

SPAWNED FROM WITCHES THEY COULDN'T BURN - SINCE 1986

The Byron Shire Echo • Volume 35 #27 • Wednesday, December 16, 2020 • www.echo.net.au



Photographer Tao Jones shot photo this on Monday, as large swells continued to hammer the fragile coastline. Waves broke over the seawall adjacent to Fishheads, and more trees that hold the fragile dunes together were washed into the sea.

West Byron's approval – what to expect?

Paul Bibby

The judge's gavel has fallen on one of the two DAs for a major housing development at West Byron, setting in stone the proposal from Tower Holdings to create 149 housing lots on the much fought-over site.

Some locals will be gnashing their teeth, others celebrating, while a fair few in the middle will be quietly acknowledging that things could have been a lot worse.

But what are we actually going

to get at West Byron? First, the good news.

The plan for 149 lots is half of what Terry Agnew's Tower Holdings (operating under the name Villaworld for the purposes of the recent court case) had asked for, and it is significantly less than the company's original projections about the 'maximum developable potential of the land'.

Given the relatively small size of the housing lots, it is unlikely that the future owners will be able to

build dual occupancies, even if they wanted to. However, it won't stop them building smaller secondary dwellings that could then become holiday rentals.

Byron Council's attempt to significantly limit short-term holiday rentals in all new development in the Shire was not well received by the NSW Department of Planning, and the location of the site makes it prime territory for Airbnb accomodation.

But back to the good news.

Sort of. Fewer houses mean fewer people and fewer extra cars on Ewingsdale Road – a key concern for many locals. However, the bad news is, using the general rule of thumb that a house generates 10 traffic movements each day on average, the Tower Holdings/Terry Agnew development will produce an extra 1,490 traffic movements each day on Ewingsdale Road.

Aside from the Byron bypass, no major changes to the already

► Continued on page 4

Byron Bay Surf Life Saving Club seeks to maintain groynes

Hans Lovejoy

In their submission to Council regarding the Main Beach Shoreline Project, Byron Bay Surf Life Saving Club (BBSLSC) have outlined their concerns about the potential impacts of all proposed options, and say maintaining the existing groynes is their preferred outcome, 'until an evidence-based alternative is identified'.

The Main Beach Shoreline Project aims to address the failing groynes at Jonson Street and, according to Council, 'enhance the town's coastal protection, while improving public safety and amenity so that everyone can enjoy Byron's iconic Main Beach into the future.'

Byron Bay Surf Club president Paul Pattison provided their submissions to The Echo upon request, and he said, 'With the weekend and today's big swell and tides, it has shown how vulnerable the shoreline is'.

'Appropriate protection works for our much loved, used and internationally acclaimed beach need to be progressed as a matter of urgency.

► Continued on page 4

Vale Mungo

The Echo is very sad to report that Mungo MacCallum died last Wednesday, a week after announcing he was unable to continue writing.

His funeral and wake was Tuesday afternoon, as The Echo went to press.

► Tributes on pages 10, 18 & 19

Future-proofing our food supply **▶** p3

A councillor's perspective on the Main Beach Shoreline Project ▶ p9

Shock, horror! Naughty words in headlines ▶ p22, 51

Shopping local, and other fun festive activities ► p24-50

Some fishy business going on in the Good Life ▶ p55, 57

Beware! This Could Be You! All solar systems will have problems someday.

Cheap Solar - Not Working Poor Installation - No Support Every week I get calls from distraught locals who

bought cheap solar and they can't get any service from the company that sold it.

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up with a simple, easy plan to ensure all our customers could get perfect results every time. I call it the Solar Guardian Plan.

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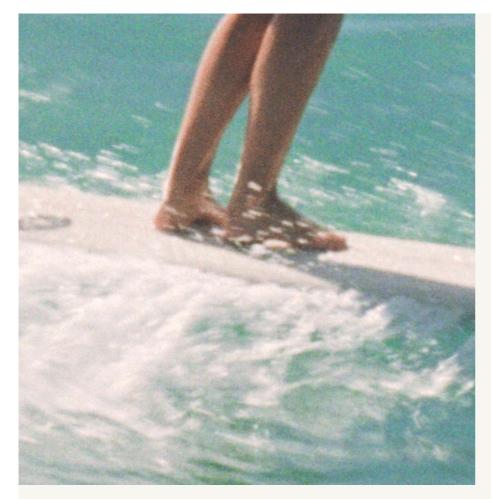
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Echo

Preps for abundant food crops

Paul Bibby

Pouring rain did little to dampen the spirits of the Abundant Earth Tribe over the weekend, with more than a dozen volunteers from the group diving in to create two food gardens in the Shire's north.

Driven by the goal of creating a self-sustaining community food network, on Saturday the volunteers from the project created garden beds full of seedlings at homes in Mullumbimby and Ocean Shores on Saturday.

Abundant Earth aims to create food gardens in backyards across the Shire, creating enough food to feed not only the household but hundreds of others across the community.

Free of charge

The Tribe works free of charge, and asks only that those hosting the gardens continue to help maintain them and remain willing to share.

'It's raining pretty heavily, but a group of dedicated volunteers have come,' said Laing Kerns-Stokes, one of



From left, Toby Tumis-Plant, Theresa Green, Bra, Julie Bartley and Laing Kerns-Stokes. Photo Jeff 'Off Grid And Planet Since 1986' Dawson

the group's members.

'So far we've planted five beds and back-laid some sleepers.

'We're all pretty soaked but we're elated at what we've created here today.

'So many cool plants, such a cool garden. Soon it'll be ready for harvest'.

Many of the seedlings for Saturday's garden blitz were donated by a local.

The idea behind the

project is the desire to create an abundant, resilient food system that is based on, and builds, local communities, as opposed to the current commercially-driven model.

Food sovereignty

'We also see this as an opportunity to connect to other projects that are involved in creating food sovereignty', says group member, Isabella Petrova,

whose home in Mullumbimby hosted the project's first food garden.

The group has launched a GoFundMe page to raise money for the materials needed to create the gardens, which is under the name Abundant Earth Project.

It is also calling for donations of tools and welcomes any community member who would like to volunteer their time and energy.







DEC 23RD: 7:30am - 7pm

DEC 26TH: Normal Saturday hours

DEC 24TH: 7:30am - 6pm

DEC 28TH: 10am - 4pm

DEC 25TH: CLOSED

JAN 1ST: CLOSED

Santos Byron Bay: 105 Jonson St, Byron Bay - (02) 6685 7071 Santos Mullumbimby: 51 Burringbar St, Mullumbimby - (02) 6684 3773 Santos Art & Industrial Estate: 3/7-17 Brigantine St, Byron A&I Estate - (02) 6685 5685

santosorganics.com.au

Homeless man assaulted in Bruns

Police from Brunswick Heads say they are investigating the assault of a homeless man at Brunswick Heads.

Detective Chief Inspector Matt Kehoe told *The Echo*, 'Police have interviewed a number of people and taken statements. Our investigation is ongoing'.

'Police are seeking any further witnesses to the incident to contact Brunswick Heads Police [Phone 6685 1277] or Crime Stoppers.

'Police have been working closely with other agencies regarding the homeless and antisocial behaviour issues at Brunswick Heads, and have achieved some positive results. We do not condone

lawless behaviour and vigilantism'.

Resident Mark Cameron contacted The Echo and wrote, 'A homeless camp fell under siege from local lads over the weekend'.

'They burnt their camp down like a true lynching.

'They threw an elderly First Nation man out of his wheelchair and bashed him with it, breaking his leg ribs and more. He needed to be rushed to the hospital.

'Is this how Brunswick Heads deals with the homeless? Imagine how you would feel if someone came into your house put your family in hospital and burnt all your belongings'.

Byron Bay Surf Club seeks evidencebased alternatives for Main Beach

► Continued from page 1 Modelling and specialist advice needs to be considered in relation to works along the shoreline from Cape Byron to Brunswick'.

The club is in favour of option seven that - according to www.yoursaybyronshire.com.au/mbsp - 'retains the existing structure and groynes repairing it to a

contemporary standard. This approach is based on maintaining the status quo'.

While public submissions closed last week, Council have in the past taken late submissions. Of the seven options presented, all vary in cost and would create very different outcomes for the beach.

► See Cr Jan Hackett's article on page 9





The Byron Shire Echo

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Phone: 02 6684 1777 Editorial/news: editor@echo.net.au Advertising: adcopy@echo.net.au Office: Village Way, Stuart Street, **Mullumbimby NSW 2482**

General Manager Simon Haslam Editor Hans Lovejoy Photographer Jeff Dawson Advertising Manager Angela Harris Production Manager Ziggi Browning



Nicholas Shand 1948-1996 Founding Editor

The Echo acknowledges the people of the Bundjalung nation as the traditional custodians of this land and extends respect to elders past, present and future.

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

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A closer look at Agnew's West Byron approval

► Continued from page 1 choked thoroughfare have been proposed to accommodate these extra movements.

Mayor Simon Richardson described the result as a 'sad day for the Byron community' but said that the 'days following will be days of opportunity'.

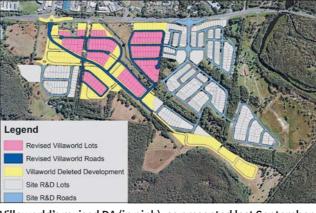
'After the decision to rezone the land a few years ago for residential development, houses were always going to be built', he said.

Mayor says better deal was negotiated

'However, already, owing in no small part to the work of deputy mayor Michael Lyon, Byron Resident Groups' Dailan Pugh and Cate Coorey, and myself and others in Council, we have negotiated a way better DA than was originally proposed'.

Among the other key conditions imposed as part of the judgment by Commissioner Michael Chilcott that could be considered good news, are ongoing environmental management and protection works, extensive remediation to address lead contamination on seven lots, and a requirement that the development be built in stages with inspections at the end of each stage to ensure compliance.

'It's still going to have a huge impact,' said Dailan



Villaworld's revised DA (in pink), as presented last September.

Pugh, one of the key campaigners against the development of West Byron.

'But it certainly could have been worse.'

At least, while we're all sitting in traffic on Ewingsdale Road, we won't be forced to stare at a giant concrete wall built on top of a mound of fill.

The plan to locate a concrete buffer in the road reserve was abandoned by Tower Holdings, in favour of a less intrusive noise buffer set 30 metres back. It will significantly change the appearance of the site but less than the previous proposal.

Further concessions have also been made to reduce the impact on the local koala population, the wallum froglet (Crinia tinnula) and the wallum sedge-frog (Litoria olongburensis), the latter two of which are listed as vulnerable species under the Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995.

'They are actually planning to save the sedge frog,' said Byron councillor Cate Coorey, who has also been a key campaigner against West Byron. 'These things are hard to predict, whether they will survive. Any development on any land has an impact and the Belongil Estuary is definitely going to be significantly and negatively affected. But it's a lot better than what we could have had.'

No cats, dogs

There is also a prohibition on having cats and dogs in any of the residential dwellings on the site, though previous experience at Lilli Pilli in Byron suggests this rule will be virtually impossible to enforce.

The less-good news is that the West Byron development story is still only half written.

Sitting not-so-quietly in the wings is the second major development proposal for the site, that put forward

by a group of local landowners known as SiteR&D.

Unlike Tower Holdings, SiteR&D has so far refused to meet with members of the Byron Residents Group, and has made fewer concessions regarding their housing plans.

Their case is also before the Land and Environment Court. However, according to Mr Pugh, the changes agreed to by Villaworld will force SiteR&D to significantly amend some of the most destructive elements of its proposal.

"...the western part of the [SiteR&D] DA involves a road being built from Ewingsdale Road to the development,' Mr Pugh said.

'That road goes right through the sedge frog wetland. But now Villaworld plans to protect that wetland, so they can't build that road in. They're going to have to redesign that part [of the development] completely...'

SiteR&D is also likely to have to amend its plan to build a concrete buffer wall next to Ewingsdale Road, because Villaworld has elected to do so. However, a number of key aspects, such as the number of houses to be built, remain of major concern to residents.

The matter will return to court in June or July next year. The judgment is at www. caselaw.nsw.gov.au/decision /1762b8be751e06920efd1b9e.

Council's approach to road safety unacceptable: Cr Cameron

Independent councillor Basil Cameron is proposing at this Thursday's meeting that councillors adopt a set of Road Access and Safety Principles, 'to be embedded in all road policy to ensure safe, equitable access for all road users'.

He told *The Echo*, 'Despite a substantial increase of traffic on our rural roads, fundamental safety issues are being ignored.'

'Recently a "road safety" audit was undertaken on Coolamon Scenic Drive for "vehicular" traffic only.

'\$2.4 million was spent on infrastructure upgrades as a result of the audit, even

though it made the road less safe for walkers, cyclists and in some cases blocked access for residents and services such as rubbish collection and school buses'.

'A risk assessment identified an increased risk to cyclists, however none of the money could be spent to address this, because it could only be spent for "vehicle related safety issues".

Cr Cameron said, 'Bizarrely, the only way to get money to make the road safer for cyclists was to wait until a serious or fatal cyclist "crash" occurred, as Council would then meet the grant

funding requirements.'

'\$2.4 million is a lot of money to spend, particularly when safety outcomes are poor. Morning walkers, cyclists, children waiting for the school bus, pedestrians without public transport all need safe access to roads.

'It is not acceptable that the safety of non-vehicular road users is diminished or that access is restricted, especially on rural roads that are the only option for movement.

'There are other examples of neglect in both rural and urban areas, but perhaps the one that speaks loudest is the grand total of \$190 spent from the footpath maintenance budget so far this year.'

'The Road Access and Safety Principles aim to overcome the bias against non-vehicular movement built into Council's management of roads. Better funding is required to overcome the increasingly dangerous disparity between vehicular and non-vehicular access and safety. Audits need to consider all road users. Infrastructure development and maintenance should be undertaken in a way that does not make it less safe or

Advocacy group claims new laws ensure holiday letting is legal

In a seemingly neverending ping pong exchange, the local holiday letting advocacy group, HLO, has again challenged the Victims of Holiday Letting over the legality of their activity.

Holdiay Letting Organisation (HLO) Byron president John Gudgeon told *The*

Echo that regardless of what **Byron Council and Doug** Luke from Victims of Holiday Letting believe is legal or not, 'the matter was finally put to rest when the NSW State Government passed legislation to amend the State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) and the

Standard Instrument Local Environment Plan (LEP) to include a definition of STRA as a permitted use of residential dwellings'.

'Importantly, contrary to Mr Luke's previous assertions, this means all residential dwellings are (and always were) permitted to engage

in STRA without any requirement to apply. It is a standard permitted use of a residential property, full stop.

'When the definition was being drafted, there was a specific note that stated that STRA was not captured by the Tourist and Visitor Accommodation category'.

North Coast news daily in Echonetdaily www.echo.net.au

What's going on with the Bruns Housie Shed?

Aslan Shand

The historic Brunswick Housie Shed is currently being 'modified' according to a letter sent to the Brunswick Heads Progress Association (10 December), the day before work began, from Steve Edmonds, CEO of Reflections Holiday Parks who manage the area.

According to records held by the Brunswick Valley Historical Society the Housie Shed was built by volunteer workers of the Brunswick Heads Progress Association and Returned Soldiers' League and was made ready as the new shelter shed and entertainment hall for the 1954 Christmas holiday season.

However, the lack of community consultation over work on this heritage Brunswick building has left some people in the community concerned.

'That is an absolutely classic building that is used by thousands of people, for many different things,' said local Dennis Stevenson who also runs the annual Spirit of Christmas free shop each year.

The community-built Housie Shed, that has been in the park for 66 years, is used by a cross-section of the community throughout the year, including disability groups, for picnics and birthday parties and in general by locals and tourists.

'Where is the public consultation?' asks Mr Stevenson.

Reflections Holiday Parks operations manager, Jennifer Scott, clarified with The Echo that the Housie Shed is not being demolished.



NSW government owned corporation Reflections undertook works on a community built shed with short notice. Photo Jeff 'Naked Sheds' Dawson

'What we are doing is removing the cladding to turn it into a shelter rather than a shed – removing it to make it more light and airy,' said Ms Scott.

When asked about community consultation owing to the fact the removal of the cladding takes away the classic heritage feel of the building she said, 'I don't believe we do have to consult - we are not removing the shelter, it is still intact – the shelter is still there.'

Ms Scott said that they had had an engineer at the site to ensure that the structure was sound with the cladding removed.

Asked if they would be storing the cladding in case they were to replace some walls at a future point, in a heritage style, Ms Scott confirmed that they would not be.

'Having it as a shelter rather than a shed will be more inviting for people to want to sit in it, particularly with the new playground being installed next year,' said Ms Scott.

Ms Scott also clarified that Reflections is seeking to engage with 'stakeholders' in the future to discuss what will happen at the site.

'This might be that barbecue shelters and other facilities are needed', she said.

Used by homeless

While there have been a range of issues around the use of the Housie Shed by the homeless, Ms Scott said that this was not the motivating factor behind removing all the walls.



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Theory becomes practice at SAE

Khaled Al Khawaldeh

SAE students had the opportunity to show off their skills when Byron based indie band, Animal Ventura, held a live music session recently.

Groovy soulful melodies echoed through the campus as audio students rushed to optimise the sound and their photographer counterparts buzzed around attempting to capture the best angles. There was even a drone flying over to give that extra little touch.

High-end equipment

Charlie Fisher, one of the students present, said that this was a great opportunity to finally get to put all that theoretical work into practise.

'Holding these live sound sessions is awesome, getting

to use all the high-end equipment is such a great handson learning experience,' he told The Echo.

'After I finish I really want to do more studio work as well as DJ events and the more experience I can get here the more confident I feel to get there.'

Fernando Aragones, the band's lead singer, described the day as a 'win-win' opportunity.

'We get to practise and get some cool footage and content while giving them a helping hand with their studies.

The session was held as part of an initiative by SAE to open its doors to local artists.

■ Khaled Al Khawaldeh is an Echo intern

Bruns locals reject boarding house

Khaled Al Khawaldeh

A group of Brunswick Heads locals made their voices heard last Thursday morning at the Byron Shire Council planning meeting over a large boarding house DA.

The group handed Council a petition calling for the rejection of plans to construct a 39-unit boarding house and mixed-use development, known as 'the Corso' in Bayside, next door to the preschool at 94 Kingsford Drive.

The petition received over 1,000 signatures from locals worried about the affordability, desirability and ultimate viability of the project.

Similar projects by Byron based developer, the Kollective, have been accused of failing to deliver on their promise of delivering affordable housing for the community.

A development at 116 Stuart Street in Mullumbimby promised to relieve the acute shortage of affordable housing in the area, but left locals surprised when the apartments were advertised between \$500 - \$600 a week, far greater than the median price for the area.

Annie Radermacher, one of the protesters present at the Council meeting, says that the government was offloading its responsibilities to provide affordable housing to the private sector without any due diligence.

'This is meant to be a plan

to incentivise the private sector to take over from developer.

'They get tax write-offs and many regulations waived under the pretence that it is affordable, but once they hit the market, that is often not the case'.

And during last Thursday's public access, the Council chamber heard that a study by UNSW found that the State Environmental Planning Policy for Affordable Rental Housing (AH-SEPP), failed to properly distinguish between affordable and non-affordable boarding houses, and was therefore too generous with many of the concessions granted.

Meanwhile, Michael Murray, a property buyers' denying the rights of others to own a home in the area as they do.

'Selfish hoarders'

'We no longer have a housing crisis here, but rather a housing catastrophe', he said.

'Byron Shire has the least medium density lots out of any Northern Rivers Shire'.

'If these people do not like these developments, what alternate solution do they recommend?'

Neighbours also claimed the DA did not satisfy zoning requirements.

The plot sits on a B1 zone, which allows it to be developed for small scale business and community uses to serve

mixed-use boarding house DA does not meet the zoning.

Speaking passionately to the Council chamber, Lisa Sandstrom, another Brunswick local, proclaimed: 'This is meant to be a local centre that serves the Bayside, but all it has is a tiny tokenistic grocer and cafe. Why doesn't the Bayside deserve to have a local centre?'

The project developers held a public consultation meeting earlier this year prior to DA submission.

Their plans show that the development will include a cafe, grocer, co-working space and six shop top houses along with the boarding house.

■ Khaled Al Khawaldeh is an Echo intern



NEW REGULAR ONLINE COLUMN FROM THE INDIGENOUS PERSPECTIVE STORYLINES BUDGERAM - ALWAYS WAS, ALWAYS WILL BE echo.net.au/storylines *Budgeram means story in Bundjalung language. Thank you to Ninbella Gallery for supporting this new monthly column. **Echonetdaily**

New access road in industrial area needed

At the ordinary meeting next Thursday, Byron Shire Council will consider authorising General Manager Mark Arnold to negotiate and enter into a non-binding heads of agreement with

TAFE NSW for a Connected Learning Centre on Lot 12, Bayshore Drive, Byron Bay.

Cr Alan Hunter told *The* Echo, 'Lot 12 is Council's own property in the industrial area, between Centennial Circuit and Habitat.

'The plan is to have about

half of the 2ha leased out to educational institutions and not-for-profit organisations, with the remainder made up of retail and commercial offices, all of which are likely to create significant amounts of traffic. To address this increase. Council needs to consider building a new road exiting the Ewingsdale Road at the Cavanbah Centre roundabout, and along the eastern side of the sports grounds to Lot 12 and Habitat. It would also add an access to Centennial Circuit'.

DONATIONS PLEASE also homewares and electrical, manchester, and clothing.

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large donations – we can also pick up for you. Thank you.

Church provides wet weather shelters

Paul Bibby

The Byron Community Centre has been holding a wet weather shelter at the Uniting Church in central Byron every night since December 12, to provide overnight emergency shelter for people who don't have a roof over their heads.

Those in need register in the afternoon, and are then provided with a bed, a hot meal and drinks, dry clothing and basic material aid.

But the project is only funded to provide 10 more nights of shelter and needs further support to continue to offer this vital service.

The Centre is seeking support from the community so the shelter can stay open during what promises to be a wet summer. Byron Community Centre community worker lanna Murray said the project provides two separate shelters, one for women and one for men.

'These current extreme weather conditions have highlighted the need for a safe place where people can socialise; all the things which are not made readily accessible in our community at present.' Bookings for the shelter this week can be made between 2pm and 4pm at the Fletcher Street kitchen at the Byron Community Centre when there is a prediction of significant rain.

Gifts for less fortunate children

Story & photo Eve Jeffery

A Christmas tradition has once again been launched - the Brunswick Heads Community Christmas Tree stands ready to be stripped of its tags in Park Street.

For the third year, Parri Wieckmann of Fabulous Mrs Fox has 'planted' the tree outside her shop.

The idea of the tree is for people to take a tag from the tree and buy a gift suitable for the age and gender of the child on the tag.

The tags are matched to children who might not otherwise get a gift during the festive season.

Over 100 gifts

Last year, over 100 gifts were donated to the project.

The tree is located at 10 Park Street, Brunswick Heads, and this is also where the gifts can be handed in



Putting tags on the tree, Sarah Irving is helping the Brunswick Heads community make Christmas a little better for some local kids.

with the tag attached. Parri say The Liberation Larder will distribute all donations closer to Christmas. There will be more tags added this

Parri asks that if you do take a tag and then you find you are unable to donate a gift, please place the tag back on the tree for someone else to pick - each tag is

numbered to ensure they are delivered to the correct child.

If you can't put the tag back, you can call the shop on 6685 0020 and they will replace it.

Boxing Day Bruns Surf Lifesaving fundraiser

Guy Knox

Surf Lifesaving Australia has launched the 'Adopt an Hour' campaign, which asks beachgoers to donate \$1 per hour to enjoy the beach in recognition of the 1.4 million hours that surf lifesaving volunteers dedicate to saving lives while on patrol. Statistics show that on average, each surf lifesaver across Australia donates 32 hours each year to the safety of swimmers on

their beach. For small clubs like Brunswick, the figure is over 60 hours each!

Last financial year in Australia, 248 people lost their lives to drowning.

Of course, it isn't compulsory, but if you decide it's what you'd like to do, you can keep an eye out for Surf Lifesaver collectors between the bridge and the beach at Brunswick Heads on Boxing Day.

■ Guy Knox is from the Brunswick Surf Life Saving Club



A few Brunswick Surf Lifesaving Club volunteers. Photo supplied

Regeneration Roadshow needs you

Renew Fest is teaming up with Resilient Bryon, to hold a series of events next year to inspire, inform and mobilise communities in the lead up to Renew Fest in June 2021.

Organisers say, 'The Byron Shire Resilience and Regeneration Roadshow will be gathering local community organisations, regenerative businesses and Byron Shire residents for an inspiring

afternoon of storytelling and learning around their mission to support and realise full-system regeneration and resilience'.

Renew Fest director Ella Rose Goninan says, 'We want to hear from people who are active in the community about what support they need to really make the Byron Shire a national beacon and blueprint for

local and regional positive change'.

'And more importantly, we are keen to figure out what we need to do to inspire others to get active! There is a lot of work to do to make our Shire as amazing as we all want it to be, and there are lessons to learn around what works and what doesn't', she continued.

'It involves six free,

open-air events across the Shire, culminating at Renew Fest 2021. If you are keen to get involved, or if your community group or business would like to be involved, follow Renew Fest on Instagram @renewfest.

'The Roadshow has been made possible by the good people at the Northern Rivers Community Foundation'.



O'MEARA DENTAL

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Traditional owners say no to Dunoon Dam

David Lowe

Widjabul Wia-bal traditional owners of the area between Dunoon and the Channon have told Rous County Council not to follow Rio Tinto with the destructive Dunoon Dam.

They have told the General Manager of Rous County Council, Phil Rudd, that they will not accept the building of the proposed dam, which would inundate ancient burial sites and extensive evidence of occupation in the past and in recent times.

John Roberts, a Senior Elder of the Widjabul Wiabal said, 'I was one of the stakeholders consulted in 2011 about the impact of the Dunoon Dam on cultural heritage.

'In the 2011 Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment prepared for Rous, we stakeholders said with one voice that no level of disturbance was acceptable to us.

'We still say that. Nothing has changed. There is no need for another study. Our opinion has not changed.

'Our cultural heritage is a direct connection to our ancestors. We have been here for thousands of years. These sites provide us with a link to our traditions, our land and our living heritage.



Senior Elder John Roberts and his niece Cindy Roberts. Photo supplied

They allow us to educate our young ones in their history.'

A unanimous decision of Elders and Widjabul Wia-bal people was given to the Rous County Council General Manager on December 8.

The group insisted that Rous abandon plans for the Dunoon Dam.

'So many of our cultural sites have been destroyed. To destroy more is unacceptable to the traditional owners,' said Mr Roberts.

Consulted and then ignored

'We are tired of being 'consulted' and then ignored. Enough is enough.'

The Widjabul Wia-bal collective insisted that Rous County Council no longer deals with individuals. They

said in future Rous must consult with the whole stakeholder group.

Rous say they will release all correspondence between Rous and the Widjabul Wiabal representatives since the dam was first mooted in

Barry Roberts, John Roberts' elder brother, suggested that Rous County Council's plans for the Dunoon Dam are equivalent to Rio Tinto's actions at the Juukan Cave in Western Australia.

'We believe that the Australian people will not allow this destruction of our heritage to go ahead,' he said.

The Widjabul people acknowledged the importance of walking together with the WATER Northern Rivers Alliance to protect the land and develop alternative

Rous County Council, meanwhile, have issued a statement saying they will table their plan to futureproof the region's water supply at their next ordinary meeting, on 16 December

The statement said, 'The combination of solutions set out by the Future Water Project 2060 include:

'Utilisation of the Marom **Creek Water Treatment** Plant for the increased use of groundwater from the Alstonville area;

'Further detailed investigations into the viability of the proposed Dunoon Dam;

'Ongoing water conservation and demand management: and.

'Pioneering investigations into water reuse.

'Councillors will carefully consider the plan in light of the outcome of a 10-week public exhibition of the Future Water Project 2060.

'Council acknowledges the community's concerns and aspirations and greatly appreciates the time invested by those who made a submission'.

Rous have asked people who wish to find out more about the Future Water Project 2060 to visit www.rous. nsw.gov.au/futurewater.

Lennox Skate Park to get a mural



Nitsua with some young local artists who are going to help him transform the Lennox Skate Park. Photo Clancy Rocca Robinson

David Lowe

Ballina Council has commissioned artist Nitsua to paint a mural at the Lennox Skate Park, and he's teaming up with a bunch of local kids to do the work.

Nitsua is well known for his vibrant art work at schools and other large scale sites around the country, as well as at Rappville, which brought life and colour back to that community after the devastating fires.

Recently, the artist held two morning drop-in sessions at the skate park, which is next to the Lennox Head Cultural Centre, to get feedback and ideas for the next stage of the artwork.

Nitsua told *The Echo*, 'The kids came down and I asked them what they thought about the design, which I've got on the iPad. And they were just frothing on it, of course, it's very local inspired! So I signed them up to come and help start painting.'

He said there were twelve kids involved. 'Different ages, mostly kids that actually skate at this park, which is perfect, that's what I wanted, kids that come here and

appreciate the park'. Nitsua said, 'It's locally inspired, so I've got the pandanus, that's your East Coast palm tree, the ocean, and a big welcoming hand coming in on that, kind of

'It's an over-size hand and arm that's surfing the waves!'

like Gulliver's Travels.

While the design is under wraps for now, Nitsua gave The Echo a sneak preview of what's planned, which is going to be an exciting addition to Lennox Head's visual landscape.

The artist explained that the artwork is not going to cover the whole skate park, but just the front facade.

'You can't really paint inside skate parks because it makes the surface more slippery to skate on.'

While the work is postponed until the rain stops, Nitsua says there's probably four day's work involved altogether, 'maybe three, depends how hard I go!'

For the next stage, Nitsua is looking for some older kids who are around 15 to 18 to collaborate with. Those interested can get in touch with Nitsua via his Instagram, Facebook or email hello@ nitsua.com.au.

Campaign targets govt's inhumane treatment of refugees

Ballina Region for Refugees (BR4R) has become one of more than a hundred organisations and grassroots groups to sign up to the 'Time for a Home' campaign to get refugees and people seeking asylum out of detention and living in the community.

The nationwide campaign, initiated by the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre (ASRC), was launched

on December 3 via Zoom, with actions planned to continue until Refugee Day on 20 June, 2021.

A 'toots for tolerance' rally was held on Kerr Street, outside Ballina Fair on December 9 and during the hour-long roadside rally, Ballina Region for Refugees received a record 203 supportive toots for tolerance and for an end to refugee detention.

Songs for freedom were also sung by Ballina a Cappella during the rally including Freedom is Coming and Let Them Go.

'Today, there are still 290 people held against their will in Papua New Guinea and Nauru,' said Ruth Henderson, president of BR4R.

'Over 1,000 women, men, and children have been transferred to Australia for

critical medical treatment, which very few have actually received. All of those now live in "transitory" visa limbo including in immigration detention centres and socalled "alternative places of detention", such as the Mantra and Kangaroo Point Hotel prisons. After seven years of uncertainty for many of those people, we think it is time for a home.'





Permanently rocking away our assets

A councillor's perspective on the Main Beach Shoreline Project

Cr Jan Hackett

The original objectives for reworking the old, band-aid eyesore on the Jonson Street shoreline included one important objective that gave me hope: staff would seriously examine a broad range of cutting-edge options to address the entire fractured beachscape.

Nobody could possibly deny we have an outstandingly ugly and dysfunctional Main Beach, and a ruptured bayshore alignment.

What gave me hope was the clearly stated objective: 'To mitigate impacts on coastal processes through reduction of the project footprint'.

The term 'coastal processes' includes things like a healthy coastal ecosystem, a dynamic natural beach, tidal movements, weather patterns, water quality, fishery habitat, et al.

Surely, I thought, if we opened up some of our old sand dunes, after 50 years behind rocks, we might have a chance to regrow and even realign our once protective dune system?

For many years now, I have called for Council to reconsider the use of hard built revetment in Byron Bay – seawalls, groynes, etc. – given the recognised harm they do to any beach.

The way Byron Bay's beach has been defiled and degraded since the old beach car park was 'secured' after the 1972/4 storms, has



Cr Hackett asks if the community wants hard beach stabilisation works, such as in Albenga, Italy. 'This is the price of trying to hold the shoreline still and protect buildings. Which is more important, buildings or beaches? In a town like Byron Bay, economically dependent on beach tourism, I would like to think we can do better than this'. Photo supplied

been publicly denounced to this day.

The natural curved alignment of the Bay has been severed, extensive erosion has occurred, down-drift towards Belongil Beach taking out rows of protective dunes, and an ugly synthetic headland has been created on the beach itself.

I applaud Jim Mangleson who wrote to The Echo recently, 'Byron Shire's coastal erosion and flooding is caused by poor engineering works... It is time to fix this disastrous engineering and accept the real blame for our indisputably man-made problems'.

Council staff have presented seven blinkered offerings for a 'quick fix' at Main Beach!

They all sit outside the Coastal Management Plan (CMP), yet should underpin it.

Specialist Coastal Zone Engineer, Angus Gordon, says, 'With seawalls, unless they are properly designed, and take on board the entire embayment so you don't get what we call 'end-effects', you have a problem'.

What we do at Main Beach impacts the entire beach. In the last 50 years, this badly engineered 'headland' has broken the back of our beach's natural defences. Without adaptation now, the Bay will continue to shrink and die.

From Science Direct 2015: 'Natural infrastructure (i.e. healthy ecosystems) and combinations of natural and built infrastructure ('hybrid' approaches) can provide important storm protection and other benefits to coastal communities.

'More research and investment in and application of, natural and hybrid

approaches need to be included in coastal resilience planning and decision making at all levels'.

Box-ticking exercise

Seemingly, Bluecoast engineers were instructed to focus on seawalls and rock revetment. Hence, we now have a box-ticking exercise looking to achieve a public consensus to stick with seawalls.

The rest of the world is looking towards more adaptive, less problematic approaches, for example Kingscliff and Stockton Beaches.

The Byron Bay Masterplan and early community workshops both favoured adaptive hybrid coastal protection works with boardwalks, and there was extensive discussion about beach maintenance and health.

Yet none of this is here.

So much for 'best practice' and 'open-minded creative planning'.

We use these words all the time, but never seem to follow through. What is it? Fear? Cost?





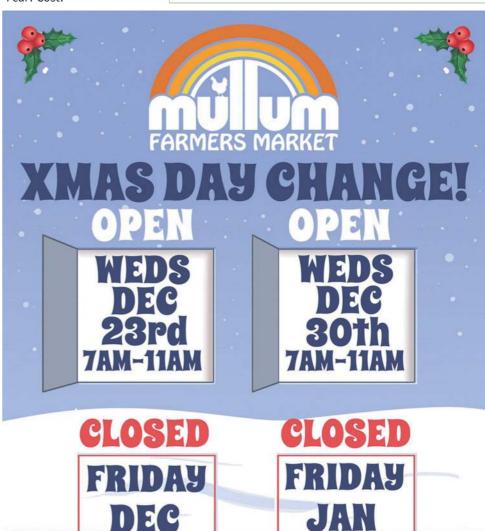
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Mullum's Greenspine project sparks concerns

Aslan Shand

The Greenspine project in Mullumbimby that aims to link Brunswick River with Heritage Park at one end and the Mullumbimby Community Gardens at the other has raised concerns for some businesses and landowners in the town. According to a Byron Shire Council spokesperson in 2018, 'The "Greenspine" involves creating a leafy, pedestrian and cycling friendly Stuart Street that connects the green edges of town from Heritage Park to the Mullumbimby gardens'.

The project has been under development for a number of years now, as part of the Mullum Master Plan, and recent concept designs have caused concern in relation to the impact on truck

deliveries to businesses and availability of parking.

'This project has been in development for quite a long time and we are glad to see that a number of businesses and landowners are now looking to provide their contribution at this important stage', said Jenelle Stanford, president of the Mullumbimby Chamber of Commerce.

Ms Stanford added, 'This is a project that needs to include feedback and compromise from all parts of the community, including residents, businesses, landowners and locals alike'.

To find out more about the project, contact the Chamber of Commerce via their website: www.mullumbimby.org.au.

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The Byron Shire Echo

Volume 35 #27 • December 16, 2020

A new policy sausage is made

New to the area? Perhaps you have become Council-curious. If so, here's a summary of perhaps the most significant item debated and voted upon at last Thursday's Council meeting: the long awaited Residential Strategy.

The document sets out expected residential growth and how to manage it, and underpins the much loftier plan that actually has legislative weight: the Local Environment Plan (LEP).

During morning public access, mayoral hopeful, Matthew O'Reilly, raised doubts about discrepancies in the plan around industrial zoning, education and transport. For example, he claimed that Council didn't include dwellings in industrial estates.

There appeared little curiosity from councillors around his concerns after he spoke.

Other concerns about adopting the strategy were voiced by Greens mayoral hopeful Duncan Dey. He said in public access that it is poor planning to proceed without a coherent water and sewage strategy. See his letter on page 11.

While Cr Basil Cameron made noises of caution during debate, it was Cr Cate Coorey who went against the grain and challenged what would otherwise have been a done deal.

She presented an unexpected amendment to delay the plan and hold a workshop, citing among other things, to a 'recent spike in the demand for properties and sudden inflation of property prices and the social and economic impacts thereof'; and, 'water insecurity in view of the Rous Water proposal for Dunoon Dam, and limitations on capacity to dispose of sewage'.

Such impertinence upset Greens Cr Sarah Ndiaye, who launched into a rather personal tirade against Cr Coorey.

Cr Ndiaye also complained, not for the first time, that she isn't paid enough as a councillor and is overworked.

Fun fact: Cr Ndiaye appears to still want to continue as a councillor, or even run for mayor, in the 2021 Council election. Wouldn't that be fun?

Eventually the mayor got his way, with everyone except Cr Coorey supporting staff's recommendation to adopt the policy with a few amendments.

And is that all that bad? The mayor argued during debate that such plans can be always amended later, and besides, there is a housing crisis on. We need more housing!

This sentiment is where Trojan Horse development sneaks in, of course, at the expense of the community and the area's valued and unique biodiversity.

It's still unclear how there will ever be 'affordable' housing in a Shire where the government's 'affordable' metric is tied to house prices that are out of the reach of lower and middle

Meanwhile, Cr Paul Spooner (Labor), who now Zooms in from the NSW South Coast, said during debate that the growth rate pegged in the plan is around one per cent, while population growth is 1.6 per cent. Nothing to worry about.

Cr Coorey made the point, however, that all of the public consultation that underpins this strategy was taken around two years ago. And ain't it a different world now.

Hans Lovejoy, editor

Vale Mungo Wentworth MacCallum: 1941 – 2020

By Echo co-founder David Lovejoy

7 ith immaculate timing and a great work ethic until the end, Mungo has passed away a few days after announcing he would write no more. Here at The Echo, we still cannot quite believe that he has gone.

From shortly after the newspaper's founding in 1986 until just a week ago, Mungo produced for us a political column that was well-informed, often surprisingly clairvoyant and always written with elegance and wit.

Above all, his columns were unambiguously on the side of the angels; he spent the first half of his life learning everything there is to know about the Australian political system and the men and women who operate within it, and he loathed politicians of whatever party who pervert and corrupt it.

Mungo was a friend to *The Echo* when as a fledgling publication it needed friends. In the beginning, he let us republish columns he wrote for national papers, because we could never pay what a political journalist of his standing deserved and normally received. Later, he worked out how to write an original column for The Echo's tiny stipend by syndicating it later in the week to other outlets.

He also taught many of the older *Echo* drudges how to write.

This was not just by example: he literally taught us the rules for producing clear and simple prose by devising a set of axioms condensed from George Orwell's writings. The last axiom was to abandon all rules, rather than write anything that lacked grace.

The loss to the newspaper is great, but our personal loss is greater. Mungo and his wife Jenny Garrett made legions of friends when they retired from Canberra and settled in Ocean Shores over thirty years ago. In a cafe or pub, you could usually track where Mungo was enjoying himself by the sound of animated and amusing talk, punctuated by his own distinctive laugh-laugh-laughter.

At the newspaper I would see Mungo once a week, when he still filed his copy on paper and in person. After Jenny converted him to Mac and email, I used to see him at social events, Gecko cricket matches and staff booze-ups, which were still plentiful in the good old days until our frailties caught up with us.

His knowledge of history, literature and science was phenomenal, and so was the memory that provided access to it.

Thereafter a weekly coffee with friends sufficed to keep us up to date.

Discussions with Mungo were often serious affairs and you could learn a lot en passant if you encouraged him to talk. If a factual point needed settling it was very rarely necessary in Mungo's company to search the internet for it. His knowledge of history, literature and science was phenomenal, and so was the memory that provided access to it.

Perhaps this was natural to a member of one of the last pre-digital generations (he still used a manual typewriter until late in the twentieth century). Although he spent more of his university time on carousing and politics than formal study, Mungo's wide-ranging education was undertaken and encouraged in the company of similarly brilliant minds, friends like Clive James, Les Murray, Germaine Greer, Bruce Beresford and Robert Hughes.

Growing up as the nephew of the stridently reactionary Liberal MP William Charles Wentworth IV gave him ample opportunity to examine right-wing ideas at first hand, and at a young age he made the choice to reject them and support the Australian Labor Party, as the only conscionable alternative to conservative selfishness.

He could sometimes appear aloof, and he could be fiercely dismissive of fools and scoundrels. A blue-blood Wentworth background is hard to overcome, even when you choose left-wing politics with all your heart.

Mungo's comrade and cherished leader Gough Whitlam described him as a 'tall, bearded descendant of lunatic aristocrats', but beneath the beard and patrician manner there was a man of warm and compassionate disposition.

Rather than seek a political career, for which his stubborn intellectual honesty disqualified him, Mungo elected to become a journalist, and when he retired from covering federal parliament

his was one of the most recognisable names and faces in the Canberra press gallery.

His fame scarcely diminished over the years, for in September 2014 a false report of his passing spread across Twitter, causing a wave of grief for a much-loved figure. Like Mark Twain, Mungo was amused at the exaggerated reports of his death and, I think, touched by how genuinely relieved people were when the news was corrected.

The real health problems behind this false rumour presented a cruel test of character. After surgery to remove his larynx, Mungo the mellifluous, who delighted in the play of words, was marooned in silence.

Now his friends had to converse on politics without his input, no doubt their talk full of error and misconception, unless he made the mighty effort to croak a word or two from his oesophageal tube.

Those words were never of complaint or impatience; throughout his long final illness he maintained a stoic calm, and while he had lost his voice, he never lost his probing analytical mind: the columns he continued to write were first-rate until the end.

One side effect of losing his radio and television work after the laryngectomy was the increased time he had to devote to books and the creation of crosswords. In the last period of his life he completed a revised edition of his book on Australian prime ministers,

The Good, the Bad and the Unlikely, bringing it up to the sorry present, and also composed a stockpile of cryptic crosswords so that his puzzle fans can still be teased for months to come.

Much as I treasure memories of Mungo I know, they are only a fraction of his long and adventurous life.

The Echo and the Byron Shire community were lucky to have him spend the last part of it with them.

Mungo MacCallum is survived by his partner Jenny Garrett, daughters Diana and Gail, and step-daughters Adrienne and Gillian.

- Mungo's farewell ceremony was Tuesday, December 15, 2020. For more tributes, see pages 18-19.
- *The Echo* will put together an online tribute page for Mungo. If you have thoughts you would like to be included please send them to editor@echo.net.au.



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Cartoon by Antoinette Ensbey

Urban planning

Councillors last week adopted a Residential Strategy that will convert various bits of the Shire to urban. Urban life involves having services provided to the property boundary (water and sewer services in particular). The urban user pays to connect and to consume.

Rural life involves providing those services yourself. You tap into water off your roof, out of a stream or out of the ground. You dispose of sewage within the property boundary. You need a bigger property and that puts neighbours further away (one of the great benefits of rural life).

In our Shire, the water that flows out of urban taps comes from distant waterways. For Mullumbimby, that waterway is Wilsons Creek. In dry seasons water ceases to flow over the weir at Lavertys Gap (as it has now for the third year in a row). Being an old water 'extraction' licence, there is no requirement for the weir to transmit water downstream.

Luckily there is some accidental leakage. Were the licence to be updated and some environmental flow actively sent past the weir, the system's capacity to supply would be less.

When Lavertys Gap can't supply enough water, an 'emergency' connection to the Rous system is activated and water extracted from Rocky Creek Dam (RCD) is supplied instead.

RCD also has no environmental flow requirement and often ceases to overflow.

Council's Residential Strategy avoids discussing the utilities needed to sustain the urban lifestyle it ordains. Councillors think the same: bring people in and we'll work out the details later.

In the case of water supply, the details are known: Rous will build a new dam to supply future water needs. The Strategy's commitment to urban land thus includes a commitment to that new dam. The two commitments should have been considered together. A decent Strategy would have included plans for an acceptable water supply system (ie one not dependent on a new dam).

There is a parallel story for sewage – a decent Strategy would have resolved that.
And it would also tell us how transport will be provided to the new suburbs, rather than just putting more vehicles down Ewingsdale Road.

Duncan Dey Main Arm

Natural burial

I live on Vallances Road near the proposed site for the Brunswick Valley natural burial ground. When council purchased the land and proceeded with the STP (sewage treatment plant) the longterm residents of the road sold up.

Having lived through the STP works I totally understand. It also means I have an understanding of this current proposal.

1. To access Vallances Road you have to turn across oncoming traffic on a hairpin bend with no visibility except for a dubious mirror. I assume funeral processions and loved ones will be wanting to access this site. This bend is within sight of land which frequently sees cars leave the road and has seen fatalities. Coolamon Scenic Drive also now sees tourists use the road, directed by GPS. This includes articulated and long vehicles.

- 2. Vallences Road is a single lane with difficulty passing oncoming cars. Widening the road in some places was considered to be unfeasible for the STP works. Trucks were diverted to a turning circle down Coolamon Scenic Drive constructed purely for the STP works.
- 3. Will council construct an alternate road for this access? If so it opens up land for development.
- 4. There is a paper road which can be used closer to Mullumbimby, again on a hairpin bend.
- 5. Residents living on this road were assured by council our peace and amenity would not be disturbed after the STP works were completed. This has not been the case, letter length prohibits exploring this.

I support the principle of the burial site but ask its proponents to consult with those living here also. I think you will find it is not so affordable.

Debra Smith Mullumbimby

Open the bypass

There has been a great deal of work done through 2020 to make our roads more usable, and I can foresee that things will, one day, be improved.

But, sorry, there is a but – I am appealing to our mayor to find a way to focus the available manpower that we have, to find a way to open up the bypass tomorrow. Work on nothing else, just get the bypass open, it is urgent.

The community is at breaking point, they have been tolerant, they have been patient, they have queued endlessly, they have stuffed their frustration back down their throats and just got on with life, but today with the Lollipop men on Lawson street, the traffic backup was just insane, this on a Monday, and not anywhere near the busier times that are coming.

Right now, Byron Bay's poor, worn out residents just deserve a reward. They've earned it.

I made the mistake of going to Bunnings today, but being stoic, I thought, oh never mind, I'll just risk my life, and come home to Mackay Street over St Helena (me and quite a few others) and you know, while waiting to turn right into Mackay Street, with all the traffic waiting behind me, some nice driver who had just spent 40 minutes trying to get home, blinked his lights, gave me a wave, and held up his queue, so I could cross, and let the others behind me get going again too.

Byron Bay people are kind, but they have been truly tried. They need a hero to step up and find a way to get the job done. It's there, There has to be a way to do it.

There must be a reward for all the suffering already undertaken, we can't really be expected to just go on as things are until February, it is too much! Please help us.

> Pam Scarborough Byron Bay

► More letters on next page

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Letters to the Editor and cartoons

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



Clarkes Beach erosion – climate change and the human impact on the environment

■ Paul Bibby's article (November 18) on coastal erosion, and subsequent discussion in national media, just makes me sigh in frustration. How many times must the people of Byron Shire be subject to these explanations of beach erosion at Clarkes as being a result of the lack of southerly swells, or the lack of giant sand slugs off the coast? Why not just take a close look at what is happening on the beach itself?

Since April, huge volumes of sand have deposited at Wategos and the bank at The Pass, but in the same period major erosion has occurred at Clarkes - and further along towards Main Beach. How could that be?

Stand in front of the Clarkes Beach Holiday Park when it's raining hard and it will take you about five seconds to see why there is no sand there. Huge torrents of water issue from the ugly drains that protrude high above the beach, and even more destructively from the gully created by this discharge at the Park's southern end. These pipes have been delivering high energy water to the beach since 2011, causing localised gully erosion,

which allows the sea to finish the job off. You don't have to give the sea much of an inroad into the dunes for it to cause damage. 'Give it an inch and it will take a mile' hardly describes the severity of the problem here.

Paul's article and subsequent articles by the ABC and Sydney Morning Herald describe the erosion problem as having occurred in the last 18 months. A small trip down the Google Earth timeline will show you that this erosion event has been occurring at this very point of the beach since 2011. Funny that.

Anyone who has camped regularly at Clarkes Beach or walked the beach will recall how the, now missing, access steps required an annual addition or rebuild from 2014 onwards.

By 2014 the once wide beach had recessed to the secondary dunes and was washing to the base of the steps. The process has just become worse over time with 10 steps eventually becoming 30 steps in three tiers in 2017. The Holiday Park eventually gave up on rebuilding, and the whole viewing deck, to which the steps were attached, collapsed and

washed away in 2019.

Council are well aware of the problem, as it was pointed out to them as far back as June 2016. In 2017 they began to take serious notice and committed funds to rehabilitating the gully and slowing down the water flow. Unfortunately, owing to complications with the many bodies involved in the management of this site, this work never went ahead.

More recently Council has committed funds to the divert water from Captain Cook's car park, which contributes to the water flowing from these drains. It is not Council's sole responsibility however, as the bulk of the water is coming from the Holiday Park itself.

Reflections management, despite their mission statement of 'maintaining and nurturing the land', just seem intent on sandbagging, which would appear to be transferring the wave energy further down the beach and accelerating the erosion there.

Go and take a look at the drains to see what surely must be one of the poorest engineering solutions to a water problem to have been constructed this century

- dump it in the dunes! Surely they can't hide their heads in the sand much longer; it's almost all been washed away.

When considering any problem, Ockham's razor implores us to consider the simplest and most easily testable hypotheses first. Ultimately there will be multiple factors at play, such as swell and sand slugs, however, at Clarkes Beach dedicated observation over time definitely leads to the conclusion that stormwater is having a major effect not only on the accretion of sand but its continual erosion.

Those who regularly use this beach will recall just how much the beach builds up during dry periods, such as the period between July 2019 and February 2020. This build-up of sand occurred despite the large amount of northerly wind swell in that period. Nearly all that accreted sand was however removed from the beach after a single rainfall event in early February 2020 where over 400mm was recorded in three days.

If you compare major rainfall events and erosion events at this site there is a

remarkable but unsurprising correlation. You can't create a river outlet, even an intermittent one, on such a high energy section of a beach and not expect it to have consequences.

The experts have said that 'there is no way to know when more sand will accrete'. Well, I would implore them to come and take a look, it's accreting right now. If we don't wash it all away again in the next lot of heavy rain with our very efficient drainage, Clarkes might just start to look like a beach again.

> Pray for a dry summer. **Gerard Braithwaite** Mullumbimby

■ Dailan Pugh has misread my letter in The Echo (December 9). I didn't say sea level rise and climate change

All I pointed out was that the only factual measurement of sea level rise is less than 65mm in Sydney Harbour over the past 100 years. Not the catastrophic levels being predicted by computers or by Dailan and other writers in The Echo.

Ratepayers are well aware that the major problem with Byron Shire flooding and

coastal erosion is the denial of manmade alterations to the coastline as well as blockages to natural drainage outlets to the Ocean.

The acknowledged liability for poor engineering by state and local government bodies, as well as too much reliance of pseudo science and flawed computer modelling, is now an easily provable fact. I firmly believe in natural climate change.

The readers of *The Echo* may be interested know that sea levels here in the Byron Shire were three metres higher only 6,000 years ago according to Robert Haworth, Geomorphology Lecturer at the University of New England.

He has proved that by carbon dating of tropical marine shells recovered from the Ocean Shores golf course, and similar shell deposits at that height throughout the adjoining coastal areas.

In other words, the water was much warmer and the sea much higher then, and not many diesel cars were being driven at that time as far as I am aware.

> Jim Mangleson Ocean Shores

A repair budget?

The filming of Nine Perfect Strangers has been based in Kennedys Lane over the past few months. Over that time many large trucks have been coming and going; last night 20 trucks went past in a convoy.

Mostly, we do not mind the noise, and are happy to support the Australian film industry, however, we hope that the film company, or the Council, has factored into their budget repairs to the potholes left growing on our country lane once the last truck has departed.

> Susan Melhuish Ewingsdale

Just a little politics

Last week our mayor was out and about again in his black shirt and sunnies, that outfit that says 'I am one sharp dude'. Probably he was psyching himself up for participating in his first Greens meeting in months.

So Ian Cohen pushed him as to why he backed Michael (Wannabe) Lyon for deputy mayor over Sarah (Blah-Blah) Ndiaye, when in fact Michael had allowed his Greens membership to lapse. Simon's response was that he did it to bolster Michael's chances of getting re-elected next September, given that Michael's position on the Greens ticket hardly guaranteed his success.

Hang on Simon! Those who know him best, being the Greens, didn't overly fancy him, right? But you, being of superior judgement, decided to second-guess the Greens by manoeuvring to get him re-elected anyway and bugger the Greens. Probably as Mayor, right?

Yes your rationale is sort of plausible, I guess – which is your special talent, isn't it. But as an old conspiracy theorist I tend to be suspicious of you santafarians, you guys who assure us that all is well - and that Santa Claus really exists. Accordingly I see your arrangement with Michael as you and your staff buddies rewarding him for speaking such shameless nonsense as 'it's the responsibility of elected councillors to protect the morale of staff,' which is a position you yourself endorse.

In other words Michael, if he gets re-elected, will take over your role as the staff representative on Council. I'm currently accepting bets that either you will soon quit or will henceforth often be absent from council meetings, meaning either way that Michael as

deputy mayor benefits from being in the chair. Simon, you're just another scheming politician mate.

> Fast Buck\$ Coorabell

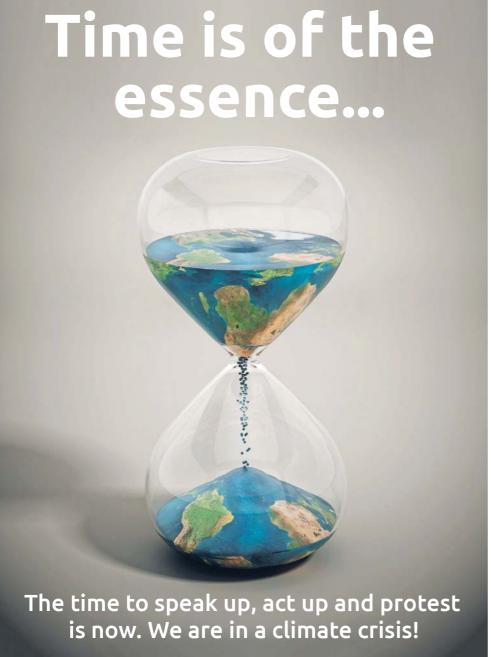
The truth

The first victim of war is always the truth, and one must go out of their way to discover this, as some of us have done for a long time now, as Peace/Anti-war activists. Although for some time now our government's excuses for involvement in war have been blatantly obvious ie our insatiable lust for commodities such as oil, gas etc. or strategic dominance.

But the end game since WWII has always been the vast profits for corporations, such as Halliburton, Boeing, Rolls Royce, Raytheon etc... who are involved in high technological strategies.

Raytheon Australia is the Australian arm of Raytheon Technologies. It was established in 1999, and has grown to become the largest US-owned defence contractor operating in Australia, and is a major operator of the 'Five Eyes' global surveillance strategy of which Pine Gap is a part; whose

► Continued on page 23





Morrison and his Bully Boys caught with a dodgy credit card

Phillip Frazer

ou may have seen headlines last week about the argy-bargy in the Senate over a 'cashless credit card' system for paying income support. These are payments made by the Treasury to cover some or all living costs for people disadvantaged by disability, youth, old age, being a carer or a student, or unemployed or underemployed, and more.

Why this is in the news now is that the Morrison government wants that money, which has traditionally been paid into people's bank accounts, to be paid instead to a private company called Indue. If you are in the system you're supposed to use the Indue debit card to buy things, except it can't be used anywhere that offers alcohol, drugs, or gambling.

Card not effective

This system of 'income management' was introduced by the Howard government in 2007 to stop Indigenous Australians on support from wasting themselves and their money on sinful spending. Back then it was called the BasicsCard and basically, it didn't work – and it doesn't work now that it's called the Indue card.

Federal governments
– LibNat and Labor – have spent more than \$20 million on establishing this Card-of-Shame system, and studying its effects. None of the reports we the taxpayers have funded found the cards are effective, which is why Labor, Greens, and cross-bench senators voted against expanding the thing in Parliament last week.

Racist and colonial

Jacqui Lambie spoke of 'people who feel the pain of this policy failure' and pointed out that, 'Rather than treating the card as a single tool in the tool kit, government after government has treated it as the whole kit'.

Greens Senator, Lidia Thorpe, told the senate, 'Management of income is racist and colonial nonsense all over again and it is demeaning to us... it's putting black people back on rations.'



As usual the Morrison government tried to bully through their plan – which was to make the cards permanent in the trial areas and to expand them to 20,000 more Australians on income support. And as is becoming more usual, their bullying pissed off enough senators that the scheme was put on hold, except for continuing the trials for another two years, during which time the bullies need to table a plan.

Why are the Morrison Bully Boys pushing this?

All the impassioned speeches in the senate were about the pain and shame caused by the card, and the lack of evidence that it causes anything else. Many of them described the government's mission here as ideological, which it is: the LibNat's right wing libertarian dingbats reckon all poor people should just get off their arses, and Morrison himself reckons God's light shines on those who make a lot of money.

That's what passes for ideology in the Coalition, and it's one of two reasons behind this Card-of-Shame sham.

Tax dollars for private business

The second is also an ideological conviction; that only business people, and private enterprise, are competent to run anything. In the 1970s, this antisocial premise launched a crusade, led by Thatcher and Reagan, to demolish public healthcare, education, housing and everything else not primarily designed for profit, like public spaces, environmental protections, art in any and every form, and thinking hard.

Howard and subsequent

LibNat PMs followed the Reagan/Thatcher lead, being dutiful lapdogs of elitism, and set about demolishing our public service, unions, and the notion of common wealth. Then they handed over the tax savings to private businesses and told them to provide a mean and nasty version of a social support system (crowning glory being RoboDebt).

A monster child

Which brings us back to the Indue card. This thing is the monster child of the failed BasicsCard, a version of 'income management' first spearheaded by former Nationals Party boss Larry Anthony. It gives income support a privatised layer of money finagling that doesn't need to be there, except to siphon off more of what used to be our tax money. It's also a way for the LibNat Bully Boys of politics - Morrison, Dutton, Frydenberg, Angus Taylor etc – to make obsolete one of the aspects of government they hate most: accountability. How much does Indue rip off from us taxpayers, and how can we know about it?

That revolutionary mob called the St Vincent de Paul Society had a go at explaining it: 'The Government spent nearly \$18.9 million to trial the cashless debit card, which equates to over \$10,000 per person in the trial. More than half (\$9.8 million) of the total funding was paid to Indue, the private company contracted to cover all operational aspects of the cashless debit card.'

And on top of all that, the core crime here is the continuation of the degradation, impoverishment, and bullying of Australia's First People.

■ Phillip Frazer calls out bullies at coorabellridge.com

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Never mind Trump: our coup succeeded

The Palace Letters by Jenny Hocking, Scribe Publications 2020

David Lovejoy

There are no ifs and buts, no grey areas, no partisan refuges to

The dismissal of Gough Whitlam's Labor government in 1975 was a coup d'état, conceived and executed by Sir John Kerr, and enthusiastically assisted by a handful of smarmy, selfentitled toffs, who regarded themselves as above the law and the Constitution.

Until Professor Jenny Hocking finally succeeded in her High Court action to

have the letters between Governor General Kerr and the Queen's secretary Sir Martin Charteris released from the National Archives, it was possible to doubt that there had been a conspiracy.

At first conservative fellow travellers praised Kerr for his courage and wisdom in acting alone. Later, when the stupidity and corruption of the man was plain for all to see, they simply asserted that he acted alone.

He did not.

Kerr's secret meetings & lies

As Hocking's book The Palace Letters makes clear, Kerr was conducting urgent research into the Governor General's so-called 'reserve powers' months before any political crisis was on the horizon, and discussing them in secret with Sir Anthony Mason, who would later become Chief Justice.

Kerr was also corresponding with Charteris, who massaged his ego and pointed him to a Canadian constitutional expert known for recommending the use of reserve powers.

All this time Kerr told Whitlam nothing, and even lied to him about his intentions at the very moment he was



Jenny Hocking. Photo www.crikey.com.au

keeping Liberal leader Malcolm Fraser in another room at Yarralumla, ready to be sworn in as prime minister.

Encouraged by the palace

It was a clever coup, not requiring the use of tanks or troops, just a few well-placed monarchists with a cult-like dedication to preserving the power of the throne above those pesky colonials. The Queen, Prince Charles and the British Foreign Office knew what was going on, and through the palace secretary, encouraged it.

No wonder there was such a concerted effort to prevent the facts of the dismissal from coming to light. The National Archives and the current government used every trick to protect the reputation of a foreign power at the expense of a true understanding of Australian history.

The Palace Letters reads like a page-turning thriller as one by one Hocking's pro bono legal team dispose of the obstacles thrown in the way by a desperate establishment, and gradually close in on the documents that would finally explain those dramatic days of November 1975.

Ten year quest for the letters

Recently a packed house at the Byron Community Centre Theatre heard **Professor Hocking discuss** her ten-year quest for the letters with Kerry O'Brien. One question not raised in the book is the involvement of the CIA, which was known to be furious with Whitlam for his threat to expose the Pine Gap spy bases.

Although the mechanics of the coup belong to Kerr and the palace, there may have been secondary

motivations of placating America. O'Brien made the observation that President Jimmy Carter later sent a State Department official to apologise to Whitlam, and to promise that the USA would never again meddle in Australian affairs.

Limits of power

This book clarifies a period of our history that for nearly half a century has been deliberately made murky by dishonest politicians and their obedient media trolls. It should be read by every Australian, even though, no doubt, there will be other more detailed examinations of the letters themselves in the future.

Near the end of the saga comes one more amusing example of Kerr's overweening egotism. By late 1976 the drunken and unsalvageable Governor General has fallen out with the prime minister he appointed. Malcolm Fraser is seeking an early election and Kerr floats the idea to Charteris that the reserve powers might be used again to deny Fraser's plan. Just to show who is really in charge. Needless to say, that was one step too far for the palace.

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CHESS by lan Rogers

Nigel Short's one man campaign to have Iran banned from world chess has been derailed this week after the world body FIDE passed an innocuous 'compromise' motion at their General Assembly this week.

Short, a Vice President of FIDE, had become agitated about Iran's unspoken ban on their players competing against Israeli athletes, a policy

Since the Cold War FIDE had team events whenever possible.

egg on his face after falsely accusing Saudi Arabia of banning chess, decided that this would be his new Spain. (Short did not care that Iranian was no longer any chance of disobeyplayers would face punishment for ing government rules on the quiet. competing against Israelis.)

Short's motion, supported by the English Chess Federation. made its way onto the agenda for the December General Assembly. However, when the item came up, the delegates found themselves looking at a much more anodyne proposal tabled by FIDE President Arkadiy Dvorkovích:

'The FIDE General Assembly calls upon the Chess Federation of the Islamic Republic of Iran as well as all other national chess federations to which began in 1983 and which was instruct all their registered players to shared, on and off, by other countries respect the principles of the Olympic movement and FIDE Charter.

Dvorkovich's motion did mention adopted a 'Don't ask, don't tell' atti-tude to all boycotts between feuding boycotts or unsavoury comments by countries, avoiding pairing them in Iran, and 'the same applies to all national chess federations, officials Short, despite finishing with and players without exemptions and reservations. Essentially the status quo remains.

Nonetheless, Short's campaign has campaign and last December 'outed' brought the Iranian federation to the two teenage Iranian Grandmasters attention of the national government. who had unknowingly played against As a result, it withdrew its players from an Israeli at a blitz tournament in a number of tournaments where there

Iran's top player, 17-year-old world The two juniors were indeed #18 Alireza Firouzja, preemptively severely reprimanded on their return relocated to France and gave up to Iran and Short ploughed ahead, Iranian representation to avoid any proposing that if the Iranian Chess FIDE ban on Iran. Such has been the Federation does not explicitly allow disruption to Iranian chess by Short's its players to compete against Israelis campaign that few new Firouzjas are then it should be thrown out of FIDE. likely to emerge in the near future.



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Jim Beatson and Mary Gardner – a valediction forbidding mourning

' im and Mary are moving to Queensland. I am pretty sad about it. They are my friends and, even if you don't know them, they have been your friends too because, separately and together, they have done so much for Byron – and we are all the beneficiaries. I want to talk about them both, only as a personal reflection, since a few lines can't begin to cover who they are or all they have done for this Shire they are leaving.

In the late 1990s I used to present a film program that was distributed to other stations via the Community Broadcasting Satellite service, known as ComRadSat. The comrad who ran it was Jim Beatson, a born protester since his youth in Queensland. Jim's breadth of film knowledge, especially about musicals, and our political interests and love of a good chat made dropping off the show – a five minute task – a much longer affair. Jim retired and moved to Byron and I lost touch with him.

I moved to Byron myself a few years later. I'd often be driving along Bangalow Road and see a woman gliding by, sitting beautifully upright on a bicycle, always colourfully garbed, white hair and rimless spectacles catching the sunlight. Like I do with many of the unique, and lately increasingly rare, birds of Byron, I created a fantasy about who she was – a back story to satisfy my curiosity. She looked so interesting and I wanted to meet her.

A column in *The Echo* by someone called Mary Gardner was a highlight of my new Byron life; she reminded me of Densey Clyne, writer of Wildlife in the Suburbs, a Sydney Morning Herald regular, whose column sat incongruously among the politics and the concerns of Sydney life – society columns and real estate. Yet Mary Gardner's columns are not just a naturalist's observations; she is literary and poetic with an expansive view that draws her extensive scientific knowledge into a narrative that is always surprising. She is a storyteller and her stories are about the place I now call home. Aided by the view through Mary's frameless glasses, the scales fell from



the eyes of this city girl. In her writing, Mary was layering her scientific, ecologist's view over a deep foundation of local Indigenous knowledge and history – long before others made gestures in that direction. She was showing us how to live here by helping us to know this place. I thought her columns were wondrous.

Community action

I'd envisaged a relaxed life in Byron as my children were getting older. Then I discovered, from an article by Dailan Pugh in *The Echo*, that there were plans to rezone West Byron for a huge suburban subdivision. How could this be happening

I tracked Jim down, knowing that he would know where people who knew what to do could be found. He did. At one West Byron meeting, the white-haired bicycle lady appeared. She spoke of the waterways of Byron Bay, the Belongil estuary and its importance to the marine park, the wetlands that once were – and should be - at West Byron. She explained that this is a water place and we had to care for the water places. The bicycle lady was way more interesting than the story I had invented for her. And her name was Mary Gardner! Yes, the one from The Echo.

I loved her immediately and we even talked - halfjokingly – about getting married in New Zealand (before the Yes vote here) so that she could stay in Australia, as she was a Kiwi then. My partner Philip had little to worry

about, not least because she went and married Jim Beatson! A unique but perfect union, for both of them, and a wonder to us all.

As Mary best knows, Jim is very smart, very funny and madly frustrating, generating hilarity and exasperation, often at the same time. Jim is also a great friend – he is incredibly kind and remarkably thoughtful, given he is spectacularly tin-eared in many social interactions.

One day I had a call from Mary, an hour before we were to launch Council's 'Love Byron Halls' initiative at Marvell Hall, which had been given some federal funding. The special guest was Senator Concetta Ferravianti-Wells, a rightwing Catholic Liberal who opposed marriage equality and had been much in the media that week about the parliamentary inquiry into discrimination against gay or diverse-gendered students in religious schools. As chair of the Marvell Hall committee, Jim saw her visit as an opportunity, and Mary had called to alert me. Jim was coming in drag. He appeared in a pink

dress, fishnet stockings, leather brogues and a beret, all topped off by a 1980s Queensland copper's jacket. His legs are shapely and he has a well-turned ankle but I think he would not have turned heads as a girl. Concetta, to her credit, greeted Jim cordially and chatted at length with him. Jim made his protest about gender and sexuality discrimination to Concetta without saying a word. But he did use words



Left: Jim and Mary on their wedding day. Above: Jim in drag. Photos supplied

in launching the little community hall, and managed to include the plight of refugees and the importance of Indigenous custodianship of Byron in the affair. He also gave credit for much that he knew to his wife, Mary. Concetta blinked, twice.

I owe Mary so much. We walked and talked often at our beloved Tallows estuary and she showed me other water places, how they work and what lives, or dies, in them. The caring for water places, which I'd also heard about in a different way from Delta Kay's speeches at various events, were the basis for me to introduce a Water Sensitive Urban Design Policy to Council. It is not everything I'd hoped but it is something.

Likewise, this little reflection is not everything that can be said about Mary or about Jim. It's just what I can say here – other than that I love them, and I shall miss them, and I wish them all the best in Queensland with their family and grandson.

The angst we feel as some of our best people leave Byron should be allayed by the knowledge that what Mary and Jim have shared to this community stays with us and will be amplified. Their leaving is, to borrow from John Donne's Valediction: Forbidding Mourning,

- '...not yet A breach, but an expansion,
- *Like gold to airy thinness*
- They are moving to Kandanga. When you get there, just ask for Jim Beatson. They'll know him for sure.

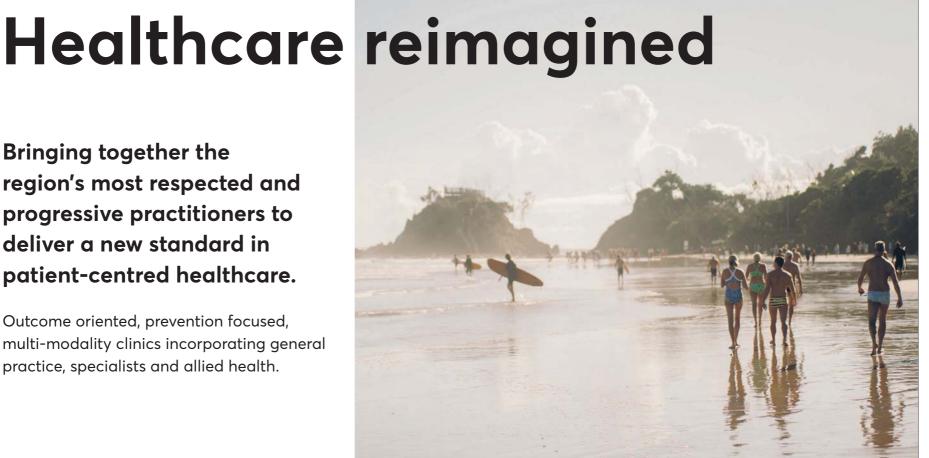
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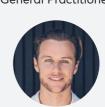
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Vale Mungo Wentworth MacCallum

December 21, 1941 – December 9, 2020

■ 'Mungo was a friend to *The Echo* when as a fledgling publication it needed friends. In the beginning he let us republish columns he wrote for national papers, because we could never pay what a political journalist of his standing deserved and normally received. Later he worked out how to write an original column for The Echo's tiny stipend by syndicating it later in the week to other outlets. But whether or not the work was properly remunerated was a matter of indifference to him, and for 31 years he elevated the newspaper's standing simply by writing for it.'

David Lovejoy, co-founder of The Echo newspaper

■ 'Mungo was one of a kind and he blazed a trail through Australia's ranks of political journalists across 55 years with his mix of shrewd analysis and satire that was unique. He took great delight in calling out pomposity, bombast and hyprocisy for what it was and left pretenders with nowhere to hide. For all this he was also one of the most compassionate people I've ever met.'

Kerry O'Brien

■ 'Mungo – we will miss your smile, your wit, your singing and your brilliant writing.'

Craig and Jane McGregor

■ Dear Mungo,

Our Wednesday Echo will no longer be the same without your column, but we would really like to let you how much we in the Byron branch of the ALP have appreciated your brilliant, provocative and always entertaining contributions over the years. We have been very grateful not only for this, your political insight and experience - but also the moral fortitude, and calling out of hypocrisy that has been a light and encouragement to all true believers in these difficult times, whether members of a political party or not.

We would like to send our very best wishes, and although we will miss you in The Echo, know that your family and many friends will continue to be the beneficiaries of your observations on life, sport, music and literature as well as politics.

Byron Bay Branch ALP

■ You were loyal! Loyal to the cause, to the vision of Gough Whitlam, we all benefited. Your eternal legacy resonates 'Take No Shite!'

> Jo Faith Newton

■ Indeed, Mungo had an 'analytical mind'. It took Mungo to get me back into 'the politics of prose writing' in 2016, just as it took



Mungo – in the very early 1970s – to help me become one of his 'Radical

No rival came within a bulls-roar of his precision, knowledge, and care for this country, beginning with the [old] Nation Review and onwards.

I praise *The Echo* for having found him. I guess Mungo will continue speaking from yet 'another world'.

Stefanie Bennet

■ In the near-decade that I was The Echo's resident proofreader / copyeditor (a.k.a. grammar nazi), Mungo's columns were rarely touched by my blue pencil - a claim few others can make.

Reading his columns and proofing / solving his crosswords were among the many pleasures of my Echo incumbency. It goes without saying - but I shall say it - that Mungo will be sorely missed by

Gordon Balfour Haynes

■ What an inspiration. A breath of fresh, insightful, knowledgeable, and humorous air Mungo has given us over the years.

Keeping the bastards honest and always true to his convictions.

When the statue to Nick Shand sitting on the park bench is replaced, I suggest he be chatting with Mungo by his side.

Much aloha. **Noah Yamore** ■ I first encountered Mungo when I was a teen and I read my uncle's Nation Reviews. On one of our many trips to the Northern Rivers I heard a report of his exit interview with the current Prime Minister of the time and really did LOL.

On subsequent trips, now with our young children, we'd encounter Mungo at the Bruns, in Mullum, and Billinudgel. It became a standing joke that our trips would not be official until 'the first Mungo of the season' had been spotted. On one occasion I spoke with him at the bar and asked if he really did suggest to Bob Hawke that he needed a good rare steak and some horizontal folk dancing. He just laughed along with those waiting or serving at the bar.

Our children are adults now, but we still have fond memories of our 'Mungo spotting' adventures. I'll miss his good humour and his great writing.

Neale Ferguson

■ A Memory of Mungo:

In the late 1960s, I had a casual job as a subbie on the Australian/ Mirror. At 6pm, I had to collect my scripts for editing and somehow find a spot in the editorial room along with the proper journalists and other editors. There were a couple of long benches and a scatter of chairs and it was a bit of a scramble to secure a spot.

Except, there was one lone desk against a wall with its own chair. I

was quietly told that this belonged to Mungo and was not to be touched! Rupert was in New York at the time. I think things may have changed on his return.

John Davies

■ I was fortunate enough to work with Mungo at *The Echo*, and even wrote his columns for a while when he was on holiday. I've always considered this a great honour and, now, even more so. In the world of words, he was a master.

Vale Mungo, you can breathe

PS: So glad you left a bank of crosswords. More shenanigans to remember you by.

Jann Gilbert

■ My absolute favourite Mungo quote came when he was describing the McMahon visit to Washington where Sonia wore THAT dress. They were accompanied by Nugget Coombs and he referred to Sonia as 'looking like Snow White, down to her last two dwarfs'.

What a super writer he was.

Judy Mellowes

■ I am writing on Human Rights Day to pay tribute to one of our most brilliant journalists, a man who cared deeply about people and their right to a decent life, as evidenced in his writing.

It is, of course, Mungo MacCallum, known simply as Mungo. He and Jenny engaged with the local community, the nation, and the world from their Ocean Shores home. A home that was the haven for their family. Mungo sadly left them last night after putting down his pen just a few days back.

It is to the family that I say thank you. Thank you for sharing so much of your husband and dad with us.

The brilliant mind, the incisive intellect, the laser-like way he could cut through political humbug. The deep laughter that lit up his face. I mourn the absence of Mungo's column already. A column I hoped I never featured in on the wrong side. The most poignant words I had said about me were in a video recording Mungo did for The Byron Echo. It still touches me to my core. I feel very privileged as Mungo judged politicians with brutal candour.

At the Twin Towns Services Club in Tweed Heads, Mungo asked me - the emcee - why the attendance of the national press for a backbencher lunch? The backbencher being Paul Keating, in between being treasurer and prime minister.

At a barbecue fundraiser for one of my campaigns, Mungo entertained us with stories of his time in Canberra. He entertained us even more upon departure, backing over the barbecue plate. Jenny drove

Melbourne Cup Day at the Ballina RSL during the 2007 Federal Election campaign with Kevin Rudd, myself and team, when Kevin backed the winner.

Mungo's parting words were sweet. Thank you, good night, after he fired an Aussie salvo at our current prime minister.

> Jenelle Saffin MP Lismore

Tributes to Mungo MacCallum





Pictured left to right: Portrait of Mungo by Gatya Kelly entered in the 2006 Archibald Prize. Mungo with the love of his life, Jenny Garrett. The game of cricket and his dogs were some of Mungo's passions. Above: with Barry Jones and Kerry O'Brien at the Byron Writers Festival. Mungo and his *Echo* colleagues; top: with David Lovejoy and Mandy Nolan, bottom: with Nicholas Shand and Dee Tipping. Right: Mungo MacCallum in his element at the Writers Festival.

■ I dipped in and out of Mungo MacCallum's life for decades, starting with an introduction in the office in (old) Parliament House, Canberra that he shared with my childhood friend, the late Helen Ester (nee Cunningham), also an accomplished journalist who held similar views of the Australian political class.

Helen worked for the *Inside Canberra* newsletter, later launching her own publication, *Monitor*. Mungo was writing for outlets far and wide. I was astounded that these bright sparks could turn out wonderful stories from such a claustrophobic office.

Mungo and I shared space and time in two media outlets, the quirky *Nation Review* and ABC radio's Double J where I interviewed him each afternoon for the *Frontline* news program: 'So, Mungo, what's been happening in Australian politics today...?' and off he'd go.

Later, as editor of the *Lismore Echo*, I engaged him to write a weekly column that we titled, with his amused approval, 'Political Corrections'.

Along with the journalist gene, I share Mungo's Wentworth family background, mentioned in David Lovejoy's tribute as being 'hard to overcome, even when you choose left-wing politics'. My grannie was a Wentworth, every bit as eccentric, and as intelligent, as Mungo, albeit from an earlier era.

For many years a tradition in the Mungo-Jenny Garrett household was a party marking the Feast Day of St Mungo (13 or 14 January, according to the calendar you choose), honouring a sixth century saint celebrated on Glasgow's coat of arms.

Arriving at one such event I noticed Mungo in his office, clattering away on his manual typewriter, ignoring the mounting revelry upstairs. I asked Jenny what he was writing and learned it was an obituary for a recently deceased, high-profile Labor politician. It was due to be filed that afternoon for the next day's paper.

Soon Mungo joined the feast honouring his namesake, and partied on.

I read the obit next morning – it

was word perfect and insightful, amusing, irreverent... all the qualities that marked his columns and other writings over the years. Moreover, it had been written as a single draft on a typewriter, and faxed to Sydney.

The last time I saw Mungo was on the sad occasion of the funeral of our mutual friend, Helen Ester, on the Gold Coast in November 2015. Mungo wasn't up to driving by then, so I gave him a lift up and back, and we conversed as much as we could, given his dependence on a 'speech box' owing to his laryngectomy.

We didn't stay for drinks and the drive south was a largely silent and sombre one.

A few days later Mungo's obituary for Helen appeared in *The Sydney Morning Herald*. As might be expected it was again word perfect: 'In matters of belief and conviction she was unswerving to the end,' he wrote.

Words that apply equally to Mungo himself.

Legend has it that St Mungo performed four miracles in Glasgow, which are also depicted on the city's coat of arms. One of them, I'm pleased to note, is that he restored life to a robin that had been killed by some of his classmates. This is some relief, although next time the bell tolls, it may well be for me.

Robin Osborne

■ My name is Steve Beaton, I live in Perth/Lesmurdie and received my OBE earlier this year.

I have been an avid reader of Mungo's columns for a long time. They were always a joy to read, succinct, witty, meaningful and did not pull punches.

He told it like it really was!

Gough Whitlam's description of him was Mungo-to-a-tee. His memoir would no doubt reflect a life well lived and enjoyed with a mixed bag of important, interesting, as well as ordinary people.

Sad to say, they don't make anyone like him anymore. He will be mourned by many.

Please pass on to his family our sincere condolences.

Stephen Beaton

■ He appreciated these few words a couple of days before he died.

I hope the obscure choice of words will not be lost on those who knew him.

The swallowed ring of memory, Singing St James Infirmary, The sight of feasts so rarely seen, Crowned by this year's tureen, Witty words and derivations Written for a better nation, Your body squarely rooted now I can do nought else but bow, As it doth prepare to part No more is able to hold your heart.

Sanatan Saraswati

■ I have been to writer's festivals all over the world for the past two decades, and have never met an author less inclined to bullshit than Mungo. He was a great incisive journalist and a decent man, who will be sorely missed. Thank you for your contribution to our beloved Bundjalung Country and to the Australian nation, Old Man.

I reckon Marshall's Creek should be renamed Mungo's Creek in his

With Love and respect,

Melissa Lucashenko

■ The man who had been told the terrible news still laughed, and maintained the rage to the very end. His heart was so great it carries on still. Thank you for the books and insights. Vale inimitable but always inspirational Mungo.

Rosie Lee

■ In January 1989 a friend and I travelled around India for three weeks by train on an organised tour with Ausventure. Our fellow passengers included Mungo (rapidly dubbed Mr Mango by the Indian crew) and Jenny, his partner (described by Mungo as a talentless trollope!).

Who could ever forget such a travelling companion, hanging out the window of the non-smoking carriage with a cigarette in his mouth and commissioning the crew to supply cartons of 'tax deductible' Indian beer (at inflated prices) at every overnight stop.

Many a discussion and argument

ensued as we made our way in a wide circuit around India, visiting numerous sites of historical and cultural significance, Mungo demonstrating his wealth of knowledge on every topic imaginable. I no longer recall most of the members of our small group, but Mungo and Jenny remain as vivid memories.

Sad news to hear of his passing, his wit and wisdom will be sorely missed.

Cynthia O'Keefe Geelong

Mungo the beloved

This is a parody I wrote for Mungo for one of his feast days. He seemed to like it.

To Master Mungo MacCallum, on the occasion of the feast day of the Glorious Saint Mungo the beloved (with apologies to John Skelton).

Merry Mungo His namesake's flower, Cutting of wit With a pen of Power: Political sadness Much mirth and some madness, All good in his badness: In debauchery, And drunkenly, So manly His misdemeanour In every thing, Far, far passing That I can indite Or suffice to write Of Merry Mungo His namesake's flower Cutting of wit With a pen of Power. Impatient but still Very full of goodwill As Saint Jenny and Digger Bob Ellis Sweet philander, Good Cassandra: Erudite of thought, Well made, well wrought, He cannot be bought, By fame or by fortune Or pleading importune This Merry Mungo, His namesake's flower Cutting of wit

With a pen of Power.

Dr Helen Lewis

Comments and tributes made online on *Echonetdaily*

More comments and tributes for Mungo far too numerous to fit on these pages can be found online on *Echonetdaily* under David Lovejoy's personal tribute: www.echo.net.au/vale-mungo-maccallum. Below are but a few of the many we received.

■ Mungo was working from home for the past three decades, enjoying the alternative lifestyle – a man way ahead of the pack. Harbouring joy and laughter as he took the piss, old mungo will be sadly missed.

Michele Grant

■ Who to now for erudite, lucidly phrased incisive wit to deride the largely witless?

You, insightful scribe, informed my views and created knowledge and understanding.

From the days of darkness pre-Whitlam, through enlightenment and action, and back.

It's time again, and we can only hope more of your ilk will rise above. RIP and thanks Mungo.

. Wanderer

Thank you, written from the heart.
I've always loved Mungo's
incisive witty commentary on those
who occupy the political space.

I was immensely pleased a few years ago to find that your *Echo* provided a place for him to espouse his view on current matters.

What a loss we have all suffered from his passing.

Jeff from WA

Who else could make you burst out laughing while doing a cryptic crossword? Thank you, Mungo, you'll be missed by many.

David

Returning to Australia in 1975 and living in Canberra next to a friend of Mungo was the most enlightening introduction to politics here. His words were clear and insightful as has his writing ever since. So sad that he died too soon.

Chris Eyre Holmes

www.echo.net.au/ vale-mungo-maccallum

Health & Healing

Healthcare professionalsexpressions of interest

First Light Healthcare is seeking expressions of interest from patient-focused, outcome-orientated healthcare professionals and administrative staff wishing to work in a contemporary, highly integrated and professionally rewarding work environment. First Light Healthcare, formed through the recent rebranding of Cape Byron Medical Centre and Holdsworth House, has been serving the communities of Byron Bay and Ballina Shires since 1977. First Light Healthcare Ballina will complement their presence in Byron Bay, offering access to: General Practitioners; Allied Health including physiotherapy, psychology, dietetics, occupational therapy, and exercise physiology; Medical Specialists; Pre-op and post-op rehabilitation services; Pathology; Radiology; Mobile Nursing and in-home care services.

Please email executive@flhealthcare.com.au to express your interest. All communications will be treated in strict confidence.





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Delamay Devi Yoga

Born and raised in the fertile lands of Byron Bay, Delamay began her teaching in 1996 as a dance teacher and since 2006 she has been actively teaching yoga and sharing embodied practices around the globe.

Delamay has been featured on the cover of Yoga Life magazine and contributes to many online platforms and printed publications such as *Elephant Journal*, *Yogi Times*, *Australian Yoga Life*, *Yoga Journal*, *Zenward* and more!

Delamay offers a Prana Vinyasa Affiliate Yoga Teacher Training program in Australia and is honoured to have been assisting her friend and longtime mentor Shiva Rea (the creator of Prana Vinyasa Yoga) internationally since 2007. Delamay is passionate about sharing movement as medicine and yoga philosophy in sync with the natural cycles of existence.

0456 145 726 www.delamaydevi.com Insta: @delamaydevi FB: delamaydeviyoga



Let's talk about SEX!

and sound healings.

Or rather, about how you feel in your body, how you feel about pleasure, about discovering

discovering what you need and want

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Bangalow Headache Clinic

At Bangalow Headache Clinic they treat headaches and migraines, jaw pain, clicking, grinding and locking, as well as vestibular disorders and dizziness. Michael has done extensive studies and exams in both Australia and Europe involving the head, neck and jaw. He has completed advanced vestibular competency training with the Northern American leaders in this area. At Bangalow Headache Clinic they quite often find an overlap between headache and dizziness and/or headache and jaw problems. They possess the expertise to resolve these difficult problems.

If you experience jaw pain, locking or clicking, headaches, migraines or vertigo call them on 0475 757 510.



72 Byron Street, Bangalow bangalowheadacheclinic.com.au

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North Coast Medical Centre

Michelle has been practising as a Registered Nurse for 29 years. After completing her training, Michelle progressed into Paediatric, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health, Rural and Remote pursing, and

Remote nursing, and school-based youth health education roles.

Michelle moved to Byron Shire ten years ago and has been working in General Practice and Aged Care since.

She has brought her broad scope of experience into the role of Chronic Care Nurse within North Coast Medical Centre, and she contributes to the integrative and collaborative culture of the practice.

As a health advocate Michelle has a genuine interest in preventative health, demonstrated by her unconditional care and gentle approach to patients. She has a passion for education, health, good food and surrounding herself with family and friends.

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For more information about upcoming consultation dates, please contact 8069 8973 or email, lana@parkclinicsydney.com



How to Check for Skin Cancer

Skin cancer can develop quickly. It's important not to rely on an annual skin check or other screening program as your primary detection method. Instead, regularly check your skin, including those areas you rarely expose to the

sun. Make sure you have good lighting and ask someone (or use mirrors) to check the areas you can't see.

By getting to know what looks normal for you, you'll quickly notice if something changes. And if you find anything unusual, get it looked at as soon as possible. The earlier skin cancer is found, the more

successful the treatment is likely to be. Mullumbimby Comprehensive Health Centre has a dedicated skin clinic with experienced doctors.

Call 6684 1511 for an appointment.





'Get off the fucking road': On automobility and bikes

Story & photo David Lisle

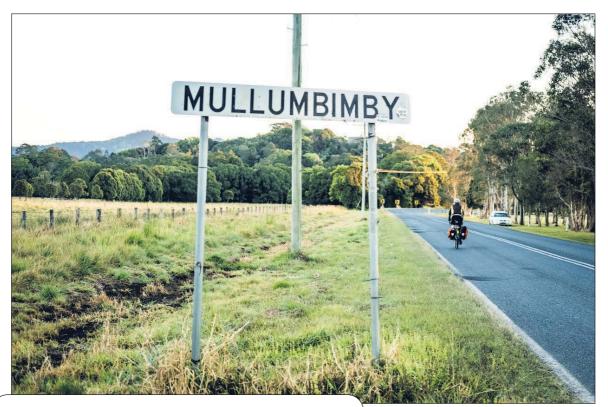
bicycle combined with a human is the most efficient means by which any animal has ever moved through space. It is the perfect vehicle for our small, beleaguered planet. Yet in our community, cyclists are treated with disdain. Fast moving motor vehicles overtake us at outrageously close proximities. We are often berated verbally, or by

It is hard to know how a motorist rapidly approaching from behind expects a cyclist to respond to their obnoxious horn blast, yet the subtext is abundantly clear: 'get off the fucking road'. It's not our fault people are offended by bicycles and we shouldn't take this aggression personally automobility is to blame.

Automobility refers to the system of mass car travel and its ideological trappings: the idea that we possess a god given right to get wherever we want, whenever we want, in the minimum time, in the comfort of our private motor-vehicles, on public roads. Many motorists see the road as their exclusive domain: cyclists, pedestrians and wildlife are 'hazards' trespassing at their peril. This hierarchical structure seeks, and largely achieves, domination of the road through intimidation - the barely veiled threat of violence.

Right to the road

Despite this chauvinistic bluster, cyclists are legitimate road users, entitled to occupy so much of the lane as they please. Perhaps our right to the road even precedes that of motorists, given we are not subject to licensing and our vehicles don't require registration. The law reflects the minimal danger bikes expose other road users to. As it currently stands, our right to the road is inalienable. The only lawful way to keep us off it is to jail or kill us.



I constantly hear people saying they would cycle, but for the risk.

And cyclists do die on our roads. Cycling is perceived as dangerous and I constantly hear people saying they would cycle, but for the risk. Before I dug into the data, I had assumed cycling and motoring to be equally dangerous. It was probably some sort of survival bias leading me to infer from my own experience – of riding 250,000km since 2002, and not dying – that cycling is 'safe'.

The data is reasonably clear though. Cyclists are vulnerable road users who die and are seriously injured at rates significantly in excess of motorists. You're safer in a motorised metal box, but not by so much to justify the massive focus on safety whenever cycling is discussed. This dominant danger narrative has a chilling effect on bicycle participation.

Cyclists vulnerable

The most common way for cyclists to die in Australia is

being hit from behind by a passing motor vehicle. In 2018, following a two-year trial, the NSW government legislated the minimum passing distance rule, requiring vehicles passing or overtaking cyclists to leave at least one metre where the speed limit is below 60km/h, and 1.5 metres otherwise. The law sought to remove ambiguity about safe passing distances and draw attention to the vulnerability of cyclists.

To assist compliance with this new law, the NSW road rules were amended to allow motorists to cross centre lanes while overtaking cyclists, but only when it is safe to

When the safe passing distance trial began in 2016, 'bicycle and wheeled toy offences' were drastically raised and police undertook a series of compliance blitzes. Notably, the fine for not wearing a helmet was increased 350 per cent to \$319 (it's now \$344). Ostensibly a road safety measure, this was also a quid pro quo for the motoring lobby, unhappy at having to cede ground to bicycles.

An evaluation of the trial recommended its permanent implementation, although police expressed concern about enforcing the passing rule and about whether drivers could safely judge when to use the exemption provisions and cross centre lines.

Dangerous drivers

Both concerns appear well founded. Drivers around here love to cross centre lanes, especially when it is unsafe. And while most vehicles pass safely, I am frequently awed at just how close some drivers come, and the circumstances under which they pass. Most days, someone passes me dangerously close. Most days, I witness oncoming vehicles forced to swerve or brake violently, as heedless drivers overtake me.

Ride bicycle furiously

Enforcing the passing rule is evidently a challenge too, particularly compared with

enforcing bicycle subjugation. In NSW during the 2020 financial year: 6,113 cyclists were fined for riding without a helmet; 432 for riding without a bell; 1,753 for footpath riding; and another 2,989 for such depravity as 'ride bicycle furiously'. Meanwhile, 40 motorists (yes: four zero) were fined for 'not pass bicycle at safe distance'.

This seems a poorly calibrated attempt to keep cyclists safe.

My take is that automobility, which pushes the bicycle to the margins, literally and figuratively, is to blame. To not own and drive a car is to step out of mainstream society, even in our green idyll with its pretension to localisation. Riding a bike for transport in our community - as opposed to riding one for 'sport' - is a fringe activity usually indicative of environmental extremism, abject poverty or license loss.

Driving the problem

Cycling is hardly cherished or considered a viable alternative to the car. Basic infrastructure within our villages facilitates biking around town, but riding the open roads is seen as maverick, a little reckless.

Infrastructure matters, but I'm not a segregationist insistent on separate bikeways. In terms of physical infrastructure, our roads are perfect for bicycles.

The problem is our driving culture, and although it has improved markedly in the last two decades, the roads are busier now, and a strong disinclination to share persists among motorists.

For some, bikes are a nuisance, and human powered vehicles an affront. And while the sentiment, 'get off the fucking road' is usually implicit, sometimes people come straight out and say it.

The system of automobility bends us to the will of the car, demanding gratitude for such small mercies as being safely passed. But these are our roads too, and we shall not cower on the verge.





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 The Echo's Cycle for Life Service



To everyone who has ears to listen – celebrities and movie stars too

■ Hi, my name is Melanie. I have called Byron home since I was seven, and like most locals I'm sure, my inner child is having tiny internal tantrums at all these Big City kids on the swings, and Audis going a mere 45km/h on the fun

It's obvious that this year has been challenging for everyone on a global scale, but with the number of new humans wanting to call our small patch of paradise home, rather than complaining incessantly, I have a suggestion: volunteering!

My mother has been volunteering since we arrived here when I was little, from DuneCare to the Toy Library, Community Centre assistance to just helping neighbours or friends in need. This is my understanding of how you make somewhere your home, you give something in exchange for being here. The ancient wisdom teaches us about reciprocity with the land, it's up to us to remember that.

Since my 'fabulous international lifestyle' got cancelled, (thanks COVID) I have come home, complete with all my reverse culture shock, to a wide variety of humans who come here to TAKE the vibe, not with the intent to contribute to it.

We are all visitors here, let's

be honest! But the people who I have experienced firsthand being rude since I've been home are the ones who strut (no comment on clothing) into the retail store where I was working claiming they are 'locals' 'cause they bought a house in the hills before seeing it with their own eyes and couldn't tell you how to get to Mullumbimby'. They proceed to ask - no joke - for a locals' discount, and where the secret waterfalls are...

At the risk of being charged with assault for throwing a candelabra at a fellow human being, I quit that job, 'cause my spirit was hurting.

These are the people who are sucking the vibe out of our home, not contributing to it.

I suggest a requirement to volunteer.

Those who move to the Byron Shire must complete X number of hours of volunteer work per week.

If they have enough money to buy a multi-million dollar home upfront, then they can contribute a few hours a week to the wide variety of community initiatives we have in the area!

I think it should be a prerequisite. Those who migrate must contribute. Our area is known for being alternative and supportive. Let's embody that with our community values.

Let's expand our community with awareness and invite people into the vibe, not just the location.

I would happily put together a list of volunteering opportunities available for this cause!

Everyone is welcome here, but the sense of entitlement must be kept in check.

At the moment I am volunteering at Shedding in Mullum and its good for my spirit. This morning I took one of my most favourite possessions to The Repair Cafe, run by lovely people with a willingness to help and mend. My mother just got home from volunteering at the Byron community centre (which, by the way, I remember from when it was painted like a beach). The Byron Shire is wonderful for its wildlife and ecosystems, yes, but it's also what it is because of the people who live here, and the fact that they give a fuck.

I think that giving a fuck is necessary to a cohesive community. Let's expand our community with awareness and invite people into the vibe, not just the location.

Melanie Robert Byron Bay

■ Enough blame laid on the recent surge of stars, celebs and city slickers buying up and visiting Byron Bay. Byron needs no promotion, only education and decent management. Consciously or not we are all here for healing and nature.

Here is the pitch: Time away from the pool lounges, helipads and palaces to produce the iPhone App 'How to visit Byron Bay, Bundjalung Country'.

Sadly folks we can't trust you to direct this one. The job goes to our Indigenous custodians, and perhaps a panel of regular writers of letters to The Echo editor would suffice.

What is called for is a snappy, informative, intelligent and entertaining production featuring our farmers markets, Indigenous voices, other locals, artisans, healers, and history.

Pop-up plover birds could appear throughout the guide reminding you that they lived here first, so slow down and chill out, or get out.

An introduction to our local furry friends that live along our potholed roads: Did you know the echidna are ecosystem engineers, being bioturbators? Their digging makes better soils, in turn they influence plant growth and species diversity. Makes sense not to knock 'em over eh? Goodness knows we need good engineers in Byron

'Dog friendly beach' hosted by Chris Hemsworth may make people take notice. Perhaps a chat around Taylor's Lake with Nicole Kidman and Delta Kay about the fact that this is actually an Indigenous women's birthing lake, not a barbeque site. A line-up of local surfers to give some pointers on wave and leg rope etiquette, and the fact that our back beaches are not for learners. Maps showing legal camp sites, and the importance of paying to stay – as our locals need a good night's sleep to run their cafes.

Some fire safety from Scout would be timely given things are going to get heated this summer.

This initiation QMT coded guide could pop-up on your phone as you enter the rainbow region. All hire cars, Uber, bikes and buses could have it loaded.

The 'what's in it for you' is that you will be contributing to ensuring that the place you bought into is still intact in ten years, and that you get the healing you came here for.

> **Alison Drover** Broken Head

► Continued from page 12

main operation today is of highly sophisticated killing machines (drones). In 2012 Raytheon Australia recorded a turnover of \$735.5 million.

The British Government, only last week, announced a staggering £16.5 billion increase, to their already massive so-called 'defence' budget, which makes Britain the largest military spender in Europe. This at a time when the country is struggling with COVID-19, and an estimated figure of more than five million children are living in poverty, many obviously homeless. On top of this they want the world to believe they have a grand plan to address climate change. The mind boggles. Love is the answer

Ballina

The vexing vax

I am writing in regards to your (The Echo's) response to Theo Engelaer's letter Human Gene Therapy (25 November).

It doesn't take a brain surgeon to understand that *The Echo* is extremely pro vaccination with regards to vaccine safety, as per your reply to the above letter to the editor.

In your response you quoted Mark Lynas, a visiting fellow at Cornell University's Alliance for Science Group.

Considering the conflict of interest that Mark Lynas has regarding his alliance with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, can you provide other non-conflicted scientific studies to support your response? I have supplied a link from the US Right To Know site: Cornell Alliance for Science is a PR Campaign for the Agrichemical Industry. I'm hoping that your paper will be more open to investigative journalism, which I feel is lacking in this debate.

The Echo was once a voice for the alternative movement not just a 'follow your Government's instructions' **Deb & Mick Stacey** voice, which I think it is doing

> **Helen Thompson** South Golden Beach

Best to be safe

The Japan 2021 Olympics may be a little different from previous ones, or at least the beds the participants will sleep in will be different. The beds will be long at 2.1m but they will be lonely as they are single beds. It appears that previously the Olympians haven't been so

lonely based on the number of condoms supplied. They were originally supplied as a response to the spread of HIV – 8,391 athletes at the 1988 Seoul Olympics were given 8,000 or slightly less than one per person so some sharing was assumed. By the 2016 Rio games the number of condoms increased to 42 per competitor and yet some sharing was assumed.

Although the numbers are perhaps amusing, and the purpose sensible, why are condoms only available for Olympians, many of whom are wealthy? The need of so many people for medical, food, health and shelter support is obvious, but few governments have made any real attempts or had any success to help their more needy citizens and yet athletes, especially the successful ones, are provided with many resources, even recreational ones. There is also the flippant suggestion that they might want more top-level athletes.

Let the Olympians enjoy their recreational opportunities but consider spreading the generosity of health product availability to all that need it.

> **Dennis Fitzgerald** Box Hill, Vic



If you are reading this, it's because we're not dead yet, although it was looking bad for a while.

In the April to June period, we published the worst paper, financially, that we can remember in more than 30 years with The Echo. And the second-worst, the third-worst

But we weren't the only ones feeling the pain of the pandemic restrictions. The accommodation sector estimated that they were 95% down on the previous year, and by July figures showed Byron was one of the worst-hit areas in NSW with around 60% of businesses reliant on JobKeeper. The Echo for the first time received government grants. In June, News Corp closed five newspapers in Tweed, Lismore, Ballina and Byron Bay.

Through this period so many of you contacted us to urge us to continue, continued your advertising when we really needed you to, started advertising just to support us, or even just straight out gave us money. Without you, and without your continued support, we wouldn't be here.

Whether you're buying property or buying a pair of shoes, if you support our advertisers you are supporting local businesses that in turn support us, local jobs, and the airing of local issues that matter to locals.

Thanks, From The Echo drudges



It's on again!

Mullum Shop Local this Christmas!

Shop Local &

GET YOUR ENTRIES AND WIN! Spend \$20 or more at a participating store during the Mullum Shop Local campaign for your chance to win one of 20 \$100 shopping vouchers*



WEEK 3 WINNERS!

and where they shopped

Geoff Haycraft

Hooked and Cooked

Myles Osborne Devine Quality Meats

Doc Ryan

Devine Quality Meats

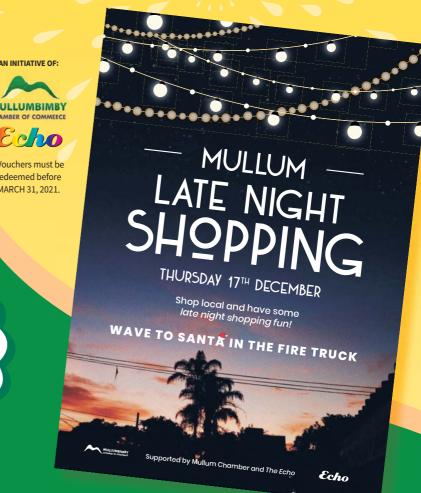
Helena Bernard

Mullum Instyle Living **Marcus Walters**

Mitre 10



Vouchers must be redeemed before MARCH 31 2021



PARTICIPATING STORES:

Auto/Tyres/ Mechanical

- B-Line Auto
- 2 Chincogan Mechanical
- **3 Main Arm Mechanical**
- Mullumbimby Tyres
- **5** Liberty Mullumbimby

Hair/Beauty

Simply Sheer Hair & **Beauty**

Bicycles

True Wheel Cycles

Books

The Bookshop **Mullumbimby**

Camping

Mullumbimby Disposals

Clubs

- Mullum Ex-Services Club
- Mullum Leagues Club

Computers

12 Mullum Mac

Experience

Crystal Castle

Farm Equipment

44 Farmcare

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- Southern Cross **Credit Union**

- WD Nicholls & **Associates**
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- Cardamom Pod
- **22** Court House Hotel **Mullum**
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- **29** Dinos IGA Mullumbimby



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James Hardware (Mitre 10 Mullum)

Health

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- 6 Chemsave Pharmacy
 Mullum
- Mullum Comprehensive Health Centre

Hire

Mullumbimby Hire & Sales

Music

Son of Drum

Stationers

- 50 Dolphin Office Choice Mullum/Byron
- Mullumbimby Newsagency

Veterinarian

52 Mullum Vet Clinic



With a background in beauty and an internationally recognised Diploma In Natural & Organic Skincare formulation, owner / creator Steph Finigan has been handcrafting truly natural skincare and pure vegan soy candles for over 15 years.

Vegan friendly, toxin and preservative free, the range is handcrafted in small fresh batches from raw and certified organic ingredients in the Byron Arts and Industry estate and Mullumbimby Studio stores.

Each time you make a purchase from the range, it is a 'Purchase with Purpose', seeing \$2 per product donated directly to Remote Laundries, enabling access to clean hot water and laundry facilities for Aboriginal communities in remote Australia.

Complimenting the range, you'll find beautiful products for the home also handmade by artisans in small communities, both local and abroad.

Shop 3, 78 Dalley Street, Mullumbimby www.intherawbyronbay.com.au 1B / 11 Banksia Drive, Byron Bay

MAHASHE

For the love of cotton...

A down to earth, ethical fashion label, proudly designed here in the Northern Rivers. MahaShe is a local label with a keen dedicated following Australia wide.

Their one and only flagship store is here in beautiful Brunswick Heads. Specialising in natural fabrics and vibrant, unique prints, you can't help but fall in love.

MahaShe thanks you for supporting small business this festive season, and they look forward to seeing you in store.

14a The Terrace, Brunswick Heads 6685 1411 www.mahashe.com

In the Raw **BYRON BAY**

NATURAL | ORGANIC | HANDMADE



1B / 11 Banksia Drive, Byron Bay • 3/78 Dalley Street, Mullumbimby www.intherawbyronbay.com.au



FOR THE LOVE OF COTTON LOCALLY DESIGNED FASHION 14 The Terrace, Brunswick Heads www.mahashe.com | @mahasheclothing

Honey Hunt Style

We love Honey Hunt! Support them, buy local and support genuine Australian made designer clothing that's dedicated to you, to all women and girls, to honeys everywhere.

Their collection is drawn from original artworks by artist Jules Hunt and her daughter Rosabella, printed by local fabric printers, hand cut in their Byron studio, and sewn by Australian seamstresses. The ultimate slow clothing, supporting a small group of talented women, committed to creating comfortable, well-made clothing that lasts.

Enjoy yoga leggings, patterned skirts and dresses, tailored to fit, whatever your shape and size. Beautifully finished and adorned with the empowered Queen Bee logo and mantra to self 'You are a honey xx' on the inside of each waistband. Original prints for original women!

1 Centennial Cct (Cnr Bayshore Dr) **Byron Arts & Industry Estate** 0408 766 546 www.honeyhunt.style

Peek Gallery

Peek Gallery currently showcases a collection of landscape paintings, figurative and abstract works by local artist and owner Gabrielle Pool, as well as Bill Undery and Davide Uliana.

Not only can you view a variety of artworks from small inks on paper through to major oils on canvas, there is also the option of Residential and Commercial Commissions. This broad range of work will suit all art lovers, from first time buyers to established collectors, and the gallery is able to offer the independent services of fine art valuer Brenda Colahan of BCFA.

Whether you need an affordable print or you're in the market for investment art to add to your collection, they can accommodate you.

7/8 Fletcher Street, Byron Bay 0488 646 464 www.peekgallery.com





For real

women's bodies XS-XXL

Buy local & support genuine Australian made designer clothing.

1 Centennial Cct, facing Bayshore Drive with parking in front. Byron Arts & Ind 0408 766 546 Mon-Fri 10-4pm Markets - Byron Twilight, Byron & Bangalow



www.honeyhunt.style



7/8 FLETCHER STREET, BYRON BAY

PHONE 0488 64 64 64 @PEEKGALLERY HELLO@PEEKGALLERY.COM

CHECK WEBSITE FOR OPENING HOURS



December in Narnia

Gabrielle Pool

WWW.PEEKGALLERY.COM



Christmas with the Anglican Parish of Byron

The Anglican Parishes of Bangalow, Byron Bay and Mullumbimby have combined and are now known as the Anglican Parish of Byron.

They joined together to more effectively serve the community. Please share this Christmas season with them.

Their special gift to the Community this year is the up lighting of All Soul's Church, Bangalow, St Paul's Church, Byron Bay and St Martin's Church, Mullumbimby. In partnership with North Coast Events the churches will shine from 18 December, 2020 until 1 January, 2021.

They hold the community and the world in their prayers and in their hearts as we continue to face the extraordinary challenges that 2020 has given us.

Christmas blessings from The Anglican Parish of Byron

Christmas Message From Justine Elliot MP

Christmas is a special time of year when families, friends, neighbours, and communities come together to celebrate the festive season.

This year Christmas is even more special as 2020 has been a tough year for so many in our community.

Throughout these challenges we've seen such generosity from locals who've reached out to help each other, and that's what makes the north coast such a great place to live. It's a privilege and an honour to serve the people of Richmond in our Federal Parliament and I'm so proud of how much we've achieved by working together.

My husband Craig, our children Alexandra and Joe, and I all wish you and your family a wonderful Christmas and a happy and exciting New Year.

Justine Elliot

Federal Member for Richmond

justineelliot.com.au justine.elliot.mp@aph.gov.au facebook.com/JustineElliotMP

Aeromax Coaching

Ever tried to take action in your life, only to find the limitation of your own thoughts separating you from your potential?

The beliefs you have about yourself are an amalgam of past memories and imagined futures viewed through the filter of past experiences. Both are illusionary and hamper our ability to be present with our lives and to fulfil our basic need to feel benevolence, ease, love and to feel connected to enthusiasm and motivation. We don't think those qualities, we feel them.

Grant Giles is an expert navigator of the illusionary self that is bound by belief and ideology. Grant's passion is to help people see through the beer coloured filters that disconnect them from their own power using Clinical Hypnotherapy and Strategic / Psychotherapy.

South Golden Beach
0407 959 063
inconvenientminds.com.au

Anglican Parish of Byron CHRISTMAS SERVICE TIMES

20th December

7.30pm Carols by Candlelight St Paul's: 14 Kingsley Street, Byron Bay Visuals and music to uplift the Spirit.

24th Dec Christmas Eve

6pm St Martin's

38 Stuart Street, Mullumbimby

7pm All Soul's

1 Ashton Street, Bangalow

A family Christmas Service including a Christmas story for the children. Children are invited to come dressed as one of the Nativity Characters ie: angels, shepherds or sheep, Mary or Joseph.

11pm St Paul's

14 Kingsley Street, Byron Bay Celebrating the birth of Jesus.

25th Dec Christmas Day

9am All Soul's

1 Ashton Street, Bangalow Christmas celebration.

9am St Paul's

14 Kingsley Street Byron Bay Christmas celebration.



To comply with COVID health regulations, please ring the Parish Office

6684 3552

on Tues or Thurs, or mobile

0418 150 765

at any other time to register your contact details.



Are you challenged by your thoughts?

Grant's unique skillset of hypnotherapy, strategic psychotherapy, elite sports coaching background and uncanny intuitive ability, will help you remove self doubt, judgement, and outdated mental scripts and beliefs to put you back in touch with your true nature and potential.

GRANT GILES, CLINICAL HYPNOTHERAPIST & STRATEGIC PSYCHOTHERAPIST

9 Robin St, South Golden Beach NSW 0407 959 063

inconvenientminds.com.au





MERRY CHRISTMAS NORTH COAST!

The North Coast community has come together to support each other throughout 2020 - a year like no other.





BonBon by Belle Vie

Your bespoke keto/paleo and plant based Ayurvedic caterer, BonBon by Belle Vie specialises in keto/paleo raw sweets, treats, biscuits, cakes, deserts, meals, meal prep platters, grazing boxes and gift boxes.

Don't live life stressing about dietary requirements. They can cover most dietary requirements, including Fodmap, ketogenic, and even vegan ketogenic.

Order through a local environmentally conscious business that uses Australian grown produce, most of which is grown in our beautiful region. Most of which is also organic, or at least spray free, and all of which is fresh, delicious and healthy. Ask about their festive season treats and desserts: trifle, white xmas, rum balls, fruit mince pies, custard, ginger cookies, and Christmas puddings.

BonBon by Belle Vie are also offering full service picnics.

Everything is made with love.

Email enquiries to bonbonbybelle@gmail.com BonBon by Belle Vie - Beautiful Life Candy.

Keto/Paleo and raw catering. CAKES | BISCUITS | DESSERTS | SWEETS | PLATTERS

Ask about plant based! We can accommodate FODMAP.



90% Australian ingredients most local to Byron Bay region!

WE NOW DO FULL SERVICE BESPOKE PICNICS!

bonbonbybelle@gmail.com @ @bonbonbybelle

Love Byron Bay créperie and chocolate boutique

Fa la la la la, la ooh la la!

Delight everyone with the taste of artisan chocolate and French fruit flans this

Gourmet chocolate hampers and festive fruit flans take centre stage under the tree and on the table.

Dedicated to firing the imagination with unique chocolate and confectionary encounters, Love Byron Bay's Festive Hampers cater for everyone. The choice is broad with flavours that match every taste preference and dietary requirement, including vegan and GF.

Select from a wide range of chocolate, confectionary and L'Ultime French Cakes.

Wine and cheese paring chocolate, organic, single origin, ceremonial, Christmas themed, raw, nougat, marzipan, rocky road and a large selection of delicious vegan options are all 'ooh la la!'

Reminder... Order your ultimate Festive Fruit Flan now: Combining a layer of decadent dark chocolate over a shortbread base, topped with vanilla custard and an abundance of seasonal fruit, they are perfect for the Australian Christmas.

3 Lawson St, Byron Bay (Next to Spar Supermarket) Open 7 days 10am-10pm 6685 7974

love-byronbay.com

6685 7974

info@love-byronbay.com

Open 7 days, 10am-10pm

love-byronbay.com 3 Lawson St (next to Spar)





Mushrooms are our future.

Life Cykel is an evolutionary mushroom biotechnology company that focuses on creating sustainable ecosystems utilising mushrooms and mycelium. By harnessing the Circular Economy and using its partnership with mushrooms, Life Cykel is able to offer incredible products and services for our health and planetary harmony.

Life Cykel is proud to be a vertically integrated company that grows mushrooms in Australia and the USA to create the most pure and bioavailable Liquid Extracts so that you can easily access all of the benefits. Life Cykel strives to interfuse ancient Indigenous knowledge into their products and believes in integrating the highest possible ethos into everything they do.

Try their world famous Biohacking sets.

"One of the most advanced product packs I have ever found to date." @iamnatalie.

www.lifecykel.com

No Bones Restaurant

No Bones is tucked away in a peaceful nook on Fletcher Street and has been open for two-and-a-half-years now, quickly becoming a local favourite. They are always striving for environmentally friendly excellence, and 2021 is set to be a year of frequent charity nights, working closely with local businesses to help build stronger community awareness. They are teaming up with the conscious crew at Cape Byron Distillery (Brookies) for their first charity night. The chefs will be serving up a delicious multi-course feast paired with Brookies cocktails. The first series of charity nights will focus on local biodiversity and regeneration. No Bones is aiming to get the community involved and educated on the importance of local rainforest species, so we can plant more of them and enjoy their many benefits. Join them on their mission to save the Earth, one Brussels sprout at a time.

#brusselsnotbeef 11 Fletcher Street, Byron Bay 6680 7418 nobonesbyronbay.com

NIGHT (LIMITED BOOKINGS)

Σ





NO BONES

JOIN US FOR NEW YEARS EVE AND ENJOY OUR 8 COURSE VEGAN DEGUSTATION

\$155PP - ORGANIC BUBBLES ON ARRIVAL

BOOK NOW

HEAD TO OUR WEBSITE - NOBONESBYRONBAY.COM



Devine Quality Meats

Vince Devine and his friendly team in Mullumbimby are here to help with all your festive feasting needs. They have delicious hams that are smoked in house, as well as a range of turkeys, ducks, chickens and turduckins. All meats are locally sourced, antibiotic and hormone free and their award-winning sausages are a must try. Also stocking quality deli and small goods – they have a great range!

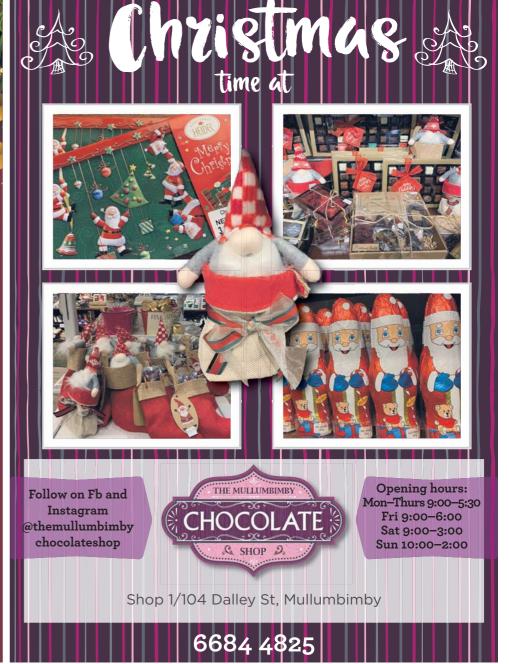
Order now for Christmas by dropping in to the store 64 Stuart St, Mullumbimby or calling 6684 2015.

The Mullumbimby chocolate Shop

It's that time again! Be sure to check out The Mullumbimby Chocolate Shop's unique range of Christmas gift ideas ranging from beautifully made gourmet chocolate gift boxes, where you can choose one of their pre-made gift boxes or have one made up! So many choices from Belgian chocolate pralines, cherry liqueurs, fudge, licorice and lollies, to chocolate foiled Santa's, stocking stuffers galore and yummy little gifts for secret Santa's. They have lots of vegan, organic and gluten free options as well. And while you're having your gifts wrapped, keep cool and treat yourself to their exciting latest addition of gelato and sorbet!

Happy holidays to you and yours from 'The Sweetest Shop in Town!' Shop 1, 104 Dalley Street, Mullumbimby 6684 4825







Byron Bay Pork

It's that very merry time of year again and the butchers at Byron Bay Pork are preparing the finest cuts of Christmas meats and selections for customers.

Your local family-owned business in Mullumbimby, they source premium quality pork, beef, lamb and goat from their family farms. All meats are antibiotic and hormone free.

They have locally sourced and smoked leg hams along with free range chickens, ducks and turkeys. Their specialty sausage range includes a gluten-free variety, salami and they stock a range of locally produced smallgoods, sauces, spices and products.

Come in and see the friendly staff or place an order on the phone, for all your festive season needs.

Open Monday to Saturday. 70 Dalley Street, Mullumbimby 6684 2137

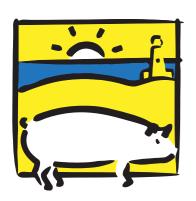
Husk Distillers

This year the local Ink Gin celebrated a milestone – 100 batches, marking 500k bottles handmade and hand bottled at Husk Farm Distillery!

Batch 1 of Ink Gin was first released in 2015. A small batch of only 105 bottles, it took the Messenger family a whole week to bottle in a small farm shed on their property in Tumbulgum.

Today Ink is one of Australia's most loved gin brands, still proudly independent. Distilled with 12 native and traditional botanicals before being organically infused with petals to impart a beautiful indigo colour, Ink is the original, all natural, colour changing gin.

The cellar door at Husk Farm Distillery is now open to the public. Go on a distillery tour to see behind the scenes, or just relax in the grounds with a gin & tonic in hand. Bookings recommended during holiday periods and on weekends. Book online at www. huskdistillers.com.



BYRON BAY PORK





Australian Pork Limited 2015 Best Australian Pork Spring Awards

Punjab Piggery
15 September 2015



Come in and see our friendly staff for a choice of local, grass-fed, organic and free-range meats—all antibiotic and hormone free.

Our smallgoods range includes locally produced smoked leg ham, salami and a variety of gluten-free sausages.

7AM-5PM MON-FRI, 8AM-12PM SAT

70 DALLEY ST, MULLUMBIMBY

PHONE 6684 2137









EX-SERVICES CLUB

Christmas at Leisurescapes

Freshen up your garden this summer, just in time for Christmas. Leisurescapes specialise in all your landscaping and garden requirements. They supply bulk sand, soil and mulches along with a vast selection of landscape supplies, including:

- Plants
- Statues
- Water features
- Stone sinks and composite stone bathtubs
- Pavers in natural stone, travertine, granite, sandstone and limestone.

They also stock composite

- * Pots
- * Urns
- * Screens
- ★ Tiles and stone

The ever-evolving range of products in the Lotus Homewares section is stocked for all your Christmas gift ideas.

You will find contemporary, coastal, bohemian, Balinese and tribal influences that complement our relaxed coastal lifestyle.

Leisurescapes are offering 20 per cent off their homewares from now until

Lot 2, Grevillea Street, A&I Estate, Byron Bay 6685 6990

www.leisurescapes.com.au @leisurescapesbyronbay

crystal castle

Hold and behold the enchanting beauty of crystal, from gigantic formations to exquisite jewellery.

Join the Sound Healing experience, as you sit within the sacred labyrinth.

Wander through stunning botanical gardens and rainforest.

Indulge in delicious views, local coffee and food.

Stand between two of the tallest geodes on Earth.

Sit in an ancient amethyst cave.

Discover the jewel of Byron.

81 Monet Drive, Montecollum 6684 3111

www.crystalcastle.com.au





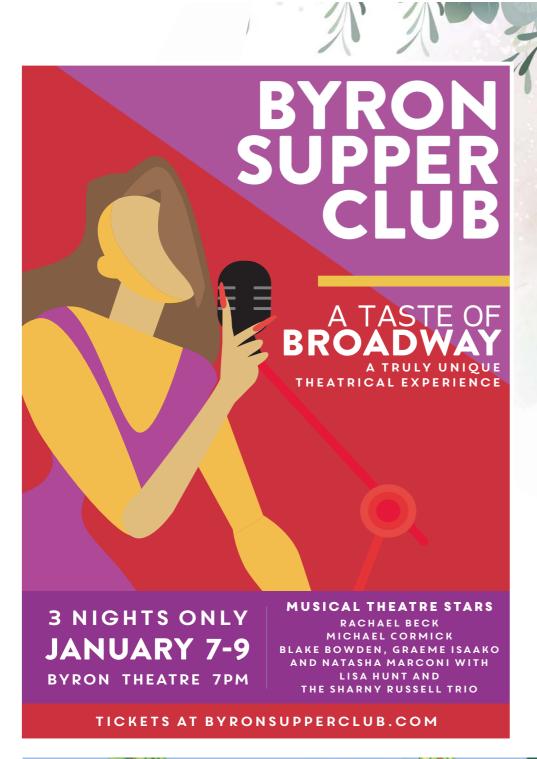




Welcome to the home of the largest natural crystals in the world where you can sit in an ancient amethyst cave.

discover the jewel of byron

81 Monet Drive, Mullumbimby NSW 2482
Open 10am — 5pm (NSW time) - Entry until 4pm
Holiday season 27 December to 25 January : Open 10am — 5:30pm (closed Christmas Day & Boxing Day)



BYRON SUPPER CLUB

Give the gift of theatre this Christmas with a taste of Broadway in the heart of Byron Bay.

For three nights only the Byron Theatre will transform into Byron Supper Club for a truly unique theatrical experience.

Cabaret style tables will replace traditional theatre seating. Enjoy five spectacular pop-up shows over three hours, featuring Australia's finest musical theatre performers and Byron's best local talent.

'Byron Supper Club is completely different to anything Byron has seen before. A rare opportunity to dress up and enjoy a glamorous night out at the theatre' says Artistic Director, Michael Cormick.

Treat your family and friends to a world-class musical extravaganza!

7-9 January 2021 7pm, Byron Theatre Tables of 2, 4 or 6 www.byronsupperclub.com

Tuff Nufferz

Australia's largest inflatable obstacle course is heading to Byron this summer! 19 December–5 January at the Cavanbah Centre. Fun for the whole family – they encourage everyone to get involved. Being 270 metres long, it has all the obstacles you can dream of. Ninety minute sessions for \$30. Group packages available. No age limit but children under five-years-old require an accompanying parent at all times. Each under-5yrs ticket comes with one free parent ticket. If both parents would like a go, an additional ticket is required. Book online to avoid disappointment

www.tuffnutterz.com Cavanbah Centre, 249 Ewingsdale Road, Byron Bay





Byron Bay's premium gifting store, The Wellbeing Store is now open.

Perfect for the gift giving season, The Wellbeing Store's range of unique thoughtful gifts means there is something for everyone. The wellbeing collection includes carefully curated kits from Me Time, to Press Pause and Byron Bay Good Vibes or you are invited to curate your own in store with founder and Wellbeing Expert, Fleur Marks. All kits are hand-wrapped with beautiful bespoke, sustainable packaging, ready to pop under the Christmas tree. Plus check out their range of gorgeous greeting cards. Give the gift of wellbeing this season.

The Wellbeing Store is more than just a bricks and mortar space. This store will be a space where wellbeing changes lives. Where the joy of giving is realised. A place that feels like a big hug. A place where many memories are made.

Come and visit in store or online.

www.thewellbeingstore.com.au

28 Parkes Avenue, Byron Bay 0404 676 750

Ballina fair Shopping Centre

Enjoy the convenience of having everything in the one great location and all here under the one roof.

Ballina Fair Shopping Centre is committed to making sure your Christmas shopping experience is a safe one and they have COVID Safe measures in place to ensure your safety.

Children of all ages can enjoy a magic moment with Santa. The Santa photographers have an SMS waitlist queuing system. To register simply visit the service desk outside Target. Santa is here every day until Christmas Eve. You can also bring your pet along to have their photo taken with Santa this Sunday 13 December from 12pm till 2pm.

It's all about making shopping easier for you this Christmas.

Ballina Fair Cnr Kerr and Fox Street, Ballina www.ballinafair.com.au



A beautiful collection of wellbeing products. Perfect for the gift giving season.

ر اے

Come visit us at

The Habitat, 28 Fullerton Lane, Byron Bay

live life as if it is rigged in your favour - Rushi

thewellbeingstore.com.au | @thewellbeingstore

OPEN LONGER FOR YOU!

For your shopping convenience, we are open longer in the lead up to Christmas. Plus plenty of FREE parking!

View our store trading hours at www.ballinafair.com.au

SANTA PHOTOS

Enjoy a magic moment with Santa, with photos printed instantly.

DATES AND TIMES:

Now to Sunday 13th Dec: 10AM-2PM Monday 14th to Saturday 19th Dec: 10AM-4PM Sunday 20th to Thursday 24th Dec: 9AM-5PM

LOCATION: outside Target

CHRISTMAS GIFT WRAPPING

Have your gifts beautifully wrapped for a gold coin donation.

DATES AND TIMES:

Saturday 12th to Saturday 19th Dec: 10am to 3pm Sunday 20th to Thursday 24th Dec: 9am - 4pm

LOCATION: outside Target





BALLINA FAIR

SHOPPING CENTRE





Karla Charfres Art

Local abstract artist, Karla Chartres opened her first solo exhibition *Emerge* for one evening last month, in the front foyer of the Mullumbimby Civic Hall. Owing to the huge success, it remains open and showcasing original artworks, handmade vases and pots, earrings, linen clothing and clutch bags. Original artworks begin at \$70 and local framing is optional. Handmade gifts start at \$25.

'The large number of sales on opening night means more painting! This space is an ideal art gallery – loads of natural light and big white walls. And air con!' said an excited Karla.

Keeping in mind Christmas is fast approaching, the gallery opens from midday till late, Tuesday-Saturday, allowing time for you to come past after work, or by appointment by calling 0437 856 065.

Paradis Movie club

Paradis Movie Club presents a very special Christmas event, featuring the screening o The Nightmare Before Christmas (1993) and the attendance of the film's artistic director Deane Taylor for a live Q&A.

You will also receive, as part of your ticket price, a delicious pumpkin tart and scoop of vanilla ice cream (vegan & G/F options available) by Your Gourmet Catering.

Celebrating Christmas in the year 2020 feels a bit strange when we know a lot of people have struggled and been very affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore \$5 of each ticket sold will go to 'Our Kids' charity which helps kids in hospital in the Northern Rivers. A charity representative will be there on the night to explain how the funds will be allocated.

This event is open to everyone, but ticket sales are limited.

Byron Theatre 69 Jonson Street, Byron Bay www.paradismovieclub.com





KARLA CHARIRES & LOCAL ARTISTS

ART GALLERY

OPEN Tuesday - Saturday

CIVIC HALL FOYER 55 Dalley St, Mullumbimby

Original artworks, handbuilt ceramics, linen clothing and more



Summer has arrived af Bell & Ford!

The Byron Bay and Bangalow stores are fully stocked for the new season with their favourite labels, from Australia and around the world, thoughtfully selected to suit our relaxed, beachside lifestyle.

Bell & Ford specialises in a carefully curated collection of soft, natural fabrics such as cotton, silk, and linen in wearable shapes, styles, colours, and prints. The clothing is complemented by a beautiful selection of accessories, from jewellery and scarves to leather goods, and they have a strong focus on ethically and sustainably sourced and produced products.

Visit them at 3/111 Jonson Street, Byron Bay and 44 Byron Street, Bangalow. They're open seven days a week.

02 6685 7095

www.bellandford.com.au @bellandford

Red Ginger

Walking through the doors of the Red Ginger stores in Byron Bay and Bangalow is a delight to all your senses. Like walking the lanes of a Chinese market surrounded by the sights, smells and flavours of Asia.

The steamed dumplings are famous, and it's a treat to sit in the store or on the lovely veranda in Bangalow to eat with free green tea, or take them home for an Asian treat.

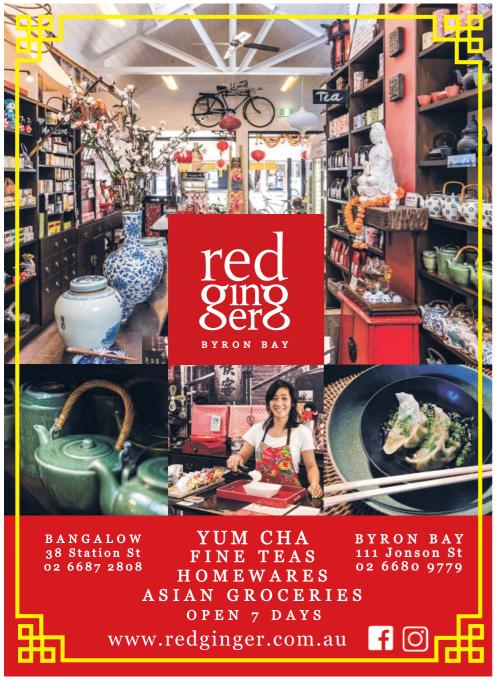
Red Ginger is your one stop Asian grocery and homewares shop, including locally sourced products, fresh organic Asian produce from Boon Luck Farm and locally foraged seaweeds. For anyone who is cooking Asian food, they have the best brands.

Teas, teapots, Japanese ceramics and many beautiful Asian-inspired furniture items, homewares and gifts fill the store.

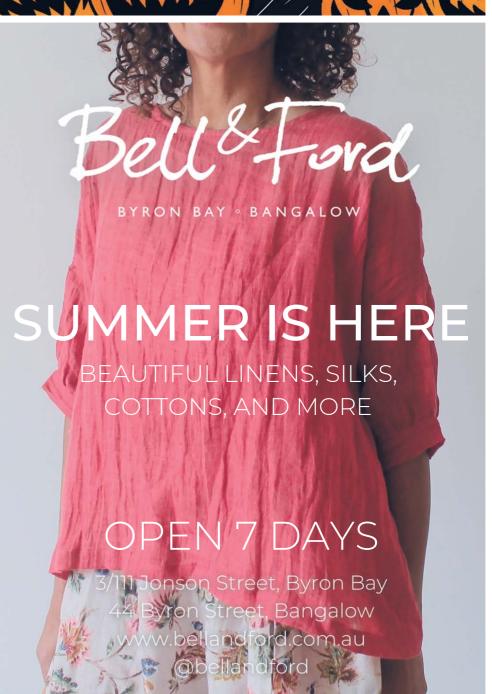
111 Jonson Street, Byron Bay.

6680 9779

38 Station Street, Bangalow. 6687 2808









Byron Community Market

Come and support locals by Christmas shopping at the Byron Community Market this Sunday 20 December.

Looking for a unique gift to put under the tree, or want to celebrate the holidays in Byron style? This market has the goods.

Spend the day in beautiful Byron Bay and enjoy the festive season perusing 200 stalls, showcasing the best of what the rainbow region has to offer. From handcrafted decorations to locally designed clothing and boutique wares, there's a Christmas gift for everyone.

Enjoy a delicious meal, take a leisurely browse along the beachfront, and be entertained with live music by Guy Kachel, Lucy Gallant and Sam Buckingham.

Make the holiday season memorable and get into the Christmas spirit at Byron's iconic Sunday market.

Byron Main Beach foreshore, Dening Park

The Book Warehouse

2020 has been a year like no other. COVID restrictions affected so many small businesses, and futures were uncertain. In the midst of the chaos, we launched our website, offered free local deliveries, and started offering postage within Australia for \$7.95.

This all helped. However, the main reason we survived and prospered was down to you, our wonderful customers. A bookish community is a strong and

resilient group, and we are so grateful to all who continue to support us through these challenging times.

Sarah Morrow, Richard Morrow, Wendy Coates and all the Staff of the The Book Warehouse Lismore, Coffs Harbour, Ballina and Grafton say thank you, and they wish you a joyful Christmas and look forward to your custom in 2021.

165 River Street, Ballina 6686 0917 107-109 Keen Street, Lismore 66214204 www.thebwh.com





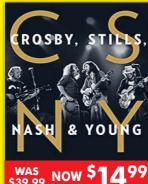


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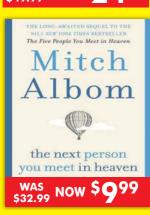


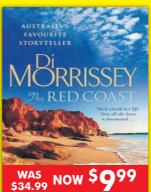












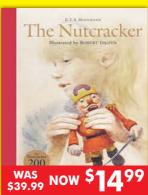
























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Dispensing musical medicine

Son of Drum is a candy store for adults – alive with the sounds of musical instruments you can try out and taste with your ears! They have musical instruments and accessories for all ages and skill levels to suit any budget. Their range is constantly evolving and improving, so it's always worth swinging by regularly to keep up to date with what's new. They also carry out instrument repairs and arrange tuition. They pride themselves on their helpful and intimate local knowledge. Oh yeah, and their prices are pretty competitive too! Drop in and see what they can do for you before you buy anywhere else, including online. You may be pleasantly surprised! They're fully stocked for Xmas.

Shop 1 / 31 Burringbar St, Mullumbimby 6684 1742

www.sonofdrum.com.au

Give the gift of circus

Nothing says 'I love you' like circus classes. Give the gift of joy this festive season with a Spaghetti Circus enrolment.

Enrolments for Term One, 2021 are now open. Book in before Friday, 22 January and receive a \$30 early bird discount.

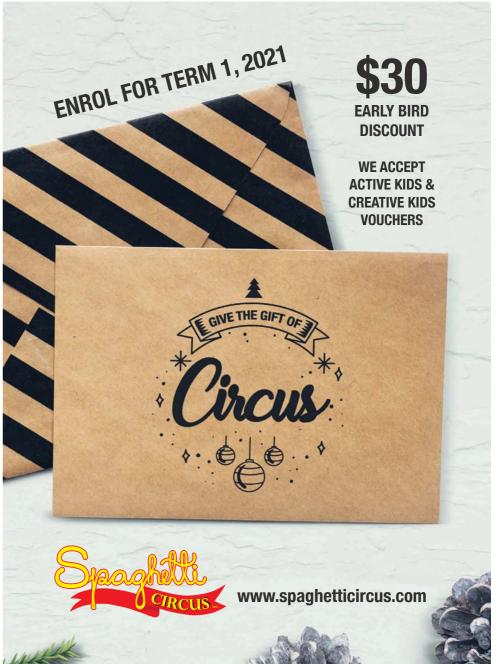
Classes include silks and trapeze, tumbling and juggling, acrobatics and aerials, and so much more.

To condition your body, build resilience, increase flexibility and strengthen your

Use your Active Kids and Creative Kids vouchers to further subsidise the cost of circus classes. If you have any left from 2020, send them through and the credit will be applied to your 2021 enrolment.

Book online at www.spaghetticircus.com. For more information email info@spaghetticircus.com or phone 6684 3038. **Happy Holidays!**







Raw • Organic • Artisan

Dark, decadent and delish this Basic Black is the beginning of many good things. An organic alchemy of bittersweet intensity that is the best of raw cacao, blended with vanilla, cinnamon, a pinch of salt, maple syrup and a touch of agave to

It is a soy, dairy, refined sugar, stabilisers, preservative free option of awesomeness to have in the fridge ready to go!

Create a raw chocolate bark, melting and spreading it on a sheet of baking paper, adding your desired nuts / fruit / adaptogens / or superfoods.

You can use it to dress a cake or dessert, as a chocolate sauce or a topping wherever the recipe calls for chocolate.

https://www.aliveandwild.com/raw-organic-artisan-cacao 0412 400 085

cactus Hill

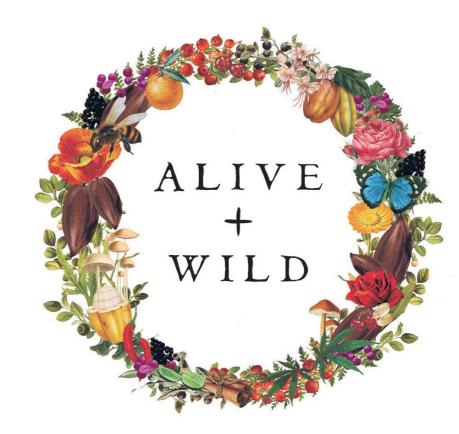
After eight months closed for repairs after a car rammed their store, the Cactus Hill team are excited to finally re-open.

They have taken the opportunity to redesign and revitalise their look while remaining true to their mantra 'live life in style'. They continue to create unique stories for your life and home, working with you to find the perfect gift, that must have accessory, or to help you create the home of your dreams. Let them take the stress out of selling your home and talk to them about staging your home for sale.

They are thrilled to re-open by showcasing the works of landscape photographer Christopher Cruzado, who travels the globe capturing unique and stunning images of natural beauty.

Open Mon to Fri 10am-5.30pm, Sat and Sun 10am-3pm. 82 Burringbar St, Mullumbimby 6684 6110

www.cactushillproject.com.au



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The Brunswick Heads Record Fair

Brunswick Heads NYE Record Fair is on again.

Tuesday 29 December 2020, to Saturday 2 Jan 2021. Memorial Hall Fingal St, Brunswick Heads, 10am-6pm every day.

During COVID-19 Matt the Vinyl Junkie has been squirrelling away recent collections he has purchased, as well as pricing up gems from digging trips to Japan and the USA pre-covid. With around 40,000 records in stock The Brunswick Heads Record Fair is one of the biggest and best fairs in Australia.

Covering most genres there is something for almost everyone. From rare psych to \$5 cheapies the fair has become a must attend event for vinyl junkies from near and far.

Bargain hunters be advised, the \$5 records will only be for sale on the last two days of the fair.

Byron community college Term 1 Program now available.

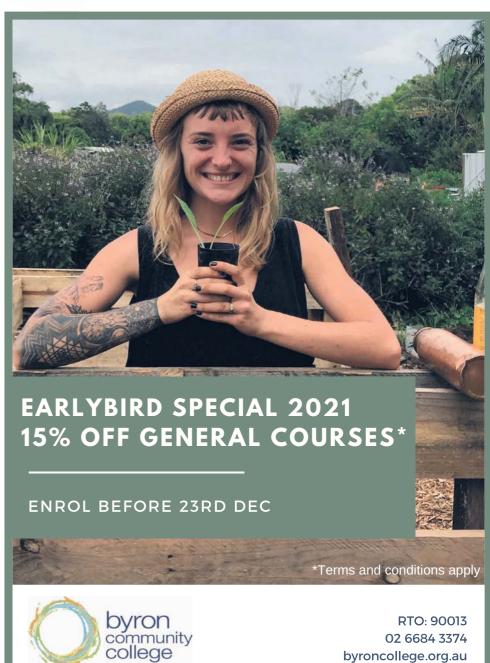
Looking to train for a new career, upskill, or learn a new hobby in 2021? Want to study right here in beautiful Byron Shire? Create your future at Byron Community College. With over 130 courses available, including 27 new general courses there is something for everyone. Choose from nationally recognised training courses, to courses in language, handcrafts, business, computers, writing, music, sustainability, photography, drawing and painting, and cooking and wellbeing workshops.

Enjoy 15 per cent off* the cost of general courses when you book online by Thursday 23 December. Simply enter EARLYBIRD at checkout.

Keep an eye out for the new look Term One, Course Program, available online now, or delivered to your door inside *The Echo* next week.

To book, visit www.byroncollege.org.au or call 02 6684 3374. *Terms and conditions apply







Bodhi Living is a conceptual furniture store that strives to bring home the magic of rich and vibrant cultures, looking for character, beauty and quality in everything they source. Bodhi showcases unique, antique pieces from around the world, combined with a range of contemporary furniture, rugs, lighting, décor and art.

They also offer a unique and personalised design experience with the support of their knowledgeable team. They can help guide their clients through residential, commercial and contract projects with in-house design consultation, planning and execution.

At Bodhi they believe a home is an extension of one's self and they work with their clients to draw on your personal style, creating considered spaces that enrich the soul and are imbued with character and meaning.

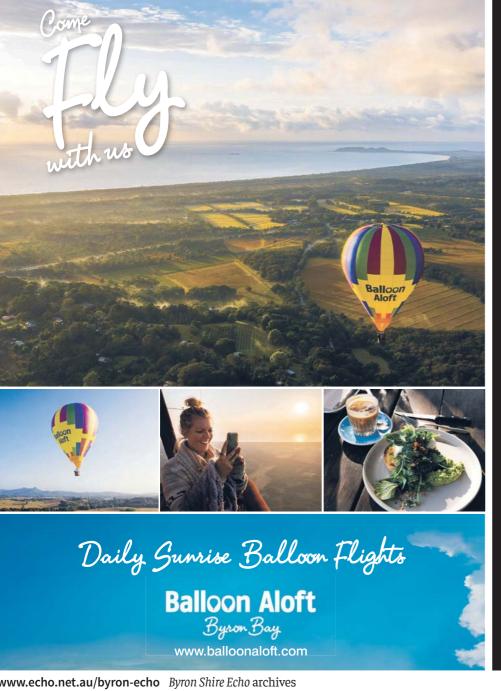
Shop 1-2/18 Centennial Cct, Byron Bay 6685 5449 @bodhi.living

Balloon Aloff

As the summer season is upon us what better way to celebrate with your friends and family than atop the rainbow region in a hot air balloon! Balloon Aloft Byron Bay offer daily sunrise flights across the Shire, which is a great outdoor adventure to share with your loved ones. Spectacular views span from native treetops through to the Mt Warning caldera, green valleys and ocean beyond. Their professional team of pilots and crew will accompany you throughout the morning, making for an unforgettable fun experience.

Exclusive and group bookings available upon request and all flights include a delicious breakfast after the flight at The Three Blue Ducks, The Farm.

Enjoy the Christmas cheer this festive season and visit www.balloonaloftbyronbay.com









Toy Kingdom

For children, toy stores are magic places. At Toy Kingdom you'll find everything you need to make your child's Christmas truly delightful, with a huge range of high-quality toys that are made to endure. From beautiful rattan dolls furniture to organic soft dolls and Jellycat Rabbits in all the colours of the rainbow, Toy Kingdom has all of your favourite brands. It's hard to go past the range of beautiful wooden infant's toys or the extensive range of walkers, ride-on's and scooters to keep kids active.

For the games buff you will find all of your childhood favourites along with hard-to-find games and quality puzzles for the whole family. For the creative child there is arts and crafts and science kits that fuel the imagination and teach while they play.

Shop 2, Carlyle Street, Byron Bay 6680 8811 Mytoykingdom.com.au

capture Christmas

This Christmas let Byron Photo Magic help you create meaningful, unique, personalised, thoughtful, beautiful and heartwarming gifts for your loved ones, using your own great photos. You can create gorgeous photo books, or have photos printed on canvas, wood, mugs, mouse pads, drink coasters and even jigsaws. Drop in and chat to Stephen and his team, or just jump on their website. You can also grab the latest GoPro 8 range of cameras, Fujifilm x series and Polaroid cameras and film. Of course they offer other great year-round services like passport photos, photo restoration, digital card recovery, scanning services and 35mm film developing, both colour & h/w!

Open Monday till Friday 9am–5pm and Saturday 10am–2pm. Christmas Eve, open 9am–5pm for any last-minute gifts!

Shop 20 Mercato on Byron, 108-114 Jonson Street, Byron Bay www.photomagic.com.au 6685 5877

Your local fishing £ Camping experts

Byron Bay Camping & Fishing can provide all the advice and gear you need for your next fishing or camping trip. They stock rods, reels, bait, tackle, nets, lures, plus of course all the usual camping gear such as tents, sleeping bags, mats, chairs, tables, lighting, camp stoves, gas, tools, and knives. They also have you sorted for all your summer beach needs, with beach shelters, beach chairs, umbrellas, and more.

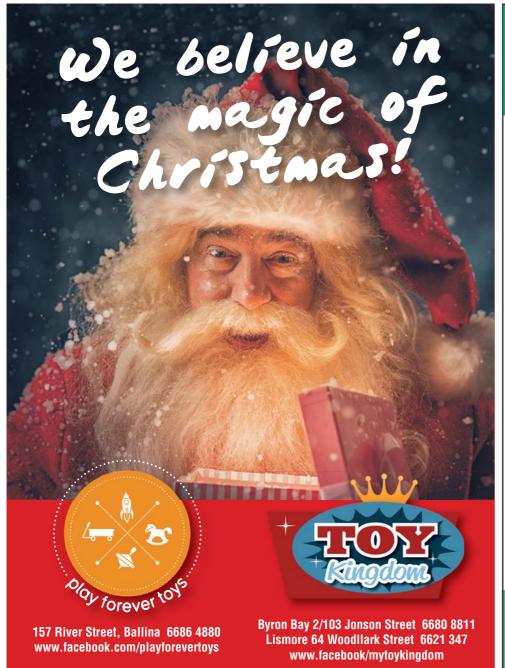
They stock reputable brands like Black Wolf, OzTrail, Opinel, Outdoor Connection, Okuma, Saga Tackle, Neptune Tackle, Berkley, Osprey, and Yo-Zuri.

Byron Photo Magic Your Local Photo Store

Visit them instore or check them out online.

Shop 16, Byron Plaza 90–96 Jonson St (next to the old Woolworths Building) 6685 8085

byron-camping.com.au





Monday - Friday 10am - 5pm, Sat 10am - 2pm

(Sunday & public holidays closed) 6685 5877

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Mullumbimby optometry Colleen Reilly and Greg Litchfield

Come and meet the highly qualified optometrists and dispensers at Mullumbimby Optometry to get the best advice you need on eye care. Optometry is about the early detection of eye disease eg macular degeneration, glaucoma and cataracts.

Comprehensive testing includes: Retinal photography, visual field testing and retinal scanning, for all spectacle and contact lens prescriptions.

As an independent practice, they are also able to offer you a unique choice of eyewear, to name a few: Paul Taylor, La Font, David Spencer, Furla, and Fiction. Book an examination with either Colleen Reilly or Greg Litchfield, who have over 50 years of combined experience.

6684 1799

Shop 2, 108 Stuart Street, Mullumbimby

ozone Beauty & Medi Spa

U-Box 4D Centreless HiFu Pro is the leading non surgical face lifting, skin refining antiageing treatment in the world. Kirsty, founder and lead therapist at Ozone Beauty & Medi Spa is the Hifu Guru and celebrity facialist and welcomes visitors and supports our local community in advanced natural antiageing techniques. This summer experience the healing power of HiFu and receive a complimentary Oxygen Spa Facial with every full face lift. Normally \$2750, now only \$2200 for a 2½ hr treatment. First 10 bookings this December also receive a complimentary Skin Care Christmas Pack worth \$299. Book now for your Free Consultation online at www.ozonebeautyspa.com.au

Check out the before and after images on hifubyron.com.au, or call 02 6685 1145. Gift Vouchers and soul & skin stocking fillers also in store for a wonderful Christmas.

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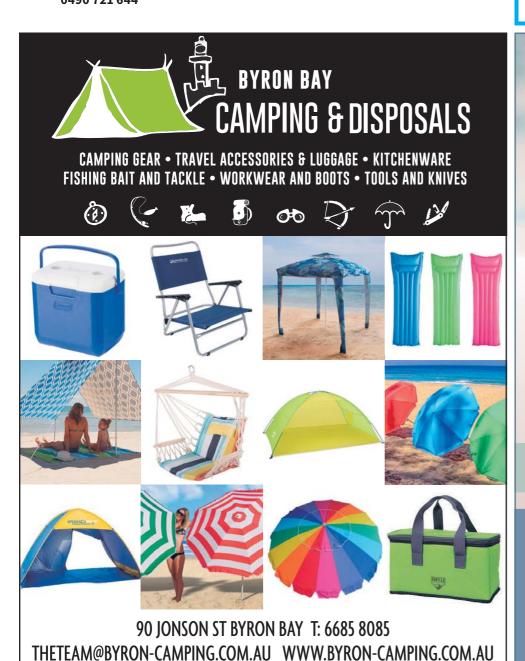
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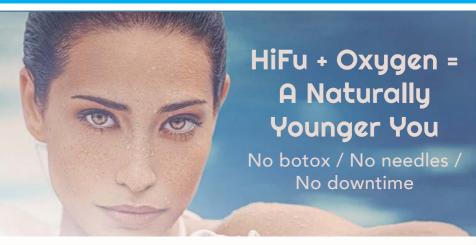
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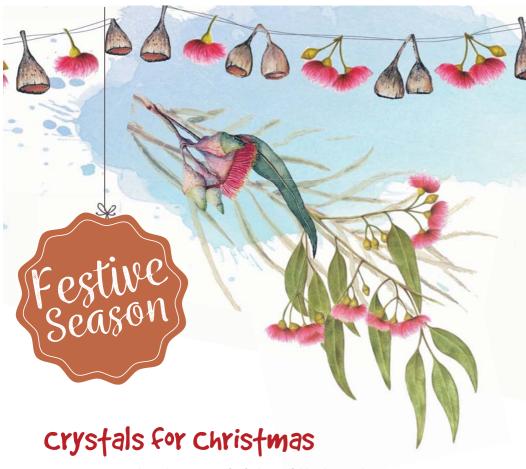
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Give someone you love the unique gift of a beautiful healing and nurturing experience this Christmas. What better way to clear this year of challenge and start the new year than with a fresh, cleansed, balanced, charged up you! And nothing says Byron Christmas like a Crystal Healing!

Shift stuck energy, let old stuff go and free up space within yourself to create positive new experiences! Crystal Resonance Therapist and Dream Coach Kate Messenger offers Crystal Resonance Therapy™ sessions in Mullumbimby. Sessions are facilitated through a "laying on of stones" while you are in a relaxed and receptive state. The crystals work together synergistically to balance your energy and create powerful, lasting changes.

Some of the many benefits include: More energy and balance, improved sleep, greater creativity and confidence, increased sense of personal power, enhanced feelings of wellbeing and intuition. Gift vouchers available.

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www.crystalsanddreaming.com.au

Everfresh fruit & Veg at Ballina fair

Everfresh Fruit & Veg is the place to go for locally sourced fresh fruit, vegetables and specialty goods for your Christmas feast. Stocking in-season trays of mangoes, boxes of cherries, all your salad needs and much more.

To help with COVID19 restrictions Everfresh are asking that we are all a little bit organised this year as retailers are limited to how many people can be in store at any one time. Call to place your order and they will then pick and pack ready for collection, saving you time and long queues. Once your order is picked and packed they will send you a text letting you know it's ready for collection at your earliest convenience.

Ballina Fair Shopping Centre 84 Kerr St, Ballina 6681 6981

Device Trader

Device Trader (formerly iRepairs Byron Bay) has been keeping the Shire's phones running for over five years now through their shop on Jonson Street.

This year the company has evolved to offer a full range of new and refurbished devices in store and online.

Device Trader's Founder Duane Tutchen told *The Echo*, 'Like most businesses we were hit pretty hard during the covid lockdowns. Although tough, it did however allow us time to focus on building out our new website. We now offer great deals in-store and online across a wide range of products. We've got a huge range of mobile phones, laptops, tablets and accessories available, and you can even trade in your old device with us too!'

1/130 Jonson Street, Byron Bay 6685 5585 www.devicetrader.com.au



Shift stuck energy, let old stuff go and free up space to attract and create positive new experiences!

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"Kate is able to immediately sense what is needed in a healing session. I arrived feeling tense and fearful and left with a sense of calmness and optimism which lasted for days. I gained great insight into my own condition during the session. I can't recommend Kate highly enough".

- Emma Cottrell

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Phone: 02 6681 6981

The team at EVERFRESH wish you all

a happy and healthy Christmas!



Authentic mid-century design

Vampt Vintage Design owners Dave and Maxine Beeman moved back to Byron three years ago, and with 20 years experience in vintage furniture, they expanded into the Byron region. Vampt has two stores in the area – a quaint container store at 24 Granuaille Rd Bangalow and a share space with Byron Studios at 5/82 Centennial Cct Byron Arts and Industry Estate.

This week's ad features part of Sydney's biggest range of Pierre Jeanneret originals, from 1950's Chandigarh, India. These pieces are very rare and not for the fainthearted. See their website for the whole collection.

Vampt pride themselves on quality pieces from the Mid-Century Modern era and beyond.

Check out the virtual tour on the website. www.vamptvintagedesign.com



Mr Simple

More than a clothes store, the Department of Simple Things is a place to find dependable products that stand the test of time.

An eclectic collection of clothing, esky's, furniture, books, shoes, drink-ware and even a barbershop, the common thread is simple – only stuff we love gets in

If you need something for a weekend barbeque or your mate's birthday the Department is your spot.

Brands include Yeti, Traeger, Leatherman, Victorinox, Herschel Supply Co, Dead Kooks, Mr Simple, Clae, Redwing, Blundstone and more.

Shop 39-41, 1 Porter Street, Habitat, Byron Bay





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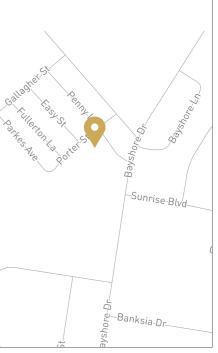
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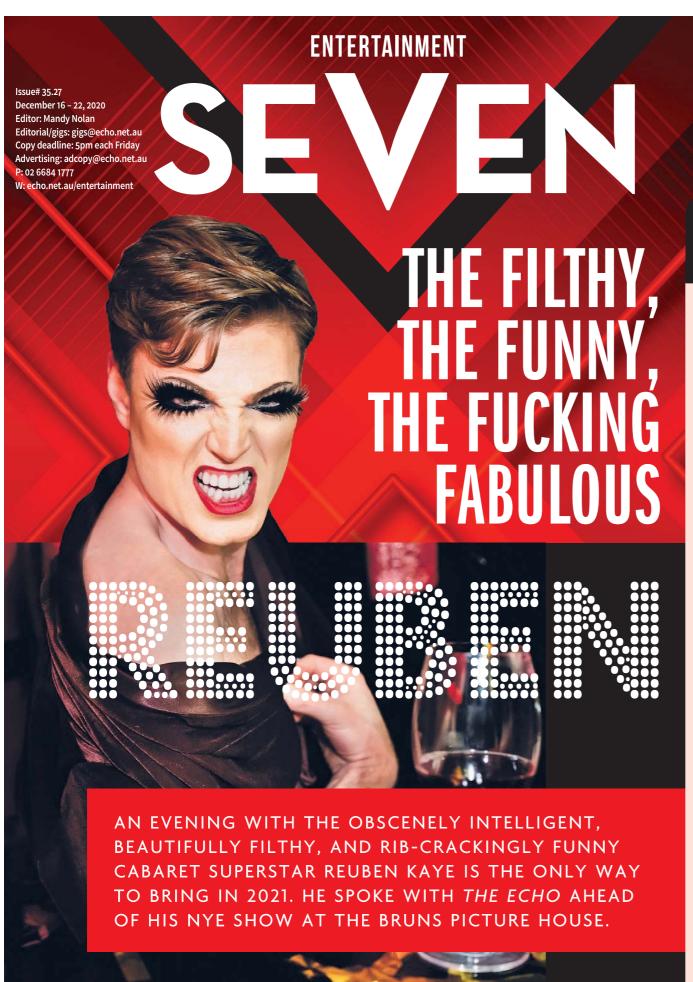
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10 Station Street, Bangalow | @ 3 HammerAndHandBangalow



Reuben, how was 2020 for you?

2020? No, 2020 was fine for me (reaches for cask wine and thorazine). Honestly? 2020 was rougher than driving a tractor through a toddler's birthday party. But what else is gonna bind us together than one massive shared trauma... that's what my therapist says, but also she lives on a houseboat so I don't know if I can really trust my mental health to someone with a chemical toilet.

What did you find out about yourself you didn't know before?

That I don't need to chew to eat an entire leg of lamb.

How do you continue to reinvent yourself? Have you always had this wonderful fluidity in your presentation?

I am, and will always be fluid. Which to be honest is just so much work to clean up. I've always identified with sharks. If they stay still they can't breathe, so they have to keep moving to survive. That's me. I also have sandpaper skin, three rows of teeth and am the reason surfers keep disappearing.

I like to believe that Australia has changed – have we? Are you starting to see more people embrace and be inspired by the authenticity you bring to stage?

I'd like to think so. And to be honest the most flak I've received in my life has come from regional UK or the US. Not from Australia so much, so that's growth... right? I think Australia has a reputation for 'traditional values' (which is a lovely euphemism for bigotry) that is slowly being dismantled as we all rocket towards the future. That's exciting. Also name a neighbourhood where the LGBTQ+ community hasn't increased the value of property in the

neighbourhood. And cash will always win over morals. At least I hope so. Otherwise I'll never break even.

I love that you're filthy. I actually love the word filthy – do you ever get people come and tell you they were shocked? What do they say?

If people are shocked, they are delighted that they were shocked. There's a profound joy from being naughty. From indulging, from laughing at something you shouldn't laugh at, but secretly want to. It's liberating. And if my act leaves you open mouthed just remember... an open mouth is just an opportunity.

Transformational moment of 2020?

The transformational moment of 2020 for me will be when the clock strikes midnight on 31 December. When 2020 transforms into 2021 and we leave this year in the dust where it belongs.

What should people expect from this NYE show?

A stern look from their doctor the next morning. We're doing the greatest hits of Reuben Kaye and we are going to raise the roof!

And also your Butch is Back?

The Butch Is Back is my return to glory! It's camp, it's fast, it's emotional. And I cannot wait to bring this brand new show to Brunswick Heads. We're going to give the Picture House a wonderful last season before the renovations! God knows those walls have seen a lot. If those walls could talk, they'd be in therapy...

NYE, Thursday 31 December 9pm. Show runs 3.5 hours. BYO champs. Tix are \$130 on brunswickpicturehouse.com

MANHATER

As a feminist there are many times I have been called a manhater. It's the go to put down to extinguish or disqualify legitimate rage. Rage at social injustice, at sexual assault, at murder; things that should make us angry. It's that classic technique of using a personal insult to swing the narrative away from the subject at hand. I'm a heterosexual woman, clearly being a manhater is not in my best interests. Guess I better wash my manhatin' mouth.

NOLAN'S

I find myself justifying my position by saying, I don't hate men – I'm married – I have a son. Of course I love men. It's just a minority of men that I hate; the ones that beat and kill us. I don't know them to actually hate them personally, I just don't understand or condone their behaviour. See how I acquiesce? Men are used to women making the world comfortable for them. We fluff the doona, we cook their food, we wash their clothes, and we sanitise our rage. We apologise for being angry at what oppression has done to us. We apologise for being angry that our sisters are murdered and beaten. Or raped. We count rapes, not rapists. We still have to fight for the agency of our voice because it's moderated by patriarchy's gatekeepers where hatefulness towards men will not be tolerated.

When Dolly Parton was asked if she was a feminist she said 'No, I love men'. I was shocked when I heard her say that. That even someone as smart as Dolly, whom I have huge respect for, would sell her sisters down the line like that. That she would feed into that boring old tome that all feminists are manhaters. That she would participate in confirming the narrative that delegitimises feminist solidarity and our rage. That boring narrative that disallows us from holding toxic masculine culture accountable for the harm it has caused us.

When Dolly answered that question I know it was underwritten by her intention of never really taking a stand on anything because she has a very diverse and massive fan base – but to keep that group of femmofearing men, she had to put the boot into feminism. Into us. It's sad when we sisters sell each other down the line for the approval of a tiny group of blokes who are scared of female empowerment. From the woman who sang the 9-5 anthem for women's workplace equality, it had a certain sting. So why would Dolly do that? I actually think Dolly Parton is a feminist, like many women are, they're just too scared to use the word. It's the manhatin' thing.

We are called manhaters to dilute our position. It frightens other women. No one wants to stand shoulder to shoulder with a manhater. It doesn't bode well for how the world perceives us. Sure we can vote, and there's lipservice to equitable pay... but we shouldn't get so cranky about the deeply entrenched patriarchal structures that have us nailed to the floor. That's just unhealthy.

No one wants to be a manhater. It's yucky. It means you're a bad woman. That your perception is tainted by rage. We are not allowed to hate men. None of us. We have to love them. All of them. No matter what.

I say I love men, but do I? I don't think I do actually. I love the men I choose to love, but no, not all. Not the ones that pull us into a car when we are walking home at night, or punch us in the head when they're drunk, or go onto the dark web for explicit images of children. I don't love the men that leave us raped and bitten, covered in leaves in a public park. It's hard to hear isn't it? We never want to talk about it, but we need to. We need to hate that type of masculinity. If two women die every week at the hands of their male partner or their ex, isn't it okay to be little bit manhater? Maybe more men need to start some manhating too.

Stay tuned in 2021 for my new podcast Manhater!



Michael Cormick is an internationally renowned singer and actor. Michael Cormick is the host and star of The Supper Club - the transformation of the Byron Theatre into a glamorous and unforgettable night at the theatre. Michael's leading roles include The Phantom of the Opera, Beauty and

the Beast, Romeo & Juliet, Jesus Christ Superstar, Evita, The Rocky Horror Show, Lloyd Webber's The Woman in White, and many more.

Michael will be joined by musical theatre stars Rachael Beck, Blake Bowden, Graeme Isaako and Natasha Marconi, and by soul powerhouse Lisa Hunt and jazz ensemble the Sharny Russell Trio.

'I love the live element of performing in a theatre. It's an immediate exchange between the performer and the audience. I have been a performer all my life, and have experienced this in many forms in lead roles across London, New York, Paris, Italy and at home here in Australia, but to be in such an intimate setting makes this truly special.

Michael Cormick, Artistic Director

7-9 January at Byron Theatre at 7pm. Tix at byroncentre.com.au

Michael Cormick with Rachel Beck as part of Byron's Supper Club at the Byron Theatre

LOVEJOY THREESOME IN LENNOX

Much to the astonishment of management and band members, the Lovejoy Threesome jazz/pop ensemble has, for the first time since their infamous break up and lawsuit, decided to mend its broken bridges and bury the hatchet. Legal representatives were not concerned as the band was still under

'I'm doing this for the money, obviously,' says pianist Dr Fred Cole, who had no idea that he wouldn't be paid. His message to the media was brief: 'The rest of the band is, of course, still a bunch of spuds.'



Fellow band member and double bass player, Hans Lovejoy, was contacted in his Las Vagas hotel room, bloated on uppers and booze and was told the news. 'I love Elvis', he said in a slow mumbled drawl. 'Scoobie doobie doo doo!' he yelled at one point, and then slumped back onto his toilet shaped Jason recliner with a club sandwich and passed out.

The nice one of the group, Ben, was unavailable for comment as he was sunning himself on a mega-yacht in the New Hebrides, or as it is now known, Vanuatu.

The band, who have thrilled and delighted audiences with impromptu impersonations of dead black people, plan to bring the magic of rare jazz standards and popular music back from forgotten vaults on Sunday at the Lennox Pub. As usual, their attorneys will be taking 100 per cent. Starts at 3pm.



THE SPACE COWBOY GALLERY - GRAND OPENING

The Space Cowboy Gallery is a unique Art Space located in Byron Bay's bustling Arts and Industry Estate. It highlights the visual art of this 55 times Guinness World Record breaker and sideshow celebrity.

Special guests include Benjamin Walsh, Michael Lira, and Shenzo Gregorio, as their mad cap Mexican rock trio 'El Zito', as well as Lollita Pop, Zoe L'amore and a heart stopping performance by the Space Cowboy atop his giant Tesla Coil. See him create art with over one million volts of electricity passing through his body and then into his paintings. Don't miss the world premier of this this live art creation combining paint and high voltage electricity.

The Grand opening of The Space Cowboy Gallery will be held on 18–19 December 2020. Gates open at 7pm. Grand Opening Performance starts at 7.3opm sharp! 12 Wollongbar Street, Byron Bay. This is a registered COVID Safe, 18+ event. For more information go to: www.thespacecowboy.com

ENDLESS SUMMER NIGHTS ARE COMING TO THE BRUNSWICK PICTURE HOUSE

The Picture House summer holiday program, Endless Summer Nights, features over 40 shows, offering something for all fancies.

Returning this summer is the signature Cheeky Cabaret, which

continues to sell out, month after month... along with the best boys and girls in the business featuring in Bruns Does Burlesque, back after premiering to sell-out crowds last January. Not forgetting the kiddies, the All Ages Circus Bonanza is one for the whole family to enjoy together, with a collection of the best circus acts around.

Some of the most exciting names in comedy today are coming to the Picture House this January starting with Tommy Little and his new show I'll See Myself Out and an epic triple bill of Nikki Britton, Sam Taunton and Tom Ballard. Followed up by one of the most daring and unconventional comics in Australia; Sam Simmons performs his show Sam I Am. Picture House favourite from 2019, Anne Edmonds returns with Lloyd Langford as they tell jokes, stories and sing a few songs, as they mix Business with Pleasure. Rounding off the stellar line up of comedy and the last shows on the Picture House stage prior to renovations is Australia's adopted son of comedy Arj Barker. He has a worldwide following and is a regular on Australian TV screens.

To find out more go to: brunswickpicturehouse.com

THE AUSTENTAYSHUS VIRUS

He's big, he's bold and he's back! Austentayshus is the big bad wolf of Aussie comedy, huffing and puffing his way through the zietgiest. Every year he makes his satirical sojourn to Byron Bay. He loves it here. He says we 'get him'. That we are one of the smartest crowds in the country. Of course we love hearing that – and we also love hearing his improvised downloads on the politics and drama of our town.

With the entire region becoming a film making mecca, with Nicole being here, and the Hemsworths, and Mark Wahlberg up the road doing a luxury quarantine so he can shoot a Ladbrokes ad – you are going to want to hear what Tayshus makes of all that.

Tayshus was there when comedy started in this country, and he'll be there to the bitter end. His knowledge of world events and International politics puts him in a league of his own. Hear him on covid, conspiracy and the jokes he gets made in China.

Presented by Mandy Nolan in three hot summer shows!

Saturday 9 January at the Mullumbimby Ex-Services at 8pm Sunday 10 January at the Byron Services at 5pm, and Monday 11 January back at the Byron Club at 8pm. All tix are \$40 on mandynolan.com.au





- γ **ARIES:** As Chiron the healing planet heads directly into Aries, friendly Venus has you reaching out to new people. So what will this week most benefit from? Movement. As Saturn and Jupiter upgrade your inner circle, what you do has a bigger influence in the world more about that soon
- ∀ TAURUS: Venus shimmying into a seductive, slinky mood is this week's signal for Taureans to start having more fun. And Saturn landing in your sector of success and prestige, which only happens every thirty years, is readying you to step up, and Jupiter, the planet of optimistic possibilities, is right behind it.
- II **GEMINI:** Saturn and Jupiter, travelling in tandem from this week, are set to have an illuminating effect on the life of Geminis for the coming twelve months. With auspicious Jupiter supercharging your goals and sensible Saturn keeping it real, this is your invitation to reach out, dream big, fly high.
- © CANCER: Venus moving into outdoorsy mode suggests your best times from here to the end of the year are likely to be alfresco. With Saturn and Jupiter in your house of joint ventures for the foreseeable future throwing a pretty hearty party in your up-close-and-personal department, you'll need plenty of air.
- **PVIRGO: Affectionate Venus settling into your home zone for the holidays suggests plenty of domestic festivities with family, extended family, friends and their friends. With managerial Saturn and expansive Jupiter already planning the whole of your next year, it's worth starting now to get the necessary stress management strategies in place.
- m. **SCORPIO:** Venus ends the year in a sensual, stable place for Scorpios. As Saturn puts down roots and explores your emotional foundations, will you embrace or ditch that ancestral baggage? With Jupiter on board as well, your base of operations takes on even more importance. You might move home or buy one.
- ➢ SAGITTARIUS: Venus sashaying into Sagittarius for the rest of the year – could there be any better present from the heavens? Time to hit the party circuit and invite people over: with Saturn and Jupiter in your social sector, you'll 'have them at hullo'. What's this week's Great Conjunction asking of you? A lot, so stay tuned...
- CAPRICORN: Venus is in your take-it-easy place, so relaxez vous Capricorns. Say sayonara to 2020's less salutary sequences, let go unpleasant memories. As Saturn settles into your sector of wealth and work, abundant Jupiter brings an uptick in earnings. If you get an interesting offer on 21 December, carpe diem.
- AQUARIUS: Jupiter and Saturn align in your sign this week: Jupiter for a year, Saturn till 2023. Their Great Conjunction on December 21 kicks off a power surge into a significant year for Waterpourers, with your Jupiterfuelled ideas backed by sensible Saturn's tough love lessons in amazing change and inspired growth.
- **PISCES: If Venus winds up the year with you in list-writing mode, that's not a bad thing. As Saturn and Jupiter align in your zone of closure with a cosmic assist to bid something goodbye, it's great to be organised for this time of transition not to mention having party plans in place.

EVERY WITCH WAY!

THIS DECEMBER SOLSTICE MARKS ONE WHOLE YEAR OF WITCHING BY MUSICIAN ÁINE TYRRELL AND COMEDIAN MANDY NOLAN WHO CAME TOGETHER ON A WHIM LAST YEAR TO CREATE THE COUNTRY WITCHES ASSOCIATION. THE TWO COME FROM VERY DIFFERENT SIDES OF THE YARD, WITH NOLAN A TIT FLASHING IRREVERENT BLASPHEMING BANSHEE AND TYRRELL AN ARTICULATE DEEP THINKING POLITICALLY CHARGED POWERHOUSE OF ROCK. ÁINE TYRRELL SPOKE WITH THE ECHO ABOUT BEING

What is a Country Witch? How do I join?

A COUNTRY WITCH!

No two Country Witches are alike, but we are all united in knowing that we are the disruptive ones that would've been burnt a couple hundred years ago!

What do Country Witches believe in?

We believe in being the change we want to see in the world and we are willing to get dirty, laugh, dance and sing to make that shit happen!

The Country Witches went out west... what happened? How were you received?

We went straight into the heart of the real CWA country and we knew they would *love* us or *hate* us. They may need some trauma counseling after our disruptive shows, but we were received with *such* love and roars of laughter and celebration to be hearing the things we were saying. It is amazing to have united our Western sisters, and a few brothers, into our wild ways.

How do you blend comedy and music? Can it really sit together?

On paper it really shouldn't work, but at the heart of the show is a lot of heart and that is what people are needing right now, more than ever, and both of us meet our art forms from that place and share our art in those ways too. So the show then sits together easily wrapped in Mandy and I's friendship and sisterhood on stage, it sits in Mandy and I sharing politics of good humanity and heart, it sits in the chats with the audience, it sits in welcoming people into our disorganisation, and it sits in being able to offer a much needed space for community to gather and laugh, cry, sing and be human! And we are both deadly, so that ties it all up with a bow!

You are an international touring musician. You perform serious insightful shows – why do CWA? What does it offer you that you don't get normally?

It offers me a chance to work with one of my best friends, Mandy Nolan, which is reason enough! But it also is a space to have conversations that the average music or comedy show doesn't have the time or space to go into. We both engage with our community in different ways in this show. No two shows are the same because no two audiences or days are the same and the show is very reactive to the time and place we are in!

Where do you get your outfits?

Mandy loves the Google, which is good and bad! A few good shops and a few fails we have to laugh at. But we still look hot! And PS we are looking for some fresh designs, so hit us up if you wanna dress the witches!





You now have Arianna on board doing visuals – what does that add to the show?

She is the layer we never knew we were missing! She makes the spaces unique to each show, like Mandy and I are reactive with our content. She invites people into the space in a more engaging way, and adds another layer of connection to our content. She is also a badass and that adds a lot!

Why are you doing shows for the Solstice?

We are all searching for meaning but with such loss of cultural connections in modern society it is hard to find. After COVID we wanted to dig deeper as artists and bring some more layers to our shows and meet the thirst for connection we felt at our shows. I love learning more myself about my Irish Pagan traditions, but whether you are Wicca, Catholic, Muslim, or connect to any other spiritual belief system, there are times of the year that mark occasions for celebration and community that are across them all. It is all our ancient ways of stopping and honouring the world, ourselves and our community, but we've forgotten these ways in our modern world. We don't often stop to honour the change of the seasons, or the rising of a full moon, or the abundance of light at the solstice time of the year – as we are all moving so fast. The Solstice like our Bealtaine show is a purposeful pause to gather as a community and mark in this instance the longest day of the year, the abundance of summer and its harvest, and to do that in a room full of kickass women is incredibly potent!!

What should we expect?

Potency!

Tickets \$40 with info at: www.ainetyrrell.com/gigs
FRIDAY 18 Dec – The Studio, Lismore City Hall 8pm.
SATURDAY 19 Dec – Byron Theatre, Community Centre 8pm.
SUNDAY 20 Dec – Bangalow Bowlo 5pm.

MONDAY 21 Dec – Mullum Civic Hall 8pm.

TUESDAY 22 Dec - Kyogle Bowlo 8pm.





SHOWING AT THE SHOWGROUNDS!

Film lovers will flock to the Bangalow Showgrounds, and the A&I Hall, from 14 January, as the village lights up for eight exciting days of films and events. And tickets are on sale now!

Opening with the not-to-be-missed drive-in screening of Fellini's 1960 masterpiece, La Dolce Vita, the program is jampacked with films for everyone:

High Ground, starring Jack Thompson, Simon Baker and Jacob Junior Nayinggul is a Northern Rivers' premiere. Shot in Kakadu National Park by Andrew Commis (Babyteeth) and directed by Stephen Maxwell Johnson (Yolnau Boy), this is a great opportunity to preview the film before it hits our local screens.

Food and dog lovers will be delighted by a screening of The Truffle Hunters, a heart-warming documentary that was a hit at the Cannes film festival. It follows a group of fascinating

characters and their beloved dogs as they roam the Italian countryside in search of the elusive and lucrative truffle

Also in the food strand of the festival is the fascinating new documentary Ottolenghi & The Cakes of Versailles.

The Bangalow Film Festival 2021 closes with a very special screening of the spaghetti western, A Fistful of Dollars.

Byron Mayor, Simon Richardson, says: 'I'm looking forward to seeing both locals and visitors safely enjoying this exciting new film festival in Bangalow, after a challenging year that saw so many events cancelled in the community. Congratulations to the organisers for a great addition to our creative calendar.'

Full program and ticket sales available at: bangalowfilmfestival.com.au



Wednesday

All tickets

\$10

DECEMBER

RAMS PG 119 MIN

SUPERINTELLIGENCE PG 106 MIN

THE DRY MA15+ 117 MIN ADVANCED SCREENINGS!

THE WAR WITH GRANDPA PG 98 MIN

Stud/Conc: \$12

\$10

Senior: Child:

PALACE CINEMAS

Session Times: Thu 17 Dec - Wed 23 Dec

NFT = No Free Tickets

CORPUS CHRISTI (MA15+)

SPECIAL SCREENINGS DIE HARD (M) Fri: 6:45PM CONCERTO: A BEETHOVEN ROYAL BALLET: THE NUTCRACKER (CTC) Sun: 1:00 Wed: 11:00AM STUDIO GHIBLI: THE TALE OF THE PRINCESS KAGUYA (PG) Thu: 6:30PM Sat: 2:00PM

ADVANCE SCREENINGS WONDER WOMAN 1984 (M) Wed 23 Dec: 7:00PM THE CROODS 2: A NEW AGE (PG) ri-Sun: 10:10. 12:15. 2:30. 7:15 THE DRY (MA15+) Fri-Sun: 12:15, 3:15, 4:40, 6:15, 7:30PM HOW TO BE A GOOD WIFE (M) A CALL TO SPY (M) Fri-Sun: 2:40

FAMILY FILMS A CHRISTMAS GIFT FROM BOB (PG) Daily except Sun, Wed: 10:00ÅM THE SECRET GARDEN (PG) Thu, Mon-Wed: 10:10AM, 12:15 ri, Sat, Sun: 10:10AM

THE WAR WITH GRANDPA (PG)Thu: 10:10, 12:15, 2:15, 4:30, 6:50
Fri: 10:10AM, 12:15, 4:40PM
Sat, Sun: 10:10, 12:15, 4:40, 6:50 Mon-Wed: 10:10AM, 12:15, 2:15, 4:40, 6:50PM
TROLLS WORLD TOUR (G) Thu, Mon-Wed: 10:00AM, 12:15 Fri, Sat, Sun: 10:00AM DREAMLAND (MA15+) NFT

12:00, 2:15, 4:30, 7:15PM Fri: 5:00, 7:15PM Sat: 12:00, 4:45, 7:15PM Sun: 4:45, 7:15PM SUPERINTELLIGENCE (PG) NFT Daily except Sun, Wed: 12:10, 2:30, 4:45, 7:00PM Sun, Wed: 2:30, 4:45, 7:00PM CROCK OF GOLD: A FEW ROUNDS

Thu. Mon- Wed: 10:15AN

WITH SHANE MACGOWAN (CTC) THE WITCHES (M) Thu, Mon-Wed 10:00AM, 12:15, 2:20, 4:45, 6:45 Fri. Sat: 10:15, 12:15, 2:20, 7:30 : 10:15AM, 12:10, 2:20, 7:30

Thu, Mon-Wed: 2:45PM DAVID BYRNE'S AMERICAN UTOPIA (M) Thu: 2:15, 7:00 Fri: 12:00, 2:15 Sat: 2:15PM Sun: 12:00PM HAPPIEST SEASON (M) Thu, Mon-Wed: 10:00AM, 12:30, 5:10, 7:20PM Fri-Sun: 10:00AM, 12:30, 5:10PM IN THE NAME OF THE LAND (M) Thu, Mon-Wed: 12:30PM LET HIM GO (M) Thu, Won-Wed: 10:10AM
MISBEHAVIOUR (M)
Thu, Wed: 10:00AM, 4:45PM
Fri, Sun: 10:00, 2:10 Sat: 10:00AM
Mon, Tue: 10:00AM, 4:45, 7:00PM
OLIVER SACKS: HIS OWN LIFE (M)

Daily except Fri: 2:30PM Fri: 2:45 THE BEE GEES (M) Thu, Mon-Wed: 4:30PM
THE FURNACE (MA15+)
Thu, Mon-Wed: 2:30, 5:00, 7:20 Fri-Sun: 2:30, 5:00PM WORDS ON BATHROOM WALLS

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WED 23RD

12:35 PM

4:00 PM

10:35 AM

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2:00 PM

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4:25 PM

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2:00 PM

2:15 PM 4:25 PM

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2:00 PM

High Ground, shot in Kakadu National Park, will premier at the Bangalov

GIG GUIDE

THURSDAY 17

- RAILWAY HOTEL BYRON BAY ANIMAL VENTURA
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 5PM LEIGH JAMES, 8PM ARMARNI VISSER, 10PM HARRY NICHOLS
- OCEAN SHORES COUNTRY CLUB 6.30PM TRIVIA

FRIDAY 18

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **MAJESTIC KNIGHTS**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 3PM KARUAH, 6PM **SCOTT DAY VEE, 9PM 420 SOUND FT. MIGHTY MAX FOG**
- BYRON THEATRE 6.30PM THE NIGHTMARE **BEFORE CHRISTMAS SPECIAL EVENT** PRESENTED BY PARADIS MOVIE CLUB
- BYRON ARTS & INDUSTRY, 12 WOLLONGBAR STREET, BYRON BAY 7PM THE SPACE COWBOY **GALLERY GRAND OPENING, TICKETED EVENT**
- OCEAN SHORES COUNTRY CLUB 6PM ANDY KAY
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 4.30PM **DJ MONSIEUR DIOP**
- LISMORE CITY HALL 8PM COUNTRY WITCHES **ASSOCIATION**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH HOTEL 7PM MARDI WILSON
- COOLANGATTA HOTEL 5PM STEVEN MICHAEL. 9.30PM LOCKY
- CURRUMBIN RSL 5PM JON J BRADLEY

SATURDAY 19

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, THE DIRTY CHANNEL
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 1PM ADAM HARPAZ, 4PM LOKI HOUGH, 6.30PM SUNDAY **LEMONADE, 9PM MAJESTIC KNIGHTS**
- BYRON THEATRE 8PM COUNTRY WITCHES **ASSOCIATION: SUMMER SOLSTICE**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 11AM **BUNNY RACKET IN SPACE**
- FOXY LUU'S, BYRON BAY, 4.30PM GROOVE & BAO - ALEJANDRO BITRAN & DENNIS FERNANDEZ
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 4PM DJ ROBIN SYDNEY, 6.15PM DJ AL ROYALE
- MARY G'S, LISMORE, 7.30PM THE BILLY **GUDGEON DUO**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH HOTEL 7PM BENNO & KESH
- SHEOAK SHACK, FINGAL HEAD, 7PM ANIMAL **VENTURA**
- COOLANGATTA HOTEL 5PM MARK SHEILS, 9.30PM STRICTLY ACOUSTIC



- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY,
- **JAMIE ASHFORTH TRIO**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 1PM SIMON MEOLA, 4.30PM RESONANT HAND, 8PM DIRTY **CHANNEL DUO**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 7PM **HUSSY HICKS FIRE UP FOR BAYFM BENEFIT**
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 5PM DJ DAN HOWELL
- BILLINUDGEL HOTEL 3.30PM NUDGE NUDGE WINK WINK
- LENNOX HOTEL 3PM HANS LOVEJOY TRIO
- HOTEL ILLAWONG, EVANS HEAD, 4PM **ADAM HARPAZ**
- **KINGSCLIFF BEACH HOTEL 3PM JADE HOLLAND**
- KINGSCLIFF SURF CLUB 3PM JON J BRADLEY
- COOLANGATTA HOTEL 5PM LATE FOR WOODSTOCK

MONDAY 21

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, LEIGH JAMES, HARRY NICHOLS & THE SWAMPS
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 5PM ALEX TILLY, **8PM SALLY SA**
- FOXY LUU'S, BYRON BAY, 4.30PM GROOVE & BAO WALKING FRANCIS
- COOLANGATTA HOTEL 5PM CHAD AGENT **77 SOLO**

TUESDAY 22

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, OOZ
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 5PM JOE CONROY, **8PM BILL JACOBI**
- THE MACADAMIA CASTLE, KNOCKROW, 10AM **FRANKI KANEUR**
- COOLANGATTA HOTEL 5PM JASON DELPHIN

WEDNESDAY 23

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **CHRIS ARONSTEN DUO**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 5PM JOHN FOGGON, **8PM DU EAST**
- SALTWATER SOCIAL CLUB, BYRON BAY, 8.30PM ISSAC FRANKHAM

4:45 PM 10:25 AM 10:25 AM 12:20 PM 12:20 PM THE WITCHES M 104 MIN 2:00 PN 2:00 PM 6:55 PM WORDS ON BATHROOM WALLS M 111 MIN 4:25 PM

GIFT VOUCHERS AVAILABLE FOR CHRISTMAS - ADULT, CONCESSIONS, STUDENTS, SENIORS, CHILDREN

BANGALOW FILM FESTIVAL

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Khaled Al Khawaldeh

Mullumbimby sits about 8km from the coast, but walking into Hooked and Cooked Seafood gives one the feeling of being sat right by the seaside. The aroma of fresh wild caught seafood on the grill is as authentic as the friendly and welcoming service that you are sure to receive.

Upon my visit I had the pleasure of being served by owner and seafood enthusiast Liat Ben Yishay. Liat grew up on the Mediterranean coast where her Greek grandfather, who caught his own fish, would cook them using simple ingredients, letting the quality of the catch to do the real talking.

This family philosophy was evident in the salmon that I ordered; Immaculately grilled, with a side of crisp, fresh salad, and hot, salty fries. The salmon was seasoned to perfection, just enough to complement the taste of the catch, but not so much as to overpower it. Had I enough room in my stomach, I could have had another one right there and then. Mouthwatering! Hooked and Cooked has been serving the Mullum community for over 20 years with a wide-ranging menu to please even the most avid seafood connoisseur. Along with the selection of fresh wild caught fish available to take home or cooked to order, patrons can also choose from an extensive menu of snacks, burgers, wraps and salads.

Keeping in line with the ethos of the area, Liat herself is an



enthusiastic environmentalist and has ensured that these values are reflected in the shop. Only biodegradable packaging is used, and customers can receive discounts for bringing in their own packaging. Her fish is only wild caught to avoid the destructive techniques of fish farming that often rely heavily on antibiotics and other additives.

Hooked and Cooked is open seven days a week 11am–8pm, and open until 8.30pm on Fridays. The shop is currently accepting pre-orders for anyone looking to have a seafood inspired feast this festive season.

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From kitchen, to their car, to your door

Eve Jeffery

So you're sitting in your lounge room and pizza or Indian is not the biggest decision to make – you are going to have to play scissors, paper, rock to see who braves this insane weather to go out and get takeaways. Or Not!

Delivery Byron Bay is your number one source for food deliveries in the area. From Ewingsdale to Suffolk Park, Federico Raspo and his team of drivers are dedicated to giving you the very best service, with a focus on the food arriving as if it had just come from the kitchen to your table.

Founded in 2020 Federico says Delivery Byron Bay serves customers all over Byron Bay and are thrilled to be a part of our community.

With a background in mechanical engineering and personal training, Federico, who is from Argentina, is currently studying business. Federico says he loves being in Byron because 'It's a natural calm place, where you can live in peace, breathing pure oxygen, with beautiful views. I feel like I have no worries and stress that come with living in the city – no traffic, contamination, stress, city rhythms.'

'I like to do deliveries in Byron – I can listen to music or listen to some audiobooks or podcasts.'

Federico says he really likes any kind of progress. 'I have been seeing how Byron Bay has grown and improved, which is really good in some aspects. At the same time, I am a bit worried about some of this growth, we can feel how Byron is changing – food prices are more expensive, rent prices are more expensive, there is more traffic. I understand that it is really difficult to push back against the power of the money, but if we collaborate we can stop big corporations getting in Byron Bay. If this keeps



Federico Raspo is ready to take your order at Delivery Byron Bay. Photo Tree Faerie.

happening Byron Bay vibes will end up being more like big city's vibes than the magical healthy and peaceful vibes that Byron is recognised for.'

Federico says he feels the Byron Bay community are genuine. 'They love to support locals and protect the local environment.' Federico says his team of drivers are all locals. 'They know the Byron area really well. We're committed to offering you an amazing food experience through our delivery services, covering all your favourite restaurants and takeaways here in town. Just choose what you fancy eating, and we'll take care of the rest.' For more information you can find Delivery Byron Bay on their website: deliverybyronbay.com.

Federico says more restaurants are being added to the website daily including Bombay to Byron, Kinoko, OSushi, Il Buco, Slice, Bayger, Taco Joe's and Byron Kebab to name a few.







Happy Hour

Everyday 4-6pm

\$6 LOFT LAGER \$6 LOFT WINE \$10 APEROL SPRITZ \$14 MARGARITA



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Open Wed-Fri 12-2.30pm & 5-8.30pm; Sat 12–8.30pm; Sun 12–7pm. Club open Wed–Sun from 12 noon www.bangalowbowlo.com.au f bangalowbowlo @ @thebowlo

Family friendly, tradies' local, restaurant quality, Wednesday to Friday happy hour, midweek specials, excellent wines, foodies delight, creative cocktails, local produce, massive kids' space, welcoming staff, and Covid Safe.

Come along to the Bangalow Bowlo and find out.

BYRON BAY



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info@thepastabowlbyronbay.com

Italian and a little more by Chef Daniele.

Local, organic and ethically farmed produce. Spacious alfresco dining area with lots of space to enjoy.



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Seasonal, local & native inspired menu.

Walk ins welcome, cocktails from 10.00am

Bottomless brunches every day! 10.00-2.00pm

\$75 per person for a share style brunch & bottomless Rosé – booking via www.karkalla.com.au



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Evening Bookings essential on 0492 931 679 Thursday night opening special Second meal half price Please book culta.com.au



The Italian Byron Bay

21, 108 Jonson St, **Byron Bay** Open 7 days from 5.30pm

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www.theitalianbyronbay.com

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



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CELLAR DOOR – TASTINGS & TOURS

Handcrafted spirits using locally sourced ingredients.

Naturally Better!

Free from added artificial flavours and colours.

MAKE YOUR OWN BOTTLE OF GIN - book online. Gin Making Gift Vouchers available.

LORDBYRON.COM.AU

① Im ② LordByronDistillery



Loft Byron Bay

4 Jonson Street, Byron Bay 6680 9183

Book online: www.loftbyronbay.com.au Incredible cocktails, locals beers & all-day snacks and food to share with ocean views.

Happy Hour | Every day 4-6pm \$6 Loft Lager or Wine, \$10 Aperol Spritz, \$14 Margarita

Espresso Martini Nights | Every day 9-11pm 2 for \$25 Classic Espresso Martini

Open every day from 4pm till late.



St Elmo Dining **Room & Bar**

Open Thursday – Sunday Cnr Fletcher St and Lawson Lane, Byron Bay

6680 7426 www.stelmodining.com

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

BYRON BAY

continued



FOREST

Chupacabra

Eat in or take out. Shop 12A, 3 Clifford St, **Suffolk Park** 6685 3059

www.chupacabra.com.au @chupabyron

Forest Byron Bay

77-97 Broken Head Rd, Suffolk Park

6685 4969

Legend Pizza

Open 7 days 9am till after midnight

90-96 Jonson Street

6685 5700

Shop 1 Woolworths Plaza

www.legendpizza.com.au

www.crystalbrookcollection. com/byron/forest @forestbyronbay

Stay a while. As a Byron Bay Crystalbrook Local you get to enjoy 15% off food and drinks when you sign up online.

FRESH PIZZA BYRON STYLE

Check us out on facebook.com/byron.legendpizza Scan code for our menu! BYO

Fresh authentic Mexican in a relaxed atmosphere.

This is food made with love, all produce sourced locally.

Margaritas and tacos all night long!

Family friendly, totally GF menu.

DINNER 5pm - 9pm

WED - SAT

Book via Resy

Set next to a lush rainforest oasis, Forest celebrates sustainability working hand-in-hand with local farmers,

growers and artisans.

Serving breakfast, lunch, dinner and just-drinks...

the perfect place to feed your soul.

Home delivery 7 days **Established 1992**



Main Street

Open 7 days 11.30am until late Call to make a reservation or for takeaway orders

18 Jonson Street

6680 8832



Targa Modern European

Cafe • Restaurant • Bar 11 Marvell Street **Byron Bay** 6680 9960

targabyronbay.com targabyronbay@gmail.com

La Cuisine Deli Shop

0431 842 340

¶ BYRONBAYOLIVECO byronbayoliveco.com

Tapas 2.30pm, Dinner 5.30pm Aperitivo happy hour 3–5.30pm & Cheese/wine special Single cheese plate & 2 glass wine \$30 Double cheese plate & 2 glass wine \$35

Gourmet burgers created by chefs

Cocktails, wine and beers served all damn day.

Group bookings available, please email

mainstreetburgerbar@gmail.com

for reservations.

Open 7 Days

Breakfast & Lunch

Thursday - Sunday

Indoor & outdoor seating (puppies welcome)



by Byron Bay Olive Co

2/29 Brigantine Street

support@byronbayoliveco.com

French deli shop that offers all products by Byron Bay Olive Co and amazing options for breakfast and lunch. Sandwiches, salads, soups and Mediterranean style products such as olives, dips, cured meats and French cheeses.

Mon - Fri 9am-3.30pm



The Rocks @ Aquarius

Brunch 7am-12 noon Mon-Fri 7am-1pm Sat & Sun 16 Lawson St, Byron Bay 6685 7663 - Menus at therocksbyronbay.com.au

Our Rocking New Brunch Menu

Come and join us at the Rocks for some light brunch options or hearty breakfasts. We offer a range of home-made, locally sourced produce at affordable prices, including our delicious $% \left(1\right) =\left(1\right) \left(1\right$ new loaded halloumi or chorizo tacos, vegan nasi goreng and our signature Rocks Big Brekky which will keep you going for hours! Fresh juices, Byron Bay coffees and healthy smoothies available too. The Rocks is registered as COVID Safe, and is practicing all NSW health guidelines.



Fishheads

Byron Bay

1 Jonson Street, Byron Bay 6680 7632

★ FISHHEADSBYRON

Mon-Fri lunch & dinner closed Sundays Lunch 12 noon-3pm Dinner from 5-8.30pm

pages/Success-Thai-Food/237359826303469

GREAT SUMMER MENU Indulge in one of our new creations!

We are proud to say, that for over 20 years, we have been serving the Byron community fresh, local seafood and ingredients. To improve your dining experience, we have developed a smaller plate menu, designed to be shared, and enabling you to try a greater variety of dishes.

Enjoy! The Fishheads Family



Success Thai

3/31 Lawson St. Byron Bay www.facebook.com/

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

BYO only

Welcome for lunch, dinner and takeaway.

Menus available on Facebook

FOOD DELIVERY BYRON BAY - CUSTOMER



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www.deliverybyronbay.com

We're your number one local food delivery company covering Suffolk Park to Ewingsdale

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Check out our website for the full list of participating Byron restaurants and takeaways. Contact-free delivery available.



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If you're a local restaurant, cafe, or takeaway company that wants to increase your online orders (delivery & takeaway), why not partner with us? We're a local food delivery service

(quaranteeing the food quality.) Local, reliable, and reasonable - contact us today for more information on how to join us.

covering Suffolk Park to Ewingsdale



Eateries Guide

BYRON BAY continued

Barrio 7am-3pm Mon-Thu 7am–7pm Fri 1 Porter St, North Byron Booking via our website barriobyronbay.com.au

Walk in tables available

Barrio's canteen takes its inspiration from locally sourced produce with Moorish cuisine. Offering daily bakes, breakfast cakes, classic sandwiches, vibrant salads, smoked fish, grilled meats. Aperitif Hours Friday 5–7pm: \$10 plates + drinks Private Dining: Now taking private party enquiries for lunch and dinner with your closest friends: gather@barriobyronbay.com.au

No Bones Vegan bar and kitchen. Open every day from 5pm till late

11 Fletcher Street 6680 7418 www.nobonesbyronbay.com.au

CHRISTMAS - 5 course banquet

Two seatings 12.00-2.30pm and 3.00-5.30pm

NYE - 8 course degustation

Bubbles on arrival, DJ, 7.30pm-midnight.

BOOK NOW - nobonesbyronbay.com

For any events of up to 30 people. please email nobonesbyronbay@gmail.com

LENNOX HEAD



Krill Bar

Lennox Head

47 Ballina St, Lennox Head www.krillbar.com.au 6685 5538 **⊘**KRILLBARANDRESTAURANT

Open Thursday 5pm–10pm, Friday 12pm–3pm & 5pm–10pm Saturday 5pm-10pm, Sunday 11:30am-4:30pm Amazing cocktails, fabulous local food, a la carte and bar

menus all with super friendly service. Head Chef Minh Le was a finalist for Australian Chef of the Year in 2016 and has owned multiple hatted restaurants.

Come in and experience his fine food in the stylish decor. Happy Hour Thursday - Saturday 5-6pm Online booking preferred

MULLUMBIMBY



The Empire

20 Burringbar St,

6684 2306

Tues–Fri 8.30am–2.30pm Sat, Sun 9am–2pm FB/Insta: EmpireMullum empiremullum.com.au

Yaman Mullumbimby

62 Stuart St. Mullumbimby 6684 3778

Open 7 days from 9am-8pm Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

The Empire is where it's at! Something for all tastes from epic burgers to vegan delights. Enjoy delectable treats and good vibes at this Mullum icon.

Takeaways and lots of grab-and-go goodies available. Phone orders welcome - call ahead and avoid the queue.

Coffee, Malawach Rolls, Pita Pockets, Falafel, Traditional Yemenite spices and all your favourites always freshly made.

Drop in for an authentic atmosphere, Dine-In or Takeaway.

NEWRYBAR



Harvest

18-22 Old Pacific Highway Newrybar NSW 2479

02 6687 2644

www.harvestnewrybar.com.au @harvestnewrybar

HARVEST RESTAURANT, DELI + BAKERY

Culinary creativity that harnesses the connection between food and nature.

> Lunch: Wed - Sun 12-3pm Dinner: Wed - Sat from 6pm

Baked goods at Sourdough Weekends: Sat + Sun 8am until sold out Deli 7am-3pm daily

ALCOHOL SUPPLIERS



Sun Bistro Bottleshop and Home Delivery

61 Bayshore Drive, Byron Bay 02 6685 6500

www.thesunbistro.com/

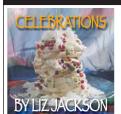
deliver@thesunbistro.com

At the Sun Bistro Bottle Shop you will find a hand curated range of quality wines, spirits and beers.

RARE AND NATURAL WINE • CRAFT BEER • HANDCRAFTED SPIRITS • TEQUILA AND MEZCAL HOME DELIVERY

Open 7 Days 10am - 8pm Monday to Sunday

CATERING



Celebrations **Catering By Liz Jackson**

Celebration cakes Personal catering services Event co-ordination and

E: lizzijjackson@gmail.com

P: 0414 895 441

The GOOG



JJ Seafood is a family affair in the water and at the market.

It's all in for the JJ Seafood family

Story & photo Melissa Butter

Like a school of fish this hard working family unit sticks together. Each week JJ Seafood delivers the finest, freshest produce from the region straight from their boats to the

With the help of a handful of employees, John and Julie Joblin juggle raising four small fry with managing seven boats working out of Ballina. While one daughter is at the markets with mum, another daughter is down at the beach working with her uncle. 'It doesn't stop! says Julie. 'This afternoon when she gets home she'll go with her dad and check her crab trap pots.'

They have systems in place and keep their phones close by so they can respond quickly to any alerts or updates from out at sea.

Their industry isn't just physically demanding, they're also challenged by the changing tides, the weather and, as always with fishing - a bit of luck. 'With fishing you've just gotta have your hand in all the industries, because sometimes there's nothing there. Fish are like fruit and veggies; it's

Their main industry is spanner crabs. 'We're the second biggest holder in NSW, but at the moment they're on closure - it's their mating season,' says Julie. 'Right now it's snapper and mahi-mahi season and they're also catching school

Every boat is used for a different industry to catch a different line of fish. And while their boats are busy out at sea, John and Julie are busy in the kitchen too. 'Last night the kids had whiting, John had pork chops, and I had curried prawns.'

Julie laughs, 'It's all good!' With so much going on it's hard to believe they can still find time to all be in the same room. 'We spend every afternoon together while we're filleting.' It never stops for the Joblins, they even work Christmas Day. But it's what they know, and they love it. 'It's just family, you know, we all stick together.'



TOGETHER WE CAN GO PLASTIC FREE!

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for new members of **Make the Switch**

Join Plastic Free Byron's Make the Switch program (it's free) and for the first 3 months enjoy a 5% discount on BioPak purchases.

Make the Switch works with food retailers in Byron to help them switch away from single-use plastics.

olasticfreebyron.com/join



FIRST NATIONAL BYRON









Ideal Country Retreat - Stunning Views









3229M²

- End of a quiet country lane, set on 3/4 acre (3229m2) of ideal rural land
- Set on an elevated northerly block with breathtaking sweeping views
- Master has a walk-in robe, ensuite and opens directly to the veranda
- Kitchen features stone bench tops, quality appliances and a butler's pantry
- Superb outdoor living room complete with pizza oven, outdoor kitchen and fireplace
- Set in an environmentally aware community, just minutes to Bangalow and Byron

Address: 10/231 Fowlers Lane, Bangalow

Price: Contact Agent

Saturday, 19th December 11.30am - 12.00pm Open:

Enquiries: Su Reynolds 02 6685 8466, Luke Elwin 0421 375 635



Beachside Luxury Living!







- Stunning contemporary beach house, finished to a first class standard
- Located only 200m to Tallow Beach with local shops just around the corner
- Expansive open plan entertainer's kitchen, including butler's pantry
- Seamless integration between the indoor and outdoor areas.
- Spectacular master bathroom with bespoke floor to ceiling tiles and custom cabinetry

Address: 2/41 Armstrong Street, Suffolk Park

\$1.8m to \$1.95m Price:

Saturday, 19th December 11.00am - 11.30am Open:

Monday, 21st December 11.00am - 11.30am

Helene Adams 0412 139 807, Vanessa Coles 0433 836 755 Enquiries:



2

2

2453M²

- Master-built home with solid foundations and quality finishes
- Riverfront home surrounded by wildlife
- Wrap-around deck covering three sides of the home
- River allows direct access all the way to Brunswick Heads by water
- 8-minute walk (less than 700m) to the middle of Mullumbimby
- Large detached double car garage with extra storage room

Address: 22 Mill Street, Mullumbimby

Auction: Saturday, 19th December 2.30pm

Saturday, 19th December 2.00pm - 2.30pm Open:

Enquiries: Oliver Aldridge 0421 171 499, Paul Prior 0418 324 297



22.04 HA

- ⇒ 3 • This an amazing opportunity to own a piece of paradise with 54 acres of pristine
- hinterland and a gorgeous 3-bedroom, 3-bathroom unique timber home • Private oasis with spectacular views from Myocum Valley to Mt Chincogan
- Entertainer's delight, with open plan living that leads out to a large deck overlooking 25 metre inground lap pool, steam sauna and gazebo
- Spring-fed dams across the property, great fencing, cattle yards will all serve your livestock well

Address: 767 Myocum Road, Myocum

Price: Forthcoming Auction

Open: Saturday, 19th December 11.00am - 11.30am

Enquiries: Paul Prior 0418 324 297, Oliver Aldridge 0421 171 499

FIRST NATIONAL BYRON











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€ 2



- Only footsteps away from Clarke's Beach, renovated apartment in a boutique complex
- Complete refurbishment with stylish interiors and modern finishes
- Seamless flow from the indoors to outdoors with sliding doors providing dual access to the sunny corner verandah
- Master includes built-in robes, modern ensuite and opens out to a private balcony
- Great opportunity to invest in the lucrative Byron Bay market and an ideal location

1/66 Lawson Street, Byron Bay Address:

Price: \$2.575m

By Appointment Open:

Su Reynolds 02 6685 8466, Luke Elwin 0421 375 635 **Enquiries:**













- This generous light filled family home offers a rare combination of breathtaking views and a coveted central location
- Engineered and built to a very high standard
- Walking distance to popular cafes, stunning beaches, restaurants, great shopping, Arakwal National Park and walking trails
- Versatile floorplan with high vaulted ceilings and quality fixtures and inclusions
- Remote tandem double garage plus extra single garage plus off street parking

54 Paterson Street, Byron Bay Address:

Price: Contact Agent By Appointment Open:

Helen Huntly-Barratt 0412 332 232 Enquiries:

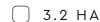


Idyllic Country Oasis Close to Coast









- Single storey family home on immaculate, professionally landscaped land
- Elevated northerly aspect and wide rural vistas
- Fantastic indoor and outdoor entertaining spaces
- Stylish, modern kitchen with stone benches, quality appliances & butlers pantry
- Beautiful lagoon style pool
- Four light-filled bedrooms with built-in wardrobes and the spacious master

20 Lovegroves Lane, Uralba Address:

Price: \$1.695m - \$1.795m

Saturday, 19th December 10.00am - 10.30am Open:

Su Reynolds 02 6685 8466, Luke Elwin 0421 375 635 **Enquiries:**



Great Family Home with Plenty of Potential









- 873M²
- Elevated, original home on a large 873m2 block with 2 street frontages
- Spacious undercover patio area
- Fresh paint throughout
- Large established trees, lush tropical plants and rock features
- Plenty of scope to renovate (STCA)
- A few minute's drive to local shops and stunning beaches

Address: 20 Matong Drive, Ocean Shores

Price: \$725,000 to \$775,000

Open: Friday, 18th December 4.00pm - 4.30pm

Tara Torkkola 0423 519 698, Sally Green 0488 030 116 Enquiries:



BYRON SHIRE

REAL ESTATE

byronshirerealestate.com.au









4 🕮 3 🕒 2 😂

This beautifully renovated home on almost an acre combines peace and quiet with all the convenience of living near town. Tropical gardens surround the home, studio & pool which will be a must for summer. A popular place to socialise and cool off and enjoy the sunsets.

Inspect Saturday 19th Dec. 10-10.30am Auction

23rd January on site

Todd Buckland 0408 966 421



1 Ocean Avenue, New Brighton

Grab your morning coffee from the cafe, stroll to the beach or river then come home & rinse off in the outdoor shower & relax in your spa on the terrace. This stylish beach house is the perfect pad for entertainers with expansive covered decks & stunning tropical gardens.



3 🖺 2 🕒 1 🚓

Inspect Saturday 19th Dec. 11-11.30am Price

\$1,380,000 to \$1,500,000

Todd Buckland 0408 966 421



coastal & hinterland sales

Katrina Beohm real estate

Why choose Katrina Beohm Real Estate as your agent?

Experienced

20 years experience in real estate on the Northern Rivers

Creative

Creative selling strategies thinks outside the box

Positive

Passionate, enthusiastic and committed to real estate with a 'never give up' attitude

Professional

Works tirelessly and ethically to serve the needs of clients helping them achieve their dreams





After our first meeting with Katrina our whole family agreed that she should be our agent. Katrina is genuine and open about how she will manage the sale of your property. She leads an excellent team who are helpful and supportive in what can be a quite stressful time. We recommend her to anyone looking to sell their property.

Timothy & Sonya Laverty



0459 066 087

8 PORTER STREET BYRON BAY

kbrealestate.com.au

Raine& Horne Ocean Shores / Brunswick Heads / Murwillumbah



4 Namoi Glen, Ocean Shores

≅3 **□1** □1

COUNTRY COTTAGE - BEACHSIDE LIFE

Being in a great location makes for a great lifestyle and this cute-as-a-button colonialstyle cottage has location sorted with a short walk to shops and Waterlilly Park or a 5 minute drive and you're at one of the region's best beaches.

Set on a huge block of 765sqm(approx.) with loads of space all around and a securely fenced yard, this solid home built with a sandstone finished concrete block is secure and safe for pets and family.

The house is set well back from the quiet cul-de-sac with easy care tropical gardens creating a sense of privacy but also beautifully framing the home.

View Saturday 10.30am-11.00am Price Guide \$720,000-\$750,000



Brett McDonald 0400 351 311



12 Miram Place, Ocean Shores

€ 2 € 2

QUIET, CONTEMPORARY BEACHSIDE HAVEN

Located on an 807m2 block in a quiet cul-de-sac, just 5 minutes' drive from the pristine New Brighton beach, your new home offers easy care living at its very best.

The open plan family living and dining area flows out onto a covered alfresco entertaining space overlooking the large rear yard.

- Spacious open plan family living and dining area with reverse cycle air conditioning
- ullet Beautifully appointed kitchen with plenty of benchtop space & breakfast bar
- Separate spacious lounge room
- Polished floorboards throughout the living areas

View Saturday 11.00am – 12.00pm **Price** Just Listed



Julie-Ann Manahan 0411 081 118



Tintenbar – Address on Request







PRESTIGE HAS AN ADDRESS...

And it's Killen Falls Road, off Friday Hut Road, in between the coveted locales of Tintenbar and Brooklet. Here's a rare chance to acquire one of the best and most tightly held addresses in the Northern Rivers. A beautiful, cleared, 5 acre property with a ranch-style homestead awaits, ready for a makeover.

The home offers four bedrooms that are genuinely spacious, a huge open-plan living area and massive kitchen plus a double garage and storage under roof. It's a steelframe brick veneer home with long verandahs and high ceilings. Maybe it's ready for a facelift or maybe it's ok as is, you be the judge.

Private Inspection View Just Listed



Brett McDonald 0400 351 311



20 Wirruna Drive, Ocean Shores







OUTSTANDING FAMILY LIFESTYLE

Beautifully elevated and set amongst quality, established homes, this immaculate property is located in one of Ocean Shores' most desirable streets. Enjoy the ideal coastal family lifestyle with long lazy days spent on pristine New Brighton beach, just 5 minutes' drive away, or relaxing beside your inground saltwater pool.

Inside, the substantial and immaculate two storey home offers much more than meets the eye. For those with older children or a mature relative, the home's lower level comprises a bedroom, ensuite, kitchenette and sitting area which has previously been leased as an Air BnB, providing additional income for the homeowner.

Saturday 10.00am - 10.30am

Just Listed Price



Julie-Ann Manahan 0411 081 118

Raine&Horne

(02) 6680 5000 rh.com.au/oceanshores







16 James View Ct, Coorabell

- Unparalleled views from Cape Byron and the Lighthouse to Mount Chincogan and
- Start fresh and create your dream home, move in and enjoy or renovate the current abode
- Three-bed, two-bath main home with two rooms offering direct access to the
- Mediterranean-inspired details with a lime rendered exterior and classic archways



6 Orara Court, Byron Bay

- Private and peaceful oasis just moments from the heart of Byron Bay
- Generous three-bedroom, two-bathroom layout with open-plan living
- Cathedral ceilings, hardwood floors, and skylights ensure a welcoming interior
- Stylish kitchen with stainless steel bench tops, a gas cooktop and dishwasher
- Updated bathrooms including the main bathroom with a separate toilet



BRYCE CAMERON Director / Licensee 0412 057 672

bryce@capebyronproperty.com

A Retro residence

36 Pine Avenue, Mullumbimby



This property is waiting for the magic touch. Well positioned on a corner block with two street accesses, there is plenty of space for boat or caravan storage. A beautiful old poinciana tree spreads out over the front corner of the block providing shade and privacy.

Inside the home you will find a large, bright family living area, leading on to the dining room and retro kitchen. A new induction cooktop and oven have made meal preparation easier. The master bedroom has built in wardrobes and an ensuite, and the two other bedrooms with built in robes. No excuses for clutter with two large linen press or storage cupboards to stow away the items a

Internal entry to the oversized double garage is useful in inclement weather to unload the shopping or kids from the car and two concrete driveways with parking for four cars.

Inspect: By appointment

family need.

Contact: Todd Buckland - 0408 966 421 Byron Shire Real Estate

Huge Ocean Views Under \$1 Mil

1 Tongarra Drive, Ocean Shores

1 3+ **1** 3 **1** 3 **1** 3 **1** 2

\$975,000



This custom-built timber family home has character, individuality and plenty of living space. A grand formal entry reveals soaring five metre cathedral ceilings, filling the house with light. The ridgeline position ensures magnificent views from

almost everywhere in the house. The location is great for privacy, yet just a short walk or ride into Brunswick.

The upper level main bedroom features WIR, ensuite, large living area and adjacent deck with views. The 5-level layout provides room to move and spaces to escape to. There's also a generously sized study or a fourth bedroom.

The large open-plan entertainer's kitchen, dining and living area with polished hardwood flooring open out to a large deck with views to Cape Byron and the hinterland.

Every detail of the construction was carefully considered and there is further potential in the design with large areas under roof space ready for extensions or a granny flat (STCA).

Inspect: By appointment

Todd Buckland - 0408 966 421 Contact: Gary Brazenor - 0423 777 237 Byron Shire Real Estate



My Private Paradise – 607m²

11 Kendall St Byron Bay

Stunning beachside hideaway located just a short stroll from the central hub of Byron Bay. This light filled home features 5 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms including 2 ensuites and a grand open plan kitchen and lounge that boasts high ceilings. Glass bi-fold doors connect you to an oversized porch that doubles your living space and leads you out to enjoy the pool, spa, infrared sauna, ice bath set up and fire pit, all surrounded by well tended tropical

landscaped gardens. Upstairs the balcony gives you an additional entertaining space with views of both sunrise over the lighthouse and sunset over the hills. Go to sleep to the sound of the ocean and wake up to your own private paradise. Visit all major real estate websites to view. Currently tenanted, this one of kind property is available for private sale. To request an inspection or for all other Zoë: 0412 840 864

Echo Providing a voice for the **Northern Rivers** Community

> since 1986



Brunswick Heads

LJ Hooker

PREMIUM PRICE - BUYERS WAITING

10 Grevillea Avenue, Mullumbimby **DECEASED ESTATE AUCTION**

Mullumbimby the heart of the Byron shire with the most diverse and blended community in Australia, The location, the people, the climate, the trees, the environment, fresh produce, have now become the focus for so many.

- · 3 Bedrooms, ensuite
- Massive covered bar, bbq & patio
- A clean Blank canvas
- Flat 752m2 level block
- Ouiet cul de sac location
- Walk to the farmers markets, town & sports For your opportunity to become a member of a the Mullumbimby community. Call Peter Now!

0411 801 795





1 😂 752m²



OPPORTUNITIES ARE ENDLESS

Eastside Brunswick Heads

Corner location with main road frontage and side lane access; the ideal position for future

2 storey 3 bedroom cottage, with upstairs downstairs living & storage, polished timber floors, unique curved walls showing the property's architectural age. Fully fenced yard with a big shed on the lane.

Grab the pushy, skateboard, or walk to town, river, the beach, cafes, boutique shop or the famous Hotel Brunswick.

As stated before, the property position is ideal for a redevelopment site for the future and a great spot to live now!

If you are looking to land bank then the tenants would be ecstatic. They would love to stay. They are blue chip and always pay, so no stress regarding payments.

Contact Peter Browning

0411 801 795



@ljhookerbrunswickheads

The Team at LJ Hooker Brunswick Heads wish you all a very festive season.

ljhooker.com.au 6685 0177

Residential | Commercial | Rural | Finance

Open for inspection

Byron Shire Real Estate

- 12A Coolamon Avenue, Mullumbimby. Sat 10–10.30am
- 1 Ocean Avenue, New Brighton. Sat 11–11.30am
- 1 Walgoan Way, Ocean Shores. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 1 Tongarra Drive, Ocean Shores. Sat 12-12.30pm

Fiona Johnson @Realty

- 11 Bonito Place, Ballina. Thu 1-1.30pm
- 11 Bonito Place, Ballina. Sat 1-1.30pm

First National Byron Bay

- 20 Matong Drive, Ocean Shores. Fri 4-4.30pm
- 6 Gumtree Place, Bangalow. Sat 9-9.30am
- 44 Main Arm Road, Mullumbimby. Sat 9-9.30am
- 20 Lovegroves Lane, Uralba. Sat 10–10.30am
- 206 Friday Hut Road, Possum Creek. Sat 10-10.30am
- 514 Rosebank Road, Rosebank. Sat 10-10.30am • 8/120 Jonson Street, Byron Bay. Sat 11-11.30am
- 767 Myocum Road, Myocum. Sat 11–11.30am
- 2/41 Armstrong Street, Suffolk Park. Sat 11-11.30am
- 10/231 Fowlers Lane, Bangalow. Sat 11.30am–12pm
- 22 Mill Street, Mullumbimby. Sat 2-2.30pm
- 44 Main Arm Road, Mullumbimby. Mon 9-9.30am
- 2/41 Armstrong Street, Suffolk Park. Mon 11–11.30am

Harcourts Northern Rivers

- 57 Lismore Road, Alstonville. Sat 10–10.30am
- 3 Latta Avenue, Ballina. Sat 10-10.30am
- 6/3-7 Henderson Street, East Ballina. Sat 11-11.30am
- 19 Dalmacia Drive, Wollongbar. Sat 11.30am–12pm
- 1 Kulgun Court , Ocean Shores. Sat 10.30–11am

LJ Hooker Brunswick Heads

• 25 Peter Street, South Golden Beach. Sat 11-11.30am

McGrath Byron Bay

- 10/146 Old Bangalow Road, Byron Bay. Fri 2–2.30pm
- 10/146 Old Bangalow Road, Byron Bay. Sat 10–10.30am

Raine & Horne Ocean Shores/Brunswick Heads/ Murwillumbah

- 47 Andrew Ave, Pottsville. Sat 9.30–10am
- 20 Wirruna Ave, Ocean Shores. Sat 10-10.30
- 4 Namoi Glen, Ocean Shores. Sat 10.30–11am
- 12 Miram Place, Ocean Shores. Sat 11am-12pm
- 37 Warwick Park Road, Sleepy Hollow. Sat 11am-12pm

New Listings

Byron Shire Real Estate

• 1 Ocean Avenue, New Brighton

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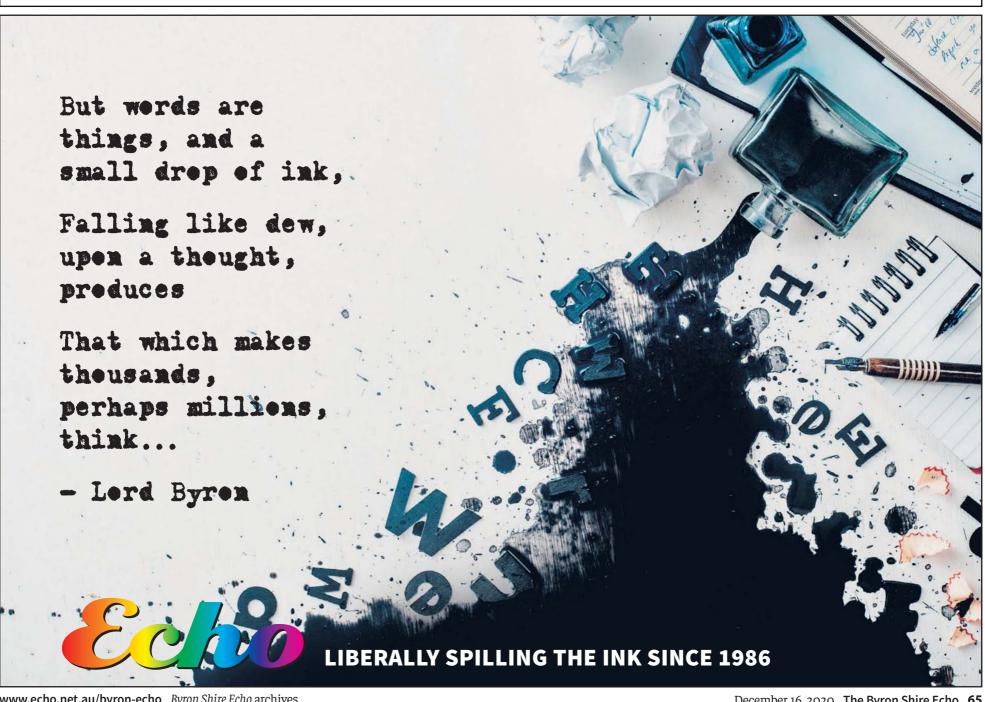
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TILER/STONEMASON/WATERPROOFER Lic 24418C. Phone Karl

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 Stump Grinding
 Bobcat
 Cherrypicker Crane Truck • 18" Chipper

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- Stump Grinding Weed Control
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PETER GRAY Grad. Cert. Arb. AQF8. Consulting arborist	0414 186161
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MARTINO TREE SERVICES	. Martino 0435 019524
LEAF IT TO US 4x4 truck/chipper + crane truck. Local, qualified, insured. Free qu	iotes 0402 487213
PROBLEM CAMPHORS and woody weeds removed. No fuss-green waste, lant	ana too! 0478 779650
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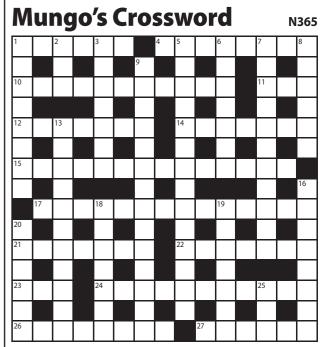
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Cryptic Clues ACROSS

- 1. Insect, strange, found in a chamber
- 4. Urge factory to produce a vegetable (8)
- 10. Grass tuber but generally inactive (5.6)
- 11. Lug headless grizzly? (3)
- 12. Garfunkel is an excellent worker (7)
- 14. Discussed club, indeed (7)
- 15. More paths to inappropriate images (5,9)
- 17. Man died chasing feral abaci! (6,8)
- 21. Siren blared after Royal Engineers rebelled again (7)
- 22. Manager berates inclusion of
- African Daisy (7) 23. Nothing in river of fermented taro (3)
- 24. Recklessly, several can German immortal (11)
- 26. Sky cited incorrectly at news centre
- 27. Hexapod in popular cult (6)

DOWN

- 1. Companion pretends, and applauds (8)
- 2. Thanks turn to the Greek letter (3) 3. Without stockings, and not watered (7)
- Singular agenda discerned for selfmotivated protectors (8,6)
- 6. Bear with an expression of contempt - but he's a very
- 7. A chap with mountains around a circle - can leave the landscape bare! (5,6)
- 8. Rave about one in a deal (6)
- 9. Desperate surgeons in need of audio manipulation (5,9) 13. Cab with red mist appearing – tell
- him to stuff his work! (11) 16. English mark obtained French
- delicacy (8) 18. Popular dates turned out
- otherwise (7) 19. String instrument with French

perhaps (6)

- sound goes on and on! (5,2) 20. 101: fortified wine turns to cancer,
- 25. Single church and diamonds (3)

Quick Clues ACROSS

- 1. Facial cavity (6) 4. Aubergine (8)
- 10. Slob, inactive spectator (5,6)
- 11. Organ of hearing (3)
- 12. Skilled tradesman (7)
- 14. Discussed, argues (7) 15. Incongruous verbal images (5,9)
- 17. Devices for arithmetical processing (6.8)
- 21. Got up again (7) 22. African daisy (7)
- 23. Polynesian foodstuff (3)
- 24. Endless, immortal (11)
- 26. Newspaper office (mainly American) (4,4)
- 27. Six-legged creature (6)

- 1. Applauds, extols (8) 2. Greek letter T (3)
- 3. Not wearing socks or stockings (7)
- 5. Heavenly protectors (8.6)
- 6. VIP (slang) (7) 7. Lethal defoliant (5.6)
- 8. Rant, diatribe (6)
- 9. Audio mechanics (5,9) 13. Preserver of dead animals (11)
- 16. Snail (French) (8)
- 18. Alternatively (7)
- 19. Repeats tediously (slang) (5,2) 20. Cancer or Capricorn (6)
- 25. Frozen water (3)

Last week's solution N364





ECHO CLASSIFIEDS – 6684 1777

CLASSIFIED AD BOOKINGS

PHONE ADS

Ads may be taken by phone on **6684 1777**

AT THE ECHO HEAD OFFICE

Ads can be lodged in person at the Mullum Echo office:

Village Way, Stuart St, Mullumbimby EMAIL ADS

Display classies (box ads): adcopy@echo.net.au Line classies: classifieds@echo.net.au

Ad bookings only taken during business hours: Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm. Ads can't be taken on the weekend. Account enquiries phone 6684 1777.

DEADLINE TUES 12PM

Publication day is Wednesday, booking deadlines are the day before publication

RATES & PAYMENT

LINE ADS:

\$17.00 for the first two lines \$5.00 for each extra line

\$17 for two lines is the minimum charge.

DISPLAY ADS (with a border): \$12.50 per column centimetre

These prices include GST.

Cash, cheque, Mastercard or Visa Prepayment is required for all ads.

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THE BYRON SHIRE



Echonetdaily

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on such content, representations or

DEADSET

Jams and Grooves, Grooves and Jams

Group Song XMAS EDITION

Group singing class for confidence & fun Brunswick Heads, this Thursday. 11.30am & 7.30pm - \$10 Brunswick Memorial Hall email: ByronBaySinging@gmail.com

BYRON TWILIGHT MARKET

Every Saturday 4 – 9 pm RAILWAY PARK, **BYRON BAY** byroncentre.com.au

WaterNSW Bangalow Area Water Source

WaterNSW has received an application from Greg **Dodgson** for a New Water Supply Work & Water Use Approval, for a 100mm pump with a capacity of 19 litres/sec at Lot9 DP804083, Parish of Teven, County of Rous and water use for Irrigation. The application relates to The Bangalow Area Water Source on an unnamed creek subject to Richmond River Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sharing Plan.

Objections must be submitted in writing to PO Box 1400 Grafton NSW 2460 or to customer.helpdesk@ waternsw.com.au Objections must specify the grounds of the Objection and contain the name, address and signature (or authentication) of the Objector. You may use the Objection form waternsw.com.au/advertisingand-objections. All Objections should reference Application Number A024967. Objections must be lodged with WaterNSW within 28 days of this Notice, please refer to the NSW Water Register ("closing date" column) for the final date to lodge an Objection. For enquiries contact Kristin Blain Water Regulation Officer, on 1300 662 077 or by email customer. helpdesk@waternsw.com.au.

WaterNSW New England Fold Belt Coast Groundwater Source

WaterNSW has received an application from Hendrik Hanekom van der Hoven and Almari Slabbert for a New Water Supply Work & Water Use Approval, for a bore with a capacity of 10ML/year at Lot 4 DP634973, Parish Murwillumbah, County Rous, and water use for Irrigation. The application relates to New England Fold Belt Coast Groundwater Source, subject to North Coast Fractured and Porous Rock Groundwater Sources 2016.

Objections must be submitted in writing to PO Box 1400 Grafton NSW 2460 or to customer.helpdesk@waternsw. com.au Objections must specify the grounds of the Objection and contain the name, address and signature (or authentication) of the Objector. You may use the Objection form waternsw.com.au/advertising-andobjections. All Objections should reference Application Number A025321. Objections must be lodged with WaterNSW within 28 days of this Notice, please refer to the NSW Water Register ("closing date" column) for the final date to lodge an Objection. For enquiries contact Melissa Hundy, Water Regulation Officer, on 1300 662 077 or by email customer.helpdesk@waternsw.com.au.

HYPATIA'S LEGACY



David Lovejou

People may not be time-travellers, but books are. A dangerous book from ancient Alexandria arrives in the present. US\$15 + postage from: www.blurb.com/b/10221196hypatia-s-legacy

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FREE RIDE



Christmas Carols

We would love to invite you to join us for a free Christmas BBQ and Carol service.

@ The Hub Ocean Shores – next to Target Christmas Eve 5pm-7pm



Osho 3 Days of Meditation

29-31 December.

8am Silent Dynamic Meditation 10am Osho Discourse 12pm Nataraj Dancing Meditation 2pm Nadabrahma Humming

Meditation 4pm Kundalini Shaking Meditation 6pm Osho Evening Meditation

> Call Shahido 6688 2069

mashahido@gmail.com

CORRECTION

Santa's official photographer for all Byron Santa on the Beach photos is:

Sera J Wright of Photography Byron Bay.

HEALTH

THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE Aches & pains? Release stress, relax, revive & rejuvenate. 9am-5pm, 7 days, \$35/ph. Mark 0448441194.

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/ COUNSELLING with Magenta. Intuitive, grounded guidance \$60, 1 hour. Mullumbimby. 0447844215

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Simple and effective solutions Anxiety, Cravings, Fears & Trauma. Maureen Bracken 0402205352

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Reprogram patterns and beliefs.
Restore vibrancy and physical health. De-stress. Ph 0403125506 SANDRA DAVEY, Reg. Pract.

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Pleasure vou. Pleasure me. Dedicated to sensual relaxation. 0473330720. No tolerance to harrassing behaviour, thanks.

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20 years local experience

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I bed studio \$375 Includes elec and water I bed cabin \$325

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Office space contact agent

L.I. Hooker Brunswick Heads 6685 0177 5/16 The Terrace, Brunswick Heads

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PROF SINGLE 46 y/o woman, n/s, looking for studio \$350 p/w Byron Shire Good refs, quiet, clean and respectful. 0408189174

LOOKING FOR A GREAT TENANT? Single, quiet woman (mid '50s) seeks 1-3 bdr studio/cabin/house in Byron area Long-time local, refs, will treat your property with love and care. Prefer long term. Ph 0408908960

WANTED TO LEASE

ACCESS TO ACREAGE, dwelling or not. Prefer 2x2 or 3x3 or similar, Substantial security deposit OK. Pls call 0423218417

POSITIONS VACANT

ALL ROUNDER FOR OTHER JOINT CAFE, MULLUM. Available Mon-Wed Email mullum@otherjoint.com

DRIVERS WANTED, BALLINA TAXIS Free training, commission-based position. Email ballinataxisoperations@gmail.com

DEMANDING FRONT OFFICE POSITION. Part time or full time. Computer and phone skills essential walter@greenpack.com.au or phone 0405383039



Executive Assistant Byron Bay (re-advertised)

Exciting new position. Would suit a graduate with an excellent work ethic. Go to:

https://www. parentshop.com.au/ about/join-the-team



Our team is growing! We are on the lookout for a FLOOR SUPERVISOR and FLOOR STAFF to join our team as we prepare for summer!

We are looking for true hospitality professionals, with a fun and positive attitude to join our team for immediate start.

Please email your CV to admin@loftbyronbay.com. Full job descriptions available on Seek.com.au.



Our team is growing! We are on the lookout for a SOUS CHEF and CHEF DE PARTIES to join our team as we prepare for Summer!

We are looking for experienced chefs, with an enthusiastic approach and ability to work in various sections of the kitchen for immediate start

Please email your CV to admin@loftbyronbay.com Full job descriptions available on Seek.com.au

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LONG-TERM JOB No travellers. Experienced gardener 5 days pw for local gardening & mowing business. Must have industry experience with hedging & detailed brushcutting. Phone 7am-6pm 0402487213 or kascha@leafittous.com

WARNING

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

LADIES WANTED, MUST BE 18+ Casual or permanent work available in busy adult parlour, 66816038 for details.

EROTIC MASSAGE STAFF reliable and friendly for Gentlemen's Relaxation Centre 18+. Tweed. Grace 0418185791

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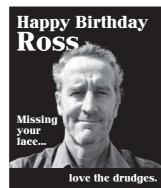
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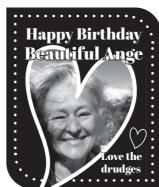
MUSICAL NOTES

QUALITY PIANOS for sale, and expert piano tuning. Ph Fred Cole 0412216019

Sonic Joy + Musical Medicine

BIRTHDAYS





IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of

Kathleen 'JOY' Clothier 16 12 17



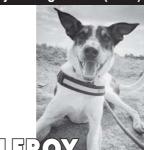
Three years ago you left our side, your 'Joyous' spirit lives on forever in our hearts. Incredible wife, mother and grandmother. Missed by friends and loved ones

but none so much as her family George, Michelle, Mark, Debbie, Dave, Des, Cheryl, Iackson, Cooper, Georgia, Lehman and Jasmine.

'Where a beautiful soul has travelled, beautiful memories remain forever?

PETS

Byron Dog Rescue (CAWI)



15-month-old Kelpie x Border Collie x Cattle Dog **Leroy** is looking for his female forever companion. Leroy is an elegant dancer and a gorgeous goofball. He is an extremely soulful boy who can sooth you with his loving. He is fantastic with children, women and is great with other dogs (just not around his food bowl). Leroy needs lots of exercise, attention, mental stimulation and socialisation.

For more info please phone Shell on 0458 461 935. MC: 941000023205533

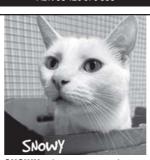
GUITARS, RECORDS, HI-FI

DEADSET =

Lexi is a 2 year old desexed female Kelpie x. This airl deserves a loving home

as she has had a rough start to life, being in the centre of a domestic violence situation which has left her frightened of men initially until she feels she can trust them. Once she has gained trust she is a delightful, affectionate, loyal and loving girl who plays well with other dogs. A home on acreage would suit her so she can get plenty of exercise and stimulation. If you can give Lexi a permanent, loving home please contact Pam on 0421 017 461. Microchip no 956000004434865

Visit friendsofthepound.com to view other dogs and cats looking for a home. ABN 83 126 970 338



SNOWY... just gorgeous, but what you can't see is that he is very special, for he is deaf. Snowy is super friendly, happy and excited at the thought of a new home, having suffered the trauma of losing his first home. Here he is already in his box to travel home with you! Just four years old so he is young and vibrant. Not good at sign language but he is a super communicator.

All cats are desexed. vaccinated and microchipped. No:953010004574911





We can judge the heart of a man by his treatment of animals."

- Immanuel Kant

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		Byron Bay Lismore Car Boot	6685 6807 6628 7333
2nd	SAT	Flea, Byron YAC Flea Market, Bang Woodburn	galow 0490 335 498 0439 489 631
2nd 2nd	SUN SUN	The Channon Lennox Head Tabulam Hall Coolangatta	6688 6433 0419 369 609 0490 329 159
		Mullumbimby Murwillumbah	6684 3370 0413 804 024
3rd 3rd	SUN SUN	Federal Uki Lismore Car Boo Ballina	0403 577 694 0487 329 150 ot 6628 7333 0422 094 338

4th SAT Evans Head

4th SAT Kyogle Bazaar

Third quarter 8 Dec

28 M 0548

1946

1808 0400

Wilsons Creek

4th SUN Nimbin 0475 135 764 4th SUN Murwillumbah 0422 565 168 4th SUN (in a 5 Sunday month) Coolangatta 5th SUN Lennox Head 0419 369 609 5th SUN Nimbin 0458 506 000

FARMI	ERS/WEEKLY IV	IARKETS
Each TUE	New Brighton	6677 1345
Each TUE	Organic Lismore	6628 1084
Each WED	7-11am M'bah	6684 7834
Each WED	3-6pm Nimbin 0	475 135 764
Each WED	4-7pm Newrybar H	all
Each THU	8-11am Byron	6687 1137
Each THU	2.30-6.30pm Lismore	0450 688 900
Each FRI	7-11am Mullum	6677 1345
Each SAT	8-11am Bangalow	6687 1137
Each SAT	8am-1pm Uki	6679 5530
Each SAT	8.30-11am Lismore	0466 415 172
Each SAT	8.30-12am Blue Knob	

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

0439 489 631

0457 471 583

6684 0299

Please stick this by your phone

I			
	AMBULANCE, FIRE, POLICE		
l	BRUNSWICK VALLEY RESCUE Primary rescue		
l	BRUNSWICK MARINE RADIO TOWER		
l	BYRON CENTRAL HOSPITAL		
l	POLICE Brunswick Heads		
l	Mullumbimby		
l	Byron Bay		
l	Bangalow		
l	STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE Storm & tempest damage, flooding		
l	AIDS Confidential testing & information (ACON)		
l	AL-ANON Help for family & friends of alcoholics		
l	ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS 24 hours		
l	ANIMAL RESCUE (DOGS & CATS)		
l	BYRON COUNCIL: EMERGENCY AFTER HOURS		
l	DOMESTIC VIOLENCE 24 hour crisis line		
l	LIFELINE		
l			
l	MENSLINE 7pm–11pm nightly (phone counselling & referral for men) (
l	NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS Meets daily		
l	NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE		
l	NORTHERN RIVERS GAMBLING SERVICE		
١	NORTHERN RIVERS WILDLIFE CARERS		
١	KOALA HOTLINE		
l	WIRES – NSW Wildlife Information & Rescue Service	3628 1	898
•			

11.36am

DECEMBER 2020

New moon 15 Dec 3.16am **Astronomical data** First quarter 22 Dec 10.41am and tides Full moon 30 Dec 2.28pm Day of Sun Sun Moon Moon rise set rise set 1 T 0540 1929 2016 0952 1.68; 2151 1.16 **0257 0.21**; 1615 0.37 0603 2 W 0540 1930 2112 0647 1030 1.69; 2229 1.12 **0330 0.23**; 1655 0.37 3 T 0540 1931 2206 1108 1.68; 2309 1.08 **0404 0.27**; 1738 0.38 0736 0831 1149 1.65; 2354 1.04 0442 0.31; 1824 0.40 4 F 0540 1932 5 S 0540 1932 2342 1233 1.62 0526 0.37; 1914 0.41 0929 1030 0048 1.02: 1321 1.58 0617 0.43: 2009 0.41 6 S 0540 1933 1132 0153 1.03; 1415 1.54 0720 0.48; 2107 0.39 7 M 0540 1934 0024 8 T 0540 1935 0308 1.08; 1515 1.51 0834 0.52; 2203 0.34 9 W 0540 1935 0139 0420 1.18; 1617 1.48 0952 0.52; **2257 0.28** 1336 10 | T | 0541 | 1936 | 0214 | 1440 | 0525 1.32; 1719 1.45 | 1107 0.48; **2345 0.21** 0623 1.48; 1818 1.42 11 F 0541 1937 0250 1545 1217 0.42 0541 1937 0329 0717 1.64; 1915 1.38 **0031 0.15**; 1323 0.35 12 S 1653 13 S 0541 1938 0411 1803 **0808 1.77**; 2010 1.32 **0115 0.10**; **1423 0.29** 14 M 0542 1939 0458 1912 0858 1.86; 2101 1.27 0200 0.08; 1520 0.24 15 T 0542 1939 0552 2020 **0946 1.91**; 2151 1.21 **0244 0.09**; **1614 0.22** 16 W 0542 1940 0651 2122 **1034 1.90**; 2240 1.16 **0328 0.12**; **1706 0.23** 17 T 0543 1940 0754 2216 1120 1.85; 2328 1.11 0413 0.18; 1756 0.27 18 F 0543 1941 0857 2303 19 S 0544 1941 0959 2343 0017 1.07; 1250 1.66 0545 0.37; 1931 0.37 20 S 0544 1942 1057 0110 1.05; 1333 1.55 0635 0.47; 2018 0.41 21 M 0544 1943 1153 0018 0210 1.05; 1419 1.44 0732 0.56; 2107 0.43 22 T 0545 1943 1247 0049 0318 1.08; 1508 1.34 0839 0.64; 2156 0.43 23 W 0546 1944 1339 0119 0427 1.14; 1603 1.26 0956 0.68; 2244 0.41 24 T 0546 1944 1431 0148 0526 1.24; 1700 1.21 1113 0.68; 2329 0.38 25 F 0547 1944 1523 0217 0615 1.34; 1757 1.18 1219 0.64 26 | S | 0547 | 1945 | 1617 | 0248 | 0700 1.45; 1847 1.17 | 0010 0.35; 1315 0.58 27 S 0548 1945 1712 0322 0739 1.54; 1933 1.16 | 0047 0.31; 1403 0.51

31 T 0550 1946 2052 0625 **1015 1.76**; 2215 1.15 **0311 0.23**; 1644 0.35 Times are Eastern Standard Daylight Savings Time. Time lags: Ballina Boat Dock: 15 min; Byron Bay: nil; Brunswick River Hwy Bridge: high 30 min. low 1 hr: Mullumbimby: 1 hr 10 min; Billinudgel: 3 hr 55 min; Chinderah: high 1 hr 15 min, low 2 hr; Terranora Inlet: high 2 hr 10 min, low 2 hr 25 min; Murwillumbah: high 2 hr 30 min, low 2 hr 50 min. **Tides in bold** indicate high tide of 1.7m or more and low tide of 0.3m or less. Data from Bureau of Meteorology.

29 T 0549 1946 1904 0442 0857 1.69; 2056 1.15 **0158 0.25**; 1526 0.41

30 W 0550 1946 2000 0530 **0936 1.73**; 2135 1.15 **0233 0.24**; 1604 0.37

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0818 1.62; 2015 1.15 **0123 0.28**; 1446 0.45

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As of Tuesday afternoon, roads are closed at Upper Main Arm, Upper Wilsons Creek, Eureka, Upper Coopers Creek and Wanganui. This includes temporary bridge works in Upper Main Arm, which were damaged by flooding. To keep up-to-date on weather conditions, visit Council's new emergency dashboard at www.emergency.byron.nsw.gov.au.

The Byron Bay Surf Festival (BBSF) organisers say they are pleased to announce that they have applied to the appropriate (CV19) authorities to run the eleventh year of BBSF in 2021. 'Subject to final approvals and no unexpected covid restrictions, BBSF will be held on Friday to Sunday, 26 till 28 February 2021 (inclusive)'.

The Shara Boulevard gardens, near the highway in North Ocean Shores, are maintained by a volunteer. They asked Backlash to pass on the message that it would be appreciated if the culprit stealing the plants could stop.

Copenhagon

Rupert Murdoch's Sky News propaganda unit, which works on behalf of the Liberals, Nationals and the fossil fuel sector, have been parodied on Twitter so well it confused many. The parody account had to come clean eventually, but it was hard to spot the difference with tweets such as, 'Contributor Miranda Devine says voting is a threat to democracy if good leaders like Donald Trump can't win elections'.

Australia's population growth has declined sharply during the COVID-19 CHEER UPO SECTION

Some wag with spray paint thinks Byron is all about the money. With climbing property prices that's a hard one to argue against. Or is it? Photo Jeff 'Filthy Lucre Since 1986' Dawson

pandemic, according to the first annual Population Statement, released last week. The statement is the first of its kind to be produced by the federal government's Centre for Population, and claims 'population growth in 2020-21 will be the slowest since World War I. Negative net migration is also forecast for the first time in 75 years this year and next... Capital cities had a net loss of 10,500 people to regional areas in the quarter to June 2020, the largest net quarterly move to the regions on record'.

ICYMI: Tweed Shire Council says it is trucking drinking water into Uki from Tuesday while it works to restore electricity to the Uki Water Treatment Plant after a failure owing to flooding.

Democracy - who needs it? The federal Libs and Nationals don't think much of it by the looks, and are pushing

for preferential voting to be abolished. There are many, many improvements that could make the Constitution

- and society - better, but reducing our ability to vote out the Liberal and National coalition is not one of them.

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