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Writers at the ready for Aug 4

The 2017 Byron Writers Festival have announced first-round wordsmiths for the 21st festival, to be held August 4 till 6. David George Haskell and Dava Sobel (from the US) are on the bill, as well as journalists David Marr, Christina Lamb, Kate Grenville and ABC superstar Tony Jones. Fiction writer Holly Throsby and social agitator John Safran are also in the group of more than 130 writers for the three-day event. Earlybird tickets go on sale May 24. For more info visit byronwritersfestival.com. Pictured is Anika Exner, (marketing and communications), Edwina Johnson (Director), Sarah Ma (Operations Manager) and a child on the loose. Photo Jeff Dawson

Greens accused of folding over Bruns parks negotiations

Hans Lovejoy

Deep division and political backflips have emerged within local Greens members over a move to put plans of management (PoM) on public exhibition for two of the three holiday parks in Brunswick Heads.

The move will lead to Council's acquiescing over a 20-year encroached-boundary battle and formalise the transfer of ownership of land they once managed to the state government-run NSW Crown Holiday Parks Trust (NSWCHPT).

Residents have fought a long campaign against different incarnations of NSWCHPT after disgraced Labor planning minister Tony Kelly took control of the assets – and revenue – away from Council in 2006.

A rescission motion for the upcoming May 25 meeting is authored by Cr Sarah Ndiaye, and is supported by fellow Greens Crs Michael Lyon, Jeanette Martin and National Party-aligned Cr Alan Hunter.

With Greens mayor Simon Richardson's support it will pass, despite that being a complete backflip on his position when the POMs were initially adopted by then-NSW minister Kevin Humphries in 2014.

He told *The Echo* last Sunday, 'I support the rescission motion and I believe it will give a better outcome than we could get any other way.'

The previous April 20 motion, supported by everyone except Cr Hunter, will be rescinded, or overturned, and

instead Council will support NSW-CHPT's PoMs for Ferry Reserve and Massey Greene holiday parks.

A decision on the Terrace Reserve, which contains the Cypress Pine WWI memorial park, has been deferred until Council's June meeting and workshops are proposed before.

According to Cr Michael Lyon, the deal with NSWCHPT will see 'unfettered public access to the foreshore through minimum 10m setbacks from the Brunswick River, access to boat ramps, and open public space in lot 7005 at Massey Greene, including a children's play area.'

Cr Ndiaye says that NSWCHPT will manage the 10m setbacks; NSWCHPT CEO Steve Edmonds confirmed this and told *The Echo* that if the PoMs are adopted 'this will then become legally binding on the Trust. The risk for Council and the community disappears.'

Acknowledging it will be an unpopular move, Cr Ndiaye said, 'Ultimately we are looking to get a great foreshore, not an endless battle.'

Cr Ndiaye says the previous motion triggered a response from NSWCHPT that would see them revert to the previously approved PoMs which does not include the current promises.

'I'm concerned the previous resolution was very ambiguous and would be interpreted as a "deemed refusal." It flies the the face of all the negotiations thus far,' Cr Ndiaye said.

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Rally called to reject massive Lennox ski jump

Aslan Shand

An economic benefit report for a ski jump proposal, taller than the Byron lighthouse on the pristine Lennox Head coastline, is yet to tabled by the NSW Office of Sport, adding to the outrage of residents opposed.

And with the DA yet to be assessed by Ballina Shire Council, mayor David Wright is also under pressure to step down from a development panel that will oversee its approval.

So far, Mayor Wright has refused to say if he will recuse himself from the northern Joint Regional Planning Panel (JRPP).

He told *The Echo*, 'I will discuss my position with the secretariat when they contact me and [I] am asked if I have a conflict of interest.'

Possible conflict

In an open letter to the JRPP, the Lennox Head Against the Ski Jump (LHASJ) group have outlined why they do not believe that Mayor Wright should sit on the JRPP.

'Mayor's Wright's firm support for the ski jump has been made clear over the last four years, right up until very recent presentations to our children at school,' states the letter.

'To function properly and maintain public trust, JRPP members

must be impartial... therefore, given Mayor Wright's clear and long-standing support for the ski jump, it makes a mockery of the JRPP that he should be offered a position to hear this matter, and then for him to have the lack of judgment and probity to accept the position.'

The LHASJ group say, '[this was] Rejected twice by QLD state government in 2012 for a lack of quantifiable social and economic benefits to the surrounding communities. Lennox Head now faces a battle royale.'

■ The rally against the proposed ski jump is on Saturday May 27 from 2.30pm at Williams Reserve in Lennox Head.

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GIVING BACK



Farmer Travis educates family on where their food comes from on a daily Farm Tour.

The Farm was created as a green space for people to gather and experience a working farm - a place where families could visit, free of charge to reconnect to the land and learn about food provenance, small scale agriculture and wellness from the ground up.

In addition to The Farm's philosophy and guiding principles to 'Grow. Feed. Educate' the team work hard to find ways to 'give back' to the local community. The first goal was to restore the neglected farmland and plant food. A market garden based on organic farming principles was established, while beef cattle and chickens were put to pasture. The next goal was to establish authentic community collaborations and relationships based around 'giving back' that would benefit the wider community.



Staff from The Farm, Brunswick Valley Landcare, Eco East, Koala Connections and North Coast Local Land Services put in a huge team effort when the project commenced in May last year.



Helen Hamilton, President at Liberation Larder and a volunteer harvest potatoes ready for the kitchen.



The Farm owners, Emma and Tom Lane launch the NRCF wishing well.

SIMPSONS CREEK REGENERATION PROJECT

The Simpsons Creek Regeneration Project is a long-term community collaboration designed to improve the water quality of the creek that runs through The Farm. The main aim is to increase biodiversity of the area and to restore the natural environment, while creating a healthy habitat for wildlife.

Simpsons Creek runs through The Farm, flowing north towards Brunswick Heads, where it joins the pristine Brunswick River before flowing into the Pacific Ocean.

In May, 2016, Brunswick Valley Landcare, North Coast Local Land Services and The Farm collaborated onsite to plant 2,500 native grasses, shrubs and trees along the eastern headwaters of Simpsons Creek. The grasses planted help bind the ground to prevent wash outs during heavy weather, while the shrubs and trees create a shaded area for fish to breed and to prevent weed growth. All plants were supplied locally by Mullumbimby Creek Native Nursery and Burringbar Rainforest Nursery.

In June 2016, The Green Army joined the project and planted an additional 2,000 native plants. Some native foods were also planted including Davidson Plum, Lily Pilly, Native Ginger, Lemon Scented Tea Tree and native tamarind which will provide opportunities for foraging and education.

The Farm has a full time dedicated member of staff, Jodie, who spends most of her day on the regeneration project. Being a 100% chemical free farm, much of Jodie's time is spent hand weeding and maintaining the regeneration areas, which in turn ensures that the local waterways remain clean and helps protect the delicate ecosystems along the length of the creek.

The Farm is planning Volunteer Days for the Simpsons Creek Regeneration Project in the near future, so sign up to their Newsletter and Social Media for details about these days if you would like to participate in 'giving back'.

LIBERATION LARDER PROJECT

In September 2016, The Farm donated land in their organic market garden to local charity Liberation Larder for growing fresh, nutritious produce to feed those most in need.

Liberation Larder's motto is 'Rescuing Food. Fighting Hunger'. To fight hunger in the local community the charity supplies approximately 550 meals a week through their distribution outlets in Brunswick Heads, Mullumbimby and Byron Bay. The volunteers also supply food parcels containing rescued food from local supermarkets, shops and manufacturers that could otherwise have ended up in landfill.

As a community collaboration, The Farm and Liberation Larder realised they could grow a consistent supply of fresh produce for cooking these prepared meals and for adding to the food parcels. The Farm prepared the market garden plot and a team of independent growers and staff shared their gardening skills and tools to help the Liberation Larder volunteers plant and harvest their first crops.

Since then, the project has turned into a social enterprise, with several local organisations jumping on board. The S.H.I.F.T Project Inc., a local not-for-profit organisation which provides short-term educational transition programmes for women who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, helps maintain the plot along with staff from the Byron Bay Herb Nursery who donate the seedlings.

Liberation Larder is expanding their market garden plot and is keen to expand the team of like-minded volunteers. If you can spare a few hours on Saturday mornings from 8am - 10am, come along to The Farm and the market garden where they will gratefully accept your assistance. Make sure you wear sturdy shoes, sunscreen, and a hat.

NORTHERN RIVERS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

In June 2016, The Farm became home to the Northern Rivers Community Foundation (NRCF) 'Wishing Well'.

NRCF is an independent philanthropic foundation dedicated to improving the lives of people across the Northern Rivers. The community collaboration sees 100% of donations to the 'Wishing Well' support local social, environmental, cultural and education causes.

To start the fund Tom and Emma Lane, the Co-Founders of The Farm, donated \$5,000 towards the foundation.

The 'Wishing Well' is a great way to collect donations from visitors to the region to support charities in our local community.

For more information on how you can contribute to The Farm's 'give back' projects keep an eye on The Farm's social media pages, website and newsletter.

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Review welcomed following Lismore hospital death

The NSW Nurses and Midwives' Association (NSWNMA) has welcomed reports the NSW Government has commissioned an independent review into seclusion, restraint and observations in the state's mental health system.

The review follows the 2014 death of patient Miriam Merten at the Lismore Base Hospital's mental health unit.

A six-person panel will determine whether the NSW mental health system is consistent with national standards and international best practice.

NSW health minister Brad Hazzard said, 'We need to know appropriate policies are in place in our hospitals and mental health facilities and the extent to which staff actually adhere to existing policies and protocol.'

Nurses have called on the review to consider the skill mix, staffing ratios, and whether appropriate training and supervision are being provided.

On edge for Bangalow Billycarts



In the Sporting Club challenge, Bangalow Rugby and Soccer went head to head, with the round ball players taking the trophy on the day. Bangalow Rugby's Matt "Tabby" Tabb took the opportunity of an empty track to try his aerial manoeuvres creating an exciting spectacle for trackside punters. Photo Tree Faerie

Perfect winter weather blessed the annual running of the Bangalow Billycart Derby last Sunday.

A parade, firefighters, music, dance and food: Bangalow

once again brought out its best, and everyone had way more than their allocated serve of fun. Bangalow Billycart Derby co-ordinator Richard Millyard said, 'Congratulations

to Dunoon Primary, which scooped the pool, taking both first and second prizes in the Traditional Billycart Schools Challenge and picking up all of the \$1,000 prize money.'

Vale Main Arm's own Crocodile Dundee: Dutchy

Aslan Shand

Known as both the Crocodile Dundee and mayor of Main Arm's Coopers Lane, Dutchy, or young uncle Dutch (he was the youngest of eight) was a kind and warm-hearted man loved by many throughout the Shire.

Stanley Martin Dennis was born in Mullumbimby on April 17, 1928 and picked up his lifelong nickname Dutchy at the tender age of six when his teacher told him he was speaking double dutch and crowned him Dutchy.

A man of generosity, laughter and friendship, he enjoyed a chat, including with those weird hippies who moved into the lane in the 1970s, and providing many



Dutchy. Photo supplied

an unwary punter a glass of his home brew.

'It was awful,' laughed his nephews.

'But he always claimed it was better than Carlsberg,' they reminisced with a smile.

A keen sports enthusiast, playing rugby and cricket in his youth, he was captain of the high school cricket team and had always reminisced

about how great he would have been if he hadn't missed the train when he'd been selected to play in the representative team.

It wasn't until this year, when he was 89, that he finally let his family in on a little secret regarding that - he hadn't missed it, he'd never been selected - but it had been a good yarn to wind them up.

Swapping lies, by that he meant having a chat, and listening to music were among his favourite things to do, but family was what he loved most of all.

His wife Margie was the love of his life and he was a wonderful and caring father to his cobba, Lindsay.

In his older years Dutchy became a fixture at the local

library in Mullumbimby and his smiling face now roams the Shire on the side of the mobile library.

'Friday in the Mullumbimby library just doesn't feel right without a visit from Dutch,' said local librarian Helen East.

'For many, many years he was an important part of our Friday morning with his cheery greeting, critique on the latest cricket or football game or the team selection, book reviews and of course his beautiful fresh produce, which he loved to share with us.'

Dutchy died on May 5 and is now reunited with his beloved Margie.

As one friend concluded 'he was Dutchy, he mattered and he will be missed.'

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The NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI) is inviting north coast residents and stakeholders to provide feedback on the trial of shark nets at five beaches in Ballina, Lennox Head and Evans Head.

The six-month north coast shark net trial that ran during summer and autumn, when the largest number of swimmers and surfers use the beach, is due to end on June 13. ■ The online feedback form at <http://bit.ly/2qP8peR>.

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McCormick's Circus history on show

Aslan Shand

Not everyone finds their purpose in life at the age of 14 through their work experience week – but that is what happened for local ex-circus performer and cinematographer Hamish McCormick.

‘He came home and said ‘I’ve found my people and they’ve accepted me’, said his dad, renowned local photographer John McCormick.

Hamish says his work experience led him to the Rock ‘n’ Roll Circus group in Brisbane. ‘They were a group of young people who were really pushing it – they were covered in tattoos and swallowing swords.’

Training with Mullumbimby's homegrown group, Spaghetti Circus, Hamish left school at 17.

John continued, ‘He knew what he wanted to do. What do you need school for when you know what you want to do with your life?’

With the support of his parents, Hamish pursued his career as a circus performer,



Circus performer/doco maker Hamish McCormick with dad John. Photo Jeff Dawson

travelling both Australia and the world before he broke his arm in 2003.

Luck can come in strange ways and if it hadn't been for that break, Hamish may never have picked up a camera and discovered his future passion.

‘I picked up a camera and started making a behind-the-scenes doco of *The Happy Side Show*,’ says Hamish.

‘Once I picked up the camera I realised that documenting this community was a lifelong project.

‘I got that understanding from Dad and the way he'd documented this community.’

John has photographed the diverse and colourful community in and around the Byron Shire since the early 1980s.

Fifteen years on, Hamish has thousands of hours of footage of the circus world both in Australia and internationally.

■ Friday from 7pm, The Brunswick Picture House will host an evening of Hamish's work, including lots of never-before-seen footage and a Q&A session with Hamish and special guests.

Pondering life of Byron at Fedtalks

Emily Pierce

Another Fedtalks took place last Thursday night at Federal Hall, with Cr Cate Coorey, Simon Richardson, Michael Murray, Mandy Nolan and MC Russell Eldridge.

With the zeitgeist of doom upon us one wonders whether Byron has lost the sparkle it once had.

Or have the rising house prices and rents, the major influx of tourists and increase in development only garnered people's desires?

Michael said, ‘Paradise can exist within a group of people’. Byron certainly has many different groups of people who make the place unique. Gone are the days of dead whales, tallow and the smell of the abattoirs.

‘Byron is a paradise; somewhere where you feel safe, free and alive; however, it has certainly changed since the fifties,’ Richardson stated.

No longer being able to enjoy the freedom of beach parties or silent disco nights, Byron in its heyday had its perks. ‘Being on Centrelink was a privilege,’ Mandy said.

For a lot of the youth today they know what it's like getting by on Newstart Allowance and I could certainly say it's anything but a privilege – it's an

almighty struggle – and that's without the smashed avo.

We've probably all experienced how people who live in Byron often become ‘Byron centric’ and if you're not ‘in’ the group then you don't expect to break into it.

Ever had the conversation with someone about where they live and they say ‘Byron’ and you finally find they live in Suffolk or Sunrise – there's a bit of a difference!

In NSW (outside Sydney), Byron Bay is the largest tourist town; however, we don't get much funding from the state government.

Byron Council has to fund most things. Hence the dreaded paid parking and the state of some of our streets.

Interstate buyers

Cracking into the real estate market seems like a faded dream for many.

With an ever-increasing number of interstate buyers in the area there is no way to control the inequality.

The price of property in Byron has risen throughout the last couple of years but so has the market in Melbourne and Sydney; it's inevitable.

According to realestate.com.au the median house price in Byron is \$1.5 million. There are a few afford-

able granny flats or one-to-two-bedroom apartments in the Shire but the problem is landlords are cashing in on Airbnb or short-term leases.

It is very difficult to find a rental for more than ten months in the Shire.

There needs to be a way to regulate the holiday rentals and tourists. Berlin, for example, has banned Airbnb to give their citizens options with affordable housing.

The opposed West Byron development being mostly holiday apartments isn't good news for locals considering how many are looking for accommodation.

Richardson stated, ‘There is no guarantee West Byron will be locals housing.’

Protecting our environment plus creating sustainable housing is the goal.

Michael talked about an idea where successful eco villages have worked on acreage; you'd just have to get the neighbours to be open to the concept.

Housing estate

On the drawing board is a manufactured home estate in Mullumbimby geared towards affordable housing for locals.

There are a lot of local people protecting their place, but what we have to work on is

love, not fear. Rid ourselves of the narcissistic behaviours and realise we have a huge tolerance of the people around us in the street although many of us don't necessarily want them as our neighbours.

We need to ‘manage the change’ said Richardson, instead of fighting it.

Positive changes

He said there are many positive changes coming, including a state-of-the-art skate park and playground being publicly funded and the Northern Rivers Light Rail to reconnect Byron's villages.

‘A social game changer,’ Richardson predicts.

Michael stated, ‘We need to talk with our council about plans – not to attack’

Broadening our minds and changing our mentality is one step towards creating a better sense of community.

Before we think paradise has been lost, we have a lot to be grateful for. Byron has an abundant food culture that isn't available everywhere.

We also have amazing beaches, buskers, artists and coffee to name a few. Which makes you wonder if the paradise is lost, why would they still be coming in hordes!

And why are we happy to continue to live here?

Greens support Bruns land transfer

► continued from page 1

While residents are up in arms over the Greens capitulating over the alleged land grab – both local Greens MP for Ballina Tamara Smith and Cr Cate Coorey told *The Echo* independent legal advice should be sought to inform Council's position.



The revised Ferry Reserve map from state government-run NSW Crown Holiday Parks Trust. That image and the Massey Greene plan are in the upcoming May 25 council agenda, public attachments: www.byron.nsw.gov.au/meetings

Get legal advice

Ms Smith said, '... there has never been a definitive and legal determination around maps and boundaries.'

'What were once fairly informal areas for caravans and camping at Christmas and school holidays in Bruns have grown into first a business overseen by Council and more recently with the advent of the Crown land trusts a highly commercial business opportunity for the government with its ever-increasing thirst for a commercial return.'

'The boundaries of where the holiday parks start and finish are contested sites.'

'I feel that this is at the heart of the frustration that the community feels because until recently there were no formal maps, only a land-grabbing process by the parks and the maps that are now before us are highly contested.'

'Pursuing the legality of the alleged boundaries of the parks makes a lot of sense to me as a state MP because it isn't right for the Crown to acquire public land for commercial purposes by stealth or hoodwinking.'

'The protection of endangered tree species, the koala corridor, the memorial pines and the general health of the foreshore are all significant environmental matters that need to be addressed before

the community can sign off.

'It seems very unfair that Council have been put in a position where there is a suggestion of a threat that if they don't agree to the boundaries being put to them by the Holiday Park Trust that the capacity for Council to advocate for changes will disappear, be taken out of their hands and something worse could be foisted upon them/us.'

Licences v PoMs

Any caravan park operator must have Council approval, which *The Echo* understands is defined under s68 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

For years, residents have argued that those licences and associated boundary issues should be addressed before the adoption of any PoMs.

Adopting any PoMs, they say, will legally bind Council to the contested boundaries.

Cr Coorey says she asked the NSWCHPT four months ago for the gazetted boundaries at the first Council meeting with NSWCHPT.

She is yet to hear back. *The Echo* asked NSWCHPT CEO Steve Edmonds when that information will be supplied but he did not reply.

He did say however that Council, 'has a separate approval role under the *Local Government Act 1993*, but this is subject to the minister's decision-making.'

Former Greens councillor Duncan Dey told *The Echo* he had asked NSWCHPT for the gazetted boundaries four years ago.

'A better way forward may be to establish these boundaries before signing off on the PoMs. Assenting to the PoMs first, you can hardly come back later and shrink the operating areas.'

On this point, Cr Ndiaye provided the following advice from staff: '... this would bring Council back to where it started.'

The staff member's advice continued, 'The Trust previously submitted applications for areas that Council did not agree with and which were reduced or changed by resolution. These conditions were not agreed by the Trust and the approvals referred to the minister. By negotiation, it was agreed to issue approvals to allow the PoM to set the boundaries following negotiation and with the benefit of consultation. As a result of this

process the public access along the foreshore has been negotiated for all Holiday Parks and more public areas included.

'To go back to a negotiation at the application stage and through this process could mean all bets are off and the disputed conditions including boundaries are back with the minister.'

'Through the application process there is no consultation as there will be when the revised concept plans are exhibited.'

Greens out of step

Cr Coorey said, 'My previous notice of motion and these actions by the community through Council are being somehow seen as interfering in the process of negotiations.'

'I'm also surprised [by] the amount of work that the NSW Greens have been doing on the Crown lands issue at a parliamentary level yet the Greens in Byron are out of step with that position.'

■ Editorial page 10, Cr Ndiaye's letter page 11
 ■ Full story on www.echo.net.au, including statements from NSWCHPT CEO Steve Edmonds and Council staff.

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Laneway gets some love

Surf Lane Popped last Friday and Saturday night. Pictured are Liesel, Austin and Abby, who were a couple of the many culprits responsible for creating the space. Photo Jeff Dawson

Planning dept supports JRPP chair

NSW planning bureaucrats have defended the chair of an independent body that oversees large developments in the northern NSW region.

Headed by former Nationals Party MP Garry West, the Northern Joint Regional Planning Panel (JRPP) is likely to decide upon the contentious Lennox Head ski jump proposal.

West was recently criticised by land and environment judges over his poor handling of a council amalgamation re-

port in late March. It was part of the Berejiklian coalition government's push to merge local governments.

The Echo asked the manager of Planning Panels Secretariat Stuart Withington if the judge's determination in any way affected West's position as JRPP chair and, 'How is appointing a former politician to this position considered an independent post?'

He replied, 'The NSW government has full confidence in the professional and

independent chairing of the Northern Joint Regional Planning Panel by Garry West. Panel decisions are made independently of NSW Government. The Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) has oversight over the conduct of the Planning Panels and its members.'

■ The JRPP has an almost 100 per cent approval rate across all NSW panels over the last few years; the determinations are available on their website.

Byron's big mall gets started

Construction is set to start next week on Mercato on Byron – a new supermarket, retail and cinema complex in Jonson Street.

Peter Kelly from Three Plus public relations company said earthworks will begin 'as part of an 18-month project to create regional NSW's most sustainable shopping complex in keeping with Byron's relaxed beachside style.'

The development will include a new Woolworths supermarket, a nine-screen Palace Cinema complex, specialty retailers and expanded undercover parking. New traffic conditions will operate from early June, with entrance to the site limited to left turn in and left turn out only.

'Onsite recycling and solar electricity generation are among an array of sustainable design features contributing to a five-star greenstar design rating representing Australian best practice,' said Kelly.

Raine and Horne's Sophie Christou said, 'We are still looking for a handful of retailers with offers that suit the Byron Bay community.'

She added Mercato on Byron offers spaces up to 500m², which is large for Byron CBD.



Shovel ready: mayor Simon Richardson and pictured from left, builder Scott Hutchinson with developers Mark Harrison and Rob Badalotti. Photo Jeff Dawson



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Uncle Project calls out for funding

A not-for-profit that gives boys guidance to manhood is appealing for public help to continue their service, which has been operating for nearly twenty years.

The Uncle Project co-ordinator Chad Kolcze says they have a 'steady active membership and a community that sees us in [a] positive light.'

'To keep up with rising costs, we step forward into the Byron of new by asking for help. Prevention of prob-

lem behaviour, through our model of promoting responsible manhood among our local men and boys, is a positive project for the community.

'We invite you to be a part of our rich history, which has seen amazing wealthy philanthropic individuals and many beautiful lower-income earners donate to the cause.'

■ The crowdfunding campaign and video is www.gofundme.com/uncle-project-call-for-help

Court concludes over resident and council bypass dispute

The NSW Land and Environment Court will be soon passing judgment over Butler Street residents claim against council regarding process around the planned Byron Bay bypass.

With proceedings finished, both parties appear optimistic.

Byron Shire Council's legal services co-ordinator, Ralph James, said he was pleased with the strength and presentation of Council's case.

Meanwhile Butler Street Community Network's Paul Jones says, 'I think we certainly

held our ground at the hearing and demonstrated serious concerns about due process, integrity and the poor quality of Council's work.'

'There was no technical knockout and the case was fully aired. It remains to be seen how the court balances evidence and two complex legal arguments regarding the court's jurisdiction and the application of biobanking legislation concerning offsets to impacts in the protected SEPP 14 wetlands.'

Mullum rallies against big govcorp coal deal



Former Greens MLC Ian Cohen addresses the crowd outside the Mullum Commbank. Photo Jeff 'Banksy' Dawson

Aslan Shand

Mullumbimby was awash Friday with a sea of umbrellas and colour as hundreds of people gathered in the rain outside Commbank to protest against the Adani coal mine.

While the speeches were taking place on the steps, staff at the bank closed the doors and when it was finally time to deliver the letter protesters politely knocked but were unable to induce them to open the doors. Finally, the protesters were forced to stuff the letter under the door in the hope that the manager would receive it.

The letter, delivered on behalf of the 200-plus protesters, stated their objections to the mine and asked Commbank to join other banks such as Westpac in an unequivocal statement that they will cut their ties with Adani and not fund the coal mine.

Former Greens MLC Ian Cohen emphasised the importance of asking Commbank about their environmental policies and questioning them specifically about cutting their ties with Adani.

■ For more information on the Stop Adani campaign visit www.stopadani.com.

Mullum High School reunion

The 1987 Mullum High School reunion committee are inviting students who graduated year 10 in 85, year 12 in 87 to their reunion.

Organisers say 'all teachers during this time are more than welcome to come along too.'

'How wonderful it will be to celebrate the days of noisy boys making fruit pea-shoot-

ers and the girls with their badly permed hair, volleys, fluoro socks and dead legs.'

Byron RSL is the chosen venue on Saturday June 10 from 7pm. Partners welcome.

■ RSVP via Facebook page: Mullumbimby High School Class of 1985 and 1987 or email mullumreunion@hotmail.com.

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Volume 31 #50

May 24, 2017

Trust us, we're the Greens!

Fearful and ill informed is how Greens councillors appear with their plan to allow the government-run NSW Crown Holiday Parks Trust (NSWCHPT) to move ahead with developing two of the three holiday parks in Brunswick Heads (see page 1 report).

Given they have the numbers, Cr Sarah Ndiaye's rescission motion will pass at this Thursday's meeting.

As such, Council will give away its powers to negotiate any further with the contested boundaries on Massey Greene and Ferry Reserve.

It will set in motion the development of those areas.

The other Bruns park, Terrace Reserve, is up for later negotiations.

So let's go for a positive spin – perhaps this is the result of skilled and brave negotiations by a relatively new council majority representing a 20-year community response which articulated appalling behaviour by previous NSWCHPT incarnations.

As the biggest dealmaker would say, 'It's a terrific deal... huuuge. The Greens do the best deals! You're going to love this deal.'

To be fair, the two basic maps offered by NSWCHPT are a great improvement on their last effort. Not that it could be too hard.

Maybe it's time to sign off and move on and be pragmatic.

Being in power as opposed to being in opposition comes with burdens such as actually having to make deals.

But is this a good deal? It's hard to judge given the questionable process that led to it – there was only a few days' notice for the public to know this will be irreversible.

Greens mayor Simon Richardson previously – and correctly – criticised such poor process in the last council term.

Many if not all Greens councillors failed to attend the crucial community meeting, held on March 9 by NSWCHPT. Appearance is everything, no matter how many private workshops are held.

More than that, the rhetoric from his councillors making the deal is less than reassuring. They appear to have little interest in or awareness of how much contested land is being subsumed by the NSWCHPT.

Greens Cr Michael Lyon fears a court challenge if Council doesn't do what the NSWCHPT wants, yet there has not been any independent legal advice sought.

Cr Coorey and local Greens MP Tamara Smith are calling for that independent legal advice.

Perhaps the fears of some of these councillors come from correspondence from NSWCHPT CEO Steve Edmonds that was provided to *The Echo*. According to the correspondence, he said, '...[it is] the only option we currently have. If the resolution gets overturned that is a different matter – but at this stage I cannot send the revisions out on exhibition as the council do not support [it].'

Edmonds also claims the ministerially approved PoMs, 'are equivalent to a DA approval.'

Twice asked by *The Echo* to confirm the comments, Edmonds instead issued a broad unrelated statement (available online).

Greens councillors say we should be thankful for what has been achieved. It's just odd to be so thankful for the provision of much-needed public amenity.

Anyway, the Greens can afford to lose some social capital if this ends up being politically damaging. They had social capital in spades after the 2016 council election with their convincing win.

It wasn't that the Greens were that great, it was that the opposition were just so terrible. As the saying goes, you lose, not win, elections.

The previous council majority governed in a rushed, chaotic, fearful and uninformed manner, just like, oh yeah... this.

Hans Lovejoy, editor

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

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Nicholas Shand

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Founding Editor

'The job of a newspaper is to comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable.' – Finley Peter Dunne 1867–1936

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Black magic needed to sell tax grab

So much for the miracle budget.

Just a week after, it appears that nothing has really changed – another bad negative Newspoll, war on two fronts with the banks and the Catholics, and, of course, more brawling in the party room.

There must be times when even the unquestionably optimistic – and egotistic – Malcolm Turnbull wonders why he bothers.

The commentators who assured us that the formula of fairness, opportunity and security was a political winner, guaranteed of an immediate sugar-hit in the polls, have suddenly backtracked; now they tell us that the public is always a bit slow, but the wonder and beauty of Turnbull's tergiversation will dawn on them in the next few weeks – or the ones after that, or at least some time before it is time to inaugurate plan B, if indeed there is one.

But in the meantime, the situation is, as almost always, fraught. Scott Morrison is publicly dismissive of the complaints from the banks; as he says, people don't like them very much, and given that Labor is, for the moment, ready to support the levy, he finds no cause for alarm. But if – when – the banks pass on the new slug to their customers, shareholders and employees, it is a fair bet that the victims will squeal.

And this is likely to apply also to the increase in the Medicare levy, in spite of the fact that the punters initially approve of it. The black magicians of the government insist that it is a special impost, needed to fully fund the National Disability Insurance Fund. But whether, as Labor claims, the NDIS was fully funded or not, the propaganda is bullshit. It is no more and no less than a general tax increase, to be used how and

where the government chooses.

And a tax is a tax is a tax, and most voters don't like taxes – after all, Turnbull and his mates have been inveighing against the horrors of personal income tax for generations. In the distant days of 2015, Morrison vowed that the single, most vital reform he could produce was income tax cuts. Now he has presided over a tax grab.

It wasn't his idea, the apparently impotent treasurer laments; he would much rather have reduced spending but those ignorant bastards in the senate wouldn't let him. But this is a touch disingenuous. It

and although the delay in implementing the bank levy and the Medicare levy will provide a reprieve, they will cut in, one way or another and probably both, well before the next election.

The screams of relief will have to be appeased, and it appears that Morrison is relying on the fantasies of exuberant economic forecasts to produce a bonanza by 2019.

As all the economists worth reading, not to mention many who aren't, have pointed out, this is wishful thinking on an almost cosmic scale: the projected revenue from wages growth and

warriors in the Liberal Party room are also Catholic hardliners – Captain Catholic himself, Tony Abbott, is only their most prominent general.

And the Catholics know how to keep them on side, and how to fight their cause; after all, they have the experience; they have been practising for several hundred years. The Liberal Party, while willing enough in a stoush, are mere blow-ins in comparison.

The stormtroopers of the Murdoch press are already flocking back to the church militant: not only are they vigorously promoting the coming war, but they are recycling every Catholic handout they can find to enhance the victory of the true faith.

And the onslaught may well be irresistible. Birmingham started by talking tough, but within a week was wavering, offering negotiations – presumably as a preamble to surrender.

It may satisfy some of the critics in the party room, but it will enrage others, and even destroy the great Gonski coup in the process – if Turnbull cannot hold the line on this one, it will confirm, if further confirmation is needed, that he is weak, indecisive, a ditherer, a puppet of the right wing.

There is one saving grace: Bill Shorten, whether a true son of the other church or through sheer opportunism or, most probably, a combination of both, has embraced the holy war. And if he is on the side of the rebellious Catholics, it follows by definition that their cause is decidedly suss.

Thus it may be that the knee-jerk loathing of Labor by the right will be sufficient to quell, or at least ameliorate, the revolt of the clerics.

If it doesn't, the budget may be the first step to Armageddon – the end of all things, but most particularly Malcolm Turnbull.

It appears that Morrison is relying on the fantasies of exuberant economic forecasts.

by Mungo MacCallum



is true that the decaying corpse of the budget devised by Tony Abbott and Joe Hockey was deemed unfit for human consumption, but there were, and are, alternatives.

It is not beyond the collective wit of the treasury to design a package that would satisfy the palates of senators who demand that the rich should suffer commensurately with the poor.

Thus Morrison could have extended the deficit levy, placed limits on negative gearing and capital gains concessions and perhaps even tackled Liberal shibboleths like death duties, family trusts and exemptions to the value of the family home.

But this would inevitably enrage those within the party who regard any trimming of what they see as their base as tantamount to treason.

Thus Morrison has capitulated, but it may be a non-solution to a non-problem – the clamour for lower taxes will not go away

company receipts will, as usual, fall far behind the predictions.

So what does ScoMo do then? Well, presumably hope for the best; but in the meantime there is a more urgent and present danger ahead, the Catholic crusade. Fortunately for Morrison he can hide behind education minister Simon Birmingham to avoid the full force of the onslaught, but it appears that, like previous crusades, there will be plenty of carnage, rape and pillage to be delivered before the smoking battlefield remains fit for human, or even political habitation again.

The Catholics are miffed: they thought they had sweetheart deals secured by the previous government and they are not about to let them go. Hence a huge and tear-jerking propaganda blitz is in prospect, and one which will stretch the loyalties of many conservative supporters.

One of the problems is that many of the toughest right-wing

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Brunswick foreshore revisited

I saw Jan Barham's article in *The Echo* in support of Byron Shire Council's motion 9.3 on Brunswick Heads parkland and acknowledge all the points made; there's been a lot of bad blood and great injustice. So why did I put forward a rescission motion?

I didn't feel comfortable with the decision we made. The motion changed too much on the floor, and we didn't discuss it or get legal or planning advice. I knew that it would have an adverse impact on our ability to negotiate the best outcome on the foreshore, especially for The Terrace.

Motion 9.3 was perceived by the NSW Crown Holiday Parks Trust (NSWCHPT) as a deemed refusal, putting them in a position where to continue to operate they would revert to the previously approved 2014 Plan of Management (PoM) – while

highly unpopular they have ministerial approval for it.

People have worked for years to get certain crucial aspects of the PoM changed. The 10m setbacks, unfettered access along the foreshore, smaller footprint, fewer beds, cabins off most of the foreshore, public access to launching areas, boat ramps and any other gains the community has fought for, like public playgrounds and extra parking, were all in jeopardy.

My alternative proposal does not approve the current plans for The Terrace and seeks to continue to negotiate for a better outcome with community involvement, but we do allow for the current plans for Massey Greene and Ferry Reserve to go on exhibition.

Please look at the revised maps (council agenda p5-8), remember back to original plans with boardwalks, tiny

foreshore paths (where they had them), limited, timed access, cabins all along the foreshore, boat ramps only accessible through a boom gate and all the other absurdity. Tell me this isn't a whole lot better, and that's because people like you cared, protested, lobbied, had input, emailed, called, researched and invested your time and energy – and it worked.

The bitter pill we have to swallow is that, under the *Local Government Act 2005*, Council is unable to grant approval or impose any condition of approval that the NSWCHPT objects to without the minister's consent. To lose what we've gained with legal action, in this instance, would not be serving the community at all.

Cr Sarah Ndiaye
Byron Bay

■ See news story on page 1

Peculiar disease

Reports are emerging that the recent flood in the Marshalls Creek area has led to the emergence of a most peculiar disease. This disease, *floodoutletus ridiculousus*, and the closely related *rock-wallus removalus* and *riverine dredginitis*, affect the critical thought faculties of victims,

causing them to fall prey to snake-oil merchants offering supposedly quick and easy solutions to flooding issues in the local area.

Fortunately there is an easy remedy to these diseases – a daily dose of *getagri-pus australiensis*, marketed as Commonsense, offers sure protection in almost all cases. A few individuals seem to miss out on this protection, and one unfortunate resident of the area has suffered from all three of these diseases for some 30 years, and his critical thought faculties are completely mangled. It seems his constitution has developed a strong resistance to Commonsense.

For most people, though, a daily dose of Commonsense is all they need to avoid these snake oil merchants.

Matthew Lambourne
Mullumbimby

Mullum masterplan

I wish to point out the real value of the old part of Mullumbimby being a Heritage Conservation Area. Although there are very many wonderful timber homes and buildings in this area (and you need to get out of the car and walk slowly around the streets to really appreciate that) the other issue is the preservation of the small rural village feeling and unique culture of our town.



If this area isn't protected, in a very short time the older homes will be demolished and new modern houses will be built and we will finish up like the other small villages near the coast that have turned into urban nightmares. So if you love the vibe of the town we as a community need to express this clearly in the Mullum Masterplan and give thanks that we are lucky enough to have had this area declared a Heritage Conservation Area just in time before the speculative developers got here.

Len Bates
Mullumbimby Community Representative, BSC Heritage Advisory Committee

■ See Comment, page 16 – Ed

Pocket distillery

I am a farmer on Middle Pocket Road. My parents were farmers and my grandparents were farmers. All my extended family were farmers. Like many, I left the

northern rivers when I was young and did not return until last year when I purchased a working farm with Lacks Creek running the full length

of the property. This property was a huge investment because of the excellent water supply with Lacks Creek **continued on next page ►**



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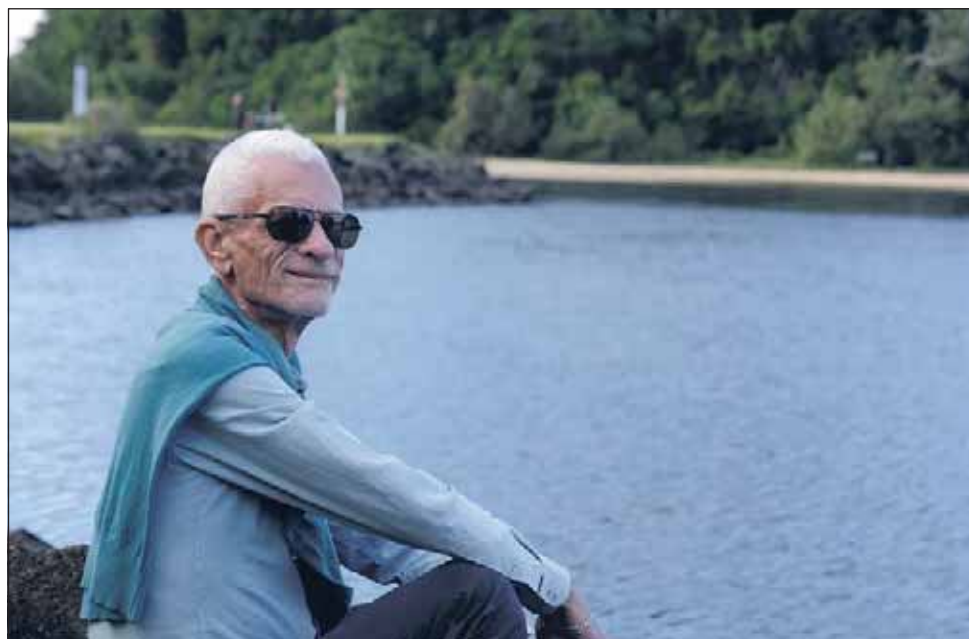


Exploring the difficulties of leisure

You'd think leisure was a pretty straightforward thing: a walk with the dog, a few rounds of golf, a good book, ikebana classes, mahjong, afternoon tea with friends ... the choice of leisurely things to do seems endless.

Yet, according to Robert Dessaix in his new book *The Pleasures of Leisure*, our ideas about it need a shake-up. In fact, we Westerners (apart from the Italians) are getting worse at leisure with every passing decade: we either keep working until it's too late for anything except rigor mortis or, if we do have time on our hands, we give it to somebody else to package up and sell back to us at a price we have to keep working to pay off. Our imaginations, he thinks, largely fail us.

With his usual wit and thoughtfulness, Dessaix urges us to take back our freedom, revel in it and deepen our sense of who at root we are. If we're clear about when we're loafing, when we're nesting or grooming and when we're at play (which can mean anything from backyard cricket to learning Italian and go-



Robert Dessaix feels the serenity of the Brunswick River. Photo Jeff 'Chillax' Dawson

ing to church on Sundays), Dessaix believes we'll feel a lot less anxious about empty time and how to fill it – indeed eager to bring it on well before retirement.

Although far from being a self-help book, *The Pleasures of Leisure* is particularly illuminating on the subject of doing nothing or almost nothing without resorting to fiddling with your mobile phone.

► continued from page 11

being my only water source. Our climate can be unpredictable and by the end of last year I was buying in water because we were in drought – the creek had stopped running, algae were building up in the waterways, and there was an increase in mosquitoes breeding in the stagnant water. The locals informed me it was the worst condition they had seen the creek in living memory, for 40–50 years. If Byron Shire Council approves the distillery (DA 10.2016.575.1), then this situation will become normal for Lacks Creek.

This distillery venture

has the capacity to draw 53 million litres of water per year directly from the waterways. This will devastate the water supply to Middle Pocket and surrounding areas and if BSC accepts this venture in the terms stated then they would be responsible for the demise of this valley and surrounding farming communities.

Middle Pocket Road is on my land – the land on which I pay substantial rates each year. I do not provide permission for trucks carrying highly flammable liquids to cross my property. We live in a bushfire zone with only one access road. A truck accident

with a load of alcohol could not only destroy my life, my home and property, but this whole region.

This industrial development is not 'micro', but 78 times greater than the size of our local distillery. This is an industrial venture that should be located in an industrial area with the necessary safety controls and facilities. The road cannot support the regular use of heavy trucks when it is not even 3m wide in places.

Prior to any acceptance of this venture it would be irresponsible of BSC not to commission an extensive study to determine the impact of the removal of 53 million litres of water per year, the extent of the added fire risk for this community, and finally, further investigations need to be done to determine the safety of Middle Pocket Road. I

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Name that dragon



The Ocean Shores community has built a rock dragon in Waterlily Community Playscape that is strong enough to teach kids of all ages to climb up on its back, and walk along the highs and lows of its body and tail for some challenging play for little legs, feet and hands.

Movement is a powerful medium for kids to improve motor and developmental skills, cognitive function, creativity and imagination. In fact it helps kids learn to socialise with their peers, it reduces attention deficit hyperactivity disorder symptoms, and improves their learning skills in school, developing resilient, healthy and creative members of our community.

What price do we put on all those benefits? Just \$2 per name to give our rock dragon a cool, creative and lovable title. Walk into Ocean Shores Summerland Credit Union and register your rock dragon name and contact details with their friendly staff, or register online at SCU BSB 728-728, account 22307684 and com-

plete your description with

your rock dragon name and a phone contact number. All \$2 registrations go towards play equipment for the 3,500+ kids below the age of 14 in our area. The judges will choose the winning name and your child, grandchild or your family name will be placed on a permanent recognition plaque on the dragon.

Life memberships to Waterlily Community Playscape are also available for families \$10 and singles \$5. These funds go to play equipment, too. It's a great way for families and residents to take ownership of their own community space.

As our community recognises that their donations and life memberships weave an integral part of this playscape, then we will all understand how beneficial this asset is for this community and the Shire as a whole.

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Auditing Council

I am always pleased when one of my letters lures our reclusive Council GM out of his bunker ('Audit committee meets', *Echo*, May 18).

The letter Mr Gainger referred to was actually about the less-than-optimal performance of his staff in managing a plan to update the Tyagarah airstrip and the long-term neglect of staff oversight by responsible councillors. Unsurprisingly

continued opposite ►

A big conversation: making a difference to your dying

Aslan Shand

I want to die without pain, at home, while still in charge of my marbles. How about you? How do you want to die?

This isn't a question we often hear asked out loud, yet it is something that we all think about and something we all have to do eventually.

Celebrating death isn't so unusual here in Byron Shire yet it still takes a bit of decent planning if you want to be in control of how it all goes down in the end.

Palliative Care Week, May 21-28, is highlighting the importance of how your care at the end of your life matters and how palliative care can make a real difference when you are dying. Organisers have put together a 'Dying to talk discussion starter' online, encouraging people to talk about their end-of-life care wishes: <http://dyingtotalk.org.au/discussion-starter>.

'Most people never dis-



cuss death and the end of their life with anybody,' said Zenith Virago from the Natural Death Centre. 'It is really important to have those conversations about how you want to die; how to die with dignity.'

Bringing together key documents such as a will, advanced care directives, enduring guardianships and power

of attorney allows people to think about how they want to die and who they would like to be in control of their lives if they are unable to care for themselves.

'It is an emotional time around a death bed,' said Stroma Lawson from the Byron Hospice Service (BHS).

'If what people would like is written down it really

helps. Rather than leaving people saying "I didn't know what was best for her", take the time to talk to your kids about what you want to happen.'

Previously known as Amity, the BHS provides free support and care for local people with life-threatening illnesses who want to be cared for and die at home.

Care can be either short or long term.

They provide both care for patients and training for support workers and volunteers as well as education through the 'Last Aid' program run by Byron Community College.

'Last Aid is not a therapeutic course; it is a practical course. When you are not dying is a good time to look at death,' continued Stroma.

'So many times people complete the training and say "Wow, all my family and friends should go through this. Now I've got the knowledge to do death well."

BHS provides assistance in a range of ways, including support for carers as well as patients.

'It can just be sitting and watching someone sleep while the primary carer gets out of the house or it can be having a chat to someone who is dying about books, politics, and what is happening in the outside world. As

carers it is so rewarding - it is a real privilege to be around someone who is dying. There is no bullshit and we end up having lovely interactions.'

■ Services available: Silver Chain helps provide care for people to remain in their homes <https://www.silverchain.org.au>. Byron Hospice Service helps people with terminal illness die at home <http://byronhospice.org.au>. Natural Death Centre supports and educates people about end-of-life and death-care naturaldeathcarecentre.org. Wedgetail Hospice provides both in-house support and an adults-only community hospice <http://wedgetail-retreat.com.au>.

■ You can do these courses online: Sharing dying2Learn 2017 (products from the MOOC) <http://bit.ly/cared2learn> from May 22, and palliAGED www.palliaged.com.au from May 25.

► he decided not to go there.

As to to the internal audit committee mention which so excited him, I know a lot about the committee's genesis and chequered history, having been instrumental in its establishment and a member before and after it became a government requirement.

This committee was always closely controlled and encouraged to keep to 'safe' areas. To my knowledge the only dodgy practice it has ever uncovered was suspect activity in the vehicle fleet back in my time and on my instigation.

As to GM Ken's remarkably fast response to my letter: it has been six months since the committee's last meeting, not a 'quarter', expressions of interest for new community members have not been advertised, and why haven't tenders been called earlier for an audit contractor when staff were fully aware of the expiry date?

Finally, a suggestion: how about having the committee kick off its new term by looking into the management of the well-endowed sewerage fund over the last 15 years?

Tom Tabart
Bangalore

Capitalist realpolitik

Liz Elliot's new book *A New Way Now* offers little in understanding the realpolitik of capitalism and the social relations that frame it.

Instead we are provided with a rehashed utopian idealism. Lacking is a critique of capitalism, and developing new political alternatives done in a transparent democratic way.

It has similarities to Tony Blair's 'third way', between capitalism and socialism, naively believing the system could be tamed by regulating financial capital. This turned

out to be a disaster, and the continuation of Thatcherism.

Why does Liz Elliot think her solutions to the economic, social, environmental woes are going to be embraced when the current political climate is one of nationalistic right-wing conservative populism?

Until there is a qualitative shift in political left-wing culture, done in a democratic way, translating into structural progressive programs, we will continue to witness many forms of uncertainty and cynicism on politics of all persuasions. Political agency

is fundamental to bring into effect these changes.

These times are having a profound effect on many young people as they struggle to make sense of a rapidly changing insecure world. Many have developed a form of nihilism.

These issues need to be dealt with on a humane, collective basis politically. All

the rest is delusional and self-defeating.

Boyd Kellner
Newrybar

Leaps of faith

Last year the council was trying to establish a set of criteria by which a holiday letter could be prosecuted but needed approval from the

continued on page 20 ►

CHESS by Ian Rogers

The latest chess cheating case shows just how difficult it is becoming to tell legitimate fears from paranoia.

During the fourth round of the recent Triandria Open in Thessaloniki, Greece, Serbian GM Misa Pap suspected that his lowly rated opponent was cheating.

The opponent, Alexandros Papisimakopoulos, played all his moves with remarkable speed, achieved a near-winning position and then liquidated to a draw. He seemed angry not to have won(!) and left the playing hall in a hurry after his opponent began questioning him. Later, Pap said that his opponent's moves were more than a 90 per cent match with computer moves.

Pap subsequently wrote an open letter on Facebook, specifically accusing his opponent of cheating (in that game only) and berating the organisers for taking no action against Papisimakopoulos.

Plenty of circumstantial evidence there, you might think, yet there is every chance that Pap was simply unlucky in having an amateur player perform at a high level against him.

It later emerged that Papisimakopoulos was a speed fiend, having played 30,000+ games of blitz and bullet chess online. He had also won the 2015 Greek Rapid Championship. Pap noted that Papisimakopoulos

did not play so quickly in his other games; his opponent's defence was that playing fast against Pap was a deliberate strategy because he had to race away to an appointment.

Pap asked that his game cease being broadcast, but since the tournament was on a 10 minute transmission delay, Papisimakopoulos would have had to have a computer with him to cheat while playing at top speed.

However, it is the game itself which provides the best defence to the cheating allegations, with the probable verdict - not guilty.

In the diagrammed position below, with Papisimakopoulos (White) to move, all computers suggest the mini-combination 41.Rxe3+! Kxe3 42.Bxh6+, even though it is not enough to win after 42...Kxd4 43.Bxc1 Kxd5. Instead Papisimakopoulos played the more obvious 41.Bxh6 and after 41...Re1! he thought for 15 minutes before realising that a draw was inevitable. The game concluded 42.Rxe3+ Rxe3 43.Bxe3 Kxe3 44.d6 Be6 45.h4 Kxd4 46.g4 Ke5 and a draw was agreed.



Tell us what our open spaces & recreation facilities mean to you?

Time is running out... Tell us your ideas in Byron Shire Council's Open Spaces & Recreation Needs Assessment. It's all about better planning for the future.

Spaces such as, parks, playgrounds, sporting fields and courts, bushland, natural areas and beach/water access - whether you use them for walking the dog or playing sports, whether your young or old we would like you to share your ideas.

Have your say

By visiting:

www.byron.nsw.gov.au/have-your-say-on-our-open-space-and-recreational-needs

Or give us a call on 02 6626 7000 and ask our staff to organise to send you a hard copy survey.

Closes Friday 2 June 2017

Find out more at: www.byron.nsw.gov.au/have-your-say-on-our-future-open-space-and-recreational-needs

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Q.

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2 make a teenage girl
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A.

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fashion
magazine!*

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- ANY Male who's in a mixed-gender family or relationship, and who fathers and parents - needs to understand FBI too...
- It causes HUGE Stress, Unhappiness, Sexual Disharmony, Sickness, Relationship Breakdown, Depression and Suicide.

'What Men (really) Want - in bed'

This wonderful book by psychologist and sexologist Bettina Arndt is a must read for BOTH genders. She writes with humour and non-judgmental gender equality. It's no coincidence the first 20pp chapter is on FBI. (Books available online for around \$30 ea.)

If U, UR partner, family member/friend etc is struggling with FBI, encourage them to get some *Help PRONTO.

With more understanding of FBI, U AND UR partner might just...

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PROGRAM

PADDLE FUN & CHALLENGES 8.00-10.30

Lions Club brekky, coffee, water, programs, T shirts from 7am
All events from Heritage Park. Register 30 mins before start time
8-9.30 Echo Fun Paddle - Register from 7.30 up until 9.15
9.30 Brunswick Sails Motel Best Decorated Craft
9.30 Ocean Village Shopping Centre Dragon Boat Paddle. Ramp 2
10.00 Print Rescue Stand Up Paddle Challenges from Heritage Park
10.30 Hotel Brunswick Paddle Challenges from Heritage Park
Paddlers must exit at the Scout Hall beach on the left after the footbridge.
Kayak minding on the Scout Hall lawn until 2.30 by 1st Brunswick Scouts
Free shuttle buses back to Mullumbimby with entry fees 10-2.30

BRUNS TERRACE PARK FUN 9.00-2.30

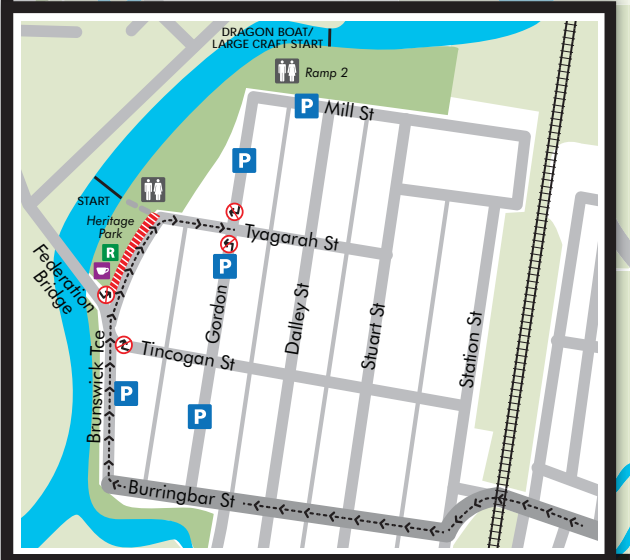
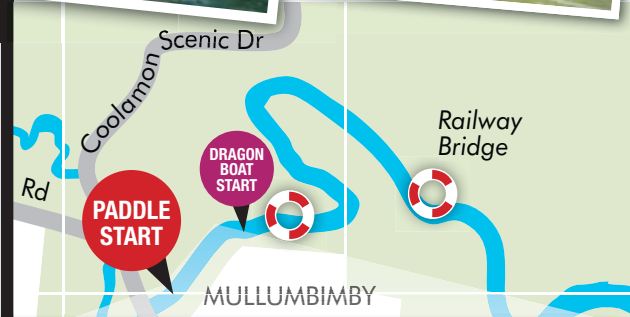
All day Visitor Centre, Marine Rescue & Surf Club BBQs, info and T shirts
Winners not present will be notified.
9-2.30 SeaFreaks stand up paddle expo and FREE SUP clinic
9-2.30 Terrace Espresso Bar jumping castle
10-2 FREE Byron Children's Counselling face painting & balloon art
11-2 FREE Summerland Credit Union chalk art competition
11-12 Dragon boat flotilla and judging from riverbank
12-2 Mt Warning Dragon Boat Club info, "come and try" (pending conditions)
12 OPENING/AWARDS by Mayor Richardson & Tamara Smith MP
12.20 Mojosurf Participants' Draw - you must be there to win
2.00 Mongoboard Raffle Draw - winners not present will be notified
2.00 Mullumbimby Comprehensive Health Centre Duck Race
2.30 Stone and Wood after paddle chill out at the Hotel Brunswick

LIVE MUSIC 9.30-2.00 Summerland Credit Union

9.30-10.20 Big Stan and the Sidewalk Stompers
10.20-10.45 Beltane - Authentic youth Celtic group
10.45-11.10 Yazmin Wright - cabaret style youth vocalist
11.10-12.00 Men Wot Sing - a capella all male choir
12.45-1.15 Transporterz - fronted by the talented Brahminy Porter
1.15-1.40 Biggest Little Town Choir - Mullumbimby's very own
1.20-2.00 Guest Artists

REGISTRATIONS

Enter online by midnight Fri 26 May or on the day
Brunswick Hotel Open Paddle Challenges
Entries \$40 online, \$45 on the day
Print Rescue SUP Challenges
Entries \$40 online, \$45 on the day
Echo Fun Paddle
Adults \$20 online, \$25 on the day; U15 \$8 online, \$10 on the day
Brunswick Sails Motel Best Decorated Craft
Adults \$20 online, \$25 on the day; U15 \$8 online, \$10 on the day
Kayak & SUP hire, life jacket requirements & all other info on the website.
mullum2brunspaddle.com.au



MOJOSURF PARTICIPANTS' DRAW 12.20pm

1. MOJOSURF ADVENTURE in Bali and \$500 voucher for airfares
 2. HOLIDAY PACK - 2 nights @ Hosanna farmstay (\$196) + GoSea Kayak Tour (\$140) + \$50 Coles voucher
 3. ACTIVITY PACK - Go Sea Kayak Tour (\$140) + Gym on the Run (\$150)
- Drop your wristband into the box at the Info Tent after finishing
You must be present to win these fabulous prizes!

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 2. Brunswick Sails Motel 2 nights (\$380)
 3. Byron Bay Eco-Cruise for 2 (\$100) + Gym on the Run sessions (\$150)
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\$5 Ducks from VC, Marine Rescue and Surf Club before or on the day

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+ \$50 Milk Bar meal + Byron Bay Eco Cruise for 4 (\$200)
+ \$50 vouchers from Brunswick Surf + Coles + Crystal Castle

- ACTIVITY PACK** - Private Byron Bay Eco Cruise for 12 (\$540)
- PAMPER PACK** - Brunswick Heads Massage (\$110)
+ Gym on the Run fitness sessions (\$150) + Sanctum Pack (\$30)
+ GoSea Kayak Tour (\$140)

MONGOBOARDS RAFFLE DRAW 2pm

- MONGOBOARDS SUP board + paddle, leg rope, PFD and bag (\$1527)
- HOLIDAY PACK - 3 nights at Brunswick Seaside Holidays (\$540) + \$100 Fleet dinner + GoSea Kayak Tour (\$140) + BH Massage (\$110)
- \$400 SHOPPING SPREE - \$50 vouchers from Torakina Daze + Coles + Park St News + Brunswick Surf + Son of Drum + Milk Bar + \$100 Crystal Castle voucher

Tickets from VC, Marine Rescue and Surf Club tents before or on the day

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USE YOUR OTHER HAND

When you're parked parallel to the kerb and you go to open the door onto a bike lane, please reach over with your far hand, the driver's left hand, instead.

This forces you to swivel your body and brings any cyclists approaching from behind into view, thus avoiding 'dooring' them and perhaps saving a life in the process. This is known as the Dutch Reach, and has protected many cyclists from a world of pain.

Brought to you by Echo Publications Cycle for Life Service

Mullum's heritage status must be retained

With residents being asked to contribute to the Mullumbimby masterplan, Len Bates and Anando offer their thoughts on the heritage aspect of the town.

Buried deep in Byron Shire's planning documents – the Local Environment Plan (LEP) and Development Control Plan (DCP) – is the legal acknowledgment of the old town area of Mullumbimby as a designated Heritage Conservation site. This is no small matter – for a site to be declared 'Heritage' it must be justified and approved by the state government.

This prized status is the legacy of Jan Barham, the former mayor and member of the NSW Legislative Council, and it took more than ten years of dogged work for Mullumbimby to achieve it.

What does it mean?

It means that the NSW government and Byron Shire Council have formally recognised that an area in the heart of Mullumbimby is to be historically protected because of its traditional single-storey wooden buildings, built with local timber from the early 1920 till 1950s. It sets out an historic grid pattern.

Follow-through

Byron Shire's DCP and LEP contain very detailed descriptions of how this historic part of town should be maintained and restored to create a beautiful heritage area. All the work has already been done, it just needs to be followed through.

It does not mean no new development in Mullum – the area involved is only 20 per cent of the urban area of Mullum, and appropriate secondary dwellings are permissible.

It should be good news for the residents, as it means Mullum has the chance to stay a unique 'small town with a big heart', with its own distinctive character and flavour, rather than become another of the anonymous project home landscapes that are flowing over the hills of neighbouring shires.

And what is this heritage?

Heritage is a cultural and visual experience. It preserves a particular feeling that connects people to the history and past of a particular area.

Mullumbimby is known throughout the world as an iconic town with a unique culture. That is what draws people here, both to live and to visit as tourists. And a large part of what makes Mullum so iconic and unique is the

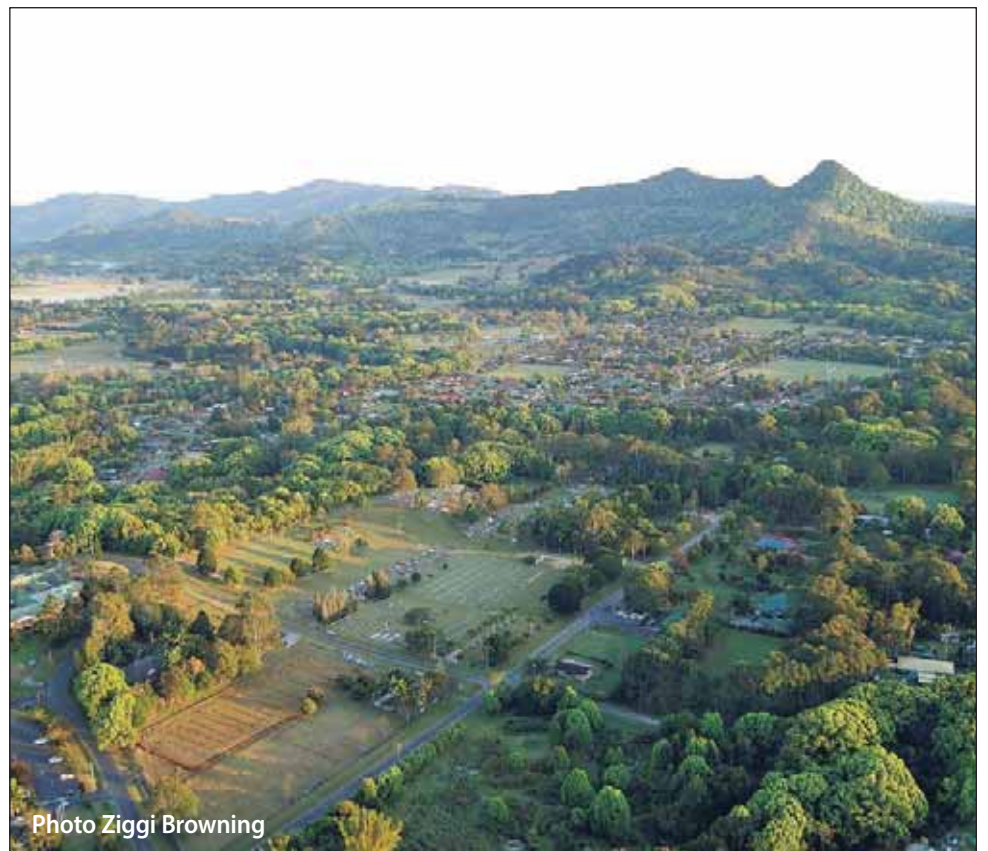


Photo Ziggi Browning

old wooden buildings in the historic part of town.

How was this status acquired?

In 2004, Jan Barham was elected the first Greens mayor of Byron Shire. She was determined to ensure that the Shire did not go the way of the Gold Coast, and she immediately set up a steering committee to explore how to save the unique heritage of the area.

Worth preserving

In 2007, Donald Ellsmore, one of Australia's leading heritage advisors, was employed to document everything in the Shire to get a sense of what was worth preserving as 'heritage'. He observed that the concept of 'heritage' was something new and at that time not highly valued by Australians. But he managed to get the help of hundreds of residents for his survey.

In 2008, a draft heritage study was drawn up that listed buildings and areas in the Shire that were deemed worth preserving.

The draft had then to be passed by Council, and be approved by the relevant NSW government departments and ministers. That process took a long six years, but it finally happened and was officially incorporated into the new Byron LEP and DCP passed in July 2014.

At that point, the old part of Mullumbimby township officially became a Heritage Conservation Area. Yeah! A great cause for celebration.

But, oops, no-one mentioned it. And nothing was ever said about it.

The result? Ten years from Jan's initial push, the final wonderful result slid quietly into obscurity in the official plan for the area. It is there, and in incredible detail, the Mullumbimby part covering over 60 pages in the DCP and 28 pages plus a map appendix in the LEP. But it seems not many people are aware of it.

Is this status being adhered to?

You can judge that for yourselves when you read about the Koho development that was recently approved by Council.

Demolition

One has to ask: How is it possible that Council agreed to the demolition of an old timber home built in 1920, and its replacement with eight two-storey modern apartments in the heart of the heritage conservation area, which is officially designated as single-storey wooden homes?

Council did establish a heritage advisory panel, but it made clear that the panel can have no role at all in the DA decision process. It is also not consulted by Council. Its finding that the Koho development was not in accordance with the heritage status of the area was ignored by Council.

What needs to be done to preserve the prized heritage status that Jan Barham and others fought so hard for?

It is a well-known fact that everyone loves an 'historic' town. And Mullum has the extra cachet of its unique alternative-culture vibe. So it has everything going for it to be something very special. But it looks like this will have to become a community project.

Engagement

One of the things the new council is trumpeting is 'community engagement', which is very laudable, and was high on the list of campaign promises of most of the councillors. But it must not be just a one-way communication. Council must be ready and willing to respect the voice of the residents and the value of the town's heritage.

Chris Cooney, the Brunswick Valley Historical Society representative on the heritage advisory panel, fully supports the protection of the heritage precinct from unsympathetic development. He says, 'All contentious DAs should go to the heritage advisory panel for assessment before the planning department make their decision. Also, the new masterplan for Mullumbimby, currently being developed, must include an emphasis on retaining the heritage aspects of the town.'

■ The DCP and LEP details can be located on Council's website: DCP chapter C1 and E3 and LEP 5.10. Len Bates is Mullum's community representative on the Byron Heritage Advisory Panel.

Woman as a higher power and respect for the environment: a young local voice speaks

Young People Matters is a series of interviews with young people in the Byron Shire and is presented by the Byron Youth Service bys.org.au.

*Tawny Fitzsimmons, 15.

What has been the best experience in your life?

When my sisters were born. Or when I started to make friends, real friends, who were actually nice and caring and made me feel better about myself. My uncle was really horrible and what he was saying was not actually true, not letting it get to me.

What inspires you?

Music and certain art that I see on the internet. Hanging out with friends and going to nice places gets me inspired to do more pleasant things and more stuff in general.

Who would you like to meet and what would you ask them?

I want to meet a skateboard professional, Shane Cross, who died when I was little and who was a friend of my uncle's. He was a really amazing person. There are photos of me with him when I was very young and Shane looks really happy. I would like to ask him about his life experiences and how he stayed positive and was always smiling even when things were really horrible.

What would you like to see happen in Byron Bay?

More respect for the environment and it would be more enjoyable if it weren't so crowded all the time; it would be more relaxing to hang around. More things happening rather than shopping, going to the beach and music. More accommodation access for youth, making it easier for young people to find places to stay. They may not be homeless but sometimes need alternative living options.

When do you think a person becomes an adult and how?

I think that you can grow up before you become an adult. You become a legitimate adult when you are 18; however, there are people who have to mature quicker, before they need to. Lots of people I know had to grow up at a very early age. For example, at the age of ten, one shouldn't



Photo Yani Clarke www.yaniclarke.com

have to worry where to stay and if your family is going to be okay. And I would hate to be in a parenting position at my age. When you're 15, you shouldn't have to worry about stuff like that!

What do you believe in?

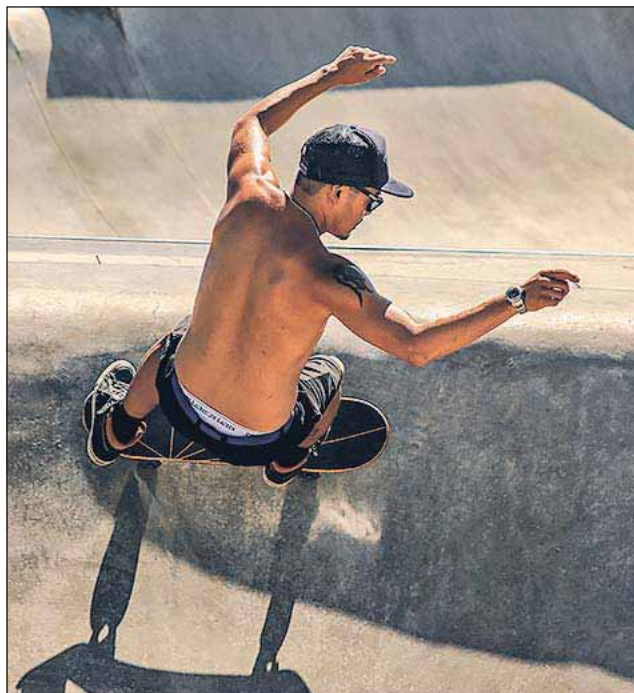
I believe that there is a higher power that made everything what it is. If I had to put a picture to it, it would be a woman. I don't think a man could create something so beautiful and yet so terrifying. Honestly, you look at some of the flowers and they are so gorgeous and then you see tidal waves and they are terrible and there's no way that it's not a chick!

What has been the worst experience in your life?

My uncle was not very nice to me. He used to drink a lot. He was very nice sometimes and sometimes he would get really unpleasant. He is not living with us any more, but when he was living with us, he was very verbal and I did not need to hear some of the things he said to me. He was very disrespectful to my family's beliefs and just to my family in general.

What would you like to change in the world?

All the negativity. People need to be more caring about everything. They need to be more caring towards people and the world that we are living in. This is all we've got and we can't destroy it. It is beautiful. Even the people are beautiful. If there is nothing



positive to do or say then do nothing! Keep it to yourself.

*Names have been changed.

Pings!

The Byron Youth Service initiative to give young people a place to voice their opinions about life, school, society, people. This week we ask about uniforms:

I don't understand why we have to wear uniform if we are a public school; I feel like we should have a choice of wearing it some days and not others – Anonymous, 16.

I don't understand why we have to wear school uniform and Steiner schools don't. – Anonymous, 15.

School should be about education. Period. Not what we wear – Anonymous, 15.

How do the clothes we wear affect my mind and how I learn? – Anonymous, 15.

I take time out of my lunch

to go to the staffroom and ask for help, but because I am not in uniform, teachers aren't allowed to give me extra help. Why? – Anonymous, 16.

They say that uniforms put us on a level playing field but it's just not true. It makes people who don't wear uniforms weird, it makes it 'us and them'; that includes teachers – Anonymous, 15.

The uniform, there is no point because we just don't wear it and they call us out of class, that is not teaching us anything anyway – Kendall, 16.

My parents are conscientious objectors against uniform, but because of new rules in place I am denied out-of-classroom help even if I go and ask for it when I am in need. Why? Because apparently it's necessary to be in the accepted clothes for me to receive help to understand the set work. I am disadvantaged and nothing more – Anonymous, 15.

ngara

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FLAWED LAWS

Crown Land Management Act 2016

Knuckle-dragging, selfish, deluded extremist political parties (there are two of them) are financially supported largely by unethical big business interests.

Apart from money, the public are influenced via media, such as the tax-avoiding sociopathic Murdoch media empire. They are crucial in passing legislation that suits the one per cent.

One law that takes powers away from the 99 per cent is the *Crown Land Management Act 2016*, which aims to give the minister responsible the power to sell, ahem, manage, public land.

And it's a massive power grab – according to the NSW Auditor-General, that's 42 per cent of all land in NSW.

The Auditor-General's department is an independent body that helps NSW parliament hold government accountable, and its recent scathing report on the sale and management of Crown lands claims is 'not effective because oversight of decision making is inadequate and community involvement is limited.'

Another parliamentary report found that communities are strongly opposed to Crown land selloffs, including this one in the northern rivers.

This law joins all their other legislation that aim to diminish community amenity and instead benefits their small private cabal. As George Carlin said, 'It's one big club – and you're not in it.'

Find out more about flawed laws at:
flawedlaws.org and [facebook.com/flawedlaws](https://www.facebook.com/flawedlaws)

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Will Trump be impeached? Does he have dementia?

Phillip Frazer

Robert Reich, who was secretary of labour during Bill Clinton's presidency, says that if "Trump removed Comey to avoid being investigated, that's an obstruction of justice – an impeachable offence." When Trump tweeted that Comey "better hope that there are no "tapes" of our conversations before he starts leaking to the press!" that's intimidation, also an impeachable action.

So now that Trump has fired Comey and assistant attorney-general Rosenstein has appointed former FBI boss Mueller to investigate all this, will Trump be impeached?

Smoking gun

No, says Reich, because in the present Congress, 22 Republicans would have to join with House Democrats, which isn't going to happen. He concludes that "barring a "smoking gun" that shows Trump's complicity with Russian operatives in interfering in the 2016 election – Trump's fate seems to hinge on the midterm elections of 2018. ... If Trump's poll numbers continue to plummet, 22 House Republicans may abandon

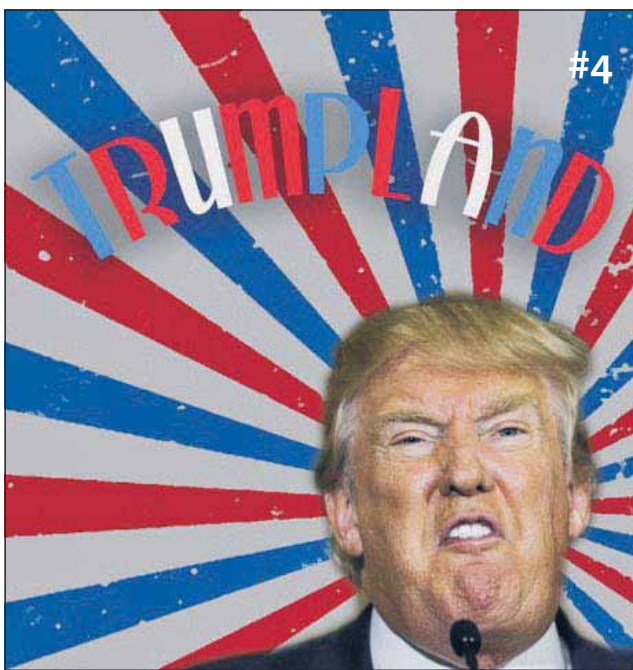
him' before those elections. Even then, the House can impeach a president, as it did Bill Clinton for saying blowjobs are not sex, but the Senate has to convict an impeachee, which it didn't do to Clinton.

Trump still has the support of 75 per cent of Republican voters, which makes Republican officeholders reluctant to dump him.

Russiagate

The central cause of the current dump-Trump frenzy is Russiagate – the notion that Putin and Co, in collaboration with Trump and his campaign managers, hacked Hillary Clinton's campaign to subvert it. The Clinton faction of Democrats is banging this drum for all it's worth, and some of the commentariat reckon their goal is to install Pence as president, the better to plan wars and bargain away Social Security and Medicare.

Noam Chomsky agrees, adding that the Russians-bagged-Hillary story is itself 'a joke', given that the US 'doesn't just interfere in elections. It overthrows governments it doesn't like', including helping get Boris Yeltsin elected president of Russia.



In any case, Russiagate on its own is not big enough to get a Washington consensus on dumping Trump. Israel, however, could be.

When Trump bragged to the Russians that he had intelligence about ISIS plots being hatched in Syria, he said enough for them to figure out that his secret source was Israeli intelligence, which means that a Mossad agent in Syria could now be in mortal peril. And spy agencies cut off their supply of intelligence when they are betrayed – as the US threatened to do when Whitlam started talk-

ing about their spy base at Pine Gap, and Israel might be considering that right now.

These days, Republicans support Israel even more strongly than Democrats do, so if Mike Pence and the Congressional Israel Victory Caucus – a new Republican group advocating Israeli 'victory' over Palestine – team up with like-minded Democratic congresspersons, they could impeach Trump, especially if Israel wants them to.

Of course, even Mossad might be stumped when it comes to figuring out what Trump thinks about Israel

or Palestine, or anything else really.

What is widely understood about Pence is that he's a reliable believer in America's right to bomb anyone anywhere, and that he would replace Trump's MadManocracy with a far-right Christian theocracy.

How nuts?

Trump is clearly nuts, but there is serious speculation over how nuts. Hordes of dementia experts have listened to tapes of Trump speaking in previous decades and concluded that he now uses filler words such as 'like', 'very' and 'um', that he rarely finishes a sentence, uses non-specific nouns ('thing'), and has a range of four adjectives (uuge, tremendous, terrific and fantastic) – and that he used to speak more like a normal person.

Dr Steven Beutler suggested in a recent *New Republic* article that the president get a blood test for tertiary syphilis, since he exhibits multiple symptoms of the disease and brags about his tremendous number of 'conquests', many with women he paid for sex.

Congressman Ted Lieu, a California Democrat, is demanding the White House

have a psychiatrist on staff. Lieu, who is a former military prosecutor in the US Air Force, has emerged as the most acerbic Trump critic on social media.

When Tony Schwartz wrote Trump's first book, *The Art of the Deal*, he had to listen to hundreds of the then real estate mogul's phone calls and sit through dozens of his meetings. Schwartz recalls, 'I can never remember anyone disagreeing with him about anything... when he feels threatened or thwarted, Trump moves into a fight-or-flight state ... [and his] rationality and reflection shut down... This is what makes his access to the nuclear codes so dangerous and frightening.'

By law, the only person who can fire American nuclear weapons is the president, and he is not required to consult anyone.

There are innumerable ways this could end badly. I predict the Trump presidency will end with a nightmarish bang, accompanied by a massive chorus of drawn-out whimpers.

■ Phillip Frazer listens to birds sing up on coorabell-ridge.com.

► continued from page 13

Department of Planning to bring them into effect.

The department used a trick I hadn't seen before. They produced a purported 'legal advice' from parliament's lawyers stating that inclusion of proposed criteria A and B would be 'legal'. However, they had nothing to say about criteria C, D and E, so I, like any normal reader, concluded that the latter must be illegal in some way. Later I realised that the reader had been set up precisely to make this leap of faith; if the inclusion of C, D and E would have made the proposed rules illegal, then why didn't the legal advice say so and explain why?

More importantly why didn't the staff report draw the elected councillors' attention to this defect? Simon Richardson in later debate was angry that a rule that would supposedly be illegal for Byron was okay for one of the other councils in the state, but he failed to draw the obvious conclusion that the department had bullshitted the council, and that the council staff had aided the deception by remaining si-

lent. Indeed when I asked the GM during public questions what this was all about, Simon interrupted to suggest that the GM's answer would come later, in writing. I angrily pointed out to him that the matter was up for debate today, not at some future time convenient to the GM.

Fortunately the director of planning then got up and easily answered my question. I don't know why Simon believes it's his job to protect the GM from legitimate scrutiny. On this I'm on the same page as Tom Tabart.

Fast Bucks
Coorabell

Vitamin C

The vaccination debate needs philosophical widening.

The late Dr Archie Kalkorerinos resorted to injecting patients with vitamin C in approximately the 1980s when he found a link between the injection of vitamin C and the remission of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome. Now there is a clinic in Mullumbimby where doctors and nurses administer vitamin C and other vitamins and minerals intravenously as a matter of course

for diseases generally.

For all the talk of science in the medical industry there is not the commonsense testing of the population to see if there is an epidemic of lack of vitamins and minerals. Might that be because there is money to be made in technological medical cures and in the competitive, technocratic society, industry is first and people are mere raw materials and markets for industry?

Dr Douglas (Letters, May 3) asks in regard to immunisation, is a parent comfortable that they have protected their child with all their capacities if they don't immunise? I would ask doctors if they are using all their capacities if they use technological intervention procedures against a dictum of Hippocrates, 'do no harm'. A pinprick does harm.

Furthermore, are doctors' capacities taking into account the long-term view of health that considers that disease may be mostly a function of depressed immune systems? Are doctors voicing concerns that the technocracy has degraded drinking water, food and air? Is the stress experienced by humans living in a techno-

cratic, pre-human competitive society, and the myriad of toxins they take in daily of no health consequence?

Winding back the technocracy can begin with lovingly tending a backyard orange tree that is a well-known producer of vitamin C. For vitamin D, try the incomparable simplicity of being naked in the sun.

Geoff Dawe
Uki

Rail outmoded

The railroad was developed during the early part of the industrial age, at a time when its only alternative was horse and buggy. For a long time the railroad was the preferred mode of terrestrial transport and often the safest and the quickest way to travel. For more than a century the railroad gave rise to great fortunes and powerful companies.

But times change and by the end of the last millennium, alternative modes of transport had greatly eroded the advantage once enjoyed by the railroad. Motor vehicles and paved roads have vastly improved access to many more places than rail could ever hope to reach.

With constantly improving safety and efficiency, cars and trucks have the ability to reach and service many more destinations at a fraction of the cost of building railroads and running trains.

The demise of rail services in our region was inevitable and due entirely to economic reasons, nothing to do with greens or cyclists. Today the rail corridor is overgrown, dilapidated and mostly impassable, the rails are rusted and the sleepers are rotten. The studies have confirmed the obvious – restoration of rail services in our region is not economically viable.

I can't understand why people are still arguing about this and campaigning for the return of rail services; it's not going to happen, it's pure fantasy, pie in the sky. The council and *The Echo* are both partly responsible for the appalling lack of direction and initiative on this issue, since they both seem to want to sit on the fence and try to please both sides in the debate.

But the fact is only one side of this debate is grounded in reality and it is now past time for reasonable people to use their common sense and

make the decisions required to set in motion the only development possible for the disused rail corridor at this late stage, namely a low-tech, multi-purpose trail, accessible for use by hikers, horses, cyclists and the like.

John Scrivener
Main Arm

Prejudged

As a lawyer, Malcolm Turnbull should have known better than to condemn Neil Prakash the way he did recently on national television. Obviously the opportunistic politician has overcome any lawyer's good sense and discretion Turnbull possesses.

Neil Prakash may indeed be an evil and dangerous person but Turnbull's outburst means that the possibility of Prakash ever having a fair trial in Australia is now virtually nil.

PS: It is to be hoped that the Australian public will recognise the government scheme to drug test welfare recipients for what it is – a crude, heavy-handed and vindictive attempt at social engineering.

David Gilet
Byron Bay

Cyber Attack Alert – Attention Agents

From the REINSW

An experienced principal of a Sydney real estate agency witnessed nearly \$1 million being stolen from their trust account and could do nothing to stop it.

The victim of the sophisticated cybercrime, a REINSW member agency, warned others that it could happen to them and to make changes to ensure they are protected.

More than \$757,000 was stolen, and they witnessed one of the five fraudulent transactions being processed and approved on their online banking system in front of their eyes.

The principal immediately called their bank but they were unable to stop the transaction. Fortunately, all but one of the payments were returned, leaving a shortfall of \$80,000 that could not be recovered.

It is important that agencies become more aware of

cybercrime and check the systems they have in place to protect themselves, because this type of crime is growing exponentially.

The agency did not have a standalone cybercrime insurance policy but had a cybercrime extension of their professional indemnity insurance, which is limited for cyber claims. Professional indemnity insurance also requires a third party to make a claim against the agency to cover a loss.

The Property Stock and Business Agents Act 2002 (No 66, Part 7, Section 89) requires a licensee to notify the secretary in writing of a trust account becoming overdrawn within five days of becoming aware.

The secretary means the Commissioner for Fair Trading, Department of Finance, Services and Innovation, or if there is no person employed

as Commissioner, the Secretary of the Department of Finance, Services and Innovation.

The perpetrator of this cybercrime has been identified as a 19-year-old from Estonia with a valid Australian visa, who has a warrant out for his arrest. Two of his accomplices have been arrested.

How did it happen?

The principal used a security USB device to access their banking online, after entering their username and password. Once logged in to transfer some funds they received a message saying the online site was down for maintenance, so they logged out.

The principal attempted to log back in three hours later and found the same message. Concerned this was unusual the principal checked with their accounts department if they had had a problem

accessing the site.

Once the accounts department logged into the bank online, to their horror they noticed five transactions amounting to more than \$750,000 dollars which had not been authorised. The hackers had gained access from logging in earlier.

The principal added: 'None can work out exactly how the hackers did it. My IT team spent three days on a forensic examination of the office server and individual computer and could find no evidence of any malware or spyware or any affected files.'

Lessons learnt

The principal had this advice to offer to agencies from the lessons they have learnt.

- Check your internet banking does not allow for Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS) payments. This allows a



same-day transfer to another bank with transactions being settled as soon as they are processed, allowing for money to be transferred and withdrawn in a very short space of time rather than overnight.

- Do not provide permissions for the same person to create and authorise a payment.
- Carefully check transfers before authorising them. The agent, since the theft, noticed that the hackers had processed a test payment of water rates which they cancelled.

- Do not use a USB to access internet banking as they can be compromised.
- Don't rely on your bank to protect you or put the correct safety systems in place - do your own due diligence on protection and ask questions of your bank and insurer on cybercrime prevention!
- Check that you are covered for cybercrime under your insurance policy.

If you are a victim of cybercrime, lodge a report with the Australian Cybercrime Online Reporting Network.



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Agent Greg Price 0412 871 500
Byron Bay office 6639 1200



5 Colin Street Bangalow

5 Beds 3 Baths 2 Cars

Superbly refurbished, this stunning split level c1920s home with dual occupancy accommodation is stylishly redesigned and presented. This gorgeous haven is on a 816sqm block, a stroll to shops, schools and cafés.

Auction Saturday 10 June 12pm

View Wednesday 4pm-4.30pm
Saturday 12pm-12.30pm

Agent Greg Price 0412 871 500
Byron Bay office 6639 1200



FOR SALE

891 Main Arm Rd, Main Arm



Main Arm Magic

Original character timber home with freshly polished floors, 1930s era on level 1592m2 prime village block. Lovingly updated with new paint inside and out, new roof, new kitchen, two new bathrooms, two bedrooms plus a sleep-out and an office. There is also a carport and to add to the charm of the property there is an original garage/shed and a pottery studio.
Historically flood-free block.



FOR SALE \$759,000
CONTACT Ruth Russell - 0402 855 929
EMAIL ruth@promullum.com.au
OFFICE Mullumbimby 02 6684 2615



professionalsmullumbimby.com.au



AUCTION

54 New City Rd, Mullumbimby



OPEN HOUSE
Saturday 11-11.45am



Bohemian Charm



- * A charming and quirky home with character
- * 575m2 level block with rear lane access
- * New bathroom, polished floors and rewired
- * Re-plumbed kitchen plus new stove and rangehood
- * Artist studio and beautiful gardens

AUCTION Saturday 3rd June 11.30am
INSPECT Saturday 11-11.45am
CONTACT Ruth Russell 0402 855 929
EMAIL ruth@promullum.com.au
OFFICE Mullumbimby 02 6684 2615



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Katrina Beohm

real estate

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BROKEN HEAD 135 Broken Head Reserve Road
\$2.5 million Katrina Beohm 0467 001 122



- + Quality master built modern beach house designed to take in north light and cooling breezes
- + High raked ceilings, 3 large open living spaces, bi-fold timber doors and louvre windows
- + Spacious bedrooms with built-ins, 2 large bathrooms plus ensuite. Outdoor hot and cold shower
- + Easy walk to Broken Head beach & approx 10 mins to Byron Bay. Agent declares interest

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6 Marvel Street, **Byron Bay** 2481

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kbrealestate.com.au

Byron Beach House Tranquillity

37 Beachcomber Drive, Byron Bay

🏠 4 🛁 3 🚗 2

\$2.65M



This large beach house is the last property along Beachcomber Drive, in the private Pacific Vista area of Byron Bay.

The spacious 4-bedroom home includes 3 bathrooms and an indoor gym, and captures a water glimpse while being surrounded by the serenity of the national park.

A large, open-plan upper level is designed for seamless indoor/outdoor living, flowing out onto the large sun deck. Louvred windows showcase the national park as a natural green backdrop.

The block is expansive and is bathed in the morning sun. A short walk to the white sand of Dolphins Beach and only a quick drive into town.



Open: By appointment
Contact: Jeremy Bennett 0401 222 686
Byron Bay Property Sales

Timeless Timber Treat

17 Station St, Mullumbimby

🏠 4 🛁 3 🚗 1

\$949,000



Here is a home offering more than just a place to live!

We think she's about 120 years old, has a new roof and has been re-stumped so she's ready for a new owner right now.

The current floor plan offers 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and lots of verandah space PLUS there's a fully self-contained Council approved granny flat in the rear garden.

The potential is unlimited and the position is just a short stroll from shops, riverside parks and supermarkets.



Inspect: By appointment
Contact: Ruth Russell 0402 855 929
Professionals & Mark Cochrane

Just Magic

42 Phoenix Drive, Tintenbar

🏠 3 🛁 2 🚗 2

Auction \$985,000 – \$1,085,000



Sundrenched and elevated 3 bed, 2 bath home perched gracefully on 1.75 acres (7347m2) in the established Phoenix Park Estate in Tintenbar with North-east aspect and distant country views.

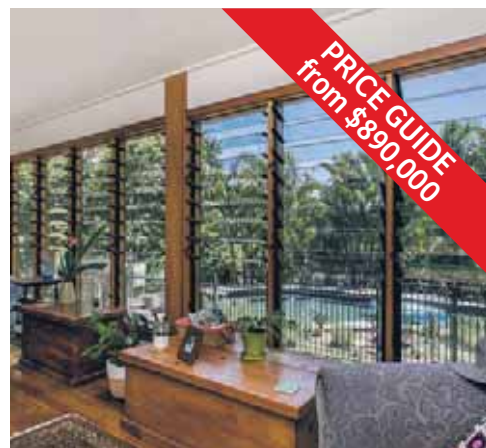
Tasteful living, dining and kitchen spaces with timber and terracotta tiled flooring, sunny eastern terrace plus a purpose built undercover, outdoor BBQ and entertaining loggia to the north.

Large in-ground tank and a smaller reserve tank at the back of the house. Beautiful established trees and large open lawn spaces complete this pretty as a picture property, with plenty of room for a pool, tennis court or both.

Close to everywhere, 2 minutes to Tintenbar Store and Medical Centre, School bus stops only 10 mins to Ballina/Byron Gateway Airport.

Agent declares interest.

Open: Sat 10.30–11.00am
Auction: Sat 3 June 2017 onsite
Contact: Scott Harvey 0412 296 872
Scott Harvey Real Estate



PRICE GUIDE
from \$890,000

3 🏠 2 🛁 2 🚗

Lot 2 Crabbes Creek Rd, Crabbes Creek Rural Lifestyle in Central Location

Presenting a relaxed country lifestyle, this charming acreage property is set in a convenient central location, right on the edge of Crabbes Creek village.

- 13.5 acres with 3 paddocks
- Pebble-crete in-ground swimming pool.
- Large 4-bay farm & livestock shed
- 14 Panel, 3.5kw solar system
- 5km to M1 entrance, 8km to Ocean Shores
- Just 12 mins to South Golden Beach

View Saturday 1.00 – 2.00pm
Agent Jason Dittmar
Area Sales Specialist 0477 222 452
Julie-Ann Manahan LREA
Licensee/Principal 0411 081 118

R&H Ocean Shores/Brunswick Heads
6680 5000



PRICE GUIDE
from \$1,375,000

6 🏠 4 🛁 8 🚗

404 Middle Pocket Road, Middle Pocket Huge Private Sanctuary

You'll be captivated by the supreme sense of peace and serenity here. Set amongst the pristine rolling hills, this private 21 acre property offers a multitude of options for the savvy buyer

- 3 bed, 2 bath main home with polished timber floors
- Lead light windows, brick fireplace, private veranda
- Self contained guest quarters/studio
- Shade house, sprinkler system, nursery quarters

View Saturday 11.30am – 12.30pm
Agent Julie-Ann Manahan LREA
Licensee/Principal 0411 081 118
Jason Dittmar
Area Sales Specialist 0477 222 452

R&H Ocean Shores/Brunswick Heads
6680 5000



PRICE GUIDE
\$795,000 – \$869,000

2 🏠 1 🛁 3 🚗

41 Goonengerry Road, Goonengerry Byron Bay Hinterland Magic!

Set high on Goonengerry Ridge is this amazing 5-acre property offering a range of options – to renovate, extend, or build your dream home. The choice is yours!

- A charming converted hardwood-timber-framed dairy bales offering two bedrooms, open-plan kitchen/meals area, laundry and bathroom (STCA)
- 3-phase power, two separate studios (STCA)
- 2 x new steel 30,000 litre & 1 x new steel 20,000 litre tanks
- Large shipping container with attached undercover work area

View Saturday 2.00 – 3.00pm
Agent Julie-Ann Manahan LREA
Licensee/Principal 0411 081 118
Charlie Markham
Director 0437 733 157

R&H Ocean Shores/Brunswick Heads
6680 5000



PRICE GUIDE
\$749,000 – \$789,000

3 🏠 1 🛁 2 🚗

2 Pacific Place, Brunswick Heads Perfect Coastal Package

Situated in a quiet corner of the alluring coastal village of Brunswick Heads, this private, renovated, low maintenance brick and tile home is sure to please. Due to its location, set back from the street in a quiet cul-de-sac, the home provides a sense of being in your own hideaway.

You'll love the large, level 782 square metre block with its easy care gardens and privacy. Inside the tastefully renovated home, you'll discover an inviting contemporary designed kitchen with well-appointed stainless steel appliances, including a dishwasher and gas cooktop and plenty of cupboard space.

View Saturday 10.30 – 11.00am
Agent Julie-Ann Manahan LREA
Licensee/Principal 0411 081 118

R&H Ocean Shores/Brunswick Heads
6680 5000

Open for Inspection

ELDERS BANGALOW

- 121 Eureka Road, Clunes. Wed 10.30–11am
- 2 Ivory Curl Place, Bangalow. Sat 11–11.30am
- 121 Eureka Road, Clunes. Sat 10.30–11am
- 364 Booyong Road, Nashua. Sat 12–12.30pm

FIRST NATIONAL BYRON BAY

- 14b Alcorn Street, Suffolk Park. Thu 12–12.30pm
- 89 Wordsworth Street, Byron Bay. Thu 1–1.30pm
- 11/64–70 Broken Head Road, Byron Bay. Thu 2–2.30pm
- 6A–D/155-159 Broken Head Road, Suffolk Park. Fri 10–10.30am
- 14 Orchid Place, Mullumbimby. Fri 12–12.30pm
- 14 Orchid Place, Mullumbimby. Sat 9–9.30am
- 54 Balemo Drive, Ocean Shores. Sat 10–10.30am
- 30 Bottlebrush Crescent, Suffolk Park. Sat 10–10.30am
- House 5, 2 Alcorn Street, Suffolk Park. Sat 10–10.30am
- 6-8 Browning Street, Byron Bay. Sat 10–10.30am
- 256 Dingo Lane, Myocum. Sat 11–11.30am
- 12 Burns Street, Byron Bay. Sat 11–11.30am
- 2 Ironbark Avenue, Byron Bay. Sat 11–11.30am
- 28 Oakland Court, Byron Bay. Sat 11–11.30am
- 23 Ann Street, Mullumbimby. Sat 12–12.30pm

GNF BANGALOW

- 119 Lawlers Lane, Bangalow. Sat 10.30–11am

LOIS BUCKETT REAL ESTATE, LENNOX HEAD

- 200 North Creek Road, Lennox Head. Sat 10–10.30am
- 18 Pacific Heights Drive, Cumbalum. Sat 11–11.30am
- 14 Lindsay Avenue, Cumbalum. Sat 11–11.30am
- 60 Montwood Drive, Lennox Head. Sat 12–12.30pm
- 13 Madden Place, Cumbalum. Sat 12–12.30pm
- 46 Baldock Drive, Cumbalum. Sat 1–1.30pm
- 142–144 Fox Street, Ballina. Sat 2–2.30pm

MCGRATH BYRON BAY

- 1/68 & 2/68 Parrot Tree Place, Bangalow. Wed 3–3.30pm
- 5 Colin Street, Bangalow. Wed 4–4.30pm
- 8 Sallywattle Drive, Suffolk Park. Sat 10–10.30am
- 5 Wickham Place, Clunes. Sat 10–10.30am
- 20A Killarney Crescent, Skennars Head. Sat 10–10.30am
- Lot 1 'Bencluna', Eureka Road, Eureka. Sat 11–11.30am

- 15 Red Bean Close, Suffolk Park. Sat 11–11.30am
- 1/68 & 2/68 Parrot Tree Place, Bangalow. Sat 11–11.30am
- 5 Colin Street, Bangalow. Sat 12–12.30pm
- 7 Tinderbox Road, Talofa. Sat 12–12.30pm
- 7 Evans Street, Byron Bay. Sat 12–12.30pm
- 1536 Main Arm Rd, Upper Main Arm. Sat 1–1.30pm

PROFESSIONALS & MARK COCHRANE

- 54 New City Rd, Mullumbimby. Sat 11–11.45am
- 65 New City Rd, Mullumbimby. Sat 1–1.45pm
- 891 Main Arm Rd, Main Arm. Fri 1–1.45pm

RAINE & HORNE OCEAN SHORES

- 2 Pacific Place, Brunswick Heads. Sat 10.30–11am
- 404 Middle Pocket Road, Middle Pocket. Sat 11.30am–12.30pm
- Lot 2 Crabbes Creek Road, Crabbes Creek. Sat 1–2pm
- 41 Goonengerry Road, Goonengerry. Sat 2–3pm



New Listings

ELDERS BANGALOW

- 121 Eureka Road, Clunes. \$949,000
- 4 Hibiscus Place, Mullumbimby. \$425,000
- Dwelling 2 / 70 Charlotte Street, Bangalow. \$750,000 – \$800,000
- 364 Booyong Road, Nashua. Auction

LOIS BUCKETT REAL ESTATE, LENNOX HEAD

- 46 Baldock Drive, McLeans Ridges. Price \$1,130,000
- 11 Hill Street, East Ballina. Contact Agent
- 13 Madden Place, Cumbalum. Contact Agent
- 60 Montwood Drive, Lennox Head. Contact Agent

MCGRATH BYRON BAY

- 1536 Main Arm Road, Upper Main Arm
- 1675 Dunoon Road, Dunoon

PROFESSIONALS & MARK COCHRANE

- 65 New City Rd, Mullumbimby \$789,000

RAINE & HORNE OCEAN SHORES

- 15 Dandaloo Way, Ocean Shores

Auctions

ELDERS BANGALOW

- 364 Booyong Road, Nashua. Auction

LOIS BUCKETT REAL ESTATE, LENNOX HEAD

- 60 Montwood Drive, Lennox Head. 17th June 11am onsite

MCGRATH BYRON BAY

- 3 Goninan Place, Possum Creek. Saturday 27th May 4pm
- Proposed 1/68 & 2/68 Parrot Tree Place, Bangalow. Saturday 10th June 11.15am
- 5 Colin Street, Bangalow. Saturday 10th June 12pm
- 5 Wickham Place, Clunes. Saturday 10th June 1pm
- Lot 1 'Bencluna', Eureka Road, Eureka. Saturday 10th June 4pm
- 20A Killarney Crescent, Skennars Head. Saturday 27th June 10am

PROFESSIONALS & MARK COCHRANE

- 54 New City Rd, Mullumbimby. Saturday 3rd June 11.30am onsite



Brunswick Heads 15 Booyun Street

ASTUTE INVESTORS – LOOK EAST SIDE BRUNSWICK HEADS

- 3 Flats, 2x 2 bedrooms and 1x 1 bedroom
- 1012m² block with ¾ complete subdivision DA
- Central location – ideal redevelopment
- Long term tenants
- One and only opportunity site in town

5 🏠 3 🚗 2 🚘

Auction 15/06/2017 at 6.00pm
at The Milk Bar Brunswick Heads
View By appointment
Contact Peter Browning 0411 801 795

LJ Hooker Brunswick Heads
02 6685 0177

AGENTS



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On the Market

OPEN HOUSE Saturday 12-12.30pm **NEW TO MARKET**

Watch the sun set from your lounge! 3 2 2

60 Montwood Drive, Lennox Head

- ✓ 3-bed brick family home on 765m2 block with elevated bush outlook
- ✓ Main bed has ensuite, walk in robe, study nook & access to front deck
- ✓ Open-plan living has ducted a/c, high ceilings & loads of natural light
- ✓ Lower level is DLUG with laundry & an abundance of under-house storage
- ✓ Rear yard recently landscaped; tiered gardens & patio with NE aspect

Suit an array of buyers; expected rental return \$575-600 per week
Ready to move straight into, located among other established homes

Auction 17 June On site 11am
Inspect: Saturday 12-12.30pm
Contact: Lois Buckett 0428 877 399

Lois Buckett



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OPEN HOUSE Saturday 1-1.30pm **NEW LISTING**

Private Living with Views to Nightcap Ranges 5 2 2

46 Baldock Drive, McLeans Ridges

- ✓ Bespoke, master built, split level home, easy care 6.3a, overlooking Eltham Valley
- ✓ Spotted Gum timber floors, loads of natural light, high raked ceilings, quality finishes
- ✓ Contemporary open-plan kitchen, modern appliances, gas cooking
- ✓ 5th bed has private entry – perfect for home office or teenagers/guests
- ✓ Large covered deck flows from living space; saltwater pool with glass fencing

Zoned Rural Residential with potential for dual occupancy (STCA)
Located only 10 mins from Lismore and Alstonville and 30 minutes from the beaches of Byron Bay

Price: \$1,130,000
Inspect: Saturday 1-1.30pm
Contact: Lois Buckett 0428 877 399
Vicki Heathwood 0432 247 264

Hooker Lois Buckett



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OPEN HOUSE Saturday 12-12.30pm

Paradise Amongst the Trees 4 2 1

10 Coachwood Court, Federal

- ✓ Beautiful 1.25-acre property in the sought-after village of Federal.
- ✓ Timber floored, 3 level character filled home
- ✓ 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 2 living area, with oversized decks and entertaining areas.
- ✓ Deck overlooking the stunningly landscaped gardens with in-ground pool and private creek.

Offers the option of using the lower level of the home as self-contained 1 bedroom unit or granny flat.
Only 25 minutes from Byron Bay and 50 minutes to Gold Coast or Ballina airports

Buyer guide: \$1,100,000
Contact: Scott Harvey 0412 296 872

SCOTT HARVEY REAL ESTATE

The perfect day for a burger on the main street

By Vivienne Pearson

Any day is a good day for a burger. If you need an extra excuse, use International Burger Day, officially scheduled for Sunday 28 May.

Last year, the winner of *The Echo's* 'Burger Me' People's Choice award was the Main Street Burger Bar. As the name suggests, this restaurant is all about burgers (the main street in question is Jonson Street in Byron Bay).

There are nine burgers to choose from, including a Classic 10 Buck, a Spiced Buttermilk Fried Chicken (the winner of last year's competition), a Teriyaki Fish and a Vegan Jackfruit.

There are, of course, chips – potato or sweet potato. There are also salads, including serious ones called Energy Bowls with your choice of protein (meat or vegan) for a full meal. Great if one of your group want to 'shun the bun' or is simply not in the mood for a burger (I've never experienced this myself, but understand it can happen).

This is fast-food-style eating without the trappings of junk food. 'It's all about providing fast food with real produce, cooked by chefs,' says Chris Wright, co-owner and one of the chefs at Main Street.

These values extend to the drinks menu. No multinational megacorporation drinks here. Instead, you'll find an amazing array of sodas, all of which are handcrafted by local company Flavour Fountain. A shot of alcohol can be added to any of the sodas and a range of wines, cocktails, beers and ciders is available all day. As of very recently, you are welcome to enjoy a drink at Main Street without eating (I'm not sure I could be in a burger bar without eating a burger but, again, I understand this is theoretically possible).

So what will Main Street Burger Bar be pulling out of their bun this International Burger Day?

The plans are so 'under wraps' that not even I am privy to details. Your best bet is to keep an eye on the Facebook page as information will be posted only a day or so before.

In case you find yourself on the Gold Coast hoping to avoid the



A Main Street Burger Bar lineup – credit Kate Holmes



The Main Street Burger Bar – credit Kate Holmes

lure of junk burgers, swing into the brand-new second Main Street Burger Bar in Broadbeach (though admittedly, this one is not on the main street, it's in the Oasis Shopping Centre).

The only question left is: 'Why was 28 May chosen as International Burger Day?' Despite extensive research, I have no answer. I even asked Professor Google. It seems that some things are best left unquestioned and simply enjoyed.

Main St Burger Bar: 18 Jonson St, Byron Bay. Open 7 days, 11.30am-late. Facebook and Instagram: @mainstreet-burgerbar



Dan Hannaford

Flood charity dinner at Three Blue Ducks

The Three Blue Ducks crew in Byron is teaming up with JR's Smokehouse and Stone & Wood to put on a barbecue dinner and help raise much needed funds for the community's flood victims.

There will be a feast of smoked meats and other dishes served with Stone & Wood beers and accompanied by the Dan Hannaford Band.

The ticket price is just \$55 and that gets you three courses and a beer on arrival – with all profits from the night going to the Mulumby & District Community Centre.

More info: Sunday 28 May 5pm

Location: Three Blue Ducks, Byron Bay

Cost: \$55 + bf, 3 course meal and a beer / kids under 14 are \$14 (drink not included). Bookings: 02 6684 7795

**JR'S SMOKEHOUSE
 × THREE BLUE DUCKS
 × STONE & WOOD
 × DAN HANNAFORD BAND
 CHARITY DINNER**

Pastured egg farming

The term *free range* is widely accepted as an ethical and sustainable way of farming, yet the definition of 'free-range eggs' and 'free-range hens' in Australia had no industry standard until this year, so the term was often misused. Unfortunately, despite the new standard introduced in March, the term *free range* continues to be misunderstood.

Knowledge about the new industry standard among the wider public is low and consumers still remain confused about the definition of *free range*. Many consider free-range hens to be raised on green pastures where they are free to roam, but the reality is quite different.

The free-range standard allows for a stocking rate of 10,000 hens per hectare. The standard also allows for poultry sheds to hold between 20,000 and 30,000 birds. There is no requirement for the hens to spend time outside; all they require is access to the outside through a small door that is 45cm high.

Locally, hens at The Farm are 'pasture raised', a term that has been chosen to be both ethical and true to its name. According to The Farm, 'The main point of difference between free-range



hens and pasture-raised hens is that ours are not kept in sheds, our stocking rates are much lower, and our hens are free to roam and forage in green pastures. This may seem like a pretty small

point of difference but this is a significant when it comes to a hen's quality of life.'

The 400 hens at The Farm are raised on fresh pasture and have a Chicken Caravan as their roost. Chicken Caravans are very popular in sustainable and ethical farming practices, and offer benefits to both hens and the environment. The caravan is rotated daily around The Farm and offers functions that ensure farmers do not disturb the hens when eggs are collected. Hens are also given access to fresh pasture to roam and the environment is given time to regenerate and absorb nutrients from the hens' manure.

In the hope of educating people about ethical and sustainable farming methods, The Farm runs Pastured-Egg Workshops. Lee McCosker who runs each course is a bold advocate for a better life for farmed animals and sustainable, profitable pasture-based production systems. Lee has spent the last eight years in the Humane Society with a focus on farm welfare and has spent six of those years heavily involved in definitions around free-range eggs. Lee is a trainer and assessor and has qualifications in agriculture, animal nutrition and sustainability. Lee has also conducted a number of studies on poultry production and poultry nutrition science.

There is a lot more to pasture-raised egg farming than meets the eye. Many believe that it is as simple as putting hens in a yard and collecting eggs. Farmers who chose to raise hens this way have much more labour-intensive and expensive systems. They also need to ensure they are educated about the industry's licensing laws, codes of ethics and council permits required for pasture-raised egg farming.

The Good Life

Cooking up a Snowy storm

By Vivienne Pearson

Steven Snow, of Fins restaurant, is not your typical chef.

'He's not guarded about his signature dishes, like most chefs are,' says his wife and business partner Morgan Snow. She tells me that he never did formal chef training, instead absorbing everything he learned while working in restaurants and on fishing boats after a big surf trip during his 20s.

This fits with the fact that I'm unable to speak directly with Steven – he's out of contact on a boat overseas. 'He's still a teenage-like obsessed surfer!' Morgan laughs.

Steven, or Snowy as he is best known, is offering a cooking class at his restaurant next week, with one of the best promotional passages for a cooking class that I've ever read. 'In this class, I will de-mystify seafood, giving away all my secrets in easy-to-follow recipes,' it reads, before adding: 'You will leave the course with a repertoire you can reproduce to the sound of thunderous applause at your next dinner party.'

Two-time course attendee Cass Emanuel agrees wholeheartedly. 'I am not a cook,' she repeats several times during our chat. 'Yet I cooked one of the dishes for a dinner party and it turned out fantastic!'

Though the course is demonstration rather than hands-on based, Cass found it was enough to skill her up. 'I pictured him and, as I cooked, I could hear some of the things he was saying and that helped me through.'

Cass, who lives in Mullumbimby and works as the accounts



Cooking with Snowy class

administrator for Uplift, is keen to do the course again. 'It has such a lovely vibe,' she says. 'Snowy is extremely entertaining and really knowledgeable.' Cass enjoyed the care with which participants were treated, the chance to ask lots of questions and, of course, the feasting on the final dishes.

Morgan Snow, a sommelier, will add a bonus element of wine-matching and education to the event. 'I always try to present something that's out of the ordinary,' she says.

'Most people who do the course are not in the hospitality industry,' Morgan says, reflecting over the multiple times this course has run. 'They do it for a good excuse to have fun. Snowy's classes tend to be full of laughter and tricks; he can't help himself.'



Snowy and Morgan

Cass certainly fits into this category. Though she didn't receive thunderous applause at her dinner party, her friends were impressed and she was extremely pleased with herself for cooking such a complex dish.

I'm sure Snowy will have a good laugh when he hears about her backup plan, in the case that her cooking was not so successful: 'If it had come out badly, I could have blamed him!'

Cooking with Snowy, Wednesday 31 May 11am-1pm, Fins Restaurant at Salt. A few places remain – bookings via Byron Community College: www.byroncollege.org.au.

Good Taste

Eating Out Guide

echo.net.au/good-taste

BALLINA



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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.



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Self-Serve

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Dine in ALL YOU CAN EAT (only Wednesday & Saturday)
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BYRON BAY continued



Elixiba
9am-3pm
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27 Jonson St, Byron Bay
6685 6845

Elixiba Plant Based Restaurant and Bar
A delicious vegan dining experience.
Tapas, mains and heavenly desserts all house made and gluten free.
Exclusive craft beers, herbal elixirs, exquisite cocktails and a unique atmosphere.
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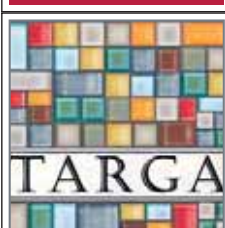
Hog's Breath Cafe
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11.30am-2.30pm
Dinner from 5.30pm
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6685 5320
www.hogsbreath.com.au

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Good Taste

Eating Out Guide

BYRON BAY continued



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Corner of Fletcher St & Bay Lane, Byron Bay

Cafe:
Specialty Coffee with Egyptian-inspired all-day breakfast, brunch & lunch

Restaurant:
Traditional Egyptian shared-style dining
NOW OPEN for dinner from Thursday to Sunday



The Rocks @ Aquarius

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16 Lawson St, Byron Bay
Reservations **6685 7663**
therocksbyronbay.com.au

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Mon-Fri 12-3pm
Dinner 7 days from 5pm.
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6680 7798
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SPECIAL \$12 LUNCH AND DINNER MENU

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Closed Tuesdays
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Phone orders welcome
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italianatthepacific.com.au

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BYRON BAY continued



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dining@fins.com.au
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Lunch Fri-Sun 12-3pm.

GOOD FOOD GUIDE
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6687 2644

harvestcafe.com.au

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Harvest is available for events, weddings and catering

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Safran



ALL YOUR NORTH COAST ENTERTAINMENT

JOHN SAFRAN'S EXTREME SORTS

LET ME TELL YOU SOMETHING ABOUT INTERVIEWING PEOPLE. IT'S VERY OFTEN DISAPPOINTING. ESPECIALLY WHEN IT'S SOMEONE YOU'VE BEEN IN AWE OF. VERY OFTEN THE PERSON YOU HAVE BUILT UP SUCH AN INTEREST IN CAN DISAPPOINT IN AN INTERVIEW, BECAUSE THEY'RE GUARDED, OR NERVOUS, OR SHY, OR NOT AS INTERESTING AS YOU THOUGHT. OR YOU STUFF THE INTERVIEW AND ASK REALLY LAME QUESTIONS.

This wasn't the case with John Safran, the award-winning TV and radio presenter, writer and documentary maker. The John Safran on the phone was absolutely consistent with the John Safran I've come to love in his books and in his TV and radio work.

He's unguarded, unpretentious and totally engaging. He's also intensely passionate about his subject matter and in every turn in the conversation he seems to be discovering something new. His passions are race, religion and ethnicity. And in a media environment of 2-minute bites, where the subject is so poorly explored, Safran's latest book *Depends What You Mean By Extremist (Going Rogue with Australian Deplorables)* takes us to the streets and behind closed doors for a more detailed examination of extremist views, delivered with humour, intrigue, confusion, and surprising compassion and kindness. Nothing is really as it seems and Safran has this uncanny ability of getting right up close.

He's interested in what his subjects have to say. He wants to drill down to why someone would think something so preposterous or illogical.

Even though he's known to expose contradictory and illogical arguments of extremists, he still somehow manages to quietly insert himself in the middle of the action.

It's like magic. Somehow understanding race, religion and ethnicity is his thing.

Safran explains it away as 'soup'.

'When you grow up and next thing you know you are an adult and those smells you remember from childhood, like the smell of soup from a particular ethnic background, before you notice you have absorbed these things. I spent a lot of time with my grandparents, they escaped the war, their stories were in the background, I was never sat down and told the stories. They didn't say, hey, John, let's teach you about Nazis. It was the soup thing, something intense and dark floating around.

'When it comes to things around mysticism or religion, I am so interested in it. The people I interview feed off that. I find as soon as it's a radical group and they don't have a religious layer, I'm looking at my clock a bit, and when I talk to people who have these beliefs and they know that I know, and they aren't having a conversation with a polite white atheist or leftie who doesn't really get religion or magic, they play along.'

End-of-the-world thinking is not new to Safran. At the orthodox Jewish college he attended for high school - Yeshivah College in Melbourne - they were all waiting for the return of the Messiah. So while Safran never signed up for the end of days, he knows what it's like to be surrounded by extreme religious thinking.

A Sufi tells Safran that satire should retire. That it's more dangerous than religion. This fascinates Safran.

'I discuss this in the book. There is this bean-counting thing done by conservative people about art, to justify it financially, and there are ideologues on the other side asking what is the point of this? Will it bring Donald Trump down or not? I blame John Stewart.



He created the reality that you have to have a watertight proposition at the start and then you have these dot points to back up your proposition. It's not always that neat.

I saw on Q&A last week people arguing about satire, asking What is the point of comedy? There is a vital and often dangerous role that humour and satire can play - Safran believes in tackling a seemingly global rise in hate, racism and extremism. 'People might start listening to the jokes...' he says. 'The clowning must go on.'

Safran describes his book as an exorcism. 'I once did this doco,' he says, 'where I hung out with this exorcist; he was an evangelical Christian. I go to non-religious psychologists after and they've told me an exorcism can be really good; you know screaming is good, it's a way to get things out of your system and if the way is culturally comfortable then that's okay. They weren't dark on exorcisms because they were atheists. I feel that this book is a bit more than an exorcism. It's 2017 and there are people marching in the street in Melbourne where I have grown up holding swatikas, accusing of people being Nazis, formations of police in the CBD the same place that I have walked past my entire life - how would I not scream at all of this? This is an exorcism - this is a culturally appropriate!'

Safran notes the aligning politics of extremist groups, no matter how polarised their beliefs. 'They all want to upend the world and the system.' He wrote his book at a time when Bernie Sanders and Trump were rising in the US, where regular people were opening up to radical thinking.

He believes he couldn't have had a more interesting time to be writing a book on extremism.

'The night Donald Trump got elected there was a 97 per cent chance that Hilary was going to get in. It was like everything was tipping over. People were so confused. I had friends ringing me. Everyone needed to talk. People who weren't into politics were totally confused and needed to get their bearings. It was exciting to be writing this story during that time. I couldn't have planned it; it feels like it won't happen again.'

In his book Safran traverses the diversity of Australian extremism. From white nationalists to ISIS supporters, anarchist and more. Along the way he discovers that extremism dishes up satire without even trying. Like the black puppetmaster of the white nationalists. A Muslim fundamentalist who geeks out on Monty Python. And a radicalisation network in his own Jewish suburb?

Safran wants to find out what he doesn't know.

'There's an Eminem song... at least I know that I don't know. There are things we know we know, and things we know we don't know. I want to get to the things I don't know I don't know.'

John Safran is one of the writers appearing at this year's Byron Writers Festival, 4-6 August. Earlybird tickets for Byron Writers Festival are now on sale and, if history is any indication, they will sell fast. Full program announced 14 June. Tickets at byronwritersfestival.com or call 6685 5115.

the northern

WED 24 RYAN ADAMS - SOLD OUT
THU 25 DAN HANNAFORD
FRI 26 OCEAN ALLEY, VANILLA GORILLA, THUNDER FOX - SOLD OUT
SAT 27 BORNEO, THE CINEMA WRISTYS, THE SLIPS
MON 29 DAN CLARK
TUE 30 MARSHALL OKELL



**SUNDAY 28 MAY
BIRDS OF TOKYO**

coming soon

1 JUNE IN HEARTS WAKE
2 JUNE ELEGANT SHIVA
3 JUNE FOOD COURT
9 JUNE SUNROSE
10 JUNE THE WALKING WHO
11 JUNE BUSBY MAROU
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a fun party where you are holding court with unnecessary facts of what they reckon really happened. Who needs it? Get fucked, neck! My neck doesn't tell the truth. It's a fucking liar. It's telling everyone I'm 60 and I'm only 49.

I find myself looking at other women's necks. Really staring. Often much longer than I should. I'm doing one of two things: (a) looking for necks worse than mine; these necks make me feel good. And a bit worried about my future neck. Or (b) seeking beautiful necks. My eyes linger on the soft smooth skin of youthful necks. I remember when my neck was like that. I want to stop girls in the street and say 'Forget about your big booty, your pert boobies and your line-free forehead; love your neck. Really enjoy it. Never wear a scarf! Put your hair up. Show the world this wondrous expanse of silky skin.' But I don't because it's creepy.

One friend told me I should have been using sunscreen. Another told me to sleep on my back with my

neck in cling wrap. Another said it was time to seek out the turtleneck. I guess it's called a turtleneck for a reason. The cowl hides a multitude of skin sins. Including having a neck that looks like a fricking turtle's.

But it's a bit of a giveaway. Especially in summer. No-one wears a high-necked sweater in summer. It might be hiding your neck but what people imagine is behind the turtleneck is probably worse than what is actually there. There are scarves. And chunky necklaces. I guess I could get a neck tattoo. Maybe work with the wrinkles and make some sort of creeping vine.

Another friend suggested that haemorrhoid cream Anusol for its tightening properties but I tried it and it not only took two tubes; I felt like I was choking. I don't know if it means I'm hung up but I'm just not comfortable rubbing arse cream that close to my face. Of course there's always Botox, a few shots would freeze that wrinkly head-holder right up, but what's the point of a wrinkle-

free neck if you can't look down on anyone? I certainly don't want a neck-rection. It would be like having a Priapus injection.

I would like a nice smooth neck but I don't want it enlarged. There's the 'collar'. The thing people wear when they've got whiplash. It certainly gives you a lovely stretch, corrects your posture and physically hides your neck age. But it makes you move like a Thunderbird. And you can't get your undies on.

Then it occurs to me. The beard! Of course! A full Ned Kelly would do it. If I could grow one of those, I could hide my neck. People wouldn't even notice, they'd be so impressed with my resplendent beard they'd be touching me and gasping about my luxuriant chin hair. It's awesome diversion therapy. Although I can't really grow a beard. Well, at least not a full one. Mine looks more like what my 16-year-old son grows. The only real option I have is to get over myself. Watch some Neck Flix and chill.

NECKING MYSELF

My neck got old. I don't know how it happened but it seems to have aged. Possibly in dog years. It doesn't make sense. I don't remember abusing my neck. Not in the way I've abused my liver, my arse or my face. The neck really only holds up the head. It's not working that hard to age so badly. I can't even think what I could have done to create premature neck ageing.

Perhaps I've stuck it out one too many times. I am known for sticking my neck out. It's one of my more favourable personality traits. But surely the act of sticking one's neck out should give it a good stretch? Like yoga. Should I have been doing neckersize? All these years I've been doing ab crunches and I should have been doing neck lifts.

It doesn't matter how good your face looks, it's your neck that tells the truth. It's like the sober partner heckling your drunk bullshit story at



MUSIC FOR CLEAN BEACHES

Today, in some parts of the world, water is already more expensive than oil, a trend that is spreading.

In Hearts Wake – comprising frontman Jake Taylor, guitarists Ben Nairne and Eaven Dall, bassist Kyle Erich and drummer Conor Ward – are bringing this distressing issue to the world's attention. Their new album *Ark* is both a dynamic breath of fresh air for the metalcore genre as a whole and a treatise on one of the world's great impending issues. The band has created an album and a launch that puts change in motion.

'No matter what side of the world we live on, water connects us all,' says Jake. 'Every living thing, and every human being that ever was, or will be, is born of water. The plasma in our blood is 92 per cent water, our brains 75 per cent, and even our bones are 30 per cent water. The same water that shapes our Earth is the same water within each of us.'

'This record is an ode to the Ark, that is our ocean planet. Just like a ship: if one part is compromised, all life is threatened. What happens on one side of the world affects the other. If we don't work together to repair our home and restore the integrity of its natural resources, we will all go down with the ship. Since water is our lifeblood, it needs to be respected, protected, and acknowledged – not only as a basic human right, but as an essential human need.'

In conjunction with the release of *Ark*, In Hearts Wake have joined forces with Tangaroa Blue for We Are Waterborne: An In Hearts Wake Initiative to lead a series of waterway cleanups in Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane and at home in Byron Bay. Marine debris is one of the major environmental issues worldwide and In Hearts Wake are calling upon their fans to join them in these cleanups, as well as encouraging fans to form their own cleanup crews to tackle their local problem waterways. In Hearts Wake plan to take the initiative global with a series of cleanups in the works for future overseas tours. To celebrate the release of their new album *Ark* (out May 26 via UNFD), In Hearts Wake have announced they will play a very special hometown show at **The Northern Hotel** in Byron Bay on **Thursday 1 June**. All cleanups will kick off at 1pm and participants will receive a free We Are Waterborne Volunteer T-Shirt on arrival. Go hard core on the cleanup and be at the surf club entrance at 1pm on 1 June!



CARIAD AT THE BYRON THEATRE AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE ON SATURDAY

CARIAD MAGIC

Cariad is the combination of two talented singer/songwriters and guitarists from the Byron Shire: Virginia Cook and Geraint Jenkins. Together they weave a magical blend of unique melodies, meaningful lyrics and sublime harmonies to create original, uplifting music from the heart.

They are launching their album *A Thousand Dreams*, produced by Paul Pilsneniks, at the **Byron Community Theatre** on **Saturday**. Joining them onstage will be some fantastic musicians: Murray Cook on keys (Mixed Relations, Warumpi Band, Mental As Anything), Maria Stratton on violin (ABC recording artist, Miley and the Milkshakes), Al Brooker on double bass (Paul Kelly, Nick Barker, Heartworn Highway) and Matt Connolly on Irish flute and whistle. This promises to be a great night of original, local music. Tickets can be bought online at byroncentre.com.au or purchased at the door. Show starts at 7pm.



FELIX RIEBL OF THE CAT EMPIRE AT LISMORE CITY HALL 3 JUNE



Where Stories Take You
4 – 6 August 2017

Early Bird tickets on sale NOW*

Details & tickets: byronwritersfestival.com

*Early Bird tickets available until 13 June or until sold out. Full program announce 14 June



BRACE YOURSELF FOR THE BIRDS

DARK. DYSTOPIC. CINEMATIC. IN EQUAL PARTS A RADICAL DEPARTURE AND A RETURN TO THEIR EPIC ROCK ROOTS. IT'S FITTING THAT BIRDS OF TOKYO HAVE CALLED THEIR NEW ALBUM *BRACE*.

Glen Sarangapani of Birds of Tokyo believes the album came into being with band members sharing the same political outrage and disbelief.

'It's like a crazy science fiction movie that we are living in. People are literally allowed to lie and get away with it – it's crazy!'

Unlike most albums where songs are written and bought to the group, this one was created in the room.

'There was chemistry in the room. Everyone just did a little bit of writing together,' says Sarangapani. 'When you have four people playing in the room together, and when Kenny started writing lyrics about the state of the world, the music just fed the lyrics, and then the lyrics fed the music.'

'It's awesome spreading a message in art and music; it's powerful. If someone is really questioning something, it's good to open up the discussion with the people, and it's good on socials where people are opening up discussions, and wanting to talk about things and express their views.'

The relentless ten-song set was produced with Canadian David Bottrill, who has helmed releases for Tool, Muse and Silverchair. Together they've created a bold and uncompromising piece of work.

According to the band *Brace* was created to be played live – hence the opening lines of the opening track that invite the listener to 'Come take a seat, enjoy the show'. This is why they are unveiling it with a gig rather than an online stream or suchlike. It's a muscular but deeply layered journey that's deliberately conceived to be shared physically – not just digitally.

It should be no surprise that these songs were written during the rise of Trump and the return of Hanson. It's not an overtly political album but there's an end-of-days mood pervading each of these tunes and it makes for an unusually cohesive body of work. From the brutal opening riffage of *Harlequins* it's clear that the band has a point to prove and all is not well. This outlook is most explicit on songs like *Empire*, where crumbling walls are torn down and on the closer, *Mercy Arms*, which literally tracks the final moments of life support. Along the way *Discoloured* (featuring Hayley Mary from The Jezabels) embraces life on the ledge; awash in a sea of paranoia and dislocation. Even the mid-album moment that initially seems like a respite – *Pilot* – grows gradually into a climax of 'watching it all fall apart to be new again'.

Birds of Tokyo play the **Hotel Great Northern** on **Sunday**.



COCO REPUBLIC FSTVL AT THE BYRON BAY BREWERY ON SATURDAY

COCO REPUBLIC

Coco Republic FSTVL is set to bring all-day festival vibes to the Byron Bay Brewery. With two stages and more than ten DJs and live artists, you will forget it's winter as the summer vibes take over. Kicking off at 1pm there will be live music by Akova in a tropically themed outdoor setting, followed by DJs playing sunny soulful tunes. The indoor Rave Cave will bring a churning nightclub experience with Sounds Good Soundsystem providing the beats with their huge sound and full festival-quality light show. Summer isn't over! Catch the last luscious beats at the **Byron Bay Brewery** on **Saturday** from 1pm. Free entry until 5pm, \$10 after that.

DISCOVER NEW MUSIC AT BELLO

Bello Winter Music features more than 90 acts over three days including festival favourites **Husky, Ben Ottewell (Gomez), Joe Pug, Bec Sandridge, Tinpan Orange** and **Mama Kin**. But the beauty of Bello Winter Music and its diverse, multi-genre programming is that there is always something new to discover. Like Melbourne hip-hop and R&B act **30/70**. Beat disciples Ziggy Z, Hazy Hicks, Chaser and Thomas keep it tight in the rhythm section while Allysha Joy stays liquid smooth and grooves over jazz, hip-hop live beats. Their first LP *Cold Radish Coma* sold out its first pressing in less than a month. The band is receiving a lot of attention in Europe thanks to *Rhythm Section* as well as the release of *The Strut* film clip through Stamp The Wax.

Vaudeville Smash are three brothers and two mates who present an explosion of funk, flute, sax, synth and groove. In case you're wondering, they took their name from an Italian children's karaoke machine that was around in the late 80s. In 2016, Vaudeville Smash released their sophomore album *The Gift*. A contemporary reworking of the early 80s funk/boogie evoking visions of Cameo, Midnight Star and the Gap Band. Archer is an old-time singsong man. He works the fruit-

picking rounds, sits under the sky a lot, and drives a car if he has to. He's toured widely across Australia and internationally, playing many major festivals. He's supported luminaries such as Martha Wainwright, Pokey Le Farge and CW Stoneking. Despite this you might find it hard to catch him. He'll appear off a road somewhere and sing you a few songs and then wander off into a forest leaving you wondering if it was a ghost story or a dream.

Ukulele Death Squad are pushing the boundaries of the small 4-stringed instrument. With their own uke style, blending Flamenco, Mexican and folk, and sold-out debut Adelaide Fringe shows, the squad will warp your perceptions of ukuleles one nylon string at a time. Expect high-energy performances full of mad thumping rhythms and outrageous solos. Heartbreaker alt-country duo **Miles and Simone** weave their lonesome seaside lullabies and ballads with restraint – two sublime voices, catchy melodies, poetic lyrics and hilarious banter. The duo are currently recording their third record with acclaimed producer Dan Luscombe (The Drones, Courtney Barnett) who promises to draw out the darkness and grit from the pair's sweet and mournful love ballads. All these acts play **Bello Winter Music 7-9 July**. Friday Memorial Hall 11pm. Saturday Diggers Tavern 8.45pm.

HAWAIIAN UKE

This **Thursday** from 6.30pm at **Club Mullum** in **The Ex-Services** be transported to heavenly islands with moonlit skies at Miss Amber and Stukulele's **Hawaiian Uke Night**. Special guests Aloha Baby will lead some Hapa Haole classics and instrumentals and the graceful Hula Tomoka and her troupe will dazzle you with their hula dancing. Come dressed in your best Hawaiian outfit for a chance to win a Kahuna massage and be prepared to wiggle those hips when Hula Tomoka teaches you the hula steps for the Hukilau song. Adults \$12.50, kids under 16 \$2.50. Join the mailing list at www.ukemullum.com to download the songbook.



30/70 AT BELLO WINTER MUSIC AT DIGGERS TAVERN ON SATURDAY

SATURDAY 27TH MAY

BYRON BAY BREWERY
COCO REPUBLIC
FSTVL
2 STAGES OF LIVE MUSIC AND DJ'S
+ AL FRESCO + RAVE CAVE

AL ROYALE
LIPPO
IAN HAI YES
HOT ROB
BEN POPP
ANTON LEAF
AKOVA (LIVE)

B **SG** **COCO** **SGOOD** **REPUBLIC**

FREE ENTRY BEFORE 5PM | \$10 AFTER

MISS AMBER & STUKULELE'S
UKE NIGHT
HAWAIIAN
LEARN TO HULA DANCE
PRIZES FOR BEST HAWAIIAN OUTFIT
THU 25 MAY, 2017 @ CLUB MULLUM

BYO UKULELE
ENTRY ADULT \$12.50
KIDS (UNDER 15) - \$2.50

FOR SONGBOOK
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WWW.UKEMULLUM.COM

live music

Friday 26 May 7.30-10.30pm
KENT EASTWOOD

Sunday 28 May 4-7pm
CECILIA BRANDOLINI

Saturday 3 June 7.30pm
BEN PURNELL

Sunday 4 June 4-7pm
MAD MULE

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BRANDOLINI LOYALTY

PAST CAPE BYRON STEINER STUDENT AND *THE VOICE* FINALIST CECILIA BRANDOLINI RETURNS TO THE BYRON SHIRE FOR A RUN OF GIGS.

What have you been up to of late?

The last year-and-a-half I have been adjusting to living in Sydney! I'm living in the most artsy suburb in Sydney, Newtown, and loving the alternative way of life here. Busking almost every second day to an audience who really appreciate it is amazing. Last January-February I went overseas to Europe for the first time and absolutely loved it, performing internationally for the first time in Paris, and Kilkenny, Ireland. I arrived home to Sydney more than ever motivated to do music. I've been polishing old songs, new songs and compacting 13 down to five for my upcoming EP.

How do you approach songwriting?

It's different every time for me. But lately I've been taking the thoughts and poems that I wrote overseas and turning them into lyrics with melodies. It's really interesting how uniquely the phrasing turns out when you write lyrics that aren't initially intended for the sole purpose of a song.

What song of yours are you most pleased with or proud of and why?

I'm most recently satisfied with an old/new song of

mine called *Next Year*. It's a song that I've written over three years, and although the initial idea is simple, I've been able to write lyrics from three different perspectives about fear of moving to the big city, then being in the city and now being adjusted and grateful for both my upbringing and my situation now, the ability to reflect on it all.

How's life as a musician? What are you learning along the way?

I'm learning it's a bit tough, but well worth the effort. I've been a musician my whole life and have always collaborated and performed with other people. But I'm finding this new solo thing to be the most satisfying yet. The satisfaction and selfless pleasure it brings me when I can convey some realisations through songwriting is just addictive.

Tell us what to expect for your local gigs.

New songs! Foot percussion as well as rhythmic-style piano. Reflective lyrics that hopefully invoke a lot of emotion, as a reminder for us all to remain in touch with our emotions, as I believe that's the best way to live. To align actions with belief is of huge importance to me and so I write in a way that tries to explain that to people through a mixture of different styles of songwriting. Sounds reminiscent of Katie Noonan, Kate Bush, and Joni Mitchell.

Cecilia plays the Court House Hotel in Mullumbimby on Saturday and Club Lennox on Sunday.

CULTURE

SPICEY STORIES

Tracey Spicer was always the good girl. Inspired by Jana Wendt, this bogan from the Brisbane backwaters waded through the 'cruel and shallow money trench' of television to land a dream role: national news anchor for a major network.

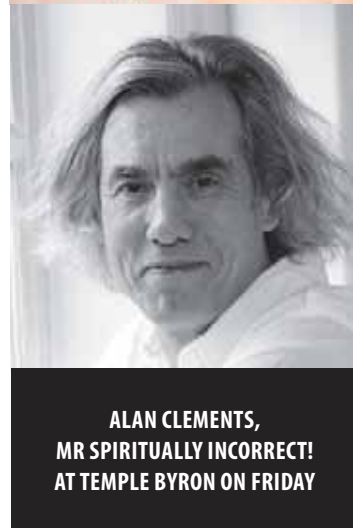
Tracey will be in conversation with co-founder of the Feminist Writers Festival, Dr Cristy Clark, discussing her new book *The Good Girl Stripped Bare*. This is Tracey Spicer full frontal: expect an entertaining, warm, witty and possibly shocking afternoon! **Sunday 4 June** at 4pm, NORPA at Lismore City Hall. \$25-\$35 - norpa.org.au.

BREWING UP THE LAFFS

After a white-bread, middle-class upbringing, **Chris Wainhouse** turned out an arty-trendy sort of try-hard, and a magnet for dominant women. A product of his environment, Chris lives a life of weird repetitions with no time for rational thought.



TRACEY SPICER IN CONVERSATION WITH DR CRISTY CLARK FOR THE BIG THINK FOR NORPA AT LISMORE CITY HALL SUNDAY 4 JUNE 4PM.



ALAN CLEMENTS, MR SPIRITUALLY INCORRECT! AT TEMPLE BYRON ON FRIDAY

SPIRITUALLY INCORRECT

Alan Clements presents a Q&A, *Spiritually Incorrect: Alan Clements Uncensored*. He explores mindfulness, meditation and indoctrination and asks 'How are They Different?' Alan focuses of reclaiming freedom and authenticity and the Totality of Everyday Life.

His shows are 'a scorching comedic romp through the world of spiritual and political indoctrination and the commodification of mind states'. This is what Paul W Morris, former managing editor of *Tricycle: The Buddhist Review*. Brilliant, hilarious with buckets of milk from all your favourite sacred cows. **Friday** at 7.30pm at **Temple Byron**. Tix are \$20 on Eventbrite or \$40 cash at the door.

GARDEN PAINTING

The paintings for *Garden Variety* came from working intensely in **Shaz Rhodes's** new 3-acre garden in Mullumbimby. It came to her as a weed- and rubbish-infested, creekside block. In an attempt to make sense of it all, Shaz researched native and invasive weeds and in the process noticed that most weeds had very sweet flowers, worthy of painting. After months of working intensely in the garden, she felt compelled to spend the afternoons in the studio, a practice that continues. More recently Shaz has added the daily reading of Mary Oliver's poetry to her practice. 'The combination of physical work and the contemplation of her words brings together the part of my psyche that works with consciousness and allows me to paint and develop my work,' she says.

Also exhibiting is **Chris Selwood**, a recent emigre from Melbourne. He grows, collects and assembles the terrariums that accompany this show. Opening **Art Piece Gallery** in Mullumbimby on **Thursday** at 6pm



KATIE BURCH AT COMEDY IN THE GARDEN AT BYRON BAY BREWERY ON FRIDAY 2 JUNE

His sharp-witted and daringly clever act has seen him perform with many comic greats such as Vince Sorrenti, Bruno Lucia, Jeff Green (UK), John Maloney (UK), Mark Mayer (UK), Arj Barker (USA) and Stevie Starr - The Regurgitator. Sharp witted and daringly clever, Chris's fresh brand of comedy is guaranteed to bring any audience undone. From corporate functions to exclusive presentations, Chris has taken his fun and intelligent standup routine throughout Australia and overseas. Wainhouse is the feature at the **Byron Bay Brewery's Comedy in the Garden** on Friday 2 June, supported by the dry, direct and absolutely hilarious **Katie Burch**. National runner-up in JJJ Raw Comedy 2014, and a regular at The Sydney Comedy Store. With **MC Nick Sun**, this is a triple-header you don't want to miss. **Friday 2 June** at the **Byron Bay Brewery** at 8pm. Free!

ALBUM LAUNCH

CARIAD
A Thousand Dreams
With special guests
Murray Cook ~ Matt Connolly ~ Maria Stratton ~ Al Brooker
BYRON THEATRE SATURDAY 27TH MAY 7-9PM
Tickets: \$25/20, children U16 \$5 Book online: www.byroncentre.com.au

WATERMELON WONDERLAND
ART EXHIBITION BY VERITY NUNAN
OPENING NIGHT
SATURDAY JUNE 3RD 4PM
GALAXY GIRLS FROM 7PM
GALLERY OPEN 10-4 SUN
342 EWINGSDALE RD
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TELLING STORIES



IVAN COYOTE IS THE AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR OF ELEVEN BOOKS, THE CREATOR OF FOUR SHORT FILMS, AND HAS RELEASED THREE ALBUMS THAT COMBINE STORYTELLING WITH MUSIC.

A natural-born storyteller, 'Coyote is to Canadian literature what KD Lang is to country music: a beautifully odd fixture' (Ottawa Express), and often grapples with the complex and intensely personal issues of gender identity as well as family, class and queer liberation.

How does gender identity feature in your work?

It's a memoir, and I am a trans person, so it features pretty prominently, I guess. That said, this is my favourite quote by a reviewer so far: 'Coyote resists reading trans-ness in hindsight, refuses to centre trans-ness as the single primary concern in trans lives and, in this regard, is quietly radical. Late in the reading, I realised this is a book about family. An emotionally powerful memoir by a great storyteller about normal life.' Jade Colbert, *The Globe and Mail*, Nov 2016.

To me, this reader 'gets it'. Of course gender identity features in my book,

as does the gender identity of nearly every character in any book; we just don't notice it as much when that character is not trans.

It seems our binary hyper-masculine/feminine gender constructs are rooted in our pronouns. In our very language. What role does language play in gender oppression and how does moving it forward change the way we think or behave? Do you like *they*? Or do we need new words?

Our English language is full of gender and gender oppression. It's written right into it. It's nearly impossible to speak or write about anyone without using a gendered pronoun, almost every sentence. This wouldn't matter as much if we didn't live in a patriarchy. If women and men and trans people all had equal access to education, freedom, contraception, dignity, fair wages, healthcare, justice, safe streets... But that is not the world we live in, so gendering people and not valuing women and trans people as much as men is also a way of deciding who has access to what privilege and capital. Look up the etymology of words such as *hysterical*, *testify*, or *pudefundum*. Words constructed of misogyny. Plain and simple.

Yes, I love the gender-neutral pronoun *they*. I searched long and hard inside myself and in the world for a word like *they*. And yes, of course we need new words, too. Needing new words for things just means we are growing.

Storytelling has made a popular resurgence, with people flocking to story nights all around the world to hear what a writer has to say. What is the role of story, do you think, for human beings? Why is it important?

I think stories are our only means of understanding each other. The best way to teach, to learn, to instruct, to remember, to dream, to warn, to celebrate and to honour. To apologise, to make peace.

What is the essence of powerful storytelling for you?

Truth. Honesty. Verity. Bravery. Candour.

What should we expect of your appearance in Byron Bay?

I'm going to tell some stories. I haven't decided which just yet. The first task of a good storyteller is to find the perfect story for that moment, that space, that crowd. So I will have plenty of options in my pocket.

The Byron Writers Festival presents Ivan Coyote on Wednesday 31 May at the Byron Theatre, straight after Susan Faludi's conversation with Zacharey Jane. Session one: 6pm; Session two: 7.45pm. Tickets: Members: \$30 single session / \$40 both sessions. Non-members: \$35 single session / \$45 both sessions. Bookings: byronwritersfestival.com or 6685 5115. Food will be available for purchase onsite between sessions.



MURWILLUMBAH ART TRAIL 2017
PAST < PRESENT > FUTURE
MAY 25-30 2017



SITES OF 2017 MURWILLUMBAH ART TRAIL

- 1 Material Aesthetics: Michele Bevis**
Ju Jus Cafe, 2/13 Wharf St and Keith's Cafe, 132 Murwillumbah (Main) St | 9.30am-4pm
- 2 M-Art Artist Studios**
Cnr of Brisbane St & Proudfoots Lane | 10am-4pm
- 3 The Murwillumbah Experimental Film Shorts Exhibition**
The Regent Theatre, 1 Brisbane St | May 28 1pm
- 4 Chalk Art Project**
1 Wollumbin St & 115 Murwillumbah Rd
Saturday & Sunday, 9.30am-3pm
- 5 Windows** | The Imperial Hotel
115 Murwillumbah (Main) St | 9.30am-4pm
- 6 Studio 88** | 88 Murwillumbah St (Main St)
Friday-Monday | 9.30am-4pm
- 7 Andrew Hmelnitsky's Open Studio**
Proudfoots Lane (behind Hutchinson's building)
9.30am-4pm
- 8 Hutchisons Building, 63 Wollumbin St**
Multiverse | 9.30am-4pm
Transcapes | 9.30am-4pm
Five Dimensions | 9.30am-4pm
Raw | 9.30am-4pm
- 9 Sauce and Friends on Hutcho's Wall**
63 Wollumbin St | All Day
- 10 Yellow Brick Studio**
43 Wollumbin St | 9.30am-4pm
- 11 Posts from the Big Flood**
St Andrews Presbyterian Church Hall
16 Wollumbin St | 9.30am-4pm & Sun 10am-4pm
- 12 Architectural Projection Project**
Cnr Proudfoots Lane and Commercial Rd
Saturday May 27 6-9pm
- 13 The Treasures of the Tweed Mural**
Commercial Rd (Road Side) | All Day
- 14 The Graffiti Art Wall & The Ages of the Tweed Mural**
Commercial Rd (River Side) | All Day
- 15 Nature's Riches**
The Citadel, 21 Queen St | 9.30am-4pm
- 16 Ouroboros**
29 Wharf St | 9.30am-4pm
- 17 Our Glass Artists Collective**
3 Wharf St | 9.30am-4pm
- 18 Material Aesthetics: Trish Callaghan**
Sugar Beat Cafe, 6/8 Commercial Rd
9.30am-4pm
- 19 Kim Moore Design Studio**
19 Prospero St | 9.30am-4pm
- 20 Tweed Regional Gallery and Margaret Olley Art Centre**
2 Mistral Rd, Cnr Tweed Valley Way
Wednesday-Sunday, 10am-5pm

12 Welcome to Country
Uncle Magpie Yerrubilgin Songman
Sat 27 May 6pm | Cnr Proudfoots Lane and Commercial Rd

Exhibition Openings Saturday 27 May 6-9pm

The Murwillumbah Art Trail (MAT) is an exhibition of contemporary art that showcases artists of the Tweed Valley and surrounds. The town and shops become the gallery and visitors are invited to follow the exhibition trail. It includes established galleries, artists' studios, pop-up galleries and public art. Visitors are encouraged to book their tickets for the events, workshops and tours or just take a drive and walk the trail free of charge. Murwillumbah Art Trail runs from 25 till 30 May.

Visit themurwillumbaharttrail.com



Stars with Lilith

THIS WEEK'S MARS, SUN AND NEW MOON IN GEMINI CLAMOUR FOR COMMUNICATION UPGRADES, LISTING GOALS, DOING SOMETHING YOU'VE NEVER THOUGHT OF BEFORE...

- ♈ **ARIES:** A gang of planets in fire signs will always torch your mojo, so this week your straightforward style could press buttons because not everyone understands your good intentions. Impatient? Count to ten. Irritated? Take a breath. Don't go into roadrunner mode, because there's plenty of wily coyotes ready to take advantage.
- ♉ **TAURUS:** This combustible and incendiary week expresses itself in no uncertain terms, sparking reactions which could derail carefully laid plans like a dynamited train track. Problems are best thought through in solitude and addressed when feelings settle. Use midweek Taurus moon to fine-tune a launch for something to take off by the weekend.
- ♊ **GEMINI:** Mars, Sun and late-week Gemini new moon opening the portal to your astrological year bring a rush of hopes, dreams and aspirations for the future. Don't talk all their energy away. Spend alone time thinking things through – and more importantly, writing them down so you can check their progress same time next year.
- ♋ **CANCER:** This week's mental heat could have you touchy-feelies dreaming of getaways. Throwaways might be the better option, as in clearing out old files, backlogs, your closets and home of stuff you've had so long you don't see it anymore. Best current approach? That Cancerian talent for saying the right thing at the right time.
- ♌ **LEO:** Though this week kicks off a period of vivid socialising, Your Majesty's well advised to include regular sessions of seclusion to regroup and cool down, essential before engaging with arc-ups over money or responsibilities. Spiritual muscle can be developed by not fighting; when you stop resisting, solutions start appearing.
- ♍ **VIRGO:** Your grounded, practical approach wins points with this week's Mercurial vibe. And while you might be right, is it really worth the stress involved in arguing a point? Agree to disagree. You don't have to explain yourself. If you're confident in having the relevant facts and correct information, a swift decision could work for you.
- ♎ **LIBRA:** This week's Gemini climate asks how to break the spell of duality and polarity. And who, if not you wizards of accommodation and compromise, are likely to come up with new solutions which combine the best of past experience with the most visionary future possibilities? A clue: be inclusive, not either/or...
- ♏ **SCORPIO:** This week of extremes, ricocheting from burning outbursts to deep freeze, harsh criticism to soft sell, calls for reasonable, measured, courteous self-control – because trying to control anyone else will be like wrestling ferrets in a sack. While others erupt and emote, focus your laser concentration on priorities. Work alone if necessary.
- ♐ **SAGITTARIUS:** As Gemini influences bring newbies into your orbit, this year's first period free of retrograde personal planets could set you off like a fizzing Berocca. Just remember that your word is your wand. Or sword, as the case may be, and that what you say this week is what you'll get – literally.
- ♑ **CAPRICORN:** Your perceptions are acute but if others resist, don't let differences escalate into WWII. Be open to new avenues of problem solving. Which might not focus on problems at all, only on a range of desired outcomes. Or simply avoid volatile situations completely and do something lovely for yourself that makes you happy.
- ♒ **AQUARIUS:** This week's busy, buzzing, chatty and affable surface has manipulative undercurrents that can change direction in a nanosecond. Strategies? Don't go down the gossip road. Or neglect to make the most of your ruling planet's eight-year stay in the sign of fresh ideas and new methods before it moves on.
- ♓ **PISCES:** Consider the consequences of what you do, say and commit to during this potentially tempestuous week, because a charitable impulse, even though well meant, may be misguided, or cause confusion and ill feeling. Avoid this, and you're in for a stimulating, challenging period of second chances at realising a cherished dream.



CULTURE

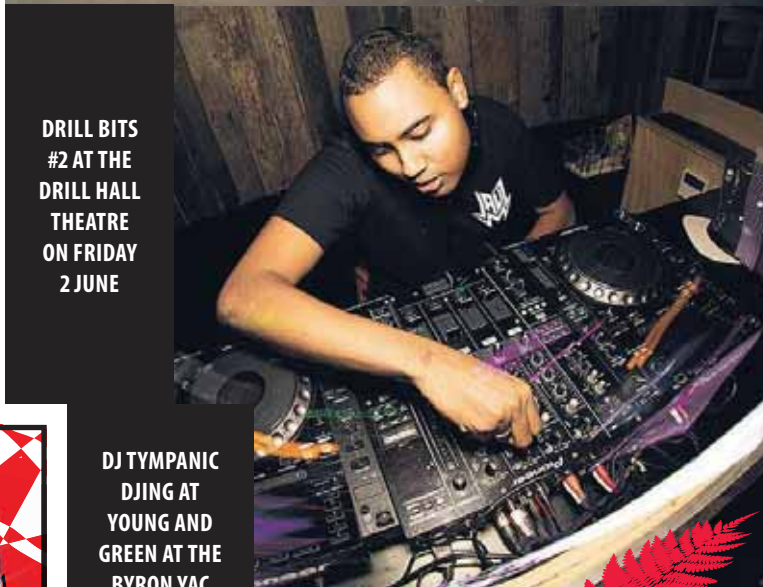
CONTINUED FROM p33

SHOW US YA BITS!

Drill Hall Theatre Company present Drill Bits #2 – a delightful collection of dramatic bits, comedy bits, dance bits, music bits, film bits... with all the bits shaken into a theatrical cocktail that will appeal to all tastes. One of the bits focuses on the philosophical adage that three monkeys typing into infinity will sooner or later produce *Hamlet*, while another looks at finding the light in dark places and how love can both transcend and restore memories. **Friday, Saturday 2, 3, 9, 10 June 7.30pm Sunday 4, 11 at 2pm. \$20/18**



DRILL BITS #2 AT THE DRILL HALL THEATRE ON FRIDAY 2 JUNE



DJ TYMPANIC DJING AT YOUNG AND GREEN AT THE BYRON YAC ON 10 JUNE

YOUNG & GREEN

Celebrating all things green and sustainable, The Byron Youth Service (BYS) will be launching the **Young & Green FREE Family Fun Day & Eco-Fair** in partnership with Sandhills Childcare Centre.

The Young & Green is a Byron Flea Market special event being run across the neighbouring venues of Byron Youth Activity Centre (YAC) and Sandhills Childcare Centre in Gilmore Crescent, Byron Bay. There will be plenty of fun activities for adults and for kids to engage with their natural environment including pony rides, a reptile show, recycled arts and crafts, tree-climbing school, a pop-up garden play space, hip-hop workshops, storytime readings and interactive bird-buddy sessions. For the grownups there will be eco-dyeing, weaving, up-cycling, slack-lining and making medicine for the trees! There is also the chance to win two tickets to Splendour in the Grass!

The Eco-Fair is a great opportunity for young people and the community to find out how fun it can be to live sustainably and reduce their ecological footprint.

Saturday 10 June, 8am–1pm at the Byron YAC, Gilmore Crescent.

MURDER IN MULLUM

Cultivating Murder is a film about the disastrous effects of broadscale land clearing in Australia. Glen Turner was investigating illegal land clearing when he was murdered, and since his death we have seen the NSW government throw out the Native Vegetation Act and replace it with legislation that will allow even greater broadscale land clearing to occur, much as it has in Queensland. This film offers an insight into what large farming concerns and agribusiness see as the future and it does not include responsible land management and conservation of the natural environment. It reveals the pressure of recent rapid expansion in agribusiness as the laws protecting the environment are weakened across Australia.

Screening at the **Mullum Civic Hall Tuesday 6 June, 7pm**, by Film Projects, this local screening is in association with iQ Inc and will be launched by Greens MLC Dr Mehreen Faruqi, who will also conduct the Q&A following the screening with the filmmakers Greg Miller and Georgia Wallace-Crabbe of Film Projects.



SOME LIKE IT FRENCH

A little bit of France comes to Ballina this week with the **French Film Festival** screening at the **Ballina Fair Cinemas** from Friday until Sunday.

Opening on Friday with drama *150 Milligrams*, which is about a provincial doctor exposing a pharmaceutical company for releasing a diabetes drug that resulted in the death of nearly 500 women. Saturday's screenings include *A Bag of Marbles* – a film based on the memoirs of Joseph Joffo, and later that day, *The Odyssey*, a biopic of oceanographer Jacques Cousteau.

The festival closes Sunday with *Planetarium*, a film about two American sisters traveling through Europe, and finally *Mister Chocolat*, the rise and fall story of the first popular Afro-Cuban artist of the French stage. Ballina Fair Cinemas are on the corner of Foster and Kerr Streets.

Byron Shire Echo archives: www.echo.net.au/byron-echo



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WEDNESDAY 7 JUNE, BOOK LAUNCH: THE ARMOUR OF LIGHT: THE LIFE OF REVEREND DOCTOR BARRY MARSHALL BY NOLA FIRTH. LAUNCHED BY REV DR JOHN TYMAN. REGENT CINEMA MURWILLUMBAH, 6PM. FREE.

A PRIESTS STORY

The Rev Dr Barry Marshall predicted in the 1960s that if the church did not lose its complacency it would be irrelevant in a generation. Nola Firth has written a biography, *The Armour of Light*, about this truly remarkable Australian man equally at home as a Bush Brother in Bourke and as a scholar in Oxford.

Who was Reverend Doctor Barry Marshall and why did you decide to write a book about him?

At the time of his tragic death in 1970 at age 47 in Oxford, Barry Marshall was probably the most well-known Anglican priest in Australia. An annual lecture is still held in his memory at Trinity College at the University of Melbourne. Barry predicted in the 1960s that if the church did not lose its complacency it would be irrelevant in a generation and he tried to remove that complacency. Born in Coolah, NSW, he was equally at home as a Bush Brother in Dubbo and Bourke as he was as a brilliant scholar in Oxford.

A poem I wrote about Barry grew into a biography. I had known him when I was an undergraduate student at the University of Melbourne and he was chaplain at Trinity College. Even though I left the church and became involved in Zen Buddhism, I never forgot his example of total commitment to a spiritual life. The poem I wrote led me to further investigation and I found 13 archival boxes of material about him. Part of that was the raw material for a memorial book that had not been completed. I thought his story needed to be told.

What were his most remarkable qualities?

His most remarkable quality was his total commitment to his god. All those who knew him, even if they were sometimes annoyed at his style, were in no doubt of it. He was also the antithesis of pomposity. One of his theological students remembered that he was 'an affront to the image of a dignified person'. His bubbling, enthusiastic presentations and his inclusion and welcoming of people who may have been at the edges of society were all memorable qualities. So was his original thought, his belief in the use of the rational mind, and his willingness to stand up for what he believed no matter how unpopular that might be.

In a landscape where there are so many negative stories about the clergy, and the public seems to have lost their trust, why did you think this was an important story to tell?

I do think it is an important story to tell because, despite the betrayals, there were also those within the Christian church who walked the talk of their faith no matter what the cost. Barry was an extraordinary example of such a man. I think too that many people are looking for meaning in life that goes beyond the current materialistic emphasis.

The level of depression, especially among young people, is of concern. As Hugh McKay points out in his recent book *Beyond Belief*, many people nowadays are very interested in the spiritual even if they have left organised religion. It is worth sharing the story that there was an Australian man who thoroughly lived the spiritual life through his Christian faith and, despite many difficulties, found it gave him joy. Also it is a good story – Barry's life and personality are intrinsically interesting.

What were the challenges of pulling a story like this together, particularly when it comes to authenticating someone's life stories?

I spent countless hours searching various archives in Melbourne, Bathurst, Dubbo, and Oxford. The challenge here was to find the relevant information within the time I had available. I quickly learned the absolute importance of keeping detailed records of where in the archives I had been working. Sometimes I didn't realise I had found something until I accessed another piece of information and it could take hours to re-find the initial discovery. There was also the terror of setting up a reference, of which I had hundreds, and mistakenly using the wrong one or making a computer error that resulted in all the references moving one or more places so that all of them were wrong!

Another challenge was learning Barry's faults as well as his inspiring qualities, but eventually I realised his complexity made him the more interesting. I also had to find a way to keep track of the huge array of material I had collected and to synthesise it. My job then was to search therein for the essence of Barry Marshall and his life, to choose from the many examples, quotes from those who knew him, and excerpts from his own writings. To ensure the story remained accessible to all and to keep the language alive and flowing, many wonderful but esoteric or repetitive details and incidents had to be left out. Sometimes there were more than twenty drafts of a chapter; each one was shorter than the last.

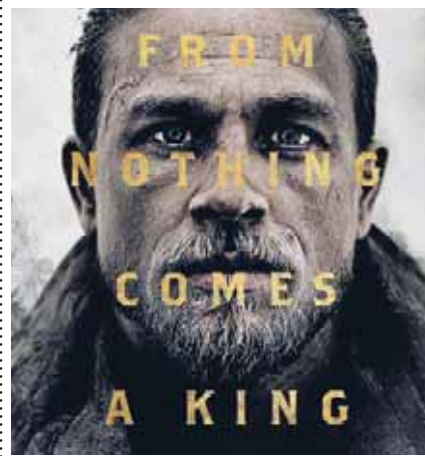
What should we expect for your launch at the Regent?

The book has been written to be accessible and engaging for non-religious and Christians alike and is being launched therefore at the Regent rather than in a church. Rev Dr John Tyman, a long-term resident in the region and another priest and scholar who has endeavoured to live a radically Christian life and break down complacency in his church, will launch the book. I will also speak and read some excerpts from the book. Twenty per cent of book sales at the launch will go to Australians for United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR). The book is also available at local bookshops and at Readings and other online stores.



BY JOHN CAMPBELL

KING ARTHUR: LEGEND OF THE SWORD



The cinema experience these days, especially at blockbusters, is often akin to being seated in a feed-lot, as punters noisily stuff their faces with chips and popcorn – the bloke in front of me today brought a foul-stinking Subway sandwich with him! It was not a good start, and it didn't take me long to realise that Guy Ritchie has done the same to the story of King Arthur as he did to Sherlock Holmes – he has trashed it. Out of curiosity, later on I watched *RocknRolla* (2008) again and found the stylistic similarities striking.

The difference is the budget. Ritchie has gone from working with \$18 million to having \$175 million at his disposal, and if ever there were an example of somebody given too much lolly it can be observed in these two films. The earlier one is tight, cohesive and primarily concerned with plot and character. *Arthur* is all over the place like a mad woman's breakfast, with enough indulgent gimmickry and CGI to sink the Battleship *Potemkin*.

Arthur (Charlie Hunnam) is a reluctant hero and his mates, who are destined to become the knights of the round table, all carry on like East End wide boys. The villain is Vortigern (Jude Law); his soldiers are the 'black legs' and under his command they lord it over the cowed populace. What is most disappointing is the complete absence of any sense of period. Not taking into account the anachronistic, smart-arse dialogue and the edit's tricky jump cuts, the art direction is a mish-mash of design that fails to create any sense of the medieval. But I suppose if you grew up with Aubrey Beardsley's illustrations for *Le Morte d'Arthur* as the legend's true image, Ritchie's in-your-face approach was never going to be compatible. There is a nod to the pre-Raphaelites in the princess's outfits, but Vortigern is dressed in a way to suggest that he is about to hit the bars in Oxford Street. And don't get me started on the stupid giant serpent...



What he didn't know at the time of his arrival was that he would also be responsible for its partition, as Islamic Pakistan tore itself away from Hindustan. It was one of the bloodiest political evolutions of the twentieth century, resulting in countless thousands killed in riots, massacres and reprisals across the subcontinent.

With this as her backdrop, Chadha tells the story of the inter-communal romance between Jeet (Manish Dayal) and Aalia (Huma Qureshi), a beautiful Moslem girl with whom he is reacquainted upon joining the viceroy's staff in Delhi. The Capulet/Montague theme is a simple and generally failsafe device employed to explore how the 'big picture' impacts on the individual, its only drawback here being that it sometimes leads to a cheesiness that can reduce the very serious historical question to incidental status. For the most part, Chadha avoids this thanks to a screenplay that is concise without being overly complex, and even-handed (although Muhammad Ali Jinnah, as always, comes across as a bit of villain).

The pomp and ceremony of the Raj is beautifully recreated – hard to believe that a grown man would need two servants to dress him – and the intractable problem that had been sown by 300 years of haughty British rule exposed with a surprising lack of what may have been warranted unkindness. Archival footage is used to great effect, especially in the closing sequence.

VICEROY'S HOUSE

There is just one little thing wrong with this movie – the casting. That Hugh Bonneville doesn't look a bit like Louis Mountbatten is not nearly so distracting as the fact that (for many of us) he will forever be Lord Grantham from *Downton Abbey*. Nor might Edwina Mountbatten, his wife, have been quite so saintly as Gillian Anderson's portrayal suggests, but writer/director Gurinda Chadha clearly has a soft spot for the couple and their commitment to the concept of 'noblesse oblige' in a film that is heartfelt and sumptuously mounted. Mountbatten was sent as viceroy to oversee India's transformation from colony to republic in 1947.

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THURSDAY 25TH TO WEDNESDAY 31ST MAY

<p>THUR 25TH TO WED 31ST 11.30AM 4.10PM 6.40PM 9.00PM</p> <p>PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN 5</p>	<p>THUR 25TH TO WED 31ST 10.05AM 2.45PM 5.00PM 6.25PM</p> <p>KING ARTHUR: LEGEND OF THE SWORD</p>	<p>THUR 25TH TO WED 31ST 11.50AM 3.50PM 9.05PM</p> <p>ALIEN COVENANT</p>	<p>THUR 25TH TO WED 31ST 9.50AM 2.10PM 7.20PM</p> <p>SNATCHED</p>
<p>THUR 25TH TO WED 31ST 12.20PM 8.40PM</p> <p>GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY VOL 2</p>	<p>THUR 25TH TO WED 31ST 10.00AM</p> <p>A DOG'S PURPOSE</p>	<p>THUR 25TH TO WED 31ST 1.55PM</p> <p>THEIR FINEST</p>	<p>THUR 25TH TO WED 31ST 7.20PM</p> <p>ROUGH NIGHT (MA)</p>

Starting Thursday 1st June: Wonder Woman, Baywatch

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w: echo.net.au/gig-guide

THURSDAY 25

- GREAT NORTHERN HOTEL, BYRON **DAN HANNAFORD**
- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON 7PM **EASTWOOD**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 7PM **MOONLIGHT MOVIE** 9PM **DU' EAST DUO**
- BYRON THEATRE 7PM **BANFF MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL**
- WOODY'S SURF SHACK, BYRON 8PM **CHEF DE PARTY & FRIENDS**
- TREEHOUSE, BELONGIL 7.30PM **MATT ARMITAGE**
- BANGALOW BOWLING CLUB 7PM **ROCK'N'ROLL DANCING**
- ART PIECE GALLERY, MULLUMBIMBY 6PM **SHAZ RHODES & CHRIS SELWOOD GARDEN VARIETY EXHIBITION OPENING**
- CLUB MULLUM 6.30PM **HAWAIIAN UKE NIGHT WITH ALOHA BABY, HULA TOMOKA, MISS AMBER & STUKULELE, HULA DANCE LESSONS**
- BALLINA RSL 8PM **BIG GIG COMEDY WITH STEPHEN J WHITELEY, ELLEN BRIGGS, MANDY NOLAN**
- SLIPWAY HOTEL, BALLINA 7PM **WENDY FORD**

FRIDAY 26

- GREAT NORTHERN HOTEL, BYRON **OCEAN ALLEY, VANILLA GORILLA, THUNDER FOX**
- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON 7PM **BOHEMIAN COWBOYS**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 5PM **TUFFY** 9PM **NOCTURNAL TAPES & GUESTS**
- BYRON BAY BREWERY 7PM **MARSHALL O'KELL**
- BYRON BAY SERVICES CLUB 7.15PM **JOHN DIXON**
- BYRON THEATRE 11AM I, **CLAUDE MONET** 6PM **THE CHURCH OF THE OPEN SKY SURF FILM PREMIERE**
- ELEMENTS OF BYRON **DAN HORNE**
- STICKY WICKET, BYRON 9PM **LOCAL DJS** 9.30PM **OOZ**
- TEMPLE BYRON 7.30PM **ALAN CLEMENTS**

UNCENSORED: MINDFULNESS, MEDITATION AND INDOCTRINATION - HOW ARE THEY DIFFERENT?

- WOODY'S SURF SHACK, BYRON 9PM **ROBINA**
- TREEHOUSE, BELONGIL 7.30PM **WHARVES**
- SUN BISTRO, SUNRISE 5PM **HAYLEY GRACE**
- PIZZA PARADISO, SUFFOLK PARK 6PM **KATIA DEMEESTER**
- BANGALOW HOTEL 7PM **BILL JACOBI**
- BRUNSWICK HOTEL 7PM **BUTTERFINGERS**
- BRUNSWICK PICTURE HOUSE 7PM **CARNIVAL CINEMA**
- CLUB MULLUM 7.30PM **FRIDAY FIESTA PARTY W FREE ZOUK CLASS**
- POINCIANA, MULLUMBIMBY 6.30PM **ERIN**
- ST MARTIN'S HALL, MULLUMBIMBY 12.30PM **ECSTATIC TEMPLE DANCE** 7PM **HOUSE OF BLISS KIRTAN**
- MIDDLE PUB, MULLUMBIMBY 8PM **KRAPPYOKEE**
- OCEAN SHORES COMMUNITY CENTRE 4PM **NORTHERN LIGHTS YOUTH EVENT**
- OCEAN SHORES COUNTRY CLUB 8.30PM **CATH SIMES BAND**
- BILLINUDGEL HOTEL 8PM **SHYBABY**
- CLUB LENNOX 7.30PM **KENT EASTWOOD**
- LENNOX HOTEL 10PM **PROJECT JURASSIC**
- BALLINA RSL BOARDWALK 6.30PM **STU BLACK**
- BALLINA CINEMA 6.30PM **FRENCH FILM FESTIVAL: 150 MILLIGRAMS**
- WOODBURN-EVANS HEAD RSL 8PM **JOHNNY CASH & THE OUTLAWS SHOW**
- KINGSCLIFF SURF CLUB 7PM **JON J BRADLEY**
- CHINDERAH TAVERN 7PM **MATTY ROGERS**
- CONDONG BOWLING CLUB 7.30PM **TWEED VALLEY JAZZ CLUB WITH THE EARLY BIRDS, JAZZ IN EXTENSO**

SATURDAY 27

- GREAT NORTHERN HOTEL, BYRON **BORNEO, THE CINEMA WRISTYS, THE SLIPS**
- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON 7PM **THE JUKE JOINT WAY**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 9PM **NINJA HOUSE**
- BYRON BAY BREWERY 1PM **COCO REPUBLIC FESTIVAL WITH AKOVA & DJS**
- BYRON FRESH 4PM **SLIM PICKENS**
- BYRON THEATRE 2PM I, **CLAUDE MONET** 7PM **CARIAD**
- STICKY WICKET, BYRON 9PM **FUTURE FAKTORI DJS** 9.30PM **JAMES SCOTT**
- WOODY'S SURF SHACK, BYRON 9PM **DJ NERY**
- TREEHOUSE, BELONGIL 7.30PM **ANGIE HUDSON**
- ENCOUNTER BYRON 6PM **OFFICIAL LAUNCH WITH DJS STRIPES, CHOPSUEY**
- PIZZA PARADISO, SUFFOLK PARK 6PM **KARIN PAGE**
- BANGALOW MARKET 8AM **ELENA B WILLIAMS**
- BANGALOW BOWLING CLUB 7PM **BLUES CLUB**
- BANGALOW HOTEL 7PM **BIGGY P**
- BRUNSWICK HOTEL 7PM **DAN HORNE**
- LOVE LOUNGE, BRUNSWICK HEADS 7PM **BEYOND BLUE FUNDRAISER: THE UNDERGROUND + DJS**

SUNDAY 28

- GREAT NORTHERN HOTEL, BYRON **BIRDS OF TOKYO, LISA MITCHELL**
- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON 7PM **BROADFOOT**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 4.30PM **SUPER CHEESE** 8PM **DJ SAMMY 2 TOWELS**
- BYRON GOLF CLUB 4PM **JOCK BARNES**
- TREEHOUSE, BELONGIL 12.30PM **SESSION DJS**
- SUN BISTRO, SUNRISE 5PM **CHRIS ARONSTEN**
- BAZ & SHAZ'S, SUFFOLK PARK 12.30PM **TIN CAN STRING BAND**
- BANGALOW HOTEL 12.30PM **ROD MURRAY DUO**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS **MULLUM2BRUNS PADDLE**
- SOUNDSHELL, BRUNSWICK HEADS 9AM **BIG STAN & THE SIDEWALK STOMPERS**
- BRUNSWICK PICTURE HOUSE 9AM **HOMEMADE JAM**
- BRUNSWICK HOTEL 4PM **HANLON BROTHERS**
- HERITAGE PARK, MULLUMBIMBY 8AM **MULLUM2BRUNS PADDLE**
- DRILL HALL, MULLUMBIMBY 2PM **SOIREE WITH RAY THOMAS, KATH THOMAS, ALEX BENHAM** 5.45PM **CORAL GROGAN** 6PM **GREG AITKEN**
- MIDDLE PUB, MULLUMBIMBY 3PM **JAM**
- CLUB LENNOX 4PM **CECILIA BRANDOLINI**
- BALLINA CINEMA 2PM **FRENCH FILM FESTIVAL: PLANETARIUM** 5PM **MISTER CHOCOLAT**
- BALLINA RSL 3.45PM **TROY CASSAR-DALEY**
- KINGSCLIFF HOTEL 3PM **RETROMOMES**
- KINGSCLIFF SURF CLUB 3PM **MATTHEW ARMITAGE**
- CHINDERAH TAVERN 2.30PM **REAL JARRAH**
- SPHINX ROCK, MT BURRELL 1PM **KIM BANFFY**
- PACIFIC HOTEL, YAMBA **DAN HORNE**

MONDAY 29

- GREAT NORTHERN HOTEL, BYRON **DAN CLARK**
- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON 7PM **MATT ARMITAGE**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 8.30PM **4'20' REGGAE**
- O'SUSHI, BYRON 6PM **MICK'S SASHIMI BAND**
- WOODY'S SURF SHACK, BYRON 9PM **REGGAE AFTERPARTY**
- B-SPACE, BALLINA 5PM **JAM**

TUESDAY 30

- GREAT NORTHERN HOTEL, BYRON **MARSHALL O'KELL**
- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON 7PM **JAX HAZE**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON 8PM **OPEN MIC**
- WOODY'S SURF SHACK BYRON 9PM **DJS JAMIE, SLHTTE, 4 EYES**
- BYRON PUBLIC SCHOOL 7.15PM **NO LIGHTS NO LYCRA**
- BANGALOW HOTEL 8PM **BRACKETS OPEN MIC**
- MIDDLE PUB, MULLUMBIMBY 7PM **TRIVIA**

WEDNESDAY 31

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON 7PM **TULLARA CONNORS DUO**
- BYRON BAY BREWERY 7.30PM **OPEN MIC WITH ALAIN DE CARNE**
- BYRON FRESH 7PM **SLIM PICKENS**
- BYRON THEATRE 6PM **ZACHAREY JANE IN CONVERSATION WITH SUSAN FALUDI** 7.45PM **IVAN COYTE**
- STICKY WICKET, BYRON 9PM **REAL JARRAH**
- WOODY'S SURF SHACK, BYRON 9PM **DJ JAMIE**
- BRUNSWICK PICTURE HOUSE 7PM **A LIFE OF ITS OWN: THE TRUTH ABOUT MARIJUANA**
- BALLINA HOTEL 6PM **OPEN MIC**
- THAI BY NIGHT, BALLINA 6.30PM **BOB HOWLETT**

WHAT'S ON

BANFF MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL 2017
PRESENTED BY WORLD EXPEDITIONS
Thursday 25 May, 7pm
Full \$33.50 | Child U15 \$23.50 | Group 15+ \$28.50



I, CLAUDE MONET
PRESENTED BY BYRON THEATRE
Friday 26 May, 11am & Saturday 27 May, 2pm
Full \$20 | Conc \$18 | Student U18 \$10



SURF FILM WORLD PREMIERE: THE CHURCH OF THE OPEN SKY
PRESENTED BY NATHAN OLDFIELD
Friday 26 May, 6pm & 8.30pm. Full \$22
Conc \$18 | Child U13 \$15 | All-ages event



'A THOUSAND DREAMS' - ALBUM LAUNCH PRESENTED BY CARIAD
Saturday 27 May, 7pm
Full \$25 | Conc \$20 | Child U16 \$5



SUSAN FALUDI FOLLOWED BY IVAN COYTE
PRESENTED BY BYRON WRITERS FESTIVAL
Wednesday 31 May, 6pm & 7.45pm
Full \$45 | BWF Members & Students \$40



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'Original moonshiner' honoured by Mullumbimby

Ross Kendall

The Mullumbimby Moonshiners beat Casino on the weekend maintaining their undefeated run in reserve grade in 2017, and also honoured one of the club's founders Darryl Quigley.

Before the game a minute silence was held for Darryl, one of the 'original Moonshiners,' who passed away on May 13, according to club president Teale Pyne.

A plaque from the Moonshiners was also presented to Darryl's wife Julie and her family.

'There was a lot of respect for Darryl, he helped a lot of people,' Teale said.

The Moonshiners got off to a great start in the match and were able to claim the first half easily, but Casino came back strongly and were able to draw ahead by one point after scoring a series of unanswered tries.



The Moonshiners remembered founder Darryl Quigley with a win against Casino last weekend. Photo supplied

The Mullumbimby side was awarded a penalty kick with minutes to go and the successful conversion gave the side a thrilling 20-19 victory.

The win keeps the Moonshiners on the top of the table and leaves them undefeated after six games in 2017.

'Everything is going smoothly, we have had some tight games but have come away with the win,' Teale said.

The good form bodes well

and follows on from the side's premiership win last year.

'The side is largely unchanged from last year, but we have picked up a couple of new players,' he said.

Next week the Moonshiners take on the Byron Sandcrabs in the game known 'the ashes' that hasn't been played for five years while the coastal side was without a reserves grade side.

'Everyone is really looking forward to the game,' he said.

Byron wins another FFA Cup round

Dogwhistle

The Northern Hotel Byron Bay Rams came out firing in Saturday's FFA Cup qualifying final at Lismore's Southern Cross Football Centre.

The in-form Byron squad met Coffs Coast Tigers on the synthetic turf in the battle for a place in the next round of the FFA Cup Championships.

The Rams hit the Tigers hard from the opening whistle, with two dangerous runs on the Tigers' goal and two corners within the first two minutes.

Five minutes in and the Rams took their first point with a free kick from Thiago Priori finding the head of Gianluca Bongiovanni, whose perfect deflection left no chance for the Coffs keeper.

Despite completely dominating the play, the rest of the opening session was a frustrating affair for the Rams, with countless attacking moves failing to find the net.

The drought broke early in the second half when a hard tackle brought down Sam Shepherd in the Tigers' box. Bongiovanni stepped up and scored the penalty to take a 2-0 lead.

Some clumsy passing from the Byron boys turned attack into a scrambling defence



Midfielder maestro Thiago Priori fought a tough battle for control of the park. Photo Dogwhistle

shortly after. The Tigers took advantage of the lapse and gained glimmer of hope with a surprise goal.

The Rams quickly regained control of the match and turned up the heat on the hapless Tigers.

Midway through the second half, Sam Shepherd broke through the Coffs defence with a 40-metre run before crossing to Bongiovanni who smoothly slotted in his third.

Jono Pierce came off the bench to lob a spectacular shot from near the halfway that cleared the keeper to make it 4-1. A corner from Pierce in the final moments of the match reached Simon

McCarthy on the back post, who headed the ball back across goal onto the boot of Bongiovanni, who tapped in his fourth and sealed an emphatic 5-1 victory for the Rams.

The win takes the Rams through to the Newcastle round of finals over the June 10 long weekend and a chance to take on some heavy hitters from the National Premier League.

In the meantime, the busy Byron squad heads to Lismore this Saturday to meet traditional rivals Richmond Rovers in the regular season comp.

Reserves kick off at 1pm and the Pregs at 3pm.

News Extra

Stone & Wood named champion brewery



Independent northern rivers brewery Stone & Wood has been named Champion Large Australian Brewery for the second year in a row, as well as receiving several medals for their beers, at the Australian Independent Beer Awards.

Head brewer Caolan Vaughn said that while they don't brew for awards, it was great to receive acknowledgement for the team's passion for their craft. 'From production to sales, we are forever striving to do better. To achieve this two years in a row refuels the fire to keep on going.'

Gold was awarded to the Jasper Ale, Stone Beer and The Gatherer, with Stone & Wood receiving a further four silver awards and five bronze

awards for other beers.

'It's an incredible pat on the back to be awarded the three golds, as well as receiving recognition for our other beers and Pilot Batches brews, including the Murbah Swamp Beer that we released at our annual Open Day back in March,' Caolan said.

The brewery recently received DA approval to increase production capacity at their Murwillumbah site, and will soon commence the work of upgrading their brewhouse and fermentation capacity, along with cellaring space.

Managing director Ben Summons said the awards were, 'an affirmation of the consistent quality across our

beers' as well as being 'reassuring given the recent decision to press go on the brewery's latest expansion' that he believes will be sufficient to meet demand for the next 3-5 years.

'A lot of planning went into the site's further upgrade and the decision to commit the capital required. We see this as a long-term investment in our future and our local community. We're proud to be in the position to contribute to the region's economic growth and to support local employment.'

'These awards recognise our incredible team who continually strive to make quality beer that is simply good to drink,' he said.

Sloppy defence ends Bangalow's run

The Bangalow Premier division means soccer side has bowed out of the FFA Cup after losing their fifth round clash with Coffs City United 3-0.

The side, playing at the SCU grounds in Lismore after their home ground was closed due to the rain, were just too 'slow out of the gate,' according to coach Neil Fuller.

The poor start saw the side

facing a 2-0 deficit after just five minutes.

The poor start weighed on the side and a further defensive lapse in the twentieth minute put them three points behind.

The second half involved a much better effort from the Bangalow side but despite many chances to trouble the scorer they just couldn't find the final touch they needed.

'We didn't score in the

second half, but we should have, and we played well so we will be taking that out of the game,' the coach said.

The loss brought to the end the team's run in the FFA Cup, Australia's country-wide knock-out competition.

The side is now free to concentrate on the regular Far North Coast competition where they will be busy catching up on the four games they have missed this year.

New archery event for Byron this weekend

Byron Shire Archery Club is hosting the first annual South of the Border Match-play Competition for young archers this Saturday at the Cavanbah Centre.

The SOBS is a unique tournament held for the region's youth archers, Club president Vinnie Bleakley said.

'The format of the event is a 72-arrow ranking round followed by knockout matches. The event attracts archers of all levels from new beginners to national and state champions,' he said.

'The event is attracting a

lot of attention and is looking like being a great day.

'Everyone is more than welcome to come down and watch the action from 9am, you will be able to witness some of the region's best young archers competing head to head,' he said.

Entries close on Thursday night (May 25).

The Club also needs 'a small army of volunteers to help the event run smoothly, so if you are free to lend a hand in any form for any amount of time please let me know,' Vinnie said.



Junior archers will be eyeing the target this Saturday. Photo Scott Brossman

Posse of juniors surf into state titles

Crystal Cylinders

Byron Bay surfer Joel Paxton was crowned the 2017 U/18 FNC Regional Junior champion last weekend.

The regional titles were held in good solid waves at Flatrock with the results deciding who will represent the FNC at the NSW Junior titles.

Paxton has had mixed form this year but seems to perform at his best in good surf conditions where his powerful surfing style fits best.

Kyuss King (Byron Bay) finished runner-up to Paxton and both will go to the state titles.

In the U/16 Boys Hunter Weston (Lennox Head) was the winner and Beau Glinderman (Lennox Head) was equal fifth, both go to state.

Nyxie Ryan (Lennox Head) won the U/16 Girls with Kobi Curtis (Lennox Head) runner-up and both go to state. In the U/12 Girls Ocea Curtis (Lennox Head) and Poppy Morrison (Lennox Head) came first and second



Joel Paxton carved for his crown. Photo Smith/SNSW

respectively and both go to state.

Rasmus King (Byron Bay) won the U/14 Boys with Jai Glinderman (Lennox Head) and Jack O'Brien (Lennox Head) second and third respectively.

Touma Cameron (Byron Bay) and Duke Wrencher (Byron Bay) came fourth and fifth respectively along with a fifth from Masa Lieshman (Lennox Head). All progress to state in the U/14 Boys.

Harry O'Brien (Lennox

Head) won the U/12 Boys with Keenan Crisp (Lennox Head) in fourth; both go to state.

Wilco in top five

Byron Bay's Matt Wilkinson finished with a semifinal result in clean two-metre conditions at Saquarema, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

The result has bumped him up four spots into the top five and back into World Title contention.

'Wilco' got off to a slow

start in round one and also had narrow wins right through to the quarterfinals when he then came up against good friend Owen Wright and that's when he kicked into some of his best form of the year with some excellent high speed critical surfing that secured him the top two waves of the heat.

Up against Adrian Buchan in the semi, Wilkinson couldn't reproduce the same level of surfing and Buchan took a decisive win.

Rainbow Region and Ballina enjoy dragon boat success



New Rainbow Dragons (L-R) Lu and Bede Cooney, Jan Wright and Loretta Hoffer. Photo supplied

Monica Wilcox

The Rainbow Region and Ballina Dragon Boat Club put in medal-winning performances when they headed south for the annual Titivators Urunga Regatta on the banks of the beautiful Kalang River earlier this month.

Rainbow Dragons knew that they had put in the hard yards at training and had lifted their game to a new level and it showed.

Both clubs knew they were up against tough competition as 12 clubs from as far south as Newcastle, were all ready for the optimal conditions.

And no particular club dominated the heats where there was everything from photo finishes to a capsizing.

Rainbow Dragons Men's team performed strongly throughout the day ending up with a second place in the final while the Rainbows

Women's team also excelled by getting a third in the final.

This was an excellent result as the team had four fresh-faced new paddlers in the boat.

Ballina good too

The Ballina club also performed strongly winning the Sports Mixed category final.

The Ballina Men's team won their heat and came third in the final, just 1.26 seconds behind the Rainbow team.

Now it's back to the lake for more training, as some Rainbow Region members are about to head off to paddle at the Hong Kong Carnival while others are off to Hawaii to enjoy the fun of that regatta.

The next local regatta on the paddling agenda is the Rainbow's own regatta being held on August 26-27 at Shaws Bay, Ballina.

Giants' bubble burst by rampant Bombers

John Campbell

The Mullumbimby Giants travelled to Evans Head on Sunday for their NRRRL clash on a high after three wins on the trot, but came crashing back to earth with a 42-20 loss.

Unheralded at the start of the season, they were the comp's Cinderella story after accounting for premiers Murwillumbah and the Cudgen Hornets. Confidence was sky high, notwithstanding the absence of captain Sam 'Johnny' Martin.

Under a sunny blue sky, the Bombers kicked off, Mullum dropped the ball close to the line in their first set and, from the scrum, Evans Head scored a try that looked a little too easy.

Next time we looked up, it

was to see that the home side had gone at a point-a-minute to be leading 36-0.

Falling off tackles and ball-watching, Mullum were playing like sleepwalkers, while the Bombers were blistering.

Brilliantly cohesive and self-assured, their sleight of hand and fleetness of foot were too much for the Giants.

Second-rower Jack 'the Lad' Govett, an ornery character who loves to get the pill in his hands, got one back for the Giants on the stroke of halftime and, with Louie 'the fly' Earl's conversion, the boys were at least on the board as they trudged to the sheds.

The second forty was a different story.

Mullum rolled their sleeves up and, with a fair share of possession and a more spirited attitude, they



The Giants' Josh 'the Godfather' Castellano cops a coathanger at Evans Head on Sunday. Photo John Campbell

took the last round by 14-6.

But there should never be any comfort in that, for the Bombers had the points in the bag already and psychologically would have taken their foot off the pedal.

Even so, it was heartening to see Mullum's response.

Guided around the paddock by Earl and Shaun 'the Horn' Carey, they managed to get the score back to 36-20.

Evans scored again at the death to make it 42-20.

The Giants were run ragged in the first stanza, but in the end were not disgraced.

Dominant display from junior basketball Beez

The junior Byron Beez had a great weekend in round three of the Northern Junior League Basketball Competition held in Port Macquarie last weekend.

The U/14 Beez girls went undefeated for the weekend winning four out of four, including a solid 25 point win over the undefeated Coffs Harbour Suns.

The U/16 Beez girls de-

feated Coffs Harbour and Tamworth; however, their effort in the game against Port Macquarie saw them trailing by a single point with only a few minutes to go.

Port snuck away at the end and the Beez went down by a very respectable 10 points.

The U/14 Beez boys team won three out of four with their only loss to Port right on the buzzer.



The U/14 Beez girls went through round three of the NJL undefeated with four wins from four starts. Photo supplied

Netballers tell crowd to 'SHOOSH'



The U/12 Ocean Shores Dugongs give their rowdy crowd advice.

Brunswick Byron Netball Association has teamed up with the Office of Sport to promote positive sideline behaviour at junior events through Shoosh for Kids Week.

The BBNA is encouraging all members to support the cause, with the aim of keeping kids playing sport by ending negative comments towards players, teams, coaches and referees from the sidelines.

Promoting Shoosh for Kids Week at our club with others across NSW means there is a consistent message, BBNA president Robyn Venn said.

'We want junior games to be a positive, happy place for kids to enjoy themselves while being active,' she said.

'We want everyone, especially children, to continue their involvement in sport because it's a fun and encouraging environment for everyone.'

'Most people do the right thing. However, the sports we are working with want to remind spectators that there is no place for negative comments in local sport,' she said.

Reward good play by both teams with applause; if you can't then 'SHOOSH'!

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One of the most complex and long-running issues, among many, the Byron Shire community has had to deal with is the encroachment onto public foreshore of Brunswick Heads caravan parks under the remote control of the state government after they nabbed them from Council in a dubious fashion. Residents opposed to the land-napping have been vociferous and determined in their protests, but still the parks trust honchos hope to wield their muscle with Macquarie Street's help to fulfil their plans. The council Greens are wavering on the issue and plenty more about the brouhaha can be read in the news pages. The NSW Nature Conservation Council and NSW National Parks Association are worried about the government's assault on Crown lands across the state in favour of private interests.



Nanna Lou of Knitting Nannas Against Gas brought a couple of friends to welcome federal MP Kevin Hogan to his new office in Lismore and to remind him of the dangers of voting in favour of wasting public money on the Adani behemoth. The Adani fiasco has also encouraged the formation of a Byron Shire KNAG – expect a Facebook page soon, and find out more about the formidable KNAG at knitting-nannas.com. Photo Tree Faerie

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■ ■ ■ ■ ■
We received several letters of more than 500 words in length this week. Some might find a home online at *Echo-netdaily* echo.net.au, but you lessen your chances of getting published in the paper paper if you fail to follow the guidelines printed each week on the first page of the letters pages. Some of our enduring correspondents seem not to take the hint.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■
We are pleased to report that Eric Carle's 1969 classic *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* was the most borrowed picture book in Australia from May 2016 to April 2017, according to the 2017 Civica Libraries Index, compiled as part of Library and Information Week, May 22–28. Crime and thriller novels dominate most

of the adult borrowing, while former Ewingsdale resident Di Morrisey, founder of *The Manning Community News* (manningcommunitynews.com), takes out top spot in Australian fiction with *Rain Music*, and also gets a guernsey at number 6. The Most Backlashian Title Award (not part of the official index) goes to Bill Bryson's *The Road to Little Dribbling: More Notes From a Small Island*, in third place on the non-fiction list.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■
One in four Australians wants a cashless society, according to an ING survey available at economics.co/ing_international_surveys – if you want to allow cookies. While cash is increasingly falling out of favour, ING's research shows that it's still king when it comes to smaller purchases. Eighty-six per cent of those surveyed still favour cash for purchases under \$15 and 53 per cent still carry up to \$60

of cash in their wallet. There are still retail businesses in Byron Shire that don't take cards.

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