIDDLE PUB, MULLUMBIMBY 3PM **JAM**
- NORTH BYRON PARKLANDS, YELGUN **FALLS FESTIVAL**
- CLUB LENNOX 4PM **MAD MULE**
- ELTHAM HOTEL 1PM **GUY KACHEL**
- CHINDERAH TAVERN 2.30PM **PINK ZINC**
- PHOENIX RISING, NIMBIN 10AM **SONIC BLISS** 12.30PM **NEIL PIKE**
- COOLANGATTA SANDS HOTEL 4PM **LIVIN' IN THE 70S**

## MONDAY 2

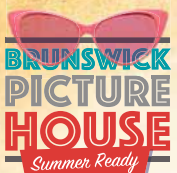
- GREAT NORTHERN HOTEL, BYRON **4'20' SOUND**
- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON 7PM **SHARON SHANNON**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 7PM **DAN CLARK DUO** 9PM **DJ LONGTIME**
- BYRON MARKET 10AM **BOHEMIAN COWBOYS & HAYLEY GRACE**
- FRESH, BYRON 7PM **SLIM PICKENS**
- STICKY WICKET, BYRON 10PM **ROMI SOUNDS**
- WOODY'S SURF SHACK, BYRON 8PM **DJ OVAL**

## TUESDAY 3

- GREAT NORTHERN HOTEL, BYRON **GUY GERBER, KAZ JAMES, DANIEL WEBBER**
- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON 7PM **SHARON SHANNON**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 7PM **HAYLEY GRACE** 9PM **RHYS BYNON**
- BYRON THEATRE 10.30AM & 4.30PM **ARRR WE THERE YET?!**
- STICKY WICKET, BYRON 10PM **ROMI SOUNDS**
- WOODY'S SURF SHACK, BYRON 8PM **DJ ANTIBAD & DJ ASH BARLOW**
- BANGALOW HOTEL 7.30PM **BRACKETS OPEN MIC**
- BRUNSWICK HOTEL 7PM **BILL JACOBI**
- NEW BRIGHTON FARMERS MARKET 8AM **BROADFOOT**
- PHOENIX RISING, NIMBIN 12.30PM **MINUS ONE**

## WEDNESDAY 4

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON 7PM **ALAN KELLY TRIO**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 7PM **LUKE & SEBASTIAN** 9PM **RYAN CROWE**
- BYRON BEACHSIDE MARKET 10AM **TIM STOKES**
- ST FINBARR'S, BYRON 7PM **SHAMAN & THE PERCUSSION GARDEN**
- BYRON BREWERY 7PM **OPEN MIC WITH ALAIN DE CARNE**
- BYRON THEATRE 10.30AM & 4.30PM **ARRR WE THERE YET?!**
- STICKY WICKET, BYRON 9.30PM **GARRETT KATO**
- WOODY'S SURF SHACK, BYRON 9PM **DJ JAMIE**
- BRUNSWICK HOTEL 7PM **PHIL BROMMERS**
- ELTHAM HOTEL 6.30PM **NOT QUITE FOLK JAM**
- PHOENIX RISING, NIMBIN 12.30PM **NEIL PIKE**

SUPER  
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CIRCUS & COMEDY

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Thu 5 Jan, Fri 6 Jan, Sat 7 Jan,  
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## WHAT'S ON

## SOUL STREET NEW YEARS EVE

Saturday 31 December, 4pm - late  
A family-friendly, alcohol-free, New Year  
Free event

## FIRST SUN NEW YEARS DAY

Sunday 1 January, 5.15am (sunrise)  
Cape Byron Lighthouse  
Free event

## THE THREEPENNY OPERA - National

Theatre Live Screening presented by Byron Theatre  
Sunday 1 January 1pm  
Tickets: Full \$25 | Conc \$23 | Group 10+ \$15 | 15+

## ARRR WE THERE YET!? presented by

Head First Acrobats  
Tues 3, Wed 4, Thurs 5 Jan, 10.30am & 4.30pm  
Fri 6 & Sat 7 Jan, 10.30am & 3.30pm  
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## SUFU QAWWALI WITH TAHIR QAWWAL

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Service Directory

SERVICE DIRECTORY RATES, PAYMENT & DEADLINE

DEADLINE: For additions and changes to the Service Directory is 12pm Friday  
LINE ADS: \$99 for 3 months or \$340 for 1 year prepaid  
DISPLAY ADS: \$66 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 every day in Service Directory pages on Echonetdaily at www.echonetdaily.net.au

ACCOUNTS & BOOKINGS: 6684 1777

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Publication day is Wednesday, booking deadlines are the day before publication.

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UPLIFT has a part-time opportunity for an accomplished, passionate producer to help build and craft a new podcast celebrating positive change-makers and events around the world.  

- Help produce an engaging weekly podcast.
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This position is based in Mullumbimby and is part time for 2 days per week (poss. extended to 3 days in future).  
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Hi-tech security. 66872333

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

BALLINA SELF-STORAGE UNITS  
Secure from \$16pw. Ph 66867011

MULLUMBIMBY large, mod home. Main Arm Rd area, close to showground. 3br with BIR, main ensuite, 2nd bthrm, study/4th br, open-plan kitchen & family room, sep lounge & dining rooms, laundry, DLUG, lge block. Avail 18/1/17. \$660pw. Pets neg. Ph 66853741

THE ECHO HOURS Christmas Period

The Echo office will be closed  
New Years Day Monday 2/1/17

OPEN: TUESDAY 3 January 2017

You can also still email us.  
Classifieds: classifieds@echo.net.au  
Ads: adcopy@echo.net.au  
The Echo comes out  
each Wednesday as usual  
DEADLINES FOR CLASSIFIED ADS  
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ART SPACE to share. 60sqm, Mullum A&I, \$90pw. Ph Arion 0408809528

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byron community college

RTO NO: 90013

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- starts 1st Feb
- \* Cert III in Early Childhood Education & Care (CHC30113)  
- starts 6th Feb
- \* Cert III in Permaculture (AHC33815)  
- starts 7th Feb
- \* Cert IV in Permaculture (AHC42116)  
- starts 8th Feb
- \* Diploma in Early Childhood Education & Care (CHC50113)  
- starts 13th Feb
- \* Cert IV in New Small Business (BSB42615)  
- starts 13th February
- Cert III in Visual Arts (CUA31115)  
- starts 16th February
- Cert IV in Visual Arts (CUA41315)  
- starts 27th February
- \* Cert III in Horticulture (AHC30716)  
- starts 27th April

Different levels of funding are available, call to see if you are eligible, hurry as places are limited!

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## MUSICAL NOTES

QUALITY PIANOS for sale, and expert piano tuning. Ph Fred Cole 0412216019

## BEREAVEMENT NOTICE

### SOLOMON, Phil

Edi Beddoes thanks family, special friends and McGuiness Funerals for the comfort, support and excellent care provided after the sudden death of Phil. All have helped make a sad time a little brighter.

## IN MEMORIAM



**KEITH (BOMBER) BROWN**  
8/1/1935 – 29/12/2006

A special man who touched many lives & lived to the fullest in all walks of life.

Missed, loved & remembered every day, Shirley, Mark, Karen, Matt, Leanne, Tony, Luke, Cody, Stephen, Sherryne (dec.) & Ashlee

### KEITH BROWN

Dad, while it has been 10 years since you left us, your footprint on our lives always remains fresh in our memories & close to our hearts. Love Shane & Liz

## LOST & FOUND

**LOST** in Byron Bay near PO. 4 keys + Surfing Australia medallion. **REWARD** 0401293142

## PETS



Offering personal care of your pets while you are away.

From in home care to feeding and playtime dates, walks on the beach and more.

Let **Time 4 Paws** take the stress away so you can enjoy your holiday! References can be provided.

Contact Heidi on **0415 941 589** or her Facebook page.

### COMPANION ANIMALS WELFARE INC.



### Happy New Year from CAWI!

Thank you for all your support in 2016 – your donations, shop purchases, foster care and adoptions helped 34 dogs like these find homes this year!  
**cawi.org.au**

**Find Echo Classifieds on Echonetdaily every day**

## Did someone say kittens?



Hi, I'm one of many kittens at the shelter & sadly we have spent our first Christmas here. However, we're not going to let that make us sad because we believe that 2017 will be the year that finds us in new loving homes. We hope all you humans had fabulous Christmas festivities & that now you are ready to adopt one or even two of us! We are so cute that you will not be able to resist us.

To meet us kittens & our older brothers & sisters, please visit the **Cat Adoption Centre** at 124 Dalley St, Mullumbimby.

**OPEN:**  
Tues 2.30–4.30pm  
Thurs 3–5pm  
Sat 10am–12 noon  
Call **AWL 6684 4070**



**BONNIE** is a 15-month-old desexed female silky x terrier. She is a beautiful little girl who is very playful and loves to snuggle – she needs another dog as she doesn't like being left on her own. If you can give Bonnie a permanent, loving home please contact the **Friends of the Pound Rehoming Centre** on **07 5524 8590** or Pam on **0421 017 461**.

Visit **friendsofthepound.com** to view other dogs and cats looking for a home.



**IT IS CUTENESS OVERLOAD WITH KITTENS GALORE AT THE CENTRE.**

Lots of cuddly fun with these many coloured beauties who are desperately needy of homes. Cats are fun, loving companions for life, but that cuteness of kittenhood lasts but a short while. So now is the time to adopt, and enjoy that special and really rewarding time.

All cats are desexed, vaccinated and microchipped.



Please make an appointment  
**0403 533 589 • Billinudgel**  
**petsforlifeanimalshelter.net**

## It's raining cats & dogs!

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

**desex your pets!**

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Layla 21 stunner is back. Tanya 28, long blonde hair, hot bod. Taylor 18 adventurous stunner. Kelay 28, sexy blonde, extras. Scarlet 20, Kardashian looks. Lexie 27, brunette, G-bust. Crystal 21, barbie doll. Michelle 28, size 6, DD, tan, hot bod. Spoil yourself. In & out. Ladies always wanted. 66816038

### SEXY ESCORT

Outcalls only. 0478109345

### OUTCALLS

0451579023

## Exotic mosquitoes a clear and present danger

Australia may be at risk of a widespread outbreak of Zika or dengue unless more is done to prevent the establishment of exotic mosquitoes that can carry these diseases in the country, according to a paper published in the Sax Institute's *Public Health Research & Practice* journal.

'While we can't prevent people infected with Zika or dengue coming to Australia, we can prevent the establishment of exotic mosquitoes species (such as *Aedes aegypti* and the Asian tiger mosquito *Aedes albopictus*), so that widespread outbreaks can't occur,' said lead author Dr Cameron Webb, medical entomologist at Sydney University and for NSW Health Pathology. 'We need to do more to make sure these exotic mosquitoes don't establish themselves here.'

'With many Australians travelling back and forth to South East Asia, particularly Bali, during the holidays there is a risk they will be exposed to mosquito-borne diseases. Worse still, it is very easy for people to unwittingly bring exotic mosquito eggs back into Australia via water bottles, vases or other belongings.'

'If these exotic mosquito species find a way to our suburbs and become established, it creates the perfect conditions for a local outbreak of Zika or dengue.'

'We need to do everything possible to prevent these mosquitoes from establishing themselves here in NSW and other parts of Australia. We need to expand strategic surveillance to include suburban areas as well as wetlands, so that we're alerted as soon as possible to their presence. With local, state and federal health authorities working closer together to respond to the discovery of these mosquitoes, we can ensure we remain free of any significant local disease outbreaks.'

Dr Webb has also investigated the safe and effective use of mosquito repellents in another *Public Health Research & Practice* paper, and

recommended Australians at home and abroad should choose a repellent containing DEET, picaridin or 'oil of lemon-eucalyptus' rather than botanical extract-based repellents.

'With mosquito season beginning across most of the country and with many Australians planning to visit South East Asia during the holiday season, it's essential that everyone knows the best ways to prevent mosquito bites. Repellents are a cheap, effective and safe way to protect yourself, but you've got to choose and use the repellents properly to provide effective protection.'

'Unless you are prepared to reapply every one to two hours, it's safer to avoid botanical extract-based repellents available from health food stores, tackle shops and the 'homebrews' available from local markets. Despite the name, natural repellents are not necessarily a healthy alternative – not only do they not last as long, they're more likely to cause skin irritation than chemical-based brands.'

'Australians at home and abroad should instead choose a repellent containing DEET, picaridin or 'oil of lemon-eucalyptus'. There are hundreds of different formulations to choose from in the supermarket or the pharmacy that will keep you and your family safe,' said Dr Webb.

The latest issue of the Sax Institute's *Public Health Research & Practice* journal has a focus on emerging infectious diseases and their impact on public health, an issue that is of the utmost importance, according to guest editor Dr Jeremy McAnulty, director of Health Protection NSW.

'The unpredictability of infectious diseases means they are always challenging for health agencies and governments to manage, but it's important that we are as prepared as possible to prevent and control outbreaks as new diseases emerge, and others re-emerge, across the globe,' Dr McAnulty said.

## MONTHLY MARKETS

1st SAT	Bruns Heads	6628 4495	4th SUN	Bangalow	6687 1911
1st SAT	Murwillumbah	0417 759 777	4th SUN	Nimbin	0458 506 000
1st SUN	Byron Bay	6685 6807	4th SUN	(in a 5 Sunday month)	Coolangatta
1st SUN	Lismore Car Boot	6628 7333	5th SUN	Lennox Head	0419 369 609
2nd SAT	Flea, Byron YAC	0431 524 044	5th SUN	Nimbin	0458 506 000

2nd SUN	The Channon	6688 6433
2nd SUN	Lennox Head	0419 369 609
2nd SUN	Alstonville	6628 1568
2nd SUN	Coolangatta	

3rd SAT	Mullumbimby	6684 3370
3rd SAT	Murwillumbah	0417 759 777
3rd SUN	Uki	0487 329 150
3rd SUN	Lismore Car Boot	6628 7333
3rd SUN	Ballina	6687 4328

**SATURDAYS**  
Byron Artisan Market 4-9pm 6685 6807

### FARMERS MARKETS

Each TUE	New Brighton	6677 1345
Each TUE	Organic Lismore	6628 1084
Each WED	7-11am M'bah	6684 7834
Each THU	8-11am Byron	6687 1137
Each FRI	7-11am Mullum	6677 1345
Each SAT	8-11am Bangalow	6687 1137
Each SAT	8am-1pm Uki	6679 5530

● First quarter	January 6	06:46
○ Full moon	January 12	22:33
● Third quarter	January 20	09:13
● New moon	January 28	11:07

## JANUARY 2017 Astronomical data and tides

Day of month	Sun rise	Sun set	Moon rise	Moon set	High tide, height (m)	Low tide, height (m)
1	S 0551	1947	0817	2150	1120,1.71; 2329,1.21	0422,0.26; 1745,0.33
2	M 0552	1947	0914	2231	1159,1.68	0503,0.30; 1826,0.33
3	T 0552	1947	1011	2311	0014,1.21; 1239,1.63	0548,0.36; 1909,0.34
4	W 0553	1947	1109	2349	0105,1.21; 1323,1.56	0640,0.43; 1957,0.35
5	T 0554	1948	1208		0205,1.23; 1414,1.48	0741,0.50; 2050,0.34
6	F 0555	1948	1309	0029	0313,1.28; 1513,1.40	0854,0.55; 2147,0.32
7	S 0555	1948	1411	0109	0425,1.37; 1620,1.34	1015,0.57; 2246,0.29
8	S 0556	1948	1515	0152	0534,1.49; 1730,1.30	1137,0.53; 2344,0.24
9	M 0557	1948	1620	0239	0636,1.63; 1840,1.28	1251,0.45
10	T 0558	1948	1725	0330	0733,1.75; 1942,1.29	0038,0.18; 1355,0.36
11	W 0559	1948	1828	0427	0826,1.85; 2037,1.30	0130,0.14; 1450,0.28
12	T 0559	1948	1927	0527	0915,1.91; 2127,1.31	0219,0.11; 1540,0.23
13	F 0600	1948	2020	0629	1001,1.92; 2215,1.31	0307,0.10; 1626,0.21
14	S 0601	1948	2108	0732	1046,1.89; 2300,1.30	0353,0.13; 1710,0.22
15	S 0602	1948	2151	0834	1128,1.82; 2344,1.28	0439,0.20; 1751,0.26
16	M 0603	1947	2231	0933	1207,1.71	0523,0.29; 1831,0.31
17	T 0604	1947	2307	1030	0029,1.25; 1245,1.59	0608,0.40; 1910,0.37
18	W 0604	1947	2342	1124	0115,1.22; 1322,1.46	0657,0.51; 1949,0.41
19	T 0605	1947		1218	0210,1.20; 1401,1.34	0752,0.61; 2032,0.45
20	F 0606	1947	0017	1310	0315,1.21; 1452,1.23	0900,0.69; 2124,0.47
21	S 0607	1946	0052	1401	0425,1.25; 1555,1.16	1022,0.71; 2221,0.47
22	S 0608	1946	0129	1453	0530,1.32; 1704,1.12	1142,0.68; 2319,0.45
23	M 0609	1946	0207	1544	0623,1.41; 1810,1.12	1245,0.62
24	T 0609	1945	0249	1635	0710,1.50; 1904,1.15	0011,0.42; 1336,0.55
25	W 0610	1945	0334	1726	0751,1.58; 1950,1.18	0055,0.37; 1418,0.47
26	T 0611	1945	0422	1815	0831,1.66; 2031,1.23	0135,0.32; 1456,0.41
27	F 0612	1944	0514	1902	0909,1.71; 2112,1.27	0213,0.27; 1530,0.36
28	S 0613	1944	0609	1947	0946,1.75; 2151,1.30	0251,0.23; 1606,0.32
29	S 0614	1943	0706	2030	1024,1.77; 2231,1.33	0330,0.21; 1641,0.29
30	M 0615	1943	0804	2111	1100,1.77; 2313,1.36	0410,0.22; 1718,0.27
31	T 0615	1942	0903	2151	1139,1.73; 2357,1.37	0452,0.25; 1756,0.27

Times are Eastern Daylight Saving.

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



## EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Please stick this by your phone

AMBULANCE, FIRE, POLICE .....	000
AMBULANCE Mullumbimby & Byron Bay .....	131 233
BRUNSWICK VALLEY RESCUE Primary rescue.....	6685 1999
BRUNSWICK MARINE RADIO TOWER .....	6685 0148
BYRON CENTRAL HOSPITAL.....	6639 9400
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

*Everybody believes in something and everybody, by virtue of the fact that they believe in something, uses that something to support their own existence – Frank Zappa*





The 2016 Rukkus skateboard competition in Mullumbimby included eight girls and a total of 22 competitors in the under-12s, and was one of the biggest Rukkus events on record. Photo contributed



Rock solid defence was integral to the Mullumbimby Moonshiners rugby union team claiming the 2016 reserve grade championship after beating the Ballina Seahorses 20-17 in the grand final in September. Photo: Vicky Kerry



Aaron Walker (pictured in black and white) was just one of the outstanding players for the Byron Bay Rams premier league team that missed out on winning the trophy after an excruciating 2-0 loss to arch-rivals Richmond Rovers in the semifinal. Photo Dogwhistle



Adeha lines up his cut shot playing for the Geckos in the 19th staging of the Nick Shand Cricket Cup that was won by the Byron Full Tossers. Photo Ross Kendall



Lisa Alexander, coach of the Australian Netball team, was on hand to help make the official presentation in June when The Brunswick Byron Netball Association has been awarded a \$20,000 grant to help build a weather shelter at the Mullumbimby courts. Photo supplied



Four horse-vaulting clubs competed at the Byron Bay Equestrian Centre in August in preparation for the state titles. Byron Bay team members included Maleka Mitchell and Gabrielle Orrock. Photo Jeff Lawson



Junior archer Ben Lyon won the gold medal at the South Queensland Archery Society 2016 Matchplay Championships in November. Photo Matt Willey



The Byron Bay Boardriders including Danny Mills (pictured) qualified for the finals of the Australian Boardriders Battle Series at the qualifiers held at Yamba's Pippi Beach in November. Photo Ethan Smith



Ross Graham and Shaun Doherty won the 2016 Minor Pairs Championship at the Mullumbimby Ex-Services Bowling in October. Photo contributed.



The northern rivers first ever girls ALF grand final was held in September, when the U/13 Lismore side took on Murwillumbah at the Byron Bay. Photo contributed



## Triathletes race to Kingscliff

The 14th edition of the Kingscliff Triathlon was won by Daniel Coleman and Gillian Backhouse in late November.

The kids division featuring 200 children under 12 was sold out.

In total 1450 athletes competed in the event, well above expectations of 1,000 participants.

Locally, 18-year-old Jack Orr from Tumbulgum took out the overall Sprint win.

'It was a good day generally. They seemed to run, cycle and swim much faster than normal,' according to race director Mike Crawley.

The triathlon had real desirability. 'People just seem to love it, we consistently get high ratings. It's a commu-



Daniel Coleman leading the way in the Kingscliff triathlon. Photo supplied

nity-minded event and very casual,' he said.

Next events: Tweed Enduro in Pottsville February 25, Kingscliff Tri March 26, and Byron Bay Tri on 13 May. Mens open winners were:

Daniel Coleman, Lindsey Lawry and Jack Van Stekelenburg.

Womens open winners were: Gillian Backhouse, Laura Dennis and Courtney Gilfillan.

## Volunteers surge to help disabled surfers at Byron



Volunteer-assisted surf action at Clarkes Beach. Photo Diana Willis

Diana Willis

The International Day of Disabilities was celebrated by Far North Coast Disabled Surfers at Clarkes Beach on December 3.

At least 40 participants enjoyed a picture-perfect day along with more than 100 ex-

cellent volunteers.

Many thanks to all the helpers on the day, sign-on, catering, and water people, and a massive thanks to the executive committee of the DSA.

Our next gathering will be held at Kingscliff Beach, Coastguard end, January 29.

We are looking forward to catching up with all the Byron Crew again on March 25 when we will draw our free surfboard going to one lucky volunteer of the season.

All volunteers are automatically entered.

Until then keep putting 'Smiles On Dials'.

## Pottsville wins Northern Rivers AFL9s

The Mount Saint Pat's Nanos (Pottsville) won the Northern Rivers AFL9s All Stars Final defeating Lismore Force and The Bar (Byron Bay).

The final was to determine the best mixed AFL9s social team in the northern rivers in a cross competition format.

Winners of the Byron Bay, Lismore and Pottsville competitions played off for the 2016 cup.

The games were competitive but played in good spirit.



Mount Saint Pat's Nano won the flag. Photo contributed

## 'Lucky' surfer keeps delivering

Max Perrot

One of the most humble, friendly and talented locally born surfers you will ever meet out in the waves of the Byron Shire is Daniel Wills, or 'Willsy' as he has become known throughout the surfing world.

Willsy is the epitome of a self-made man, yet he would most likely deflect that praise and point instead to his family and friends along with boardrider clubs and sponsors for assisting his career as a professional athlete.

'I was always just this young kid,' he told Australia's *Surfing Life* magazine in 1998, 'who had a really lucky life.'

His surfing career started early and he has now transitioned into the role of local businessman, with his share in the Quiksilver stores, and surfing mentor to the up-and-coming surfing talent from the Shire.

Just like his surfing approach and style he has



Daniel Wills hitting the lip. Photo Ethan Smith/SNSW

seamlessly flowed through many changes and challenges in life with poise and precision.

He started surfing at four and was one of the stars in a Quiksilver surf movie called *All down the line* at the age of 13.

In 1998 he finish number three in the world at the professional level and spent thirteen years traversing the planet on the world pro tour.

Even though his family and business interests keep

him very busy nowadays he still competes in selected events such as the local BK Surf Classic, team competitions representing his club Byron Bay Boardriders and charity events such as the Board Meeting that raises money for disabled children.

This year Wills showed he is still surfing at a top level as an over-40-year-old when he dominated the 2016 NSW Open Shortboard Championship against a very talented field of younger competitors.

## Rainbow Dragons workshop inclusion

Monica Wilcox

Rainbow Region Dragon Boat Club is once again breaking new ground in the local sports arena.

Earlier this month, while Lake Ainsworth was awash with people, inflatable toys, SUPs and kayaks, the club became one of very few Australian dragon boat teams to hold a workshop learning how to best include people with disabilities in the sport.

This was made possible through a NSW Office of Sport grant.

Under the guidance of Jacki Lauff, the CEO of Sports Matters, a force pushing sports development for all, Rainbow Dragon coaches and sweeps and members of the community, with lower-leg and hearing limitations, trialled new training and communication techniques.

The coaches found it easier than they expected to adapt their skills, because dragon boating has always been an



Stuart Walters and Gordon Cox trialling dragon boating. Photo supplied

inclusive environment where men and women of all ages, fitness levels and range of abilities can join the club.

Gordon Cox who uses a wheelchair said 'it was easier than I thought,' and he was already working out how to adapt his equipment to a dragon boat.

Gordon made the point that it is important for people with a disability to feel part of mainstream community and dragon boating looks like giving them that opportunity.

Members of dragon boat clubs provide a community of commitment, encouragement, and support, as well as some serious competition.

In USA, dragon boating is recognised as beneficial to returned soldiers and those rehabilitating after accidents.

This Rainbow club's innovation path has a long way to go, and as Gordon said: 'Start with baby steps.'

The Rainbow Dragons will host a Come-and-Try day February 19, 2017

## NSW Blues set to make Tweed Heads home

The Tweed will become the training base for the NSW State of Origin team in the lead up to the first and third games in the annual interstate rugby league series in 2017.

Hosting the Blues will be a thrill for the many rugby

league fans based in the Tweed region and it will no doubt also spark much interest from our northern neighbours,' state member for Tweed Geoff Provest announced.

The team will engage with the local Indigenous com-

munity, and support school training clinics and assemblies, community rugby league training clinics, as well as making opportunities for local businesses and promotion of Tweed Heads as a quality tourism destination,' Provest said.





Regular As Clockwork

DEADLINE NOON FRIDAY  
Please note that, owing to space restrictions, not all entries may be included each week. Email copy marked 'Regular As Clockwork' to editor@echo.net.au.

**Neighbourhood Centre**  
Mullumbimby & District Neighbourhood Centre is open Monday–Thursday 9am–4pm and offers a range of services and activities. Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy art, music, games, great food and more. Call reception on 6684 1286 and discover what is on offer.

**#StartupByron**  
#StartupByron Un-Networking meets the first Thursday of every month, focused on connecting anyone interested in startups or small biz. See startinno.com/events/2015/5/7/startupbyron-un-networking.

**Respite Service**  
Byron Shire Respite Service Inc delivers high-quality respite care to a broad range of clients throughout the Byron, Ballina and Lismore shires. Donations welcome: Ph 6685 1921, email fundraiser@byronrespite.com.au, website: www.byronrespite.com.au.

**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**  
The Brunswick Valley Bridge Club meets every Saturday and Monday at 12.15pm at the Brunswick Heads Bowling Club. Visitors welcomed. For further information/partner 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.

**Meditation**  
**Buddhist meditation** teaching and practice now at the Living Yoga Sanga, first floor, 63 Stuart Street, Mullumbimby, 6–7.30pm, Mondays. Contact Mishaela on 0438 858 842 or mishaela@si.org.au.  
**Dzogchen Meditation Group** – 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month at Brunswick Heads Community Centre. Contact Katie 0417 798 726 or qld@shenpenaustralia.org for more info.  
**Mindfulness Meditation** with Pairoj Brahma, Melli O'Brien and Heather Albrecht Every Tuesday 7.15–9pm at the yurt, Temple Byron (www.templebyron.com). No fees, contact 0423 241 916, 401 359 559. www.themindfulness-summit.com.  
**Healing Meditation** 7.30pm Sunday mornings in Myocum. Dean 0414 364 415 or www.unithousebyron.com.au.

**Landcare**  
Bangalow Land and Rivercare working



What is the story behind this mysterious smiling flying saucer, seen here with the famous Facebook homunculus Gil Crespy, which can be found throughout Bangalow? If you know, email us details to editor@echo.net.au with 'UFO' in the subject window. Photo John Campbell

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. 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 10am. Storytime for toddlers and pre-school children Mullumbimby – Friday 10.30am, Brunswick Heads – Monday 10.30am, Byron Bay – Tuesday 10.30am.

**No-interest loans**  
Byron Community No Interest Loans Scheme (NILS) is a not-for-profit community program providing people on low incomes with safe, fair interest-free loans of up to \$1,000 for purchasing essential goods and services. Contact the Byron Community Centre to find out more.

**Budgeting Support**  
Money Matters is a free service helping people identify where their money is going, how best to save and, most importantly, how to get on top of bills! Contact the Byron Community Centre to make an appointment; private sessions run every Monday afternoon.

**Museums**  
**Brunswick Valley Historical Society Inc Museum** at corner of Myocum & Stuart Sts Mullumbimby open every Friday 10am–12 noon and market Saturdays 9am–1pm. Discover your local history.  
**Bangalow Museum & Tea Room** open Tuesday–Friday 10am–3pm, Cnr Ashton & Deacon Sts Bangalow. Volunteers

page and if you are travelling there please take some donated items to Bali. Contact Judy 0405 463 663.

**N'hood Centre news**  
Mullumbimby & District Neighbourhood Centre will be closed until January 9. Activities will start from 9 January, call reception for details 6684 3295. Please, no donations during our closure.

**Bay Insight Meditation**  
Bay Insight Meditation with Radha Nicholson and friends will recommence in February. Please keep up to date at radhanicholson.com.

**Byron library fun**  
Tuesday 10 January at 10.30am – Scrafito! Unearth mystery images for children aged five and up. Wednesday 11 January at 10.30am – Build a giant marble run. For children aged five and up. Friday 13 January at 10.30am – Marble run fun! For children aged three and up. Friday 20 January at 10.30am – Mystery celebrity magician! Bookings required for all activities on 6685 8540.

sought, please contact the museum 6687 2183.

**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: brunsbushschool@gmail.com.

**Drug support groups**  
Call **Alcoholics Anonymous** 1800 423 431 or 0401 945 671 – 30 meetings a week in the shire – www.aa.org.au. Are you experiencing difficulties and challenges because of the alcohol or drug use of someone close to you? Learn coping skills and gain support from others.  
**Confidential meetings** in Byron Bay 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month, upstairs at 75 Jonson Street (stairs beside Westpac Bank). Phone Jane 0410 494 933.  
**Narcotics Anonymous** is a fellowship of men and women for whom drugs had become a major problem. We are recovering addicts who meet regularly to help each other stay clean. For information and meetings call 6680 7280. Are you concerned about somebody else's drinking? **Al-Anon Family Groups** meetings held Fridays 2pm. Uniting Church Bangalow – 1300 252 666 www.al-anon.alateen.org/australia

**U3A discussion group**  
Brunswick Valley U3A audiovisual discussion group, Thursdays 10am Mullumbimby by Ex-Services Club. Info 0432 165 006.

**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.

**Repair Cafe**  
Mullumbimby's Repair Cafe at the Mullumbimby campus of Byron Community College in Burringbar Street on Saturdays 9am till 12 noon. Volunteers will be there to help you fix things that might otherwise end up in the tip, or to advise how it might be done.

**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, mazzerratiz010@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. **Companion Animals Welfare Inc (CAWI) op shop** Brunswick Heads (next to supermarket) open Mon–Fri 10am–5pm, Sat 9am–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. Info: 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 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** 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 every 2nd, 4th and 5th Monday in Mullumbimby 7–9 pm. Contact Ashni 0439 843 657 or Mani on 0488 433 047.

**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.codependentsanonymous.org.au or phone 9281 3330.

**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 Berri 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.

**ManTime**  
Calling all fellas who as a boy or man went on a Pathways, Making Men or MenzB Rite of Passage camp: weekly Monday night men's group 7–9.30pm at the CWA Hall Mullum. Email mantime.mullum@gmail.com or call Karim 0403 755 192.

**Byron Girls Group**  
A fun, creative and supportive group for girls aged 12–18 every Wednesday 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, Mondays, Byron Community Centre, 10.30–11.30am. Entry by donation. 0417 277 211, info@raisetherooofsinging.com.

**Town Choir**  
Mullum's Biggest Little Town Choir meets weekly at the Timber Slab factory, Jubilee Ave, Thursdays at 6.30pm. Newcomers welcome.

**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 at the Community Art 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, 2 Jubilee Ave, Mullumbimby. Enquiries: mullum.potters@yahoo.com.au

**CWA Bangalow**  
Interested women are welcome Wednesdays and Thursdays 9am–1pm and the second Monday evening of each month 5–7pm in the Bangalow CWA rooms for craft and friendship. Rooms are open daily Monday–Saturday 9am–noon.

**Mullum CWA**  
Mullumbimby Branch CWA Handicraft Group in the CWA rooms Tincogan Street Mullumbimby each 1st, 3rd and 4th Wednesday of the month throughout 2016. Classes in knitting, crochet, embroidery and sewing are offered. Enquiries Margaret 66842956.

Mungo's Crossword

N158

1	2		3		4		5		6		7		8	
		9												
10							11				12			
13					14						15			
16	17				18		19						20	
21									22					
		23		24										
25									26					

Cryptic Clues

ACROSS

1. John from Gdansk keeps hot! Way out! (8)

6. Wild camel, one with evil intent (6)

9. Unrestricted whores contest? Who'd have thought it! (5,3,5)

10. Beaut bird (6)

11. Wonderfully clean bra – it hangs on (8)

13. Iron out perv with desire for frantic excitement (5,5)

15. Overtake Col (4)

16. A delay? Turn back for the fiesta (4)

18. For the first time, uncomfortable red arse? She may have one after a long bulletin! (10)

21. Work by Kafka: theatrical, but no account (3,5)

22. Scanty? Bet your butt! (6)

23. Blatantly, Mickey ruts elk – I'm shocked! (6,2,5)

25. Chook ingests wolfram – needs an advocate (6)

26. Close to the team, closest to the gutter (4,4)

Quick Clues

ACROSS

1. Escape clause, way out (8)

6. Ill will, evil intent (6)

9. Expression of surprise, as in well, who'd have thought it? (5,3,5)

10. Game bird, especially in Scotland (6)

11. Small clinging shell fish, limpet (8)

13. Height of excitement (5,5)

15. Way through a mountain range (4)

16. Celebration, festival (4)

18. One who broadcasts a bulletin of current events (10)

21. Novel by Franz Kafka (3,5)

22. Scattered, scanty (6)

23. Phrase similar to 9 across (6,2,5)

25. Legal professional (6)

26. In Australia, left aspect of a vehicle facing forward (4,4)

DOWN

2. See, take notice of (7)

3. Bulging, sticking out (11)

4. Overweight (5)

5. Shoe, display (7)

6. Father of the wool industry (9)

7. Lavatory (3)

8. Fortresses, also chess pieces (7)

12. Outward shows, aspects (11)

14. Slang term for racing dog (3-6)

17. Inability to read or speak clearly (7)

19. Movie monster who met Abbott and Costello (7)

20. Tried, attempted (7)

22. South American dance (5)

24. Beam. Glint of light (3)

Last week's solution N157

A	U	D	A	C	I	T	Y	A	V	E	R	T	S
M	I	H	O	P	A	A	A	A					
B	I	N	G	O	S	P	O	O	N	B	I	L	L
R	E	C	S	S	T	I	N	N	L				
O	D	D	C	O	U	P	L	E	L	A	S	S	O
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A	A	T											
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A	E	M	E	R	E			A					
C	A	M	E	O	S	P	E	E	C	H	I	F	Y
A	A	U	P	S	R	L	B						
C	A	K	E	S	H	O	P	S		E	R	I	C
I	E	S	T	E	A	O	L						
A	G	R	E	E	S		C	R	I	M	I	N	A

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The resultant injuries because of a dog attack on local identity Kelvin Davies – see his letter on page 9 – reinforce the need for people to keep their dogs under control in public places. Unfortunately there will always be forkwits who think their personal freedoms are more important than public safety, but we can dissuade them of that view by reporting any incidents to police and rangers and where possible photographing the event.

It's festival season, followed shortly thereafter by recovery season, neither of which are necessary for those of us who maintain a constant level of debauchery throughout the year. For the sweet young things experiencing the highs and lows of trashing themselves for the first few times the mental health mob headspace (one of those orgs who thinks it's cool not to capitalise their name) has produced a list of safety tips. It includes the startling revelation: 'your judgment may be impaired if you are drug affected'. Yeah, especially if you take shit drugs from unreliable sources. And remember also any rainbow-infused, unicorn-laden psychotropic catharsis may not last forever, so don't be too disappointed if it doesn't. Shalom.

Around two million Australians are risking data breaches each day by doing their banking and conducting other financial transactions on unsecured public wi-fi networks, a new study has found. An RMIT University report has analysed survey data from a demographically representative sample of



Post Apocalyptic Love by Peter Zelei/iStock. See more at peterzelei.com.

1,200 adult Australians. You can read the report at <http://bit.ly/wifiRMIT>

Backlash's newly discovered word for this week is *oneirogen*: 'An oneirogen, from the Greek *ὄνειρος* *óneiros* meaning "dream" and *gen* "to create", is that which produces or enhances dream-like states of consciousness. This is characterised by an immersive dream state... which can range from realistic to alien or abstract.' – Wikipedia. The practice of exploring these dream-like states can be found at [www.urbandreamscape.com](http://www.urbandreamscape.com), which holds an annual slumber party called the Oneironauticum. It seems no instructions as to the type of pyjamas required are given but you can find out for yourself by joining in remotely in 2017.

◀◀◀ Auguste ▶▶▶

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season's greetings to all lovers of art

galya kelly the raven king oil on canvas 76 x 76 cm

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