

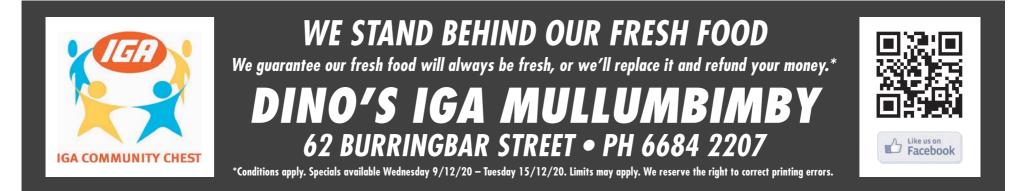


MULLUMBIMBY



CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR TRADING HOURS 24 DEC 6AM-8.30PM | 25 DEC 8AM-4PM | 26 DEC 6AM-8.30PM

31 DEC 6AM-8.30PM | 1 JAN 6AM-8.30PM



2 The Byron Shire Echo December 23, 2020

Local News



WHEN ART MEETS FASHION

Road safety plan adopted

At last Thursday's meeting, councillors adopted 'Road Access and Safety Principles for the Byron Shire road network'.

Only Cr Paul Spooner (Labor) voted against independent Cr Basil Cameron's motion.

The motion will embed the principles 'into the Operational/Delivery Plan', and reads, 'Road safety audits must consider the access and safety of all road users, modes of transport and services delivered within the road reserve such as bus stops and waste collection.

The principles also include safe access infrastructure for cyclists, and will be applied to road renewals, upgrades and maintenance, along with new road projects.

No need for fire brigade, it's just Santa!



Santa came to Mullum last Thursday evening. With parking being the way it is in Mullum, he got the Chamber of Commerce to arrange the Mullum, and Main Arm, Fire and Rescue Brigades to ferry him downtown, to the delight of his target audience. Photo Jeff 'Dressed for Summer and Fires' Dawson

Holiday letting Code of Conduct now in force

The NSW government's mandatory Fair Trading short term rental accommodation (STRA) Code of Conduct commenced Friday, December 18.

Additional changes to planning laws will be introduced from June 1, 2021, including a short-term rental accommodation premises register.

According to www.fairtrading.nsw.gov.au, the laws 'impose new obligations on booking platforms, hosts, letting agents and guests'.

'The government's approach to regulating shortterm rental is focused on commercial arrangements where a person is given the right to occupy a residential premises for up to three months at a time'.

'This means existing laws on residential tenancies and other traditional forms of short-term accommodation, such as hotels and motels, remain unchanged'.

On page 13 (section 2.4.4) of the code, it reads: 'A host must hold insurance that covers their liability for third party injuries and death on short-term rental accommodation premises. This insurance must be valid for the occupancy period'.

Section 2.4.4 and 2.4.5 reads, 'A host, or the host's authorised representative, must be contactable within ordinary hours to manage guests, the premises, neighbourhood complaints and other issues related to use of the premises'.

Contactable 24/7

'A host, or the host's authorised representative, must be contactable outside ordinary hours to deal with emergencies'.

For more information, visit www.fairtrading.nsw.gov.au.

Sewage clear of COVID-19, say NSW Health

While sewage testing on the Gold Coast has indicated the presence of SARS-CoV-2, it appears locally there are no traces in the region's sewage treatment plants (STPs).

NSW Health say on their website they are testing sewage treatment plant locations across NSW, which includes Byron Shire. A Byron Shire Council spokesperson told *The Echo*, 'Council has, for some time, been providing [sewage] water samples to NSW Health'.

According to the latest report from NSW Health (COVID-19 Weekly Surveillance in NSW, ending December 12), it has been 140 days since the last local-transmission case was reported.

Page 17 states that there was no SARS-CoV-2 detected in Byron Shire, Ballina and Tweed from October 10 through to December 12. The water STP samples are yet to be analysed in Byron LGA (local government area) for December 5 to 12. 'Testing rates [of people with COVID-19 symtoms] have mostly decreased or remained stable for all age groups across all LHDs for the week ending December 12'.

For more info, including a Q&A on the program, visit www.health.nsw.gov.au/ Infectious/covid-19/Pages/ sewage-surveillance.aspx.



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'Why, when Jesus talks about feeding the poor, it's Christianity, but when we talk about feeding the poor, it's socialism?' Tweet by Mohamad Safa



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Media freedom reform

welcome: Law Council

The government's acceptance of recommendations, made by the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security, following its inquiry into press freedom, 'is a positive beginning', says the Law Council.

President of the law advocacy group, Pauline Wright, says this will now 'allow the process of meaningful legal reform to commence'.

She says, 'The Law Council Counsel'. www.echo.net.au/byron-echo Byron Shire Echo archives

particularly welcomes the government's commitment to implementing the Committee's key recommendations that all warrants seeking to investigate journalists should be issued by a superior court judge, and that all such warrant applications should be contested by an independent public interest advocate, who is a retired judge, practising Senior Counsel or Queen's Counsel'.

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Local News

Council to take on management of native bushland near Mullum

Paul Bibby

A precious pocket of old growth forest in Mullumbimby is a step closer to being in public hands after Byron Shire councillors voted to take responsibility for the site last week.

Tallowood Ridge, located next to the Tallowood housing estate off Left Bank Road, features 100-year-old trees that are home to numerous species, including koalas.

Court orders

The site is protected by Land and Environment Court orders, but was set to become the responsibility of a small group of private landowners.

This raised concerns that more of the old growth trees would be lost and that the site would suffer from a lack of regular maintenance.

But following a longrunning campaign from residents, councillors voted unanimously at last week's meeting to enter into negotiations with the landowners, and/or the developer of the

estate, to seek the gifting of the land to Council.

The developer, Eric Freeman, has previously indicated that he is willing to give the site to Council.

'There are very few places in the community where people can access this type of forested area', said Greens Cr Sarah Ndiaye, who put forward the proposal for Council to take over the site.

'It's an absolutely stunning example of what was here before we took over. It would be a real shame for this not to be well-managed into the future'.

The decision by Councillors came despite a report from Council staff recommending against such a move.

The staff report sited the cost to Council of maintaining the ridge as a key reason not take responsibility for it.

No development potential: staff

'To date, Council has resisted effort by developers to dedicate land that has

no development potential,' **Development Planning** Officer, Christopher Soulsby, said.

Cr Ndiaye told the meeting that she had been quite disappointed with the staff report.

'The overwhelming message from the biodiversity staff [as opposed to the planning staff] was that this was a really precious piece of land and there were plenty of funding opportunities for managing it into the future.

'It's been proposed that landholders be the custodians of this very precious piece of land, but I feel that opens up the risk of pests, invasive species, trees being cut down...' she said.

Speaking after the meeting, local resident Dave Rawlings, who has been part of the campaign to preserve the ridge, welcomed the decision.

'It's definitely a move in the right direction,' he said. 'We're a big step closer

to having the ridge in public hands.



Internationally renowned performer Space Cowboy attempted a DIY tonsillectomy, while Zoe L'amore fired up the barbie at last weekend's opening of Space Cowboy's mammoth art exhibition. Photo Jeff 'Sucker for a Flame Sword Sucker' Dawson

Mia tops HSC results

Congratulations, Byron Bay High School student Mia Thom, who has been awarded as a 'top achiever' from her HSC results in English Advanced and Society and Culture.

According to the NSW education department, she was one of nine North Coast students who were in the top places in each course, provided their result is also in the top band.

Additionally, Mia joins fellow Byron High student Chiara Wenban as two of four north coast students who were declared 'All-Rounders', because they scored a top band result in ten or more units.

Relieving head English teacher at Byron Bay High School, Sarah McGregor, said, 'We can't stop smiling. The school has done so well, despite an awful year'.



Mia co-organised and led the 2019 Strike 4 Climate protest in Byron. Photo Jeff Dawson



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Local News

Indigenous midden under threat

Photo & story Eve Jeffery

A midden of historical significance has been so severely damaged by the coastal erosion of the past week, that the local mob are concerned it may not be saved.

One of the two larger middens in the area has had a huge chunk washed away, and the traditional custodians are hoping that residents and visitors can do their part to help save it.

Arakwal woman Nickolla Clark says that the Clarkes midden, on Clarkes Beach, in the area of the cafe and caravan park, has all but disappeared.

'Our poor midden! Yes, we are losing sand formations like the dunes and a lot of ecological environments from within these areas, which is very sad, but we have also lost one of our very limited listed cultural sites', she said.

'The Clarkes Beach midden has shell dated at 263 years old, and also bone remains dated at over 100 years old'.

'This is one of the youngest midden sites on country, but the most heavily impacted by humans and extreme weather events'.

Ms Clark says midden sites are important because they are Indigenous significant sites.

'They have been used for thousands of years by many



Arakwal woman, Nickolla Clark, says that erosion has resulted in losing 'one of our very limited listed cultural sites'

Aboriginal people all along the east coast lines, as sites for gathering, sharing, feasting and more.

'As coastal people – my family, the Arakwal People of Byron Bay – we have listed protected midden sites on country.

'It proves our inhabitancy before European settlement, and tells the history of our old people - what they ate, where they gathered - what tools they used.

'These sites were shared with other Bundjalung Nation peoples and they are significant to a wide range of clans and stories'.

Ms Clark says taking care of them has been passed

down through many generations on Arakwal country and it is important to protect the sites, so they stay on country for future generations and are not ruined by human activities.

'There are only so many listed protected sites on our coast that we can fully protect as Aboriginal people and we are very lucky as native title holders to have three sites on country protected within this process'.

Ms Clark asks for people to keep away from the site, as that is the best way to help preserve the midden.

'Avoid walking over the dunes and midden remains and the little that will be left

swimming pool.

solar heating so the pool

the agenda for 2021.

Rate increase

[after the storm erosion] and sensitive vegetation areas on the dunes'.

'Stick to the Council beach accesses once they open'.

Awareness is key

Ms Clark says learning about the area is also a way to help.

'Awareness is key to the success and revival of our sites'.

'Please respect the sensitive ecological environments in these areas, and find out more about middens, their significance, and what they look like.

'As a community we can work together to protect these sites'.

Council's finances positive, says auditor

Paul Bibby

Byron Council has received a surprisingly positive financial report card for 2020 despite the combined impacts of COVID-19 and the bushfires.

The annual presentation of Council's financial statements at last week's full Council meeting revealed that the body had an operating budget surplus of than the previous year's surplus. Adam Bradfield from

audit firm Thomas, Noble and Russell told the meeting that the additional surplus was, somewhat ironically, partly the result of money received from government grants in relation to the bushfires and COVID-19.

Council has previously indicated that these two events had significantly

upgrade to the Mullumbimby variation (SRV) granted by the State Government in 2017.

The pool works, which Mr Bradfield said that, while COVID-19 had generinclude the installation of ated some extra revenue in the form of grants, there had can stay open all year round, have now been put back on also been a significant negative impact.

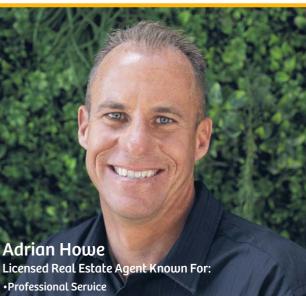
'Revenue from caravan and parking fees in particular have fallen,' he said.

He added that Council's cash level, also a key indica-



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\$23.8 million for the 2019/20 financial year.

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eroded its bottom line, forcing it to abandon a number of projects, including an

the result of a \$3.2 million increase in rates revenue the result of a special rate

The meeting heard that

the increased operating

budget surplus was also

tor of financial health, had remained stable from the prior year.

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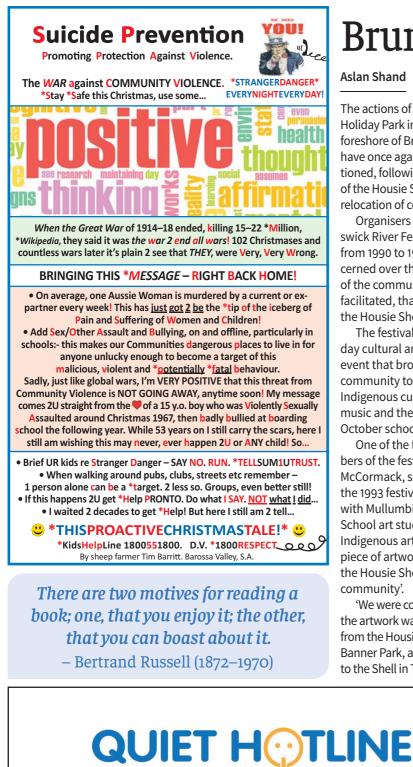
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Local News



PROVIDING NOISY NEIGHBOUR HOTLINE SERVICES

Providing assistance to owners, managers and neighbours of private houses or apartments being let for short-term rental accommodation (STRA).

NSW State Government is introducing legislation on 18th December 2020, that empowers Fair Trading to implement a mandatory Code of Conduct for short term residential accommodation (STRA) providers.

Create an effective behavioural management system to help you to be recognised as a respected community member and a good neighbour.

The Quiet Hotline and membership of the HLO Byron community provide solutions honed over 15 years of experience.

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Provide your neighbours with a hotline number to register

Bruns mural removed without notice

Aslan Shand

The actions of Reflections Holiday Park in reshaping the foreshore of Brunswick Heads have once again been questioned, following the removal of the Housie Shed walls and relocation of community art.

Organisers of the Brunswick River Festival, that ran from 1990 to 1995, were concerned over the relocation of the community art they facilitated, that had been on the Housie Shed wall.

The festival was a three day cultural and community event that brought the community together, with Indigenous culture, art, music and theatre over the October school holidays.

One of the founding members of the festival, Donny McCormack, said, 'Following the 1993 festival, we worked with Mullumbimby High School art students and Indigenous artists to create a piece of artwork to decorate the Housie Shed for the community'.

'We were concerned that the artwork was removed from the Housie Shed in Banner Park, and relocated to the Shell in Terrace Park



Brunswick River Festival co-founder, Donny McCormack Photo Jeff Dawson

without any community consultation. It is important that Reflections consider the community before they make these important decisions,' he told *The Echo*. 'Reflections must remember that this space belongs to the community, and has long-term meaning for the people here'.

The importance of community consultation was also emphasised by another local Andy Graeme-Cook. He said, 'These are public spaces, and Reflections haven't asked the community if it is okay to remove the Housie Shed walls and move artwork etc'.

'Another example is the plans for the new playground that were not accessible [for

all abilities]. It is only because I'm on Council's accessibility committee that I saw them and was able to provide feedback. The rest of the community hasn't had the opportunity to comment.'

Responding to questions from The Echo over the lack of community consultation, a spokesperson for Reflections Holiday Parks said, 'Reflections Holiday Parks operates under the Crown Land Management Act 2016 and the Crown Land Management Regulation 2018. Under this legislation, Reflections is obligated to engage with its local communities and does so across the state of NSW. 'As an example, *The*

'Mr Anthony was a com-

mitted family man. Our

thoughts are with his wife

Margot, and their children

Dugald, Jane and Larry at

Giant of rural and

Meanwhile, Nationals

federal Deputy Leader David

mourns the loss of a 'giant of

rural and regional politics and

a legend of the National Party'.

'Our nation has been

made richer because of the

work he did and we are all

poorer for his passing.

Littleproud said the party

regional politics

this very sad time'.

Echo would be aware of the community engagement and consultation process undertaken during the review of the Plans of Management (PoM) for both Ferry Reserve Holiday Park and Massy Greene Holiday Parks. Consultation for this project took approximately two years, prior to presenting final documents to the Minister for endorsement.'

Both the community and Byron Shire Council have, for many years, challenged the actions of Reflections, and their impact on the community and environment [see page 7].

The Reflections spokesperson added that they have redesigned the playground, based on feedback from Council consultation.

Homeless problem

Regarding the removal of the walls of the Housie Shed, the spokesperson said, 'Reflections is committed to community consultation, and most recently worked very closely with Council, local police and community social welfare representatives, to review the use of the Housie Shed'.

Doug Anthony dies at 90

Local federal MP, Justine Elliot (Labor), paid tribute to Doug Anthony, former **Deputy Prime Minister and** former Nationals MP for Richmond, who died on Sunday, aged 90.

She said, 'Doug Anthony served as Deputy Prime Minister for nine years, but he was first and foremost a son of the Tweed.

'I'd like to acknowledge Mr Anthony's dedicated service to our community as the Federal Member for Richmond from 1957–1984.

'Doug Anthony was also a strong supporter of the Repub*lic Yes* campaign in 1999.

'Known for their gener-'During his tenure both as



Former Deputy Prime Minister and former Member for Richmond, Doug Anthony.

our resources industry and for Australian exports'.

He added, 'Doug Anthony epitomised the finest qualities of leadership and service and leaves a significant legacy for future generations of National Party representatives to uphold and continue'.

- complaints about unacceptable behaviour by any unruly guests.
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ous spirit, Mr Anthony and his wife Margot donated a portion of their land at Murwillumbah to build the new Tweed Regional Art Gallery.

Minister and Deputy Prime Minister, Doug shaped and influenced the national policy agenda and delivered major wins for Australian farmers,

Govcorp's privacy measures not effective: AG

The NSW Auditor-General, Margaret Crawford has released a report examining the effectiveness of Service NSW's handling of customers' personal information to ensure its privacy. The report reads, 'Service NSW is not effectively

handling personal customer and business information to ensure its privacy. Service NSW continues to use business processes that pose a risk to the privacy of personal information'. 'This includes the routine emailing of personal

information between Service NSW service centres and other agencies, which is one of the processes that contributed to the data breach earlier this year'. Previously identified risks and recommended solutions had also not been implemented, she said.

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

Recalcitrant Reflections denied Bruns operation

Paul Bibby

Byron Council is holding its ground in the fight to protect a collection of Cypress Pines located in a Brunswick Heads holiday park, refusing an application that would have likely further decimated the endangered ecological community.

But local residents say the company responsible for the facility, Reflections Holiday Parks, is still continuing to amputate large branches from the trees, even while the matter is before the courts.

The pines in The Terrace holiday park have been the focus of a community-led preservation campaign for more than a decade.

The trees have a high level of both environmental and heritage value, having been home to native species on the site for more than half a century.

Reflections Holiday Parks, which is a NSW governmentrun corporation, recently submitted an activity application that seeks, among others things, to expand its use of the southern part of the park where the pines are located.

If approved, the application would override a previous condition forbidding the company from conducting any activity in that part of the park and requiring it to remove any infrastructure where it was safe to do so.

Council has, to this point, held back on approving the recent application in the hope that an agreement could be reached to preserve the pines.

Reflections takes Council to court

However, Reflections responded to this delay by launching proceedings in the Land and Environment Court for deemed refusal of its application. The proceedings are continuing.

At last week's meeting, councillors unanimously voted to formally refuse the activity application.

'If Reflections don't adapt and redesign their plans for the park, it's a loss for the community,' Mayor Simon Richardson said. 'We need Reflections to reflect Council and community values'.

During the public access section of the meeting, John Dunn from the Brunswick Heads Progress Association presented a series of pictures that appeared to show that Reflections had been amputating large branches from the pines in recent months, despite the ongoing fight over their future.

'This failure [to protect the pines] has a long history,' Mr Dunn said. 'It's death by a thousand cuts.'

In a report to last week's meeting, Council planner Ben Grant said it was 'clear, based on the available information, that the Holiday Park has degraded the pines in the Southern Precinct over several decades, and these effects are likely to continue

Carnies come to Bruns

into the future, unless ame-

liorative actions are taken'.

A Reflections spokes-

person told The Echo they

'totally refute' the claim they

had consistently amputated

Cypress Pine tree limbs from

Additionally, The Echo

asked, 'How does Reflections

respond to Council's decision

to refuse the activity applica-

tion?' They replied that they

would continue to pursue

through the Land and Envi-

the matter, 'as planned,

ronment Court process'.

the site, when it was not

necessary to do so.



McGregor's Family Carnival is up and running in Bruns! Pictured last Sunday are cousins Lucy McLeod and Mary Watson, with carnival director Glen McGregor. Unfortunately, there will be no fireworks this year. Photo Jeff Dawson

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THE

GREENS

Ballina Local News

Dunoon Dam ditched by Rous

Story & photo David Lowe

With numbers locked last Wednesday, the Chair of Rous County Council (RCC), Keith Williams, voted to prevent the contentious Dunoon Dam project proceeding, at a not-so ordinary Rous meeting in Lismore.

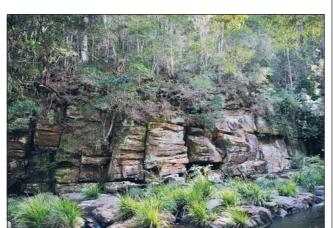
According to public submissions, over 90 per cent of respondents opposed the dam, which threatened Indigenous artefacts and rare big scrub forests.

The meeting began with deputations against the dam from Duncan Dey, Bianca Urbana and Cindy Roberts, who was representing the Widjabul Wyabul traditional owners of the affected area, between Dunoon and The Channon.

Ms Roberts said, 'As we gather together, and acknowledge Nguthunggali Ngadjanggali our creator, I welcome all my ancestors into this meeting today.

'My people don't agree with the dam, full stop'.

Ms Roberts said that if it were to proceed it would mean the 'desecration of my ancestors, my great-greatgrandfathers are all buried in



Gorge area that would have been impacted by the proposal.

these places'.

'And yet you decide that you want to build and bury my people under concrete and flood them out, inundate them. Who does that? That's immoral.'

Ms Roberts said it was a waste of time and money to do a third cultural heritage assessment, when two previous studies had found clear evidence of irreplaceable heritage on the dam site.

Difficult process

Speaking about a 'fairly difficult process' Rous Chair Keith Williams said, 'Personally, that was a very difficult decision for me to vote against the staff recommendation. No two ways about that. But I believe it's better for us in the long term.

'There are plenty of options,' said Cr Williams. 'The thing that drives

me the craziest about this entire debate is we adopted yesterday [at Rous] our largest ever investment in water efficiency, in water loss management, \$1.5m...'

'This is the most difficult decision I've had in my time as a councillor, no doubt about that'.

He added, 'With or without the Dunoon Dam, we are not running out of water. Water security is guaranteed'.

Boochani portrait wins People's Choice

David Lowe

Lennox Head-based artist Angus McDonald has taken out the People's Choice award at this year's Archibald Prize, for his portrait of former detained refugee Behrouz Boochani.

In his acceptance speech, the artist said he was 'thrilled and humbled' to receive the award, which he regarded as a massive compliment both to himself and to Mr Boochani, who has made a 'deep and significant impact' on Australia, despite never being allowed to set foot on the country.

Hold up a mirror

Angus McDonald said, 'Behrouz's greatest contribution to us through his work was to hold up a mirror and show us how we stumbled without noticing into becoming a worst version of ourselves.'

Mr McDonald said he hoped Australia would not waste this 'gift', but instead 'use it to put an end to this dark chapter for good, and find a better way by rediscovering the self-respect and pride that is within us as



Angus McDonald with Behrouz Boochani. Photo Damian McDonald

a whole society to act with compassion, generosity to those that need safety, and a hand up.

'Imagine what we could achieve together if we find the courage to do that,' he said.

This is Mr McDonald's sixth time as an Archibald Prize finalist. His awardwinning short film *Manus* was released in 2019.

Behrouz Boochani is now free from Australian detention and living in New Zealand.

In conversation

On February 12, 2021, the people of the Northern Rivers will have the opportunity to see this award-winning portrait for themselves, and hear from the artist, in conversation with Kerry O'Brien, at the Tweed Regional Gallery, in a special Sunset Session.

Numbers are strictly limited. Bookings via www. archibaldsunsetsession. eventbrite.com.au.

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Expanded dog-on-leash area for Lennox

David Lowe

The long discussed and delayed motion to eliminate the 'walk of shame' and create a larger dog on-leash area near the Lennox Surf Club has finally made its way through Ballina Council, with new signage expected at Christmas.

Local dog-lover Jan Derricott spoke at the meeting and represented 'more than 1,000 residents of Lennox' wanting to expand the onleash area in the parklands adjacent to the kiosk.

Known as option 2, all councillors voted in favour of

the new arrangement, except Cr Sharon Parry.

Ms Derricott said it was 'music to her ears' to read Ballina Council's brochure on responsible pet ownership, which states that pets are much-loved family members.

She thanked Council for its Companion Animal Management Plan and said that during COVID-19, the dog friendly section of Seven Mile Beach had allowed dog owners to reduce social isolation and also get exercise, with the kiosk providing an important hub for social interaction.

Ms Derricott read official

dog attack statistics (including displays of aggression) with 95 across Ballina Shire over the last 12 months, but only two at Seven Mile Beach and one at the surf club.

'Does Council truly want to jeopardise the tourist dollar?' she asked. 'Lennox has been known as a dog friendly, visitor friendly town'.

Ballina Council General Manager Paul Hickey said, 'We'll try to get all that done before Christmas, that's our commitment, we've heard the feedback and our obligation is to implement that resolution asap, so that's what we'll do.'



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Legal services demand surges 'almost 500 per cent'

Calls relating to domestic violence surged by almost 500 per cent during the COVID-19 pandemic, according to a document that was due to be tabled in NSW Parliament last week. According to Legal Aid NSW, The Legal Aid NSW annual report shows that the organisation's Domestic Violence Unit took more than 1,500 calls between March and June this year. 'This is almost five times the average rate – where 1,000 calls are taken in a whole year – and does not include almost 1,000 email referrals also received during the pandemic.

'Demand also increased for civil law services with a sharp increase in a range of issues. 'As at June 30, 2020, Legal Aid NSW had provided 938 services to clients in COVID-19 related civil law matters, covering topics such as employment (33.6 per cent), immigration (30.2 per cent), housing (8.3 per cent) and consumer (7.9 per cent). Almost a quarter of these services were provided in regional NSW.

'The most common issue arising was insurance disputes, comprising 45 per cent of total legal services, followed by disaster welfare (12 per cent), tenancy (eight per cent), credit and debt (eight per cent), and neighbour disputes (six per cent)'.

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

Local News

Marine Rescue training centre opens in Bruns

A new Marine Rescue Brunswick training and meeting centre opened last week, located beside the town's boat harbour.

NSW Police and Emergency Services Minister, David Elliott (Liberal), officially opened the \$84,000 facility and said the new facility had been developed with a \$30,000 government contribution.

Dr Suresh donation

According to Mr Elliott's press release, 'The remaining funding for the building came from a \$50,000 bequest from the estate of local medical practitioner Dr Suresh Rananavare'.

Unit Commander Jonathon Wilcock said the new building was the culmination of extensive planning and input by the unit's volunteers.

'We previously had to rent a local hall for our unit meetings and training. The funding from the NSW government and the generous bequest from Dr Rananavare's estate has enabled us to have our own dedicated space', he said.

'We also were fortunate to receive an Emergency



NSW Liberal MP David Elliott, MRNSW Commissioner Stacey Tannos and Brunswick unit members celebrate the opening of the new facility. Photo Jeff Dawson

Byron to recieve disaster assistance

Prime Minister Scott Morrison and NSW Premier Gladys Berejiklian visited Lismore last week to view flood damage and declare the Northern Rivers a natural disaster area.

Severe storms since last Friday wreaked havoc, with culvert washouts, landslips and major damage to both the sealed and gravel road network. Disaster assistance was made available to the storm-and-flood affected local government areas of Armidale, Ballina, Bellingen, Byron, Clarence Valley, Coffs Harbour, Glen Innes, Severn, Inverell, Kempsey, Kyogle, Lismore, Nambucca, Port Macquarie, Hastings, Richmond Valley and Tweed.





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December 23, 2020 The Byron Shire Echo 9

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Comment

Suffolk bike track project maintains trajectory

Almost every Council meeting throws up hard decisions that must be courageously tackled, such as resolving competing community uses of public land.

At last Thursday's Council meeting, councillors voted to proceed with plans for a pump track, or a BMX track, at the Linda Vidler Memorial Parklands, located in Suffolk Park.

Yet the chamber heard the decision comes without an adopted masterplan for the area, although a plan of management (PoM) was in place.

The chamber also heard additional drainage and infill works were also needed, no matter what occurs on the site.

The community gardens, which is also located in the park, said they were against, while the local soccer club were also vying for use. The associated staff report for the project said 'conflicting demands' for the space also included Arakwal interests.

During morning access, Tee Miller from the community gardens told councillors, via a prerecorded submission, that the gardens, 'has been unable to develop its plans because it does not have a licence.'

'Without a licence, access to funds and grants have proved impossible. Council staff told us we can't apply for a licence until [the community gardens] are officially on the Linda Vidler Memorial Parklands masterplan'. Ms Miller said, 'The pump track has no licence and no members, yet it is already on the masterplan, and has been given \$118,700 of Council funds and now it wants \$200,000 to build stage two, commencing in two months' time'.

'This puts the community garden at a disadvantage'.

Meanwhile, Donald Maughan from the Suffolk Park Progress Association told the chamber during public access that there is a huge demand from young people wanting to use the track, and that when built, an Alstonville bike group is ready to come to hold workshops.

While independent Crs Coorey and Basil Cameron supported the proposal by the Suffolk Park Progress Association, Cr Alan Hunter spoke against. 'This belongs to everyone', the Nationals Party-aligned councillor said. 'No one has a right to exclusivity'.

Meanwhile, Cr Paul Spooner (Labor), said it was 'brave to vote against a masterplan and agree to whoever knocks at our door'. He said approval of the full plans was, 'Thumbing our nose at process'.

Cr Spooner said, 'We heard from other user groups to hold off. The community gardens and soccer club want the masterplan finished [expected to be in April, 2021]'.

'We created a Catch-22 for one group, and for another we are writing the cheques'.

A motion by Labor's Paul Spooner to approve construction of just stage one was defeated, and instead, an amendment by Cr Michael Lyon was successful, which authorises construction of stage one and allocates \$200,000 'to allow the design and construction of stage two of the Pump Track'.

Council did not call for tenders for the project, according to the amendment, 'because inviting tenders would not achieve a satisfactory result'.

'Extenuating circumstances' were provided in the amendment, including the company 'already being selected by Council via market testing to construct'.

Crs Hunter, Spooner, and Hackett voted against.

Hans Lovejoy, editor News tips are welcome: editor@echo.net.au

When politicians attack democracy

ttempting to step into the mighty flippers of the great Mungo MacCallum is a challenge for anyone who dares swim in the murky, pungent waters of Australian politics.

And like you, I miss the man and his mighty brain terribly and know that it's my duty to honour him by making a big splash with an immediately crowdpleasing column topic.

So naturally, I'm diving in by... um, talking about the government attempting to legislate changes to Australia's federal voting system NO REALLY COME BACK IT'S IMPORTANT I PROMISE.

See, the Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters have just published a 227 page report containing a whopping 27 recommendations.

It's not, it's fair to say, a fast-paced thrill-ride of a read.

Said committee is chaired by Liberal senator James McGrath and largely (though not entirely) contains his fellow Coalition members.

And his long and comprehensive and cartoon-free report begins by noting that "Governments in democracies should always be wary of the voter" in its preface, and then spends the following 225 pages explaining how to take that voter down a peg or six.

There's also a line in it about how our robust voting system means that Australians can sleep in their beds "protected from the claws of the banality of evil", which is a shoo-in for Most Bafflingly Incoherent Australian Sentence Of 2020, unless Bob Katter chooses to hold a surprise end of year press conference.

Now, it's worth expressing that Australia has an enviable voting system including such excellent features as: independent non-partisan bodies overseeing the operation of our elections, compulsory voting (well, compulsory attendance at a polling place, at least), and - at a federal level - a preferencing system that means the seat goes to the candidate found most tolerable by the largest number of voters.

All are great ideas that... um, trim the claws of the evil whose banality so offends McGrath, I guess?

That being said you can probably name a dozen things that you'd like to see change.



And it's very likely that your list would have little in common with the 27 points compiled by Jimmy 'n' Palz.

For example, the report calls for the reduction of those early voting periods, which the public has enthusiastically embraced, especially in these pandemic days when queuing in close proximity to one's entire neighbourhood isn't perhaps epidemiologically wise.

The Standing Committee would also like to get rid of by-elections so parties can just slot in a new MP instead of asking the electorate's permission.

They call for the removal of compulsory preferential voting and longer terms for those in the House of Representatives, because a mere three years of sweet, unthreatened-by-sudden-byelection-power is barely enough.

And they want tighter restrictions on party names because the Liberals will never, ever get over David Leyonhjelm winning a senate seat for the Liberal Democrats in 2013.

And in what amounts to an admission that they can't think of their own voter suppression tactics and have to import them from the US, there's also a call for voter ID laws, in order to halt the estimated 0.03 per cent of votes that are cast more than once and that are picked up by the counting process.

Sorry, that should read "stop the terrible scourge of voter fraud".

Now, here's the thing. As a voter or, as I'm sure Senator James McGrath would prefer it termed, an Australian democracy customer - are these the issues that keep you up of a night? Have you been fuming about the nightmarish convenience of being able to vote early, or crying salt tears at the poor political parties cruelly

The Echo presents Andrew P Street as one of the new columnists who will replace the irreplaceable Mungo. Mr Street is a Sydneybased, Adelaide-built journalist, columnist, author, editor and broadcaster. His bio reads, 'Disappointingly, he looks much like the picture to the left. He is also the author of the acclaimed The Short and Excruciatingly Embarrassing Reign of Captain Abbott (Allen & Unwin, 2015). That was followed in 2016 by The Curious Story of Malcolm Turnbull: the Incredible Shrinking Man in the Top Hat'. For more info, visit www.patreon.com/andrewpstreet.

> forced to make their case to voters at by-elections?

I know we've only just met, dear reader, but I'm going to guess that it's a hard 'NO'.

And it's very illuminating to consider the things that the Standing Committee on Electoral Matters figured weren't worth addressing. Legislating truth in electoral advertising, for example.

So if Clive Palmer wanted to spend another five million on billboards decrying Labor's non-existent death tax, for example, that's apparently the system working as intended.

What's also not on the table is outlawing deliberately misleading advertising material, like the 2019 election signs in Australian Electoral Commission livery placed in Melbourne seats with a high proportion of Mandarin speakers instructing them to put the Liberals at number 1 in order to submit a valid ballot.

Again: the system works! Also landing in the Don't Give A Toss basket are such issues as: addressing the murky world of campaign financing, mandating real-time reporting on who is donating what to who, the use of shonky political thinktanks to launder money from prohibited donors, or anything else that normal voting humans might consider a stain on our democracy and in urgent need of reform.

In other words, the Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters would very much like a bunch of changes that would benefit the major parties and especially the Coalition, at the expense of voters and representative democracy in general.

It's almost like James isn't worried about the banality of evil's claws after all.



The Byron Shire Echo Volume 35 #28 December 23, 2020

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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Nicholas Shand 1948-1996 Founding Editor

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

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Dr Rohan Wijey, Cathy Elliott, Dr Demetrio Pina, Rachel Andersson & Dr Roy Gamma

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

Shara plant theft

The gardens on Shara Blvd near the highway are maintained by a volunteer and it would be appreciated if the culprit stealing the plants would stop.

> Michele **Ocean Shores**

A time of loss

In recent times Byron Bay has lost Mungo, lost its Main Beach and lost the ability to control a sensible future pathway with the loss in the courts to the developers of West Byron. From that decision we will also lose our ability to function in a fair and reasonable time frame and convenience.

More people, more cars but very little more in the way of infrastructure will eventually squeeze the functionality out of Byron Bay.

What were they thinking? This is not a selfish case of 'not in our backyard' but a case of 'our backyard isn't anywhere near big enough' for these changes.

> **Neil Matterson** Byron Bay

Congrats to The Echo

A strong congratulation is in order for The Echo in surviving the Murdoch Press assault on local newspapers. It was relentless and captured many of them on the whole east coast some years ago.

Content was reduced

Letters to the Editor

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.



Cartoon by Craig Scanlan

to social niceties, strong calls for state money for new development, ads and services and of course, real estate adverts and hype.

And of course another goal was to remove a paper that operated as a community forum and dared to practise investigative journalism. And then, after taking out and transforming all these local papers and dumbing down the community... whoosh, all gone, vanished, kaput, overnight! We sort of awoke from the nightmare, and there, left standing high above the clouds is *The Echo*.

Congrats! Quite amazing,

someone else to pick up, or worse, to be washed into the sea.

For those amongst us that leave the bags on the beach, with the intention to collect it on the way back, ask yourself how often you've forgotten accidentally? Count your blessings, smile bright and keep enjoying all the goodness on your walks.

And say thank you, a lot. Juud Addison Byron Bay

Dark and confusing

It seems our world gets darker and more confusing all the time. Bushfires, floods and extreme weather suggests that climate change is real and yet our governments still hesitate to take real action. In America COVID and Trumpism dominate and everyone seems divided about what it all means.

The spirit of connection that binds us all together, humans, animals and the Earth seems to be desperately breaking apart.

I live surrounded by beauty and it reminds me that the connection is real, but so many others are suffering from loss. I am grateful for what I have in my small world but there's much to worry about.

Personally I've felt devastated lately about the NSW government's decision to close parts of our railway here in the Northern Rivers. I believe the government can afford it, and our communities need it, but they just don't care. I've been banging my head against a brick wall on this issue and now my head hurts.

I know there is support from all the people who need Continued on page 13



Dr Michael Stapelberg | Dr Annette Beisenherz **Dr Dunstan Thompson**

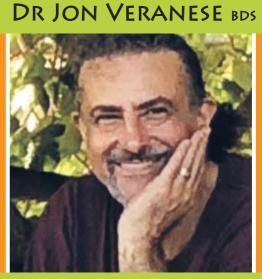
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> **Bill Sokolich** Kuranda

Scoop the poop bags

I am a Byron Ranger and a member of a local volunteer group that, amongst other things, organises clean ups on our beautiful beaches every week.

During today's clean up at Belongil we collected 30 full doggie bags that were left behind.

How lucky are we to be able to exercise and enjoy selected beaches together with our furry family members? However, if you do go to the beach, please pick up your own doggie-poo bags and don't leave it behind for

Byron Resource Recovery Centre Opening Hours

24 December - OPEN 8am - 4pm 25 December, Christmas Day - CLOSED 26 December, Boxing Day - CLOSED 27 December - OPEN 8:30am - 11:30 am 28 December, Public Holiday - CLOSED 29-31 December - OPEN 8am - 4pm 1 January 2021, New Years Day - CLOSED 2 January 2021 - OPEN 8:30am - 11:30am

For more information contact the Resource Recovery Hotline on 1300 652 625



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More folk and their memories of Mungo MacCallum

It was with great dissappointment that I read the last column submitted by Mungo in a recent edition of The Echo but it was with extreme sadness that I learned a few days later of his unfortunate death.

Although I do not live in Byron Shire I am an avid reader of The Echo. I particularly enjoy reading Hans Lovejoy's Comment, Letters, Mandy Nolan's Soapbox and Backlash, but the part that I always enjoyed the most was Mungo's column. Mungo was a very talented journalist with many skills,

but the skill that I admired the most was his ability to read between the lines and analyse what is really going on in Canberra, even from distant Ocean Shores.

That he continued to write up until just days of his death is the journalistic equivalent of 'dying with his boots on'.

I have no doubt that The *Echo* will find a competent journalist to replace him, but they will be extremely large boots to fill.

I would like to pass on my condolences to his family, friends and colleagues, especially those that write for The Echo. He will be sadly missed.

Rob Blanch Bogangar

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

CHESS by Ian Rogers

The Russian Championship, which concluded in Moscow last week, was the most dramatic event of 2020, both on and off the board.

The elite 12 player tournament was thrown into confusion when, just after the halfway mark, Mikhail Antipov tested positive for covid and was excluded from the tournament. There having been only a small plexiglass screen between him and his first six opponents, the worst was feared

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 honour. With love and respect.

Melissa Lucashenko

I would like to pay tribute to Mungo MacCallum and his work and passion for Indigenous rights.

I first met Mungo at one of our very first get togethers as Women for Wik, I would think probably in 1998.

Mungo was there as an advocate for ANTaR (Australians for Native Title and Reconciliation) and from that first meeting attended many of our early meetings.

The last time I saw Mungo was at the gathering we had at Brunswick Heads supporting Thomas Mayor and his mission to promote and explain in detail all points relating to the Uluru Statement from the Heart and the Makarrata, which he explained as 'the culmination of our agenda: the coming together after a struggle'. Go in peace Mungo and heartfelt condolences to Jenny and all the family.

> **Bronwyn Sindel** Mullumbimby

 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

brilliant games of the year, leaving Jepomniachtchi in first place. The Russian Women's Championship uncovered a new star in Polina Shuvalova. The 19-year-old won her first six games but top seed Aleksandra Goryachkina caught her on the finish line. In the playoff 22-year-old Goryachkina secured her third Russian title only after victory in the final Armageddon game. Moscow Russian Championship 2020 White: D Dubov Black: S Karjakin ning: Dubov Gambi 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3 Nf6 5.d4 exd4 6.b4!? Bb6 7.e5 Ne4 8.Bd5! A new idea in a previously discredited gambit. 8...Nxc3 9.Nxc3 dxc3 10.Ba5 Ne7 11.0-0 h6 12.Bh4 0-0?! Black should risk 12...g5 and capture the d5 bishop. 13.Re1 Qe8 14.Bb3 a5 15.Bf6! a4 16.Bc4 Ng6 17.Qd3 d5 18.exd6 Be6 At first sight it seems that Black has broken free, but.. 19.Qxg6!! 'I saw the idea of Qxg6,' explained Dubov, 'and I thought first of all I'm not worse and second why not make myself and the spectators a gift? It'll be an interesting game!' 19... fxg6 20.Rxe6 Qf7 Later analysis showed that Black should grovel for a draw in the endgame after 20...Qc6 21.Re7+! Qxc4 22.Rxg7+ Kh8 23.Rxc7+, etc. 21.Bxc3! Kh8 22.Re4! Qf5 the c7 pawn will cost Black more material. 25.. Nepomniachtchi then took a short Qc2 26.Be5! Bxf2+ 27.Kh1 Bb6 28.h3 Kh7 Qxb4 33.Rc1 Kg6 34.Rxg7+! Kxf5 35.Rxg8

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

Has six years passed since I rang the Mullum office and in the process, gave rise to St Mungo of Bethany? It's been too long, but thanks for the hundreds of emails since from you lot, which keep me in touch with a place I still love dearly.

I've just been on the phone to James Jeffrey, who reminded me of that time. Bloody Anne Summers finally gets to be right. And my wife reminded me this week that when I started the twitter hashtag #Mungolives, she asked me what Mung olives were.

I sent Mungo and Jenny a note last week that said, in part: 'Too few are quick to laughter, but I'm glad we're part of that mischievous cohort'.

Today it must feel hard to laugh. Instead it must feel like one of the foundation stones of The Echo has

been rent asunder. Please know I'm thinking of all of you and send my love and condolences. I loved David's remembrance. What a history.

I imagine Mungo and Nick are now discussing Australia's chances against India in the tests this summer before a freestyle jam session. To that end, and putting aside Brecht's To Prosperity, I turn to Roy Harper, an English musician David hopefully recalls, and his song When an old cricketer leaves the crease. It fits you all, I think.

Congrats to David Lovejoy for his informative, heartfelt and erudite obituary on the one-and-only Mungo MacCallum. If Mungo helped you to write, then clearly, he did a splendid job!

The thing I most liked about the tall bearded one was his acerbic wit and side-splitting evisceration

of deserving pollies and other nefarious power brokers. There's no more powerful literary weapon than satire and Mungo was the Aussie past master. His withering observations on dishonest John will be long remembered.

I recall Mungo having a go at the mean-spirited former PM at the Byron Writers Fest when he raged against Howard's ignorance of the arts, noting that 'the last time he went to the theatre was to have his appendix out'. Good on ya Mungo. Rest in peace.

> **Richard Hil** Mullumbimby

I suspect that not all of Mungo's unique contributions to the Byron Community and the Northern Rivers in general, are well known. Over a period of some three years, in the early '90s, a

small group of us worked diligently to bring SBS Broadcasting to the Northern Rivers. The two 'high-profile champions' we engaged to address the great unwashed, throughout the endless public meetings, were Mike McCluskey, the then NR ABC manager and of course, Mungo.

The rest of us dragged these two 'champions for the cause' far and wide. With great generosity, Mungo was always up for it, be it evening trips to Kyogle, Ballina, Murwillumbah or beyond.

It was another measure of the man – his willingness to give generously, share his profound knowledge and bring a spot of greater 'culcha' to the paradise where so many of us have escaped.

Thank you, Mungo, you were a bloody champ. **Hugh Ermacora**

Byron Bay

An Echo drudge remembers Mungo

Mungo was sexy! (If he were in his grave, that remark would surely have him spinning!) Sexy in the way that men of towering intellect, aristocratic bearing, devastating wit and a generous heart often are - I bet they don't acknowledge that in his obituaries anywhere. As an ex Echo drudge, I have wonderful memories of Mungo's Friday night visits to the art room when the writers and advertising department had finished for the week and would crack a wine or a beer around the art room table

while we drudges physically put the paper together. It was never dull, alive with poignant wise cracks, wisdom and laughter. Then there were lunches at the Poinciana Cafe, (is that still there?). And the annual St Mungo's day celebration.

I felt so honoured to get an invite to Mungo and Jenny's actual home. I felt honoured that the man even knew my name, and when he was encouraging me as I writer I felt beyond blessed. It was like being in the presence of royalty to me. I was

always a little awestruck that he was actually very human.

So Mungo, you've left quite a legacy and quite a Mungo-sized hole in the universe, I was dead lucky to have had some time with you now and then. Jenny too; You were a formidable team the both of you. Thank you.

Huge love to Jenny and all the Echoites. I can honestly say that being part of the Echo was the best time of my life.

> **Janet Planet Price** Katikati, New Zealand

The great conjunction of 2020

David Lowe

Monday night was the shortest night of the year for people in Australia. For astronomy buffs, it was also the time of the great

two planets from Lismore using a 1300mm Samyang lens in the fantastic shot reproduced right. Four of Jupiter's moons and Saturn's rings can also be seen in the image.

recorded among the players (to date).

'The whole atmosphere is not conducive to the creative process,' observed top seed Ian Nepomniachtchi of the covid fears, though it was Antipov's last opponent, Daniil Duboy, who should have been the most nervous.

Throughout the tournament Nepomniachtchi and Sergey Karjakin had been battling for first place but then Dubov, the biggest, if not also the most erratic, talent in world chess, intervened.

In the ninth round Dubov inflicted Nepomniachtchi's only defeat, leaving Nepomniachtchi and Karjakin 23.Re7! Rg8 24.Bxg8 Rxg8 25.dxc7! Now, tied for first place going into the final not only has White enough for the queen but round.

draw while Dubov absolutely slaugh- 29.Re1 a3 30.Kh2 g5 31.Nd4 Qc4 32.Nf5 tered Karjakin - aka the Minister of Defence - in one of the most Bxc7 36.Bxc7 Qb2 37.Rc5+ Ke4 38.Rd8! 1-0 conjunction - the first time in nearly 400 years that Jupiter and Saturn had appeared so close in our skies.

Although they are actually about 700 million kilometres apart, for a short time before they set below the horizon, these two gas giants appeared so close together that some called them the 'Christmas Star'.

They could easily be seen in the west with the naked eye as two points of light. Photographer Rod Evans managed to snap the

It's been nearly 800 years since this 'grand conjunction' took place at night, and the spectacle won't be repeated until 2080.

Photographers and stargazers from around the world have been sharing pictures of our big planetary neighbours on social media.

From now on, the two planets will gradually appear to become more remote from each other.

For all its failings, 2020 has been a great year for amateur astronomers, with



The great conjunction of Jupiter (on the left) and Saturn. Not sure what the other little dots are. They're either Santa and co on their way, or Space Invaders. Photo Rod Evans

Mars putting on a great show as it came close to Earth earlier in the year and the

annual Geminids meteor shower also lighting up the skies recently.

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

• Continued from page 11 rail but they're the last ones to be heard. We need to build that support and bring it together.

A wonderful surprise right now is that I can go out dancing. Something lovely emerges from the COVID restrictions and we can dance again.

It's not a railway that can save us from traffic congestion and transport emissions. It's just something that helps me to keep going and not give up. I treasure the small blessings.

> Beth Shelley Booerie Creek

Water everywhere

I took a short walk down to the Clunes cafe this morning and vast quantities of pure clean rainwater was spilling out of every household stormwater pipe into the gutter to be joined with contaminated water from the road – contaminated with oil, rubber and dog droppings.

A rainwater tank will refill with any reasonable rainfall event and if this tank is a reasonable size, that household can stop drawing water from the Rous water system.

Surely this would mean, if many people install tanks, that the drawdown on the dam will be significantly reduced and the need for another expensive, ecovandalising dam ceased?

The challenge is that Rous make their money by selling water, and rainwater tanks will reduce their income source. Perhaps they need to change their focus to the services water provides and create income from design and installation of tanks – amongst other ideas!

Then we would not need the expensive proposed Dunoon dam.

The biggest challenge is that Rous only supplies bulk water to the member councils This needs to change with Rous being responsible from catchment management right through to household and commercial taps. This would open up a whole the way emissions are not falling, Earth will need a planet B.

Sapoty Brook Main Arm

That Buck\$ feeling

...And just like that, I felt for a moment what it might be like to be Fast Buck\$.

Retired from political activity for some years, I nonetheless felt compelled to write to *The Echo* pointing out the glaring difference between the rhetoric and reality of the political party that calls itself 'The Greens'.

BANG! Next thing I knew, a letter from Council. An inspection! Supposedly a complaint had been received about 'illegal works' on my property!

A Council officer arrived, and asked about these works; installing a spa pool. Of course, there were no illegal works. The DA is approved, I await the Construction Certificate, so no, nothing has been done.

Surprised, the officer announced he would inspect my property for anything that might be illegal. Fine by me.

Next, BSC wrote to me that my wooden caravan is not a caravan, lacking wheels and being on blocks, including a bill for \$180.00. I replied with a photo showing attached wheels, and a bill for \$350. BSC then declared it isn't a caravan, having plumbing. Fascinating. An 'installed' caravan is required to be plumbed, wired, and on blocks. BSC are evidently unwilling, or unable, to read State laws or Senior Commissioner Susan Dixon's binding finding that a plumbed, wired, on blocks, cabin-like structure is legally a caravan (Korena Marie Russell v Camden Council [2018] NSWLEC 1159).

It appears your funds will be wasted in a fruitless trip to the LEC. Or not.

What it does go to show is, people do read *The Echo* letters section. Vindictive, incompetent, doomed people included.

Okay, you idiots, I'm back. Matt Hartley Byron Bay

Puffing the bypass

I was pleased to see in a recent *Echo* [observing the opening date for the completed bypass] that it was noted [by *The Echo*] that there had been considerable local opposition to the bypass. When I read the Council's last emailed media release, it was puffing the bypass achievement for all it was worth: a triumph following 'thirty years in the planning'.

I argued that all the protests [which we were invited to submit] were a waste of time. As with most of these so-called developments, there is little democracy: they are all done and dusted before submissions are called for. You can put your protest in, but in the long run it will almost certainly not make much difference. I for one am pleased the bypass was delayed at all. Like others better informed than I am, it was clear from the start that the so-called bypass was not solely about the road. I believe; and I'm not alone I think, that there is an agenda to do with the commercialisation of this whole Butler Street area.

It dismays me to witness how this neighbourhood has been altered; and I shudder to contemplate how ghastly it will be when it ultimately opens, along with the wretched new transit centre.

I am not, nor ever have been, part of the carworshipping society; though I admit being a non-driving pedestrian can make life difficult sometimes.

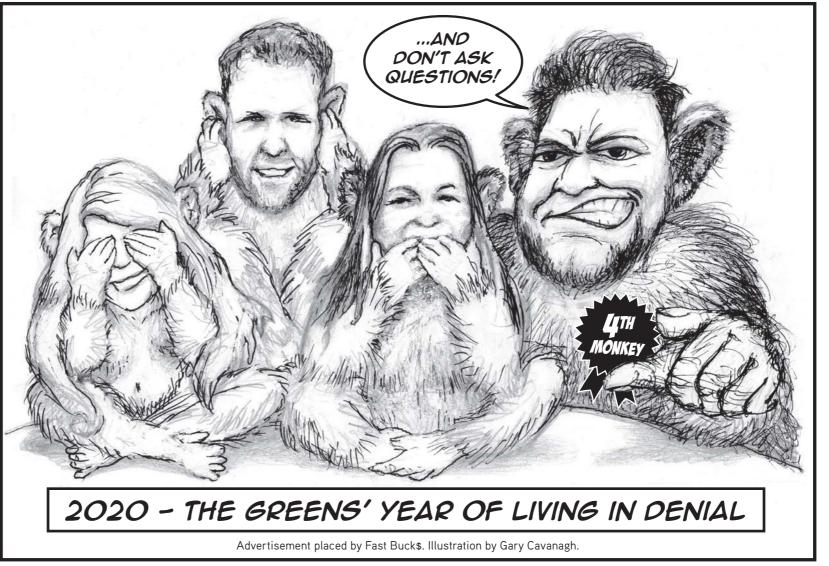
I used to be able to rely on the train to get in and out of Byron Bay; but as this was taken away years ago that was the end of that. The removal of the train under Jemma's Labor NSW administration was just as maddening as the prodevelopment Lib Nationals gung-ho development-at-allcosts approach.

I note well that the Nationals' Franklin is the name quoted in the Council's media release on the bypass; it seems odd to me that this name crops up again and again, as though he is already de facto elected MP for the area. But, of course, we are to know it was through this agency that the money that was Continued on page 14





'A man is a success if he gets up in the morning and gets to bed at night, and in between he does what he wants to do.' – Robert Allen Zimmerman



plethora of opportunities for improved and innovative service rather than just selling bulk water.

> Richard Swinton Clunes

The small conjunction

Some say 2020 is the year Globalisation ended. Yeah because the Globe is now becoming Local. Next year Starship will initiate Planetisation.

Mars really does need a greenhouse effect and,

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Byron

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GENCY solicited earlier to do the deed was secured. It must have irked Mr Franklin that he wasn't elected as the local

MP; but perhaps when the mini-motorway and grand central transit centre is open for business, he will be seen as the kind of MP that 'gets things done'! I shudder to contemplate.

Continued from page 13

And when I do contemplate all that is happening in this town and area, it is little wonder that I said, a while ago, to religious proselytisers in the main street when they asked me, 'Who shall we pray for?' I retorted, 'Pray for this place. It's going to hell in a handbasket!'

> David Morris Byron Bay

Scottie's backhander

What a thoroughly deserved backhander the UN Climate Summit gave to the marketing guy (PM Morrison), by not allowing him to waste their precious time by peddling his usual marketing spin to world leaders who are actually serious about tackling the climate emergency.

It seems that the co-hosts of the conference, including the UN, UK and France only allowed speaking slots for countries that are putting in place ambitious targets for

But words are things, and a small drop of ink,

Falling like dew, upon a thought, produces

That which makes thousands, perhaps millions think...

- Lord Byron

net zero emissions by 2050, and are on track to meet For around 20 years my wife

those targets under the Paris

agreement; neither of which

Australia is on track to do,

despite spin-doctor Mor-

rison's 'creative' assertions.

reckless inaction, over the

action on climate change,

Australia is now starting to

pay a huge price. Sadly the

rest of the world now regards

Australia as a climate pariah

It seems the marketing

Australia with his free-flowing

Trumpian hyperbole, but it's

a different proposition with

crazy Boris won't have a bar

Traffic light for Byron

lights on the western rounda-

bout of the Ewingsdale inter-

change progresses apace. A

little odd, don't you think,

that the Shire's first traffic

lights are on a roundabout

which is intended for free-

The lights will give prec-

edence to exiting southbound

M1 traffic to address the safety

motorway. It seems likely that

this will result in queues on

Hinterland Way and Myocum

Rd, and perhaps even exiting

bound traffic will still join the

queue that inches its way into

the centre of Byron - a journey

that has taken up to an hour

vaunted bypass will only help

in recent times. The much

once the traffic reaches the Shirley St roundabout.

Mother Nature has

assisted by disabling the

traffic more manageable!

major Byron attraction - the

beach. That should make the

Dean Chalker

Mullumbimby Creek

northbound M1 traffic. Of

course, the exiting south-

of stopped traffic on the

flowing traffic?

I see installation of traffic

Keith Duncan

Pimlico

other world leaders, even

of Morrison's bullshit, and

that's as bad as it gets.

guy has been able to con

the majority of voters in

and is starting to punish us

accordingly.

last decade, where they have

been actively working against

Because of the Coalition's

and I have tried to protect Marom Creek Weir and groundwater from pollution and destruction. Recent action included stopping the Water Bottling fiasco on the Alstonville Plateau with the help of the Alstonville residents. This included letter drops, interviews with the Chief Scientist and his team.

We have watched intensive nurseries releasing their untreated waste water (nutrient, algae, farm chemicals etc.) into watercourses passing through our property flowing into the Marom Creek Weir for the last four days – and over 30 times in the last 15 years.

Ballina Council inform us that, in a Water Catchment Zone, Council 'cannot and will not guarantee the quality and quantity of the runoff from [x] Nursery'.

Use of groundwater from Alstonville aquifers is increasing at a greater rate, and aquifer levels are dropping at a greater rate. Now WaterNSW is allowing irrigators (intensive industries not agriculture) to drill through this aquifer into the New England Fold below this to supply more water!

The 'dreamers' want to use Marom Creek groundwater for public supply. It takes hundreds of years to fill and refill an aquifer. More than thirty years ago we tried to put a proper water tank on our residence in Ballina and were refused by Council – now it's almost compulsory!

Let's get some common sense into this debate – dams are not the answer, neither is 'flood plain harvesting'.

Clive Quick Rous

Is Jim confused?

Jim Mangleson seems to be a bit confused about rising sea levels (Letters, 35.27). He is quite right to say the sea level in Sydney has risen around 65mm over the last 100 years, but that is only one place around Australia's thousands of kilometres of coastline. Taking other gauges into account, the rise is around 200mm, not far from the global average of about 250mm. Jim goes on to say 'the water was much warmer and the sea level much higher' 6,000 years ago. Quite right, and nothing to do with 'diesel cars', but it was the ending of the last ice age. Since then, temperatures and sea levels have been slowly dropping

as we headed towards the next ice age, until around 150 years ago when land clearing, agriculture and fossil fuel burning changed things around.

Temperatures, after dropping maybe 2°C over 6,000 years, have risen more than 1°C in 150 years. If Jim's 3 metre drop in sea level is right, that is 0.5mm per year over those 6,000 years – now sea level is rising at about 4.5mm per year, including in Sydney.

That is the problem – a natural slow drop in temperatures and sea level has been changed, by us, in 150 years to rapidly rising temperatures and sea level.

These rates of rise are accelerating, particularly sea level which lags behind temperature as higher temperatures penetrate into the deep ocean.

We don't need computer models to see where this is going, a simple sea level/ temperature correlation including an appropriate time lag shows we are heading for the same sort of future sea level rises as the computer models suggest. We have been warned.

Matthew Lambourne Mullumbimby

Hysterical to oppose?

Byron closed its Main Beach testing station as it was under utilised. It didn't fit our 'Chill Out' image. Not a care; sun shining and clean ocean. Recently a similar precinct, the Northern Peninsular in Sydney has experienced a COVID outbreak.

Can it be kept out of Byron given that the parallel lifestyle and upcoming summer holidays make it as porous a border as imaginable? Down south the State Government has thrown itself into gear, testing is ramped up, sewage analysed.

Has this happened in Byron given the eclectic mix of our population? Visitors, long-term stayers, crowded rental houses and van livers, well, by the truckload.

Where is Government action to assist in local community resilience? Surely testing the sewage is more effective than waiting for the pandemic to strike locally? Why aren't our elected reps, at every level, calling to have testing of our sewage? At a recent meeting I was called hysterical in my opposition to the Dunoon Dam issue. I and local activists were proven right. Proud to be hysterical – for the planet. Ian Cohen **Broken Head**

LIBERALLY SPILLING THE INK SINCE 1986

She was who? When I was at school there was one teacher who was never permanent because she also worked for the UN as a translator, and was consequently often absent, usually in SE Asia. I remember she caused a huge scandal by turning up to the 5th year revue with a man who wasn't her husband. At school she was known as Nancy Robson, later she was known as Lady Anne Kerr. **David Gilet**

David Gilet tem Byron Bay hav

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

On Christmas and on Christmas Island

Christmas time is upon us; parties, work parties, gifts - oh the clamour, gifts to buy - the joy, some people say 'oh the hassle' others feel they have to give gifts, often costly, and they begrudge gift giving so this is not given with love and joy.

The reason why we celebrate Christmas with special foods etc., as a time of joy and thanksgiving? For many people, a thought about why is absent. Somehow though that thread of why Christmas is special continues. It's the time we rejoice, rejoice that Jesus, our Saviour was born. We honour Him with church services, singing, praising – Christmas carols, giving, caring, showing love, decorating our homes to show joy. For all separated / broken families to repair with Jesus Christ as their help.

A home for all

The birth of Jesus in Bethlehem is God's gift of reassurance, hope. It was there at the centre page of history that shepherds watching over their flocks by night found their darkness shattered by light. The voice of an angel saying, 'Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy for all people; born to you this day, a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord'. A special star appeared to honour the birth of Jesus.

2020, in our conflicts and fears, the Saviour who was born still offers His presence, His peace to all who 'know' Him and take quiet moments to think about Him. The greatest gift was the gift God Himself gave to us that first Christmas morning. He was born with a plan – to live on Earth and teach people how

For more than three decades I have enjoyed being actively engaged in the creative play of growing community - from establishing community gardens, schools, festivals and celebrations, to supporting natural birthing families. I am now confronted

with the reality that not only can I no longer afford to live here, - even were I abundantly wealthy, there are no guaranteed long term rentals available. This is not just 'my' story.

In counselling it is increasingly being revealed that many families and individuals here are severely impacted by this housing crisis.

In my immediate circle more than six have been recently forced out of their accommodation. One single father has been asked to leave his home of several years, by Christmas Day, despite his original lease being until April 2021.

In such an abundantly wealthy and consciously caring community this hous-

dreaming for one and all! And while we are taking care of our community, what about addressing the obscene cost of keeping refugees in detention for no fault of their own, in a country that is the most spacious in

the whole world. I have lived in India, a country smaller than Australia, with a billion more people!!! Surely HOME is possible for ALL!

Let us open our hearts and minds to a truly happy new year

Alison Grace

Couch surfing Mullumbimby

O.F.F.S.

I am appalled at the use of four-letter words in two large headlines in this week's edition. Yes, you warn about it on the front page, to draw attention I suppose.

Yes, it is the 21st century, but this is still unacceptable journalism to most in our community.

Of all the thousands of words in the dictionary why resort to this gutter language?

We teach our children from childhood through Primary School and High

to be His disciple or follower. To love.

God has a plan for your life, yes your life. Talk to Him about the plan He has for you. This will be special just for you - because God made everyone unique. God's bigger plan for this world is that all will come to know Him as their Lord and Saviour. Society has tried to shut Him out but He is still there. He came to save, enjoy His presence.

> **Jillian Spring** Billinudegel

■ 1,000 Days Later. This was the title of a recent article in The Guardian regarding the status of the Biloela family detained on Christmas Island (now their second Christmas).

Nationwide campaigns

have been met with disdain and ignored by the Liberal National Government. This innocent family is now trapped in the Kafkaesque system of Dutton's Home Affairs Department.

The intent of this cruelty is obvious: to deter refugees and asylum seekers - no matter the cost.

Noted writers have argued a prerequisite for 'universal' human rights is citizenship; a point all too evident with the treatment of the Biloela family.

Australia should be striving for a more powerful, inclusive concept of human rights that would prevent this situation occurring in the first place.

> Joe Eric Dawson President **Brunswick Valley Labor**

'Resting in the fields, far from the turbulent space Half asleep near the stars with a small dog licking your face.' – Bob Dylan

renumeration and conditions when addressing some of the reason Cr Coorey may not have flagged the deferral she was requesting or attending the Strategic Planning Workshop where the Residential Strategy was discussed) and yes, it was heated and I apologised - (also omitted), it is true. I have and will continue to raise the issue of how poorly councillors in NSW are remunerated because it perpetuates power imbalances and helps to limit the representation of women and minority groups in local government.

Less than 33 per cent of local government reps in NSW are women and far, far fewer are Indigeous or reflective of the diversity in our communities. It is also important that people are paid enough money so they can have the time to do the necessary work involved. The conditions are unjust and far below any minimum wage per hour - around 20k before tax, no super and at least 2.5 to 3 days work a week to do what is required. This means that often independently wealthy, older or retired people, predominantly men, are the ones making the decisions that impact our lives and the future - surely not something the editor supports or wants

to perpetuate? Women are already more likely to retire with far less superannuation - so having none can be a disincentive.

I'm not saying Crs should receive as much as state or federal positions, and I understand there is a great level of service to the role, but I don't think people should be disadvantaged for serving their communities or limited from having a voice because they are not wealthy. The same role in others states is remunerated anywhere from twice to four times as much. NSW is lagging terribly.

While it's most likely long after I've left Council that this will be addressed, I feel it's important to continue to challenge this if we want a reflective, diversity of voices representing us. Call it complaining if that's all you can manage, but I think it's important to speak up again injustices of all kinds, even if it makes some uncomfortable. Cr Sarah Ndiaye Byron Shire Council ■ *The Echo* has always supported higher wages for councillors - it would invariably lead to improved

governance and a much

than we have now. - Ed



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We would like to wish all of our clients and volunteers a very

ing situation is no longer acceptable.

Is there another way? Let us open to exploring potential solutions: re-zoning rural land into village, multiple use developments, caravan parks for tiny homes, low cost subdivision for locals (i.e with seven years proof of residence) amnesty for home sharers (formerly unapproved additions) extending simple sustainability dwelling requirements, and let us call a community forum in the new year for new way

School that this is not acceptable language. What mixed messages of acceptable standards are they receiving when they read this?

N Browne

Mullumbimby Councillor renumeration

Re editorial 16/12/20. While it's no surprise Mr Lovejoy's commentary of my comments was completely out of context (I referred to Cr

Merry Christmas

and also extend a huge thank you to our volunteers and the community for your support during 2020.

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

Articles

A thank you note to a dead friend

Mandy Nolan

for the second s

I forget that people leave. Unannounced and suddenly. Sometimes announced, but slowly. It still feels sudden.

Nothing feels as real and as permanent as death. It's the eternity that sits beyond the fragile veil of life. It's the real forever.

A death is always a shock. It is an idea, something you've forgotten about, and then suddenly it's real. That person, like a tooth is gone.

I often think of grief like a lost tooth, that thing that no one else can see, but you can't stop running your tongue over to find the absence.

Over the last few weeks people I have held in high regard have gone. Good people that left early. My friend's lovely husband, the best friend of a best friend (a woman I much admired), the maverick genius of our Mungo, and Adrian. Adrian was one of the people I credit with nurturing my self-belief. He was my first year drama lecturer at University. When I met him he was handsome and energetic and talented and it was impossible not to fall a little bit in love. He was gay, but

He was gay, but it was the '80s. Straight girls spent a lot of time falling in love with gay men back then.

it was the '80s. Straight girls spent a lot of time falling in love with gay men back then.

After growing up with blokey boys and old men who grunted hello, gay men were a breath of fresh air. As an attractive young woman used to the inappropriate attention of older men, having Adrian's focus and attention was a gift.

It wasn't because of my femaleness. It was because he saw something in me as a student. He believed in my ability and my intelligence. He often drew me aside after class, when I'd had a project handed back, to

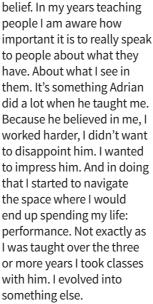


Selfie fun with Adrian and Mandy in Armidale.

look me fiercely in the eyes and tell me how brilliant what I'd done was. It's very hard to hear. It's amazing how often we want praise or acknowledgement, but when it comes it is hard to receive. It creates enormous discomfort.

On reflection I realise that's because of a lack of

Time is of the essence...



When I left university I lost contact with Adrian. It was a teacher/student relationship – something that can be quite remarkable and intense. And then it finishes. A kind of death in itself. I never saw him again until about seven years ago. I had heard he was teaching at UNE – I left him a message that I was doing a show and I'd leave tickets for him. I didn't actually expect him to turn up. I would be one of thousands of his ex-students.

But he showed up. I was so touched. He was on a walking stick, his body bent. The vibrant sparkle of his youth was gone. But his kindness remained. All through my show I found myself searching for his face; was he laughing? Did he still think I was good? I realised that afterwards, I was uninterested in the love of the 400, I just wanted to know that Adrian liked my show. He did.

Afterwards we sat in the bar and chatted. He told me of his life, his partner, and that he had a degenerative illness that would eventually kill him. I was so glad I had reached out. This fragile connection that had survived the decades – not so much a friendship, but a teacher/ student relationship that had seeded an enduring love on my part.

This fragile connection that had survived the decades – not so much a friendship, but a teacher/student relationship that had seeded an enduring love on my part.

I offered to drive him home, but he opted to walk. I watched him slowly limp away on his stick. I felt a little pang of sorrow. I realised how unwell he was and what an effort it was to go out – and he'd made it to come see me.

We had a few phone calls, some emails, the next time I was in Armidale I arranged to spend the afternoon drinking tea and chatting with Adrian and his partner. His lovely partner laughed and said 'You know Adrian has kept a card you made him'. There on the table was a giant collage I'd made him on behalf of the cast after he'd directed a show. It was well over thirty years old, the edges were tattered, the images faded. But he'd kept it. And he'd thought to get it out to show me. I felt a wave of emotion at the time.

I realised how important our connections are. How many different forms they take. He was a man who never had children, but had a deep love and care for the young people in his life that he taught. He had an enduring love for and interest in me. I was profoundly humbled.

I realised how important our connections are. How many different forms they take. He was a man who never had children, but had a deep love and care for the young people in his life that he taught.

The other day a mutual friend contacted me to buy Adrian one of my books for Christmas. I had previously sent him my other books. His partner told me he had read them to him aloud in bed. I loved the idea of two gay men reading my very hetero mumsy writing snuggled up together. I wrote him a note and posted his book. But his illness progressed more suddenly and he died. His partner said the book arrived on the afternoon of his death. He said. 'I would have loved to read this one aloud to Adrian too'. So goodbye my generous teacher.

Goodbye to my dead friends. And Thank You.

Put simply, Kate is a beautiful lady and a powerful healer. After

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spending 90 minutes with Kate I was re-energised, refocused and balanced, exactly what I was wanting to achieve. I would highly recommend anyone to work with Kate as you will be much better off

for the experience, on many levels. Thank you, Kate.

Richard Maloney, Quality Mind



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Articles

Strengthening the beginnings of a real local food movement

Helena Norberg-Hodge

t's wonderful to see the flowering of local food initiatives throughout the Shire today. I'd like to do everything I can to help strengthen what is the beginnings of a real local food movement.

After forty years of activism on four continents, I believe this is the central solution to most of our serious ecological, social and psychological problems.

Local food does not only mean shifting individual purchasing habits, or sowing seeds in your own garden (although these actions can have powerful ramifications). What we're talking about is strengthening the local food system throughout the entire region. We need to come together as a community - consumers, producers, citizens, activists and policymakers - to withdraw our dependence on the export-oriented, corporateowned food economy, in favour of smaller-scale, more diversified farms connected to regional markets.

This is no piece of cake

...from the perspective of the environment, the economy or human rights, local food is a profound, systemic solution.

- it means going up against some of the most powerful and insidious pressures of the global economy. But it's going to be worth all the effort, because strengthening local food systems is truly the most meaningful thing we can do. Whether you look at it from the perspective of the environment, the economy or human rights, local food is a profound, systemic solution.

Instead of promoting vast, resource-intensive monocultures, local food systems stimulate diversification on the land. In so doing, they systematically increase biodiversity, build soil, retain rainwater, and sequester carbon. They minimise fossil fuels, plastics and emissions, even as they produce far more food – nutritious, healthy food – per acre. Local food systems also provide stable, meaningful jobs, and



Shara Gardens at Ocean Shores is one of several community gardens in the Byron Shire.

lay the groundwork for happier, more secure and more connected communities.

In a series of articles over the coming months, I'm going to examine the local food solution from all of these angles and more. I believe, once we see the array of interconnected benefits, we will be able to bring enough people together to create transformative change in this region, from the ground up.

Even those who aren't involved in social or

environmental activism would do well to come on board. Rebuilding our local food economy is increasingly a matter of our very survival. Thanks to large-scale, industrial, globalised farming practices that leave soil bare and deadened, we are rapidly running out of fertility on much of the world's agricultural land. Unless things change, we are headed for global food system collapse within the next half-century. Running out of toilet paper is one thing - running out of

food is quite another. And, even though the Byron Shire is already somewhat of a hub for local food, there is still a long way to go; I estimate that far less than 15 per cent of the food consumed here actually comes from the region.

So what do we do? By coming together to invest whatever we have – time, money, land, skills or energy – we can lay the groundwork for a flourishing local food system that can withstand the pressures of the dominant economy. Even while policies continue to subsidise, tax and regulate in favour of energy-intensive monoculture, we can support schemes to get more hands on the land, and cultivate diversified farms to meet local needs.

Following in the footsteps of grassroots activists and 'guerrilla gardeners', we can build living alternatives that demonstrate the benefits of local food systems, with the eventual aim of garnering the support of public policy.

This is a long game, and it will involve collaboration and strategy. But if we do it right, the results will be ground-breaking and deeply nourishing!

■ Through books, films, conferences and lectures, Helena and her organisation Local Futures have been promoting local food economies for more than four decades. Helena helped to start the farmers markets in the Shire and is now seeking to set one up in Suffolk Park, as well as supporting the new community garden there. If you are interested in helping please contact her on hnh@localfutures.org.



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Michael Murray, collecting their prize from Farmcare



Robyn Gilder, collecting their prize from Mullum Newsagency

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Margig Meberich, collecting their prize from IGA Mullumbimby



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and where they shopped Margig Meberich IGA Mullumbimby Alzie Bambach Santos Alistair Larmour Stewart's Menswear Anya Gerashenko Mullum Instyle Living Andy Mitre 10 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 and where they shopped Simone Obrien Rae Porter The Source Graham Jones Stewarts Menswear Arnhem Paseyo Mrs Christie Mullum Newsagency

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Yami

Yami in Brunswick Heads is renowned for its delicious menu of authentic and flavoursome Middle Eastern cuisine and has grown to become an iconic destination for both locals and tourists. All food is made in-house using traditional recipes and the freshest ingredients, catering for vegetarian, vegan and gluten-free.

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The Mullumbimby chocolate Shop

Look what's new at The Mullumbimby Chocolate Shop, and just in time for the summer holidays!

Just when you thought it couldn't possibly get any more fun, they have added award-winning premium gelato and sorbet to the mix! With 18 exciting flavours to choose from, you will be spoiled for choice, so be sure to stop in and try all your favourites.

And while you're there, don't forget those last-minute Christmas gifts! Happy Holidays to you and yours from the sweetest shop in town!

Shop 1, 104 Dalley Street, Mullumbimby 6684 4825



Established 1999

SUNSET DINING



Thursday – Sunday

Mon to Wed 7am-3pm Thur to Sun 7am-7.30pm

1 PARK ST BRUNSWICK HEADS

02 6685 0186 • Yami.com.au

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



Ballina Farmers Market

Ballina Farmers Market is the premier place to get all your farm fresh produce, directly from the producer.

Oyster mushrooms, apples, crisp salads, plump tasty berries, cheeses, freshly baked organic sourdough bread, lamb, pork, the tastiest tomatoes, cloud-like sourdough donuts, olives and so much more...

Shopping at Ballina Farmers Market will make your meal extra special.

After your shopping, enjoy a relaxing cup of coffee, find the breakfast option that suits you, and sit and enjoy the morning by the river while one of our region's excellent musicians plays for you.

On the way home don't forget to pick up a bunch of flowers to brighten your day.

Ballina Farmers Market is held every Sunday morning from 7–11am at Commemoration Park on Bentinck Street, Ballina.

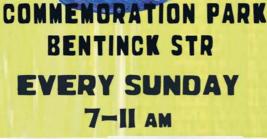
The Bucha of Byron

Born in Byron Bay, and using the finest locally sourced ingredients, the Kombucha Brewing Co. is fermented in friendship with Stone & Wood Brewing Co to produce a range of premium quality kombucha beverages. The Bucha of Byron (non-alcoholic) is a sparkling fermented tea full of tummy-loving probiotics and enzymes, available in five fresh natural flavours. The Dirty Bucha is a range of low-sugar cocktail blends (premium spirits and kombucha) and Sneaky Bucha is their delicious beer and kombucha blend.

People have enjoyed kombucha for centuries, believing it to improve gut health, aid digestion or simply alleviate a guilty conscience.

www.buchaofbyron.com.au @thebuchaofbyron







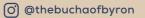


The goodness of **kombucha** with the greatness of **beer**.

Yes, you read it right – we've combined everything you like about kombucha with everything you love about beer.

The Sneaky Bucha blends a range of popular beer styles with Bucha of Byron kombucha to create a brew that pairs perfectly with the Aussie summer.

Now available at: Hotel Brunswick, Sunrise Cellars, Sun Bistro bottle shop, Lennox Hotel bottle shop, Great Northern Hotel, Suffolk Park Hotel, BWS – Bruns, Mullum and Lennox.



Enjoy Responsibly (18+) FOR PEOPLE OVER THE AGE OF 18 ONLY

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



Spice up your summer!

Billi Indian is a fantastic family-run restaurant featuring a menu of traditional and popular regional dishes from across India.

Aromatic and full of flavour, Indian food is delicious, but did you know that it's also loaded with powerful anti-inflammatory phytonutrients?

So for a taste-good and feelgood experience, make sure you book your table at Billi Indian in Billinudgel, only a 15-minute drive from the heart of Byron Bay.

You can adjust the spice level to go as mild or as hot as you like, which makes it perfect for family dining too.

Don't forget to BYO your fave tipple to enjoy with your meal.

And if you'd like to bring the flavour party home with you, they offer both a takeaway menu and local delivery service.

8 Wilfred St, Billinudgel 6680 3352

Zentveld's coffee farm

For the real taste of local coffee, head to the hills.

At Zentveld's coffee farm and roastery you can experience coffee truly from the crop to the cup.

With their refurbed coffee house and verandah you can take in the wow factor, overlooking the coffee trees, regenerated rainforest and macadamia hills. And taste coffee grown 'right there'.

You might be lucky enough to see coffee blossoms – as sweet as jasmine after welcome rain.

Did you know the Byron hinterland provides 'cool for coffee' subtropical conditions and terroir which brings out natural sweetness in the local bean. Zentveld's grow organically, with real regenerative agriculture practices that feed the soil health, and look after the waterways and biodiversity on the farm.

So head to the hills. It's where the local coffee story starts.

Open Monday to Friday 8am-4pm 193 Broken Head Road, Newrybar (02) 6687 2045

Billi Indian Authentic Indian Restaurant

A relaxed and delicious Indian dining experience Takeaway and delivery Open Tuesday till Sunday 4.30 – 8.30pm 8 Wilfred St, Billinudgel 02 6680 3352 Instagram @billis.indian

ZENTVELD'S

IN THE HILLS BEHIND BYRON BAY ROASTERY EST. 1993

TAKE A DRIVE TO BROKEN HEAD ROAD NEWRYBAR VISIT OUR NEWLY REFURBISHED COFFEE HOUSE FOR A TRUE CROP TO CUP EXPERIENCE



WE WELCOME YOU TO OUR ROASTERY DOOR

OPEN MONDAY TO FRIDAY 8-4

Select the freshest of coffee – grown here on our farm.

Organic, sustainable, real local coffee.

ph 6687 2045 www.zentvelds.com.au



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

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

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

JOIN US FOR NYE AND ENJOY OUR 8 COURSE DEGUSTATION





\$155PP - ORGANIC BUBBLES

ON ARRIVAL

<section-header><section-header>



BOOK NOW

HEAD TO OUR WEBSITE NOBONESBYRONBAY.COM

@NOBONESBYRONBAY

You will feel refreshed with every sip of Life Cykel's sparkling Calm Energy Drink, created from a pure synergy of locally grown Turkey Tail Mushroom, single-origin antioxidant packed loose leaf tea, sourced from ethical growers and an uplifting combination of ginger and lemongrass.

GER & LEN

The perfect summer beverage to keep you cool, calm and collected.

This drink will provide you with pure synergistic energy that will keep you flowing throughout the day. The gently sparkling drink with only 3.8g/100ml of sugar will revitalise you, the ginger & lemongrass zing will keep you on your toes, the Turkey Tail will keep you balanced and Kakadu plum will help bring you vitality.



INGER & LEMON



Find us online and in local stores. www.lifecykel.com

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

Wandana Brewing Co.

Wandana is a small local brewery situated on the outskirts of the eclectic township of Mullumbimby. With a family friendly tap room and beer garden,

it's the perfect place to kick-back with friends whilst gazing out over the paddocks at the iconic Mt Chincogan.

festive

Lovingly crafted small batch beers are all made on-site and in full view of visitors, if you're in luck you might get to taste an upcoming brew directly from the tank. A large roster of local DJ's and musicians set the scene for sunset. (Don't miss out

on tickets for the NYE bash!)

An ever-changing line up of food trucks offers delicious culinary treats from around the world.

Take-away beers and growler fills available. Open seven days between Boxing Day and 10 January (closed New Year's Day).

www.wandanabrewingco.com.au

20 Manns Rd, Mullumbimby

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





THE FESTIVE SEASON: OPEN 7 DAYS (except Christmas Day and New Years Day)

DJs AND LIVE MUSIC FRI, SAT, SUN DAILY FOOD TRUCKS

NYE TICKETED EVENT

www.wandanabrewingco.com.au 20 Manns Rd, Mullumbimby









CRYSTAL CASTLE & shambhala gardens

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)

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

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 infants' toys or the extensive range of walkers, ride-ons 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 are arts and crafts, and science kits, that fuel the imagination and teach during play.

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

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

Authentic mid-century design

Vampt Vintage Design owners Dave and Maxine Beeman moved back to Byron three years ago and with 20 years of 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 (currently closed owing to the weather) and a share space with Byron Studios at 5/82 Centennial Cct Byron Ind 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 faint hearted. See their website for the whole collection.

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

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

For all their Summertime fun!



We got it all! The latest toys for the summer holidays.



VAMPTVINTAGEDESIGNAUTHENTICMID-CENTURYSPECIALISTS

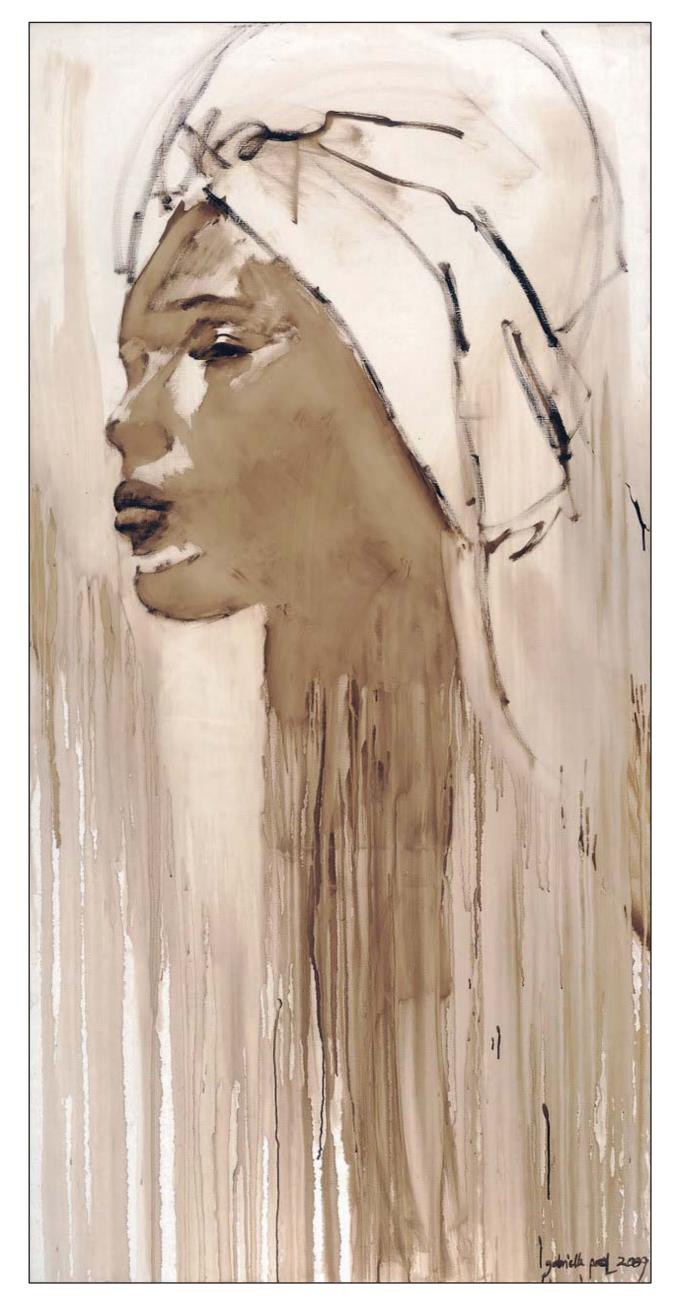


157 River Street Ballina 6686 4880 insta @mytoykingdom Keep them busy playing and learning as they go! Visit our stores and get expert advice for each age group from our trained staff. www.mytoykingdom.com.au



Byron Bay 2/103 Jonson St 6680 8811 Lismore 64 Woodlark St 6621 3473 insta @mytoykingdom XMAS & NEW YEARS: Tues 22nd Wed 23rd Tues 29th Wed 30th Byron only 5/82 Centennial Cct Ind Est Or by appt Dave 0414 806 549 vamptvintagedesign.com (**O**)

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GALLERY

7/8 Fletcher St Byron Bay

CHECK WEBSITE FOR OPENING HOURS: PEEKGALLERY.COM

0488 64 64 64







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

Byron Twilight Market

Are you looking for a handmade local gift for your loved ones this holiday season?

'Tis the season for festive shopping and Byron Twilight Market is the place to head for an artisan market with all kinds of Boxing Day goodies.

This vibrant night market, right in the heart of Byron Bay, is perfectly timed to sort out late-Christmas gifts, or just treat yourself to a bit of festive cheer. Come and support local with unique products that are made, grown and baked by Byron artisans.

Grab some festive nibbles, browse the artisan stalls for local gifts and enjoy live music from Ari Levy.

Eat, drink, shop and be merry at the Twilight Market in Railway Park from 4–9pm on Boxing Day.



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

Merry Christmas!



TWILIGHT MARKET Artisan stalls, food & music EVERY SATURDAY 4-9pm Railway Park

www.byroncentre.com.au



Gift vouchers and wrapping available



PROFESSIONAL FITTING SERVICE 151 River Street, Ballina | 6686 2353 www.lingerieno5.com.au | Mon-Fri 9-5, Sat 9-3

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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.

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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

FOR THE LOVE OF COTTON

Maha She

AUSTRALIA

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

(NFLATABLES



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

The Wellbeing Store

Left the Christmas shopping to the last minute again? Panic not and give the gift of wellbeing this year with a carefully curated kit from The Wellbeing Store. Choose one of the kits from the Christmas collection to include 'Me Time' for someone deserving of some pamper time (all of us!) or 'Manifest' to help inspire your loved ones to live the life they want. Alternatively, work together with store founder Fleur Marks to create your own unique and thoughtful kit for the gift-giving season.

The best part? All kits are beautifully wrapped in The Wellbeing Store's premium packaging, so they're perfect to pop straight under the tree!

The Habitat, 28 Fullerton Lane, Byron Bay www.thewellbeingstore.com.au @thewellbeingstore

The oracle

'Ever since I can remember, I have been able to see, sense and know energy. I would predict things, or talk about the dead relative appearing behind the person my mother was talking to (which was quite unnerving for them to say the least!)

At 15 I was reading Tarot professionally, and even now my passion for it has not dimmed, I absolutely love it.

I love the interaction with the client, the way the patterns inform and impart wisdom. I love feeling the confusion or cloud they come in with dissipate and diffuse over the session. I love to see a sense of purpose and direction renewed and inspiration ignited from within.' – Vicki Veranese

Vicki Veranese 0412 400 085 www.i-of-ra.com/readings



What is The Avatar Course?

changing landscape of directions, rules, wins, and losses.

Local Byron Bay Avatar Master Moni Jowsey is available

on 0411 643 935 for free introductory sessions.

(Paperback - 1994)

about?

Read this book.

Avatar Course. Now available online.

Living Deliberately: The Discovery and Development of Avatar by Harry Palmer

Many people are trapped in mind-numbing routines. Their lives carom through a

Then, occasionally, someone wakes up and realises, 'Hey, I am alive.' This is an

Living Deliberately is the story of the birth of a seeker, Harry Palmer. Wake up.

extraordinary moment. When it is examined, a seeker is born: 'Life! What's this all

Available at AvatarOceania.com/shop for \$20, this is a gift that will open the doors

of curiosity and offers a step in the direction of the ReSurfacing Workshop and The

'ReSurfacing[®] is an expedition into consciousness that you personalise according to your own needs. How far you go is a matter for you to determine, and the truth you discover will be your truth....

Prepare to experience your creation of consciousness and the physical universe in all its wonder.'

- Harry Palmer, author of the Avatar® Materials

The ReSurfacing Workshop is available online for \$330.

Explore, enjoy, and experience Avatar books and courses with Moni Jowsey in Byron Bay.



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

g



Come visit us at The Habitat, 28 Fullerton Lane, Byron Bay

live life as if it is rigged in your favour

thewellbeingstore.com.au | @thewellbeingstore

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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

ozone Beauty & Medi Spa

This Christmas treat your loved one to a personalised massage, oxygen spa facial, medi pedicure, waxing or skincare services. Shop online for upgraded gift vouchers emailed direct to the recipient, no fuss. Great value gift vouchers beautifully presented that show you care. Open all through January 2021. Appointments available.

Call 02 6685 1145 or book online.

3/32 Mullumbimbi Street, Brunswick Heads www.ozonebeautyspa.com.au hifubyron.com.au



NOUN: A PRIESTESS ACTING AS A MEDIUM THROUGH WHOM ADVICE OR PROPHECY IS SOUGHT

> **ONLINE OR @RETREATSBYRONBAY**

GIFT VOUCHERS AVAILABLE







DEVICE TRADER MOBILE PHONES & COMPUTERS



iPhone 6S **From \$199**

iPhone 7 iPhone 8 From \$299 From \$449







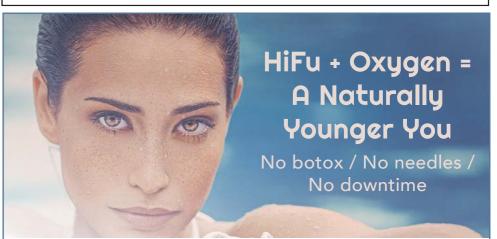
iPhone X From \$679 From \$699

iPhone XR Brand New!

SE2 \$699

DEVICE TRADER BYRON BAY 💦 **REFURBISH REUSE REPAIR REPEAT** የ 1/ 130 Jonson Street Byron Bay

💊 02 6685 5585 🌐 devicetrader.com.au



HiFu Facelift \$2200

LIFT and TIGHTEN Neck, jawline, chin, cheek, eye, brow, forehead and lip lines for Christmas.

Christmas Gift Voucher Upgrade Buy \$50 voucher for \$75 value Buy \$100 voucher for \$150 value Buy \$200 voucher for \$300 value Buy online at ozonebeautyspa.com.au





www.I-OF-RA.com/readings VICKI VERANESE 0412 400 085

3/32 Mullumbimbi Street, Brunswick Heads, NSW (02) 6685 1145 | 0490 721 644 Mon – Fri: 10am – 4pm • Sat: 10am – 2pm Before & after hours appointments on request Book now ozonebeautyspa.com.au www.hifubyron.com.au O f @ozonebeautyandmedispa

ocean Shores Fresh Laundreffe

Simon and Michelle from Ocean Shores Fresh Laundrette are passionate about sustainability. They believe using commercial grade Washers and Dryers that are built to be super efficient with water and power is a wise choice. Using the Free Eco powder available in store is also a bonus for our waterways and ecosystems!

Pop in and check out the range of other sustainable products in stock for home and body. They source Australian made and plastic free products to help you shift into a gentler way of living for your family and the planet.

Service Washing is available for personal and commercial needs all through the holidays.

Call to book 0405 905 802

Big machines to simplify your life!

Open 7.30 till 8pm seven days a week.

Shop 3, 78 Rajah Road, Ocean Shores (near tavern)

Legends Surf Museum af The Surf Collective

Immerse yourself in over 60 years worth of surf history and nostalgia at The Legends Surf Museum. Showcasing surf memorabilia and surfboards in every shape and size imaginable from all over the world. Featuring legendary shapers Scott Dillon, Gerry Lopez, Donald Takayama, Mark Richards, Bob McTavish, Robert August, and many more.

It's the perfect place to share surfing, its history and stories. Hosted under The Surf Collective and powered by Mojosurf you can also score all your surf needs such as board/bike hire, surf lessons, coffee, surf accessories and more.

Open seven days a week 9–5pm at the Cavanbah Arcade, just underneath The Loft and opposite The Beach Hotel.

The Surf Collective Shop 6/4 Jonson St, Byron Bay



OCEAN SHORES

COMING SOON
Sunrise Fresh

NEAR IGA!

7.30am till 8pm | 7 days Self service | Cash or card

Big machines



Split Payments

estive Season

This year Byron Bay's Split Payments was named 'Australia's Most Innovative Technology Company for 2020', in the Australian Financial Review / BOSS awards. Split Payments powers account to account payment solutions for its customers utilising the real time payments platform and open banking tools to supercharge payment processing.

From humble beginnings in 2016 in a garage in Suffolk Park, Split Payments now has over 30 employees across the country servicing some of the biggest known household names, Australia Post, MoneyMe, Nimble, A2B Cabs Australia, and more.

Byron Bay has become a hub for local FinTech companies that are playing a pivotal role designing the technology behind the local and international economy across multiple industries.

www.splitpayments.com.au/





IS YOUR BUSINESS READY FOR OPEN BANKING AND REAL-TIME PAYMENTS?

We are a payments technology

cashflow. Imagine a world where data insights can drive **better collections, improved clearance times, reduced dishonours and so much more.** Let Split transform your payments solutions. business specialising in **Real-Time**, account to account transactions, utilising open banking tools to super charge your payments solutions.

All of this out of Byron Bay!

Change is easy. Discover how at **splitpayments.com.au/change**

SPLITG

The World's First Open Banking Real-Time Payments Platform

Real-Time Direct Debit[™] | Intelligent Clearance[™] | Consent Management[™]

to simplify your life.

Service wash. Oomestic and commercial.

0405 905 802

Shop 3, 78 Rajah Road, Ocean Shores (near tavern).

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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.

A 2 0 0 0

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 core.

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!

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





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

Save money and reduce food waste

The average Australian household spends \$250 on Christmas lunch alone, and a fifth of this food usually ends up in the bin!

With the silly season fast approaching, think about how you can save money and reduce food waste.

Four ways to be food smart:

- 1. Plan what you're eating and how many people will be eating and shop accordingly. Stick to your shopping list so you don't over-buy!
- 2. Shop local and buy seasonal produce where you can. Fresh produce in season is usually cheaper and better quality.
- 3. Love or freeze your leftovers!
- 4. Recycle unavoidable food scraps in your green bin.

The FREE Food Smart Program will help you save money, eat healthier and make smart decisions to keep food out of the bin.

SIGN UP and complete the program by 31 January to go in the draw to win a brand-new freezer worth around \$750.

www.newaste.org.au/foodsmart

Mullumbimby Ex-Services club

The Mullumbimby Ex-Services Club team wish all their members, guests and suppliers a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

The Club is closed Christmas Day, reopening for normal trade from Boxing Day onwards.

Come celebrate the New Year at the best location in Mullum...

Gather your crew and enjoy some laid back entertainment, delicious eats and icy cold beer. Societa Bistro will be fired up and ready to provide anything from a small snack right through to a casual evening feast.

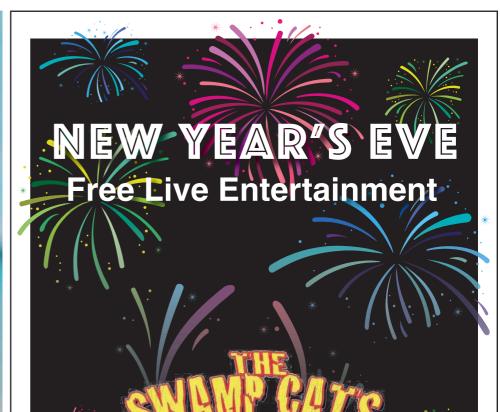
The New Year's Eve entertainment will be local band The Swamp Cats, who are one of the premier cover bands on the far north coast. Free live music from 8.30pm until the New Year.

COVID regulations still apply so seating will be limited. Get in early to avoid disappointment.

58 Dalley Street, Mullumbimby 6684 2533

season

www.mullumexservices.com.au



Getting food savyy for christenes educe food waste, sav money and wi

with Swamp Cats Band 8:30pm

Free courtesy bus, booking essential ph. 66842533

MULLUMBIMBY EX-SERVICES CLUB



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

Join Our Food **Smart** Program newaste.org.au/foodsmart

Sign up before January 31st for a chance to WIN a 173L upright FREEZER.

This is a Waste Less, Recycle More initiative funded from the Waste Levy.

In The Raw

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.

Complementing 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

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.

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

Seasons Greefings From Byron community college

Wishing all tutors and students, past, present and future a wonderful festive season. Huge thanks from the entire team at Byron College for the ongoing support over the years. It continues to be such a privilege to see so many people within the community embark on a new learning experience. Whether it's the start of a new career, upskilling, learning new skills for a hobby or special interest, or simply to meet new friends.

Enrolments for the new 2021 program are now available for booking online. It's never too late to learn and create your future.

For more information visit www.byroncollege.org.au or call us on 6684 3374. The College will be closed from the 24 December to 4 January.

Bodhi Living

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

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







THANKS FOR ANOTHER GREAT YEAR OF LEARNING!

BEST WISHES FOR THE FESTIVE SEASON FROM ALL THE STAFF @ BYRON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

> RTO: 90013 02 6684 3374 byroncollege.org.au

3 NIGHTS ONLY JANUARY 7-9 BYRON THEATRE 7PM

MUSICAL THEATRE STARS RACHAEL BECK MICHAEL CORMICK BLAKE BOWDEN, GRAEME ISAAKO AND NATASHA MARCONI WITH LISA HUNT AND THE SHARNY RUSSELL TRIO

TICKETS AT BYRONSUPPERCLUB.COM

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byron

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Summer at Leisurescapes

Freshen up your gardens 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:

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- as well as composite
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- * Screens * Tiles and stone

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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% off their homewares from now until 2 January.

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

www.leisurescapes.com.au @leisurescapesbyronbay

Lennox Yoga

Lennox Yoga is a dedicated yoga and wellness

centre in Lennox Head with accessible offerings for the whole community. They are offering one yoga class daily from 24 Dec to 2 Jan. Book ahead to reserve your spot in their reduced holiday timetable.

Season

Classes include *Flow*, a dynamic practice where mindful movement and rhythmic breathing come together to create an energising class focused on strength, flexibility, and whole body wellbeing; *Mellow*, a slower tempo active class; *Restore*, a combination of yin yoga, restorative yoga, stretch, and myofascial release; *Yang to Yin* – half a Flow and half a Restore class; Beginner and Prenatal classes.

See their website for more information and to make bookings. **www.lennoxyoga.com.au**



Lennox Yoga offers 24 group classes each week in the yoga studio and private sessions of Therapeutic Yoga and Shiatsu Massage in the wellness clinic.



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2 GREVILLEA ST, ARTS & INDUSTRY ESTATE, BYRON BAY OPEN 7 DAYS 6685 6990 www.leisurescapes.com.au I @ @leisurescapesbyronbay

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BYO MAT. Book ahead to guarantee your spot. Walk-ins are welcome as space allows.

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

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

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



Byron Bay Camping & Disposals

Byron Bay Camping & Disposals is your one stop shop for all your Christmas gifts and to speak to your local fishing and camping experts! They stock lots of great products ideal for Christmas and all your summer beach needs; binoculars, knives and multi tools, beach toys and shelters, umbrellas, beach chairs, hammocks, kitchenware, fishing bait and tackle, hats, rainwear, lights and torches – plus so much more!

Located in the centre of town on Jonson St.

Visit the store and let their friendly staff assist you, or check out their range online.

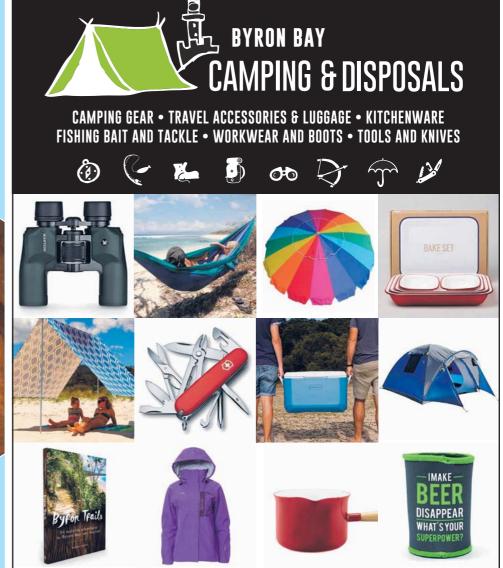
Shop 16, Byron Plaza 90-96 Jonson St 02 66858085 www.byron-camping.com.au

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 & b/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



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.



90 JONSON ST BYRON BAY T: 6685 8085 THETEAM@BYRON-CAMPING.COM.AU WWW.BYRON-CAMPING.COM.AU FOR ALL YOUR SUMMER BEACH AND CAMPING NEEDS

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Brunswick Bush School

Brunswick Bush School's summer holiday programs are on again these holidays. They provide fun and adventurous nature connection programs for kids 3-12 years. These holidays, running on Tuesdays and Thursdays each week throughout January they are offering an exciting new program of nature adventure for girls aged 6–12 years; Just for Grrrls is full of creativity, crafting, exploring and sharing. They also have their regular holiday program (for boys and girls aged 6–12 years) on offer, as well as the Wild Wallabies holiday program for children aged 3–5 years. So if you are looking for some quality time in nature for the kids these holidays, checkout Brunswick Bush School.

www.brunsbushschool.com.au for more information and for bookings or call Rohan on 0407898374

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

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



Are you challenged by your thoughts?

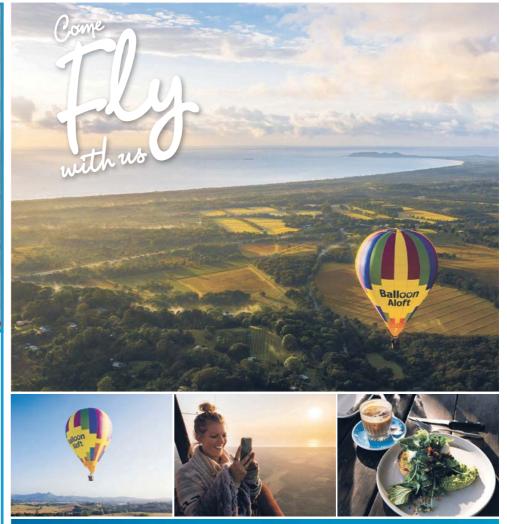
Grant's unique skillset of hypnotherapy, strategic

Balloon Aloft

Looking for a last minute Christmas present or special family experience this holiday season?

Look no further than Balloon Aloft Byron Bay. Soaring over tree tops and clouds high above in the quiet sunrise hours is a magical way to spend time with family and friends outside of Byron's hustle and bustle this summer. Balloon Aloft's daily flights are a magnificent way to explore this famous rainbow region at the best time of day, and with a birds eye view! With flights all over the region, the cheerful team of local crew will make sure your morning is fun and entertaining in every way. Each flight finishes with a delicious breakfast at the Three Blue Ducks restaurant, The Farm.

Visit www.balloonaloftbyronbay.com for more information and to book your flight or Christmas gift voucher, valid for three years!



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.

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Suet or not to suet – the Christmas pudding question

Dear pudding eaters

My mother-out-law makes the most delicious Christmas pudding. It's an entirely different entity than the one that my mother makes (also very delicious), which is a traditional pudding with several spices and other ingredients - including suet, which now that I'm an annoying vegan, I don't use. Also, I'm a lazy (read: that pain-in-the-arse friend who is always too busy to do anything fun) annoying vegan, so by the time I get around to sourcing vegan suet, it's usually too late.

The GOOD Life

My mother likes to make her Christmas pudding by the end of October - at the absolute latest, then, she hangs it in the garage for a few weeks (she says it needs to hang for four to 12 weeks) and she boils it up again a day or two before December 25 and serves it with custard - or these days, coconut ice-cream.

My mother-out-law's Christmas pudding can be made the day before, or if you're really in a pinch for time, it could actually be made fresh on Christmas Day, but you'd want to get up with the Sun to have it ready in time for lunch.

When I was a young lass, which was a long time ago, I used to make steamed puddings, but I didn't have a pudding bowl. I made do with using the stainless steel bowl I mixed it in, then I'd make a lid out of a big sheet of foil folded twice in half. I'd oil it on the pudding side then I'd tie it up with a criss-cross of string – the bow made for a handy lifter that I could use with the aid of a fork

Not suet, 4 (or 5) ingredient Plum Pudding

2 cups fresh wholemeal breadcrumbs (Margaret just tears up two slices of bread). 2 cups mixed dried fruit (she uses a 375g packet). 1 tablespoon freshly grated orange peel (some call it zest). 2 cups mashed ripe bananas.

Not in the original recipe; Margaret also adds a small packet of glacé cherries.

You simply put all the ingredients in a mixing bowl (remember the foil and the string if you need to) and stir the lot together. Pour it all into an oiled steam pudding bowl with a tightly fitting lid. Boil for three hours, checking water occasionally, because you don't want it to boil dry, and voila!

Christmas pudding so delicious you'll turn vegan.

to pull the pudding out of the boiling water.

Margaret, my mother-out-law, goes out of her way to find David and I vegan treats, and last Christmas she made sure her pudding was on the menu for lunch.

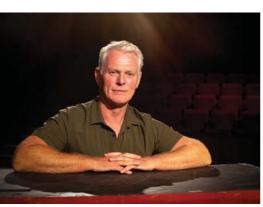


She says she has been making the pudding this way since 2006. She attended a Seventh Day Adventists Christmas luncheon in Alstonville that year and they served the pudding and were happy to give out the recipe. She says it's very easy and I can tell you it's *very* delicious!

So please everyone, enjoy the festive season. Be careful and safe - we love you all too much to lose you. Signed, The Annoying Vegan

Supper Club brings Broadway to Byron

If you love The Phantom of the Opera, Les Misérables or Moulin *Rouge*, this is your chance to experience musical theatre at its grandest, and yet, most intimate. Byron Bay is a creative hub and it is about to add another string to its bow - high-end theatre. Internationally renowned singer and actor Michael Cormick has had a diverse career throughout Australia, the United Kingdom and Europe. Michael brings this wealth of experience to his new role as Artistic Director of Byron Supper Club - inspired by Broadway.



Internationally renowned singer and actor, Michael Cormick, is ready to entertain you at supper. Photo Tree Faerie.

'Byron Supper Club is a truly unique theatrical experience. It 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 Michael.

For three nights only, the Byron Theatre will transform into Byron Supper Club, with cabaret-style tables replacing traditional theatre seating. The night will feature five pop-up shows over three hours in an elegant supper club setting. Expect the unexpected in this submersive, intimate theatre experience. 'I love the live element of performing in a theatre. It's an immediate exchange between the performer and the audience,' says Michael. '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.'

In his first time behind-the-scenes in production, West End star Michael draws on his extensive theatre experience as he presents some of Australia's most iconic musical theatre stars along with Byron's best local talent.

Michael leads a world-class cast, with musical theatre icons Rachael Beck (Cats, Beauty and the Beast, Les Misérables) and Blake Bowden (The Book of Mormon, Fiddler on the Roof)

joined by dancers Graeme Isaako (Aladdin, The Lion King) and Natasha Marconi (The Great Gatsby, Carmen, Grease) with soul powerhouse Lisa Hunt and jazz ensemble the Sharny Russell Trio. 'The audience can expect a night of incredible entertainment. Music all night and theatrical extravaganzas that pop-up throughout the evening. Also, the luxury of table service and, of course, our Taste of Byron supper platters, full of delicious local produce,' says Michael.

Enjoy a spectacular theatre show with family or friends around the central circular stage, or an intimate night out at a table for two with wonderful views from the Balcony.

The show will premiere on Thursday 7 January, with two more

shows on Friday 8 and Saturday 9. For more information visit the Byron Theatre Website: byroncentre.com.au.

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Two seatings 12.00-2.30pm and 3.00-5.30pm

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BYRON BAY continued



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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 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.





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Eateries Guide

BYRON BAY continued



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Barrio

7am-3pm Mon-Thu 7am–7pm Fri BARRIO 1 Porter St, North Byron Booking via our website barriobyronbay.com.au Walk in tables available

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Menus available on Facebook

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Open 4pm until late Monday through Sunday for sundowners, dinner, and late-night drinks.

Lazy weekend lunches with sandy feet, rowdy dinners with family and friends, and late night drinks and DJs are the standard. Laid back vintage vibes and classic coastal style create an eclectic feel complemented by our menu of shareable snacks, locally-sourced salads and hand-stretched sourdough pizzas as well as beers on tap, organic wines and hand-crafted cocktails.

GOOD TIMES ~ HIGH VIBES ~ LATE NIGHTS ~ HIGH TIDES



Krill Bar

LENNOX HEAD



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,

Mullum Tues–Fri 8.30am–2.30pm Sat, Sun 9am–2pm FB/Insta: EmpireMullum empiremullum.com.au

Ya mar

6684 2306

Yaman Mullumbimby 62 Stuart St, Mullumbimby 6684 3778 nbimby.com.au 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 tarvest Newrybar NSW 2479 02 6687 2644 RESTAURANT | BAKERY | DELI

> 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

The Good Life

Family values and good, honest, simple food



Robert and Michelle Constanzo love the lifestyle that working being at the farmer's markets give them.

Story & photo Melissa Butters

Brother and sister, Robert and Michelle Constanzo, are the chefs behind the fresh flavours of The Nomadic Kitchen. Their delicious rustic dishes are influenced by their Sicilian heritage and their travels. 'We basically just cook what we ate growing up. It's the kind of food that we love,' says Michelle.

Michelle was selling apples from the family farm in Stanthorpe and Rob had just returned from overseas, where he worked at River Cafe in London, when they first considered setting up a business. 'We just wanted to start our own restaurant.' The stall evolved from there, and they're passionate about what they do. You'll often find Rob racing around the markets for supplies mid-service – you can't get fresher than that!

Rob and Michelle create good, honest, simple food on their terms. 'We cook whatever we feel like cooking – it helps keep it creative for us,' says Rob. The menu changes every week, inspired by what's in season. They enjoy engaging with the community. 'We walk around to see what's good, or what farmers might have lots of... it's ideal, we get to relate with the customer and the farmer,' says Rob.

When asked about any challenges, Michelle points at Rob; 'We're siblings! We just roll with the punches - overall it's really good. It just gives us a nice lifestyle and it suits our ideals, about what we like to cook, and how we like to live.'

When Rob isn't cooking he enjoys fishing, while Michelle loves getting home to her children and into the garden. But they don't want people to cotton on to the fact that they've clocked the perfect lifestyle. 'It's terrible! It's shit! Write that down!' says Rob. You can find The Nomadic Kitchen at the New Brighton and Mullum Farmer's markets on Tuesdays and Fridays 7am–11am.

ALCOHOL SUPPLIERS



Sun Bistro Bottleshop and Home Delivery

61 Bayshore Drive, Byron Bay

02 6685 6500 www.thesunbistro.com/ deliveries

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 management





December 23, 2020 The Byron Shire Echo 41

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



BRINGING WORLD CLASS MUSICAL THEATRE TO BYRON

ONE OF THE GREAT UNEXPECTED GIFTS OF COVID-19 IS THAT IT GROUNDED SO MANY INCREDIBLE ARTISTS. PEOPLE WHO WOULD USUALLY BE OVERSEAS WORKING OR TOURING NATIONALLY. MANY OF THEM HAVE HAD TO REIMAGINE THEIR CREATIVE OUTPUTS IN A MUCH SMALLER SETTING. ONE SUCH PERSON IS MICHAEL CORMICK – AN INTERNATIONALLY RENOWNED SINGER AND ACTOR WITH A DIVERSE CAREER THROUGHOUT AUSTRALIA, THE UNITED KINGDOM AND EUROPE.

ENTERTAINMENT

His Australian credits include *Beauty and the Beast* (playing the Beast) – for which he won an Australian MO Award – *Cats, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat, Grease* and a whole heap more.

His international credits include lead roles in *The Phantom* of the Opera, Calamity Jane, Romeo & Juliet, Chess, Evita, End of the Rainbow and Lloyd Webber's *The Woman in White* opposite Simon Callow and Anthony Andrews. Michael has also performed in concerts throughout Europe, including Rome, Paris, Edinburgh and Cyprus.

He's stepping sideways from performances at the Royal Albert Hall to shows at The Supper Club at the Byron Theatre from 7–9 Taking control is a new phase for this popular performer. 'In performing, up to now, I relinquished my life to other people. I did *Beauty and the Beast* for three-and-a-half years here and went to London and had to audition six times for a touring version, they said I was the best – and then gave it to someone else. That's what happens. It's time to take control!' says Michael.

It has been a career of significant highlights. For example, Michael says, 'I was in London and working with Andrew Lloyd Webber when I was 24. I worked on a lot of new projects with him as his muse!'

So what is the Byron Supper Club?

'The concept grew out of COVID because the [audience]

MANDY NOLAN'S

THE TEN LESSONS OF COVID: OUR YEAR OF WONDERS

This wasn't the year any of us expected. It's been full of disappointment, dashed expectations and uncertainty. To live in a time of global pandemic is history in the making. The bubonic plague took out 200 million people in just four years. Thanks to better public health, the internet, and coordinated government approaches (in most places) we've been able to keep our first year of deaths down to just over one and a half million. This year has shaken us up. Made us think about how we live, who we live with and what we want. It has, to use the title of one of my favourite books by Geraldine Brooks (set in a village in lockdown in 1666), been a 'Year of Wonders'. So what have we learnt that we can take forward?

- 1 Life is uncertain. Everything can change in an instant. Life is impermanent. While it feels a bit shit when your trip to Bali is cancelled, or your business is closing, there is a strangely positive tilt to that, if you can find it; that nothing really matters. All that stuff we do that we think is important, is actually quite meaningless. It means things won't always stay the same, and sometimes not being the same is a good thing.
- 2 We can change how we behave globally. Quickly. For those encouraging us to pursue the changes we need to address the climate crisis, this gave some hope. The only problem is, climate change might need to change its branding to Environmental *Pandemic*. Governments and corporations seemed to have taken notice of that faster. But clearly we are capable of a reset.
- 3 Some people are fuckwits. They can't help it. They were born that way. Like the dude on my plane who wouldn't wear a mask when asked to. Everyone else wore a mask except him. He was clearly special. Hopefully the masks protected us from breathing in his toxic mindset.
- 4 Staying still isn't as bad as we thought. We live in the world of busy. Then busy stopped. It was like 1981. It's okay not to be busy. Busy people got to meet their families and discover they actually liked their children.
- **5** Zoom sucks. Yeah it was great for a while, in a world where we lived with the fear of being replaced by robots, until we realised how much we love other humans.
- 6 You can work from home. Not everyone has to go to the office. Many businesses discovered an increase in productivity when their staff could pop a load of washing on at smoko. Nigel at the tax department was so much easier to deal with when chatting to me from his bedroom with his dog on his lap.
- The government can pay a Universal Wage. They should do it all the time. People were happy. They were shopping. The money went out, and then came back in.

January, joined by some of his many friends in musical theatre.

And as for many southeners, Byron is about to become home; 'I am in the process of relocating to Byron from Melbourne' says Michael. 'I've wanted to for years, and now I have some work with the Byron Theatre.'

Moving to Byron is part of a larger reimagining for Michael. While he will still be touring soon with Rachel Beck, this is the first time Michael has taken on the producer/director role.

'I have never seen the other side of the business. I have never felt it! A lot of my producer friends are laughing and saying "Now you get it!" It has enlightened me – I realise that I have been the guy that just walks in! Fortunately, now I get to use the plethora of advice I've been given by some amazing people!'

number we were allowed was 134, and seeing as the theatre seats were tracked – we could do a dinner show environment. I did a tester for the donors of the theatre, it went so well and I thought – let's do more! The concept is, you don't have to sit through the whole musical – it's a pop-up – from *Dream Girls*, *Phantom*, it's a mash-up, a taste of different types of musicals. We have the beautiful Kelley Abbey from the Gold Coast, she has been the artistic director on *Dancing with the Stars* for the last five years. She is pretty phenomenal. She is coming in to do the Tango!

Get a taste of Broadway, over three nights on Thursday 7, Friday 8 and Saturday 9 January 2021 at the Byron Theatre. Starring Rachael Beck, Blake Bowden, Michael Cormick, and joined by soul diva Lisa Hunt and jazz band Sharny Russell trio.

For tickets go to byroncentre.com.au

People will believe what they want to believe. It has nothing to do with fact or science. And while saying this, may I qualify it with the fact that when a scientist releases scientific information they do not preface it with 'this is science'. Because it is science. Only stuff that isn't science, tells you that it is.

- America is broken. It's finished. The glory days of that empire are over. I'll be watching Chinese films now.
- It's not about what you do, or what you earn. It's about whom you love. How you love. How you make your tiny life grand. It's about connection. That's the only certainty there is.

Glad we made it through 2020 – well almost – Co co co! Happy Xmas.

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

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NEWERSEVE

MAD HATTER'S PARTY!

Can you believe it? It's been a mad year, so let's put a lid on it – throw on a hat and come party with Team Tav at the Ocean Shores Tavern.

The fun kicks off at 8pm, after our members draw where someone will win \$2,000! Call the Tav on 6680 3222 for a pick up before 9pm, and a courtesy bus to get you home.

Happy New Year from Team Tav!

People can also purchase their 2021 calendar; in the absence of *Girls Night In* this year, the boys behind the bar took to the camera to raise funds for the Pink Ribbon Cancer Council initiative. Just \$20, all proceeds to charity. Dead set ripper!

Ocean Shores Tavern, 8pm.

Call 6680 3222 for courtesy bus bookings.



GOODBYE ANUS HORRIBILUS

Say goodbye to shitsville 2020 at the New Year's Eve event at the Brunswick Picture House, starring the decadent, glorious, and fabulously filthy, Reuben Kaye.

Lockdowns, facemasks, flight cancellations, toilet paper shortages... the list goes on and on and as we look ahead to 2021, we're putting on our first NYE gala, with the incredible Reuben Kaye behind the proceedings. After all, who doesn't need a bit of filth, a lot of camp, and an opportunity to get downright dirty?

In 2018 we saw the amazing award-winning cabaret star Reuben Kaye unleashed on Bruns audiences, and it's safe to say that a mutual love affair ensued.

Bring in 2021 with a true star!

For tickets go to brunswickpicturehouse.com



NYE 2021 Mad Hatters Party!



It's been a mad year.....so let's put a lid on it.... hats on, and come party with Team Tav this NYE!

Courtesy bus to take you home. Call us on 66803222 to book your pick up!



021

brunswickpicturehouse.com | 30 FINGAL STREET | 6685 0280

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



ANIME FESTIVAL AT THE REGENT

The Regent have put together a wonderful collection of Anime films to be enjoyed by all the family big and small.

Films include Studio Ghibli masterpieces: *My Neighbour Tortoro*; where two sisters move to the country with their father in order to be closer to their hospitalised mother, and discover the surrounding trees are inhabited by Totoros, magical spirits of the forest.

Spirited Away; which tells the story of a young girl, Chihiro, who becomes trapped in a strange new world of spirits. When her parents undergo a mysterious transformation, she must call upon courage she never knew she had to free her family.

Howl's Moving Castle; telling the story of Sophie, a shy young woman, who is cursed and trapped within an old body by a spiteful witch. Her only chance of breaking the

spell lies with a self-indulgent and insecure young wizard and his companions, who all live together in his legged, walking castle.

BOXING DAY IS

FILM FESTIVAL

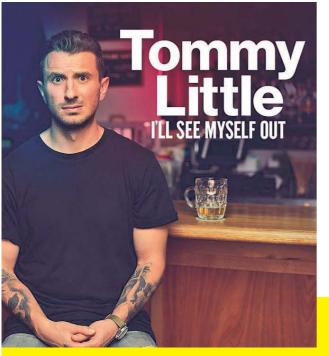
KICKS OFF.

AT THE REGENT

WHEN THE ANIME

And finally *Princess Mononoke*; which is about Ashitaka, a prince of the disappearing Emishi people, cursed by a demonized boar god, who must journey to the west to find a cure. Along the way, he encounters San, a young human woman fighting to protect the forest from Lady Eboshi, who is trying to destroy it for profit. For those who have never seen Studio Ghibli films – these aren't your average cartoons – they have a wonderful sophistication and a sense of adventure. They have all the romance, drama and complex narrative of any non-animated film, and the art is amazing!

For tickets and Boxing Day program info go to the-regent.com.au



BIG LAUGHS WITH LITTLE

Tommy Little is Australia's premier dickhead. Which is lucky for everyone else as dickhead decisions make for big laughs!

Nothing is off limits at a Tommy Little live show – his real-life antics and setbacks are foolish, funny as hell, and definitely his own fault. He brings his tales to life with effortless charisma, high energy and a cheeky, yet intimate, connection with his audiences.

Tommy Little is one of the most prolific and crowd-pleasing acts of the moment – he added an unprecedented number of shows across Australia in 2019 to keep up with demand, has a national radio show with Carrie Bickmore on the Hit Network with over 1.3 million listeners, is a regular on *The Project* and has well and truly confirmed his spot as one of the most-watched comedians in the country. His live shows are the perfect chance to really get to know one of the most exciting performers going around right now.

Tommy is at the Brunswick Picture House from Saturday 2 Jan–Friday 8 Jan. For tickets go to www.brunswickpicturehouse.com



STARS BY LILITH

CAPRICORN THE MOUNTAIN GOAT

WITH THIS WEEK'S SUN AND MERCURY IN SERIOUS-MINDED, SATURN-RULED CAPRICORN, IT'S WORTH REMEMBERING ANCIENT ROME'S DECEMBER FESTIVAL OF SATURNALIA WAS ONE OF MERRYMAKING AND WILD REVELRY. WISHING EVERYONE HAPPY HOLIDAYS...

- ARIES: Mercury's current move makes you an excellent decision maker, party planner and stylish event executor. Though a note-to-self might be in order; patience tends not to be one of your natural talents, so approach this high-tension time as an opportunity to upgrade your diplomatic skills. Good luck.
- ♂ TAURUS: As life reroutes itself down new highways, interesting plans start to form, exciting ideas take wing and this stimulating week looks set to detonate you out of any lingering doldrums; making for a very merry, jolly holly season with plenty of cheer, especially during the coming weekend's indulgent Taurus moon.
- I GEMINI: Gemini's planet ruler Mercury is holding a summit meeting with innovative, originalthinking Uranus that has you talking money, honey, at this weekend's Xmas gatherings: thinking ahead, discussing financial strategies, planning future payoffs. And since flexibility's your thing, be prepared for a quick pivot of changing arrangements during this labile week.
- CANCER: The world might be a hot mess, but love planet Venus is winding up this year in your personal astrozone of magnetism and mystique. Which means all the care and nurturing you share is set to boomerang back, bigtime, during the coming exchange of seasonal traditions, counting your blessings with the ones you love.
- LEO: Best to complete one thing at a time this week and not distract yourself with multitasking, so you can enjoy the season of unreason to the max. And during this undeniably

▲ LIBRA: Traditionally the season when family issues hit the table along with the festive tucker, this week Jupiter and Saturn initiate some deep and meaningful heart-to-heart discussions. Which will be both productive and enjoyable with your leading lady Venus especially charming, entertaining, articulate and witty for the rest of the year.

- ** SCORPIO: When this week kicks off with a cosmic clash between your two ruling planets Mars and Pluto, best not let temper get the better of you. Mercury in networking, brainstorming mode could have you more in gettingstuff-done than in chilling out mode, but seriously – take a break, it's the holidays!
- SAGITTARIUS: With heavenly hotheads Mars and Pluto igniting this fiery week, ease off on rushing or pushing. As Saturn and Jupiter elevate your role in community affairs, your words carry weight, both spoken and written – a cue for you networkers extraordinaire to pay extra attention to the message you send out into the world.
- CAPRICORN: As this week's sun and Mercury head into Happy Birthday Capricorn land, 'tis the season to kick up your Goaty heels in the centre stage spotlight buzz and bingo! Use this self-assured transit to plant the seeds of next year's success with some judiciously placed shop talk over these holidays.
- AQUARIUS: Mercury has you in full eloquent flow as a dream starts to take shape. Let it simmer and ripen rather than trying to get others on board during this busy end-ofyear week. Relax instead,

SAE GETS CREATIVE

Wanting to find out more about what SAE has to offer? This creative media institute offers our local industry aspirants a chance to study with this higher education provider at home or in any of their campuses around the country. They have an upcoming event called SAE Creative Workshops,

.....

happening over three days from 20–22 January 2021 at the SAE Byron campus.

This is a great opportunity for students who are creatively inclined to have a little taste of what it is like to study at SAE in the areas of animation, audio, design, film, games and music production.

Tickets can be purchased on the link: https://bit. ly/37rdsad and they are currently offering discounted tickets! The Early Bird price is \$50 and sales close on 31 December. The price is for the full three-day program and includes lunch.

Full price ticket sales commence 1 January for \$80.

Please note that owing to the tertiary level of the workshop content, this event is open to anyone aged 15 years+ (Year 10 and higher).

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GET ARTY FOR 2021

Wondering what you might do to keep busy over the New Year break? Well, the BSA (Byron School of Art) are running Summer 'taster classes' 1–5 Feb, 2021.

All tasters are \$65 each, and only \$55 each if you enrol in three or more.

Select from a three hour class with Rene Bolten on drawing and mark making, hand built ceramics with Kat Shapiro, exploring connection to country with Michael Philp, brush making with Helle Jorgensen, Cyanotype printing with Raimond de Weerdt, or observational drawing with Belle Bassin.

To find out more about these taster classes go to byronschoolofart.com

feisty time, the more you act with dignity and integrity, no matter how riled up, the more events will arrange themselves in your favour.

VIRGO: If Mercury energising your festive sector has you feeling like getting out and about – do: it'll work for you. And Venus suggests that goodwill in action; contributing to a cause, spending time serving meals to the homeless, or inviting a lonely friend to join your celebrations – is the master key to this season's happiness. and let brainwaves and inspirations download while you're enjoying off-duty time – but don't forget to take notes.

Hercury has you mixing and mingling in the ocean of social motion this week, cruising and schmoozing, enjoying community activities, hosting at home; during which, a bit of subtle selfpromo won't go amiss. It's a volatile time though, so if you're not in the mood for meltdowns, play Swiss, stay neutral.





A FISTFUL OF FUN AT BANGALOW FILM FESTIVAL

What a year 2020 has been, and while COVID-19 is starting to look like the Grinch that stole Xmas, perhaps it's time to reflect on some of the good things this evil little pandemic has brought us. Can't think of anything? How about the drive-in! Remember when you sat in your car and watched a movie with a speaker in the window! It was one of my finest memories as a teenager, sitting in the back of a reversed in Ute, on a mattress, watching the dusk-till-dawn horror pics whilst trying to guard my virginity. It really did add even more tension to the situation.

The Bangalow Film Fest are bringing back the drive-in! On Thursday 14 January at 8pm, they will be lighting up the gorgeous Bangalow Showground! Experience *La Dolce Vita* – the Fellini classic. This is an era-defining film. An exquisite tale of celebrity, *La Dolce Vita* casts an adoring yet critical eye towards 1960's Rome. Set over seven decadent days we follow Marcello Mastroianni's philandering journalist as he pursues a happiness that's always just out of reach! This is one of the most iconic Italian films – make sure you see it on the big screen. And keeping the spirit of the big screen alive, they will also screen the Sergio Leone classic *A Fistful of Dollars* at the Bangalow A&I Hall. This classic spaghetti western, starring the legendary Clint Eastwood, will be closing the festival on Saturday 23 January at 7pm. It's accompanied by a new score – composed and played live by the celebrated composer and DJ Chiara Costanza.

For those of you unfamiliar with the story of *A Fistful of Dollars*, drifter gunman Joe (Clint Eastwood), arrives in the Mexican village of San Miguel at the border of the United States of America, and befriends the owner of the local bar, Silvanito. Joe discovers that the town is dominated by two gangster lords: John Baxter (Wolfgang Lukschy) and the cruel Ramón Rojo (Gian Maria Volontè).

When Joe kills four men in Baxter's gang, he is hired by Ramón's brother, Esteban Rojo (Sieghardt Rupp), to join their gang. However, Joe decides to work for both sides, playing one side against the other.

CHIARA COSTANZA



PALACE CINEMAS

PALACE BYRON BAY WILL BE CLOSED XMAS DAY

Session Times: Sat 2	6 Dec - Wed 30 Dec	NFT = No Free Tickets
SPECIAL SCREENINGS PENGUIN BLOOM	TROLLS WORLD TOUR (G) Daily: 9:40AM, 11:30AM	HOW TO BE A GOOD WIFE (M) NFT Daily: 10:50AM,
(CTC) NFT NYE Event – Glass of Prosecco included Thu 31st Dec: 6:30PM	WONDER WOMAN 1984 (M) NFT Daily: 10:45AM, 12:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:15,	3:40, 6:15, 8:15PM MISBEHAVIOUR (M) Daily: 11:30AM
FAMILY FILMS The croods 2:	4:15, 5:15, 6:30, 7:30, 8:30 A CALL TO SPY (M) NFT Daily: 10:30AM, 6:00PM DAVID BYRNE'S AMERICAN UTOPIA (M)	NOMADLAND (M) NFT Daily: 10:30AM, 1:20, 4:15, 6:40, 8:40PM
A NEW AGE (PG) NFT Daily: 9:45AM, 12:00, 2:10. 3:45. 6:00PM		AMERICAN UTOPIA (M) Daily: 11:40AM, 8
THE SECRET GARDEN (PG) Daily: 9:45AM	Daily: 1:40, 8:40PM DREAMLAND (MA15+) Daily: 4:10, 8:30PM	THE BEE GEES: HOW CAN You mend a broken Heart (m) Daily: 1:40PM
THE WAR WITH GRANDPA (PG) Daily: 2:00, 6:20PM	HAPPIEST SEASON (M) Daily: 4:00, 9:00PM	THE WITCHES (M) Daily: 1:20, 4:00, 6:20PM

Session times are subject to change, please visit website for all live session

108 Jonson St, Byron Bay Book online now at PalaceCinemas.com.au

Admission Prices: Adults: \$14 Stud/Con: \$12 Child: \$10 Stud/Con: \$12 Child: \$10 Stud/Con: \$12 Child: \$10 Stud/Con: \$12 Stud/Con: \$10 Stud/Con: \$12 Stud/Con: \$10 Stud/Con: \$10							
DECEMBER	THU 24 TH	FRI 25 TH	SAT 26 TH	SUN 27 TH	MON 28TH	TUE 29 TH	WED 30 TH
RAMS PG 119 MIN	12:35 PM						
SUPERINTELLIGENCE PG 106 MIN	10:35 AM 2:50 PM		2:05 PM				
THE CROODS: A NEW AGE PG 95 MIN		CLOSED	10:00 AM 11:50 AM 1:40 PM 5:25 PM 7:20 PM				
					10:15 AM 3:30 PM		
THE WITCHES M 104 MIN	10:25 AM 12:20 PM 2:00 PM	DAY	12:10 PM 4:00 PM				
WONDER WOMAN 1984 M 151 MIN			10:30 AM 1:20 PM 4:15 PM 6:00 PM 7:00 PM				
WORDS ON BATHROOM WALLS M 111 MIN	2:15 PM						
GIFT VOUCHERS AVAILABLE FOR CHRISTMAS – ADULT, CONCESSIONS, STUDENTS, SENIORS, CHILDREN							







Chiara Costanza is a Melbourne-based music composer, producer and DJ, born and raised in Torino, Italy. Classically trained in piano and later exposed to electronic music after moving to Melbourne in 2004, Chiara has since moved into a well-respected position in the Australian electronic music scene, where she performs under the moniker, Chiara Kickdrum. Her score for *A Fistful of Dollars* pays a heartfelt tribute to the music of the legendary Italian composer Ennio Morricone, who passed away last July.

To view the full festival program and to buy tickets go to bangalowfilmfestival.com.au

HIGH GROUND

SCREENING FRIDAY, JAN 15TH

OUTDOOR | INDOOR | CLASSICS | PREMIERES TICKETS NOW ON SALE WWW.BANGALOWFILMFESTIVAL.COM.AU



GIG GUIDE

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

THURSDAY 24

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, MAJESTIC KNIGHTS
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 4PM SUNSTONE DUO, 8PM NATHAN KAYE DUO
- SALTWATER SOCIAL CLUB, BYRON BAY, 8.30PM MATT BUGGY, 11.30PM LOCAL DJS
- OCEAN SHORES COUNTRY CLUB 6.30PM TRIVIA
- MARY G'S, LISMORE, 8PM **CARLY & ROO**
- COOLANGATTA HOTEL 6.30PM THE ZONE

FRIDAY 25

NO SHOWS TODAY!!!

SATURDAY 26

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, EPIC
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 1PM LEIGH JAMES, 4PM ALIVAN BLU, 6.30PM BROADWATER DUO, 9PM JOCK BARNES
- FOXY LUU'S, BYRON BAY, 4.30PM GROOVE & BAO DAVID HELGI JOHAN
- SALTWATER SOCIAL CLUB, BYRON BAY, 9PM LOCAL DJS
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 4PM DJ TAZ, 6.15PM DJ MATTY P
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH HOTEL 7PM THE GIN BUGGS
- COOLANGATTA HOTEL 5PM SHAWN MARKHAM, 9.30PM STRICTLY ACOUSTIC

SUNDAY 27

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, OOZ DUO
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 1PM TIM STOKES DUO, 4.30PM HARRY NICHOLS BAND, 8.30PM THIS IS LIVING
- SALTWATER SOCIAL CLUB, BYRON BAY, 8.30PM MARK CHAPMAN, 11.30PM LOCAL DJS
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 5PM RUSTY
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH HOTEL 3PM HARRY NICHOLS
- COOLANGATTA HOTEL 4PM REMEDY

MONDAY 28

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, SIMON MEOLA
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 2PM HAYLEY GRACE, 5PM TWO MOONS, 8.30PM SARAH GRANT TRIO
- SALTWATER SOCIAL CLUB, BYRON BAY, 9PM LOCAL DJS
- COOLANGATTA HOTEL 5PM ROB RHODES

TUESDAY 29

RAILWAY HOTEL BYRON BAY CHRIS ARONSTEN

AUSTEN GOING VIRAL ON 2020

SEVEN ENTERTAINMENT

AUSTENTAYSHUS IS ONE OF OUR FIERCEST SATIRICISTS. SPEAKING THE UNSPEAKABLE, THE UNFLAPPABLE SELF-CONFESSED PROVOCATEUR IS BACK FOR THREE SHOWS IN THE NEW YEAR.

So what's his take on 2020?

2020 has been a remarkable year. After 40 years as a comedian I haven't been able to travel, and even though there are very few towns (1) where I am still welcome, and even fewer venues (2) who will still have me – I'm itching. Isolating from the world though, is not new, as most entertainers are antisocial misanthropic arseholes, so we love our own company. But I do miss insulting people and hassling others. I know it won't last forever... but what if it does?

What scares you about getting COVID-19?

I know it's difficult to see me as a mere mortal, with all the inherent vulnerabilities, but I will be 38 on Friday and getting a lethal virus does scare me to the point that I am isolating with Pete Evans and Isobel Lucas, two of the more responsible people I know. Sexual distancing is a priority for both of them. Scary.

What should Sydney do with Avalon?

As Avalon is a suburb full of fuckwits, I think we should send it to Gympie where it will feel at home.

Which country did COVID best?

Lichtenstein must have done well, because we don't hear much about it. A beautiful country that's as big as Mudgee with a great Jesus Festival.

What was the strangest story around the virus that you heard?

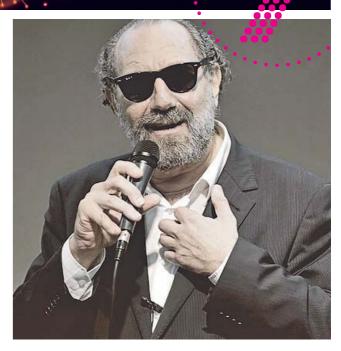
The weirdest story I've heard is from Pete Evans, my mate. He said the virus originated in Noosa and it was spread to China by Isobel Lucas who was on a modeling assignment, and she doesn't trust the Chinese. Weird. I'm inclined to believe it with Pete sitting here right next to me.

Any advice for Scomo?

I think Scomo needs to spend more time in Hawaii and leave things to GB.

THANKS FOR EVERYTH-ING!

- LISTEN-ING!
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- SPONSOR-ING!
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- PRESENT-ING!
- CONTRIBUT-ING!



Do you think Trump really got COVID?

Trump definitely got the virus, but why didn't he die? Because then he would have been mistaken for Joe Biden. Ha ha ha ha ha!

Why do you think some people get so cranky about wearing masks?

Very handsome people like myself don't like to wear masks because it cramps our style. Ugly people, and you know who you are, should never be seen without one, pandemic or no pandemic.

What was 2020 like for you? What did you do if you weren't working?

2020 was a quiet year. I read a lot about death. As we are all getting closer to disappearing I thought this was pretty valid. My favourite book was *The Plague*, by Albert Camus, the French existentialist.

Otherwise, [there was also] a tremendous amount of sexual activity and gossip, with a variety of tools.

What was your take on the US election?

The US election meant as much to me as most Australians. Nothing. I don't even know where Massachusetts is. I heard Barry Gibb say this. He is a true Australian, and I love disco. However, congratulations to Ronald Reagan, great to have a mediocre actor following a shit actor.

What's your hope for 2021?

I wouldn't mind skipping 2021 and going straight to 2022. Things will be in control by then. I'm talking to the Bureau of Meteorology to see whether it's possible.

Catch Austentayshus Saturday 9 January at the Mullumbimby Ex-Services at 8pm.

Sunday 10 January, 5pm and Monday 11 January at 8pm at Byron Services Club.

All tix are \$40 on mandynolan.com.au



NTRIBUT-ING! from us at

Whatever you were do-ING! for BayFM in 2020, thank you so much.

Seasons greet-INGS! And holiday love from us all at BayFM!

- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 2PM KARUAH, 5PM JESSE MORRIS, 8PM THE 4'20 SOUND
- SALTWATER SOCIAL CLUB, BYRON BAY, 9PM LOCAL DJS
- OCEAN SHORES COUNTRY CLUB 6PM WORD PLAY
- THE MACADAMIA CASTLE, KNOCKROW, 10AM FRANKI KANEUR
- COOLANGATTA HOTEL 4PM TIM CARTER

WEDNESDAY 30

- HOTEL GREAT NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 6PM RUBY FIELDS, 9.30PM RUBY FIELDS
- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, TIM STOKES
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 2PM JOSH LEE HAMILTON, 5PM DU EAST, 9PM SKY EATER
- SALTWATER SOCIAL CLUB, BYRON BAY, 9PM LOCAL DJS





Echo Property

Property Insider

propertyinsider@echo.net.au

Dining and supermarket operators sought for Aureus

Intrapac Property, the developer behind the Aureus beachfront neighbourhood at Skennars Head, is now seeking businesses to anchor the Aureus Village. The initial focus is on operators for the "local" food and beverage establishment (or tavern) overlooking the ocean, as well as for the supermarket or general store. The Aureus Village Masterplan will be tailored to the needs of these operators. Tenants for other specialty shops, services and commercial spaces will be secured after these operators are committed.

Aureus Village will meet existing demand from Skennars Head residents as well as cater to the continued growth in the area. 'Upon completion of Aureus there will be around 1,000 homes in Skennars Head – some 3,000 residents – with two schools and a long day care centre' outlined Max Shifman, Intrapac Property's Chief Operating Officer. '12,000 cars pass by each day and that figure is rising rapidly. Locals,and those coming through the area, want to eat, drink, shop, carry out appointments, relax and meet friends in beautiful surroundings.'

Village users will be able to watch children play in the beachfront parklands while taking in ocean views over Sharpes Beach. Designed as a destination for the broader community, the beachfront parklands cover over 4.6 hectares. 'There will be a multi-generation playground encompassing public art, shelters with picnic settings and barbecues, plenty of trees and seating including reclining lounges' said Darren Taitoko from Byron Bay-based



Linda and Matt Learmonth have purchased at Aureus after selling their Ewingsdale home.

Landsite Landscape Architects. 'A special favourite of mine is the open lawn area, which is over half a hectare. We would expect to see ball games, kite flying, picnics... it's really up to locals how they use it. The expansive nature of this space would also allow for community activity such as carols or night cinema. Open space gives so much, even when it is not actively in use'. Intrapac are working toward lodgement of the DA for stage one of the Village Centre in the first half of 2021. Stage one will see the delivery of the main hub, set around a car free village square with outdoor dining that spills out to the



Photo taken from the site of the new Aureus Village Centre.

parklands. Draft plans will be shared with the community prior to lodgement with Ballina Shire Council. Linda and Matt Learmonth sold their Ewingsdale home and have purchased in Stage 1B. 'We are looking forward to building our forever family home' said Linda. 'It's house build number three for us, but no more building after this one. We are so happy to be giving our boys the lifestyle of living across from the beach.' Only four home sites are currently available for sale at Aureus, priced from \$680,950 to \$775,950. New land is scheduled to be released for sale during the first quarter of 2021.

BYRON SHIRE REAL ESTATE

byronshirerealestate.com.au







12A Coolamon Avenue, Mullumbimby 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 By appointment Auction 23rd January on site

Todd Buckland 0408 966 421

1 Ocean Avenue, New Brighton

3 🛱 2 🖨 1 😂

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. Inspect By appointment Price \$1,380,000 to \$1,500,000 Todd Buckland 0408 966 421

Gary Brazenor 0423 777 237

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Ideal Country Retreat - Stunning Views

🛱 4 🚔 2 🚍 2 🗌 3229 M²

- 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: \$1.85m to \$1.975m
- Enquiries: Su Reynolds 02 6685 8466
 - Luke Elwin 0421 375 635



Sophisticated Designer Home in Beach-side Suffolk Park

월 3 🚔 2 📮 2

- Stunning contemporary beach house, finished to a first class standard
- Located only 200m to Tallow Beach with local shops just around the corner

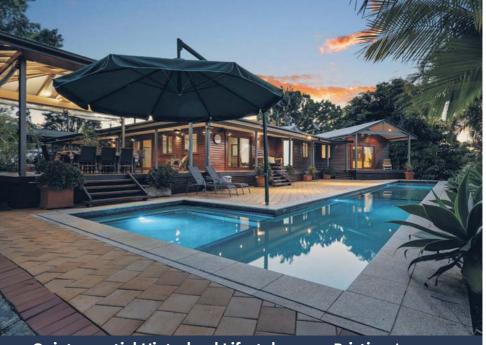


Modern Home with Magic Koral views

🛱 4 🚔 2 🖙 2 🗌 3.23 HA

- Garry Scotcher built home sits perfectly on 8 beautiful acres of gentle rolling land
- Versatile open plan design ensures an abundance of natural light
- Outdoor living areas are perfect for entertaining while soaking up the views
- 4 bedrooms all with built-ins and direct access to outdoor patios
- Local Clunes shops, Rosebank Primary School and natural attractions all closeby

Address:	514 Rosebank Road, Rosebank
Price:	Contact Agent
Enquiries:	Helen Huntly-Barratt 0412 332 232
	Lee Grimes 0400 462 312



Quintessential Hinterland Lifestyle on 54 Pristine Acres

🛱 3 🚔 3 🚍 4 🗌 22.04 HA

• 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

f 🙆 🕑

• 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
Price:	\$1.9m to \$2.05m
Enquiries:	Helene Adams 0412 139 807
	Vanessa Coles 0433 836 755

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	
Enquiries:	Paul Prior 0418 324 297	
	Oliver Aldridge 0421 171 499	
		SALES@BYRON WWW.BYRONBA

35 FLETCHER ST, BYRON BAY NSW 2481 PH: O2 6685 8466

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FIRST NATIONAL BYRON



Renovated Beachfront Apartment in Byron Bay

<u></u> **a** 1 ₿ 3

- 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

Address: 1/66 Lawson Street, Byron Bay

Price: \$2.575m

Su Reynolds 02 6685 8466 Enquiries:

Luke Elwin 0421 375 635



lacksquare

Idyllic Country Oasis Close to Coast

___2 **6** 4 3.2 HA

- 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

Address:	20 Lovegroves Lane, Uralba
Price:	\$1.695m - \$1.795m
Enquiries:	Su Reynolds 02 6685 8466
	Luke Elwin 0421 375 635





3 6 ₫ 4 715 M²

• This generous light filled family home offers a rare combination of breathtaking views and a coveted central location

- 🚍 2 🚔 1 ○ 80 ACRES • DA approval for a 10-lot rural land sharing community
- Private, serene property offering a newly renovated, single storey, family home

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

Address:	54 Paterson Street, Byron Bay
Price:	Contact Agent
Enquiries:	Helen Huntly-Barratt 0412 332 232
35 FLETCH	HER ST, BYRON BAY NSW 2481

PH: O2 6685 8466

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- Approximately 1.83 kms of creek frontage with private swimming holes
- Vaulted high ceilings with exposed trusses and wood fireplace
- Great rural views across over the Channon Valley

2

- In-ground salt water swimming pool with covered BBQ gazebo
- Close to Rocky Creek Dam, Protestor Falls and Minyon Falls

Address:	336 The Channon Road, The Channon
Price:	Forthcoming Auction
Enquiries:	Paul Prior 0418 324 297
	Lee Grimes 0400 462 312

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Ellen Meir PROPERTY MANAGER

Corinne Tickle CLIENT CARE / ADMINISTRATION

Claudette Martin FINANCIAL CONTROLLER Tammy Prior SALES ADMINISTRATION

Samantha Denyer SALES ADMINISTRATION

Charlie Moorhouse CLIENT CARE / ADMINISTRATION



From the First National Byron family to yours, we wish everyone a safe, healthy and successful 2021!

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Property



Katrina Beohmereal estate

coastal & hinterland sales



BYRON BAY 6 Grevillea Street Contact Agent + Large industrial block plus sheds, shops & a unit + Caretaker unit plus plans for additional warehouse + 1463sqm of existing buildings including 3 shops

+ Ewingsdale Road exposure. Easy motorway access

2 2 2 21 3110m² + Prime location. Move your business straight in

Katrina Beohm 0467 001 122 or Christopher Plim 0467 000 222



BROKEN HEAD 135 Broken Head Reserve Road \$2.5M 3 3 2 666m² + Quality master-built modern beach house

- + Quality master-built modern beach house + Designed to take in light and cooling breezes
- + High raked ceilings, 3 large open living spaces
- + Walk to Broken Head beach.10 mins to Byron Bay
- + Outdoor hot/cold showers. Agent declares interest

Katrina Beohm 0467 001 122 or Christopher Plim 0467 000 222







From the very first meeting, we knew Katrina would be all things we wanted in an agent. Professional, knowledgeable, tactful and with the ability to read the mood of the selling experience between sellers and buyers. Staff were courteous and respectful. We would definitely recommend her Agency.

0459 066 087

8 PORTER STREET BYRON BAY

kbrealestate.com.au





VIGILANT SINCE 1986

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Raine&Horne Ocean Shores / Brunswick Heads / Murwillumbah



12 Miram Place, Ocean Shores **QUIET, CONTEMPORARY BEACHSIDE HAVEN**

⇒2 (∓⇒2

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
- Beautifully appointed kitchen with plenty of benchtop space & breakfast bar
- Separate spacious lounge room
- Polished floorboards throughout the living areas

View **Private Inspection** Price Just Listed



Wishing you a safe, festive & **Merry Christmas** from our family to yours.

The team at Raine & Horne Ocean Shores Brunswick Heads / Murwillumbah would like to thank you for your on going support and we look forward to helping you achieve your propertydreams in 2021.

> **Christmas Office Hours:** Closed from 2pm 24th December till 9am 4th January 2021. /



4/19-21 Centennial Circuit, Byron Bay **BYRON INDUSTRIAL ESTATE UNIT 118SQM**

E 2

This commercial unit is set in the hustle and bustle of the eclectic Buron Industrial Estate close to restaurants, gyms and the IGA shopping centre. A short bike ride to Elements, Habitat and North Belongil Beach means this commercial space can still allow you some much needed R&R.

The 34 sqm mezzanine level is equipped with a full kitchen and plenty of space for office furniture. The 84 sqm ground floor with high roller door allows for easy access and has an accessible bathroom with shower. The aspect looking out the roller doors across the carpark is to a reserve which gives you some never to be built out green space.



Tintenbar – Address on Request PRESTIGE HAS AN ADDRESS...

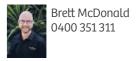
And it's Killen Falls Road, off Friday Hut Road, in between the coveted locales of Tintenbar and Brooklet. Here's a rare chance to acquire one of the best and most tightly held addresses in the Northern Rivers. A beautiful, cleared, 5 acre property with a ranch-style homestead awaits, ready for a makeover.

View **Private Inspection** Price Contact Agent



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.

View **Private Inspection** Price Guide \$1,250,000-\$1,350,000

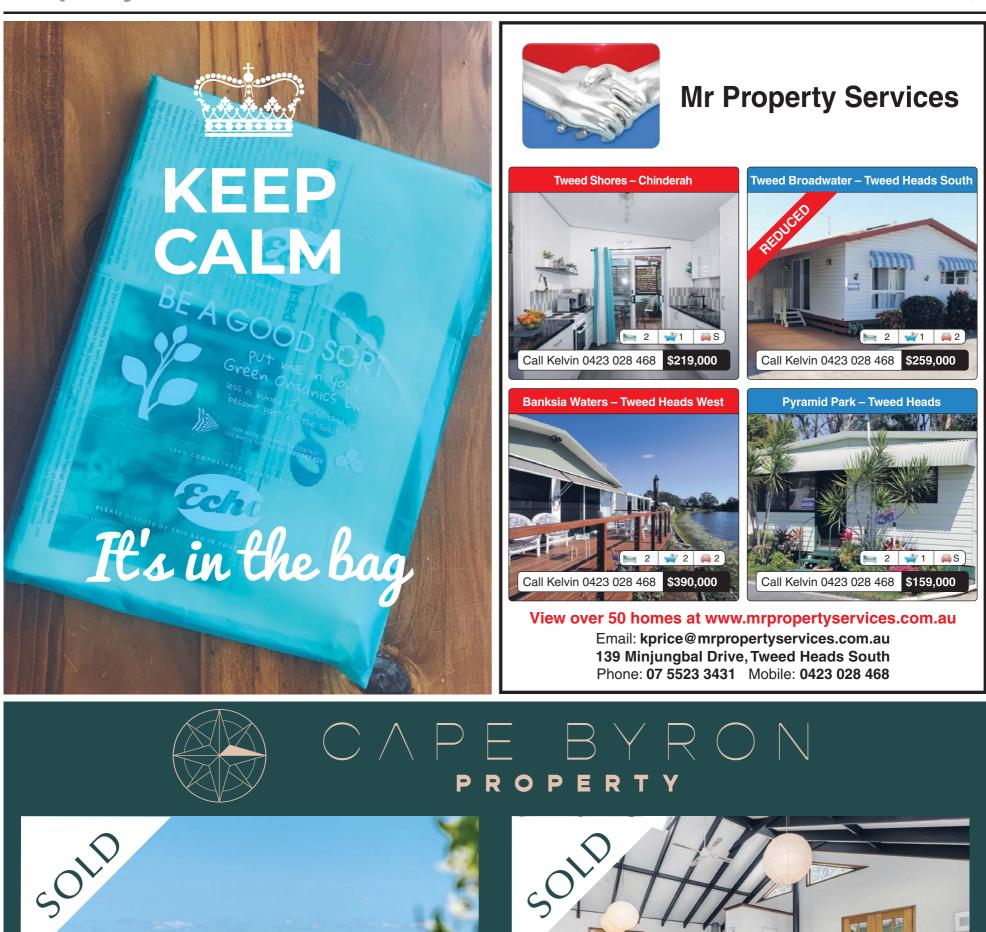


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Property



16 James View Ct, Coorabell

- On the market just 23 days
- 165 Phone inquiries
- 224 Email inquiries
- 78 Inspections
- Premium sales result achieved

Thinking of selling your hinterland property in the new year? We are working with current qualified buyers urgently looking to purchase in the Byron Shire hinterland.

6 Orara Court, Byron Bay

- On the market just 20 days
- 58 Phone inquiries
- 72 Email inquiries
- 32 Inspections
- Premium sales result achieved

It is our mission to exceed clients' expectations and deliver outstanding results with each opportunity. Contact Bryce today to discuss your property.



bryce@capebyronproperty.com www.capebyronproperty.com @

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Property



LJ Hooker

Brunswick Heads



The Team at LJ Hooker Brunswick Heads wish you all a happy and festive season.



@ljhookerbrunswickheads 0



17 Tweed Street, Brunswick Heads

OPPORTUNITIES ARE ENDLESS

Eastside Brunswick Heads. Corner location with main road frontage and side lane access; the ideal position for future development.

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 pushu, 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

ljhooker.com.au 6685 0177 Residential Commercial Rural Finance

Open for inspection



There are no 'Open for inspections' this week.

Please contact the listing agents directly to arrange a viewing





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

5 🛌 4 😓 4 🚝

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 inquiries, please contact Zoë: 0412 840 864

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Property Business Directory

AGENTS



Tara was a delight to work with. She is great with communicating in a timely fashion and managed to sell our property for the price we wanted very quickly. We highly recommend working with her. **VENDOR - OCEAN SHORES**

TARA TORKKOLA ALES MANAGER / SALE

0423 519 698 | TARA@BYRONBAYFN.COM Contact Tara to discuss your property or career at First National Byron FIRST NATIONAL BYRON WWW.BYRONBAYFN.COM.AU

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"Vicki was easy to deal with from start to finish. Incredibly helpful, candid and made the whole process transparent. She is a really great communicator and relationship builder. Every agent should be like this!"

– Sebastian (Buyer)

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Leah Ashenhurst Real Estate

I've sold a few houses over the years and can honestly say, this has been my most positive, enjoyable and professional experience. No other agent has attended to every detail of a sale like Leah." Lindsey - Happy Seller in Ocean Shores

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'We wholeheartedly recommend Bryce to anyone considering selling or buying a property' N & K Pollock

Contact Bryce Cameron 0412 057 672

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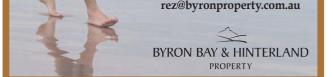
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Byron Bay QUALITY PROPERTY ADVICE 02 6680 8522

Please note our office will be closed from 1pm on Friday 18 December 2020 and will reopen at 9.00 am on Monday 4 January 2021







SERVICE DIRECTORY RATES, PAYMENT & DEADLINE

DEADLINE: For additions and changes to the Service Directory is **12pm Friday.** LINE ADS: \$99 for 3 months or \$340 for 1 year prepaid.

For line Service Directory ads email classifieds@echo.net.au

DISPLAY ADS: \$68 per week for colour display ad. Minimum 8 week booking 4 weeks prepaid. Please supply display ads 85mm wide, 28mm high. New display ads will be placed at end of section. For display Service Directory ads email adcopy@echo.net.au.

The Echo Service Directory is online in Echonetdaily – www.echo.net.au/service-directory

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 DEPT OF FAIR TRADING: A licence is required for all residential building work where the reason able market cost of the work to be done (labour and materials) exceeds \$5000 (including GST).











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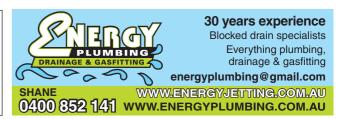
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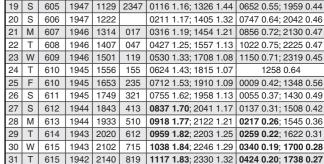
16	W	0542	1940	0651	2122	1034 1.90; 2240 1.16	0328 0.12; 1706 0.23
17	Т	0543	1940	0754	2216	1120 1.85; 2328 1.11	0413 0.18; 1756 0.27
18	F	0543	1941	0857	2303	1206 1.77	0458 0.27; 1845 0.32
19	S	0544	1941	0959	2343	0017 1.07; 1250 1.66	0545 0.37; 1931 0.37
20	S	0544	1942	1057		0110 1.05; 1333 1.55	0635 0.47; 2018 0.41
21	Μ	0544	1943	1153	0018	0210 1.05; 1419 1.44	0732 0.56; 2107 0.43
22	Т	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	Т	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
28	Μ	0548	1946	1808	0400	0818 1.62; 2015 1.15	0123 0.28; 1446 0.45
29	Т	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
31	Т	0550	1946	2052	0625	1015 1.76; 2215 1.15	0311 0.23 ; 1644 0.35

15 T 0542 1939 0552 2020 0946 1.91; 2151 1.21 0244 0.09; 1614 0.22

Times are Eastern Standard Daylight Savings Time Time Iags: Ballina Boat Dock: 15 min; Byron Bay: nil; Brunswick River Hwy Bridge: high 30 min, low 1 hr; Mullumbiny: 1 hr 10 min; Billinudgel: 3 hr 55 min;

Mullumbindrindring in the Dispersion of the Mullumbine in the Mull





15 T 602 1948 740 2136 1101 1.84; 2308 1.20 0400 0.21; 1730 0.28

17 T 604 1947 940 2247 1216 1.66 0523 0.35; 1845 0.37

18 F 604 1947 1036 2318 0031 1.17; 1250 1.55 0605 0.44; 1920 0.40

1947 842 2214 **1141 1.76**; 2349 1.18 **0442 0.27**; 1808 0.3

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;

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-NBC Newton Denny Chapelle SURVEYORS PLANNERS ENGINEER

Newton Denny Chapelle (NDC) has been engaged by Tareeda Group to prepare a development application for the temporary and occasional use of 36 Keys Road, Coorabell (Rockinghorse Studio) for the purpose of a Rural Function Centre (primarily weddings).

For applications of this kind, Byron Shire Council requires the applicant to consult with the local community as part of

DEADLINE TUES 12PM

Publication day is Wednesday, booking deadlines are the day before publication.

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Wilsons Creek Community Preschool would like to inform the community of

Kay Cusack's retirement.

Kay has been an Early Childhood Educator at Wilsons Creek for almost 30 years. She has been a trusted colleague and a valued team member. Her wealth of knowledge and experience will be dearly missed in our community preschool. Kay has touched the lives of many families and we are all grateful for the work she has done.

There are many people in our local community who would like to wish Kay good luck and all the best in her future endeavours. Thank you Kay for all the years of dedication and commitment and may the next part of your life be filled with health and happiness.





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the preparation of the application.

In summary, a development consent notice will be sought for the temporary use of the land for the purpose of a Rural Function Centre for up to 20 events in any 12-month period. Up to 150 guests will be permitted at each function, with not more than one event on any given weekend.

The application is being lodged pursuant to Clause 6.11 of the Byron Local Environmental Plan 2014 and is seeking approval to operate for a three-year period.

NDC are seeking community comments which may be of relevance to the development application. Points raised during the consultation process will be addressed within the development application to be lodged with Byron Shire Council.

Should you be interested in the proposal, please email planning@ndc.com.au in order to receive further information on the project.

Please send your comments to NDC by **30 January 2021** by emailing planning@ndc.com.au or posting to PO Box 1138 Lismore NSW 2480.



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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 0475 135 764 Each WED 3-7pm Newrybar Hall Each THU 8-11am Myron 6687 1137 Each THU 8-11am Myron 6687 1137 Each THU 8-11am Mullum 6677 1345 Each THU 8-11am Mullum 6677 1345 6687 1137 Each SAT 8-11am Bangalow Each SAT 8-11am Bangalow 6679 5530 Each SAT 8-30-11am Lismore 0466 415 172 Each SAT 8.30-12am Blue Knob 5-30 5-30 5-30 5-30

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All the folk and furries at Pets for Life wish you lots of happy get

togethers, health and happiness at this special time of the year. Take a tip from these furries. When it comes to enjoying themselves they can teach us a thing or two... and remember, after the festivities there will be plenty of cats and kittens waiting for a new home in 2021.

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Community at Work

cchn

Regular As Clockwork

DEADLINE NOON FRIDAY

Please note that, owing to space restrictions, not all entries may be included each week. Email copy marked 'Regular As Clockwork' to editor@echo.net.au.

Neighbourhood Centre

Mullumbimby & District Neighbourhood Centre is open Monday-Thursday 9am-4pm and offers a range of services and activities. Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy art, music, games, great food and more. Call reception on 6684 1286 and discover what is on offer

Mullumbimby District Neighbourhood Centre

MDNC services that are running include:

Community support/emergency relief: Food parcels, meals, assistance with electricity and Telstra bills. Listening Space: free counselling Staying Home, Leaving Violence program.

Integrated Domestic & Family Violence program.

Financial Counselling: outreach available Thursdays & Fridays Financial Counselling: free service funded by the government, offering advocacy & assistance to find options to address debts.

Information, referral and advocacy. To enquire about accessing any of these services call 6684 1286 or fill out an online enquiry form.

Byron Community Centre

Homeless Breakfast: 7:30-9am Wednesday. Homeless Showers: Monday and Wednesday 10am-12pm (book in at breakfasts). Women's Support and Counselling: Friday 1–3pm, Community Cabin Carlyle St. Free Phone Counselling: Call 0415 322 064 10am-2pm. Seniors Computer Club: Friday 9am-11am, Community Cabin Carlyle St. Seniors drumming, yoga, ukulele, art and drama: 66856807 for booking and time details. Volunteer Hub referral service: Call 66856807. Byron Community Pantry: free food box delivery to locals who are financially or physically unable to shop. Call/text your order to 0482 787 552. For more info call 66856807 or visit www.byroncentre.com.au

Respite Service

Byron Shire Respite Service Inc delivers high-quality respite care to a broad range of clients throughout the Byron, Ballina and Lismore shires. Donations welcome: Ph 6685 1921, email fundraiser@byronrespite.com.au, website: www.byronrespite.com.au.

Alateen meeting

Alateen meeting every Thursday at 5–6pm. Do vou have a parent, close friend or relative with a drinking problem? Alateen can help. For 8–16-year-olds meet St Cuthbert's Anglican Church Hall, 13 Powell Street, corner of Florence Street Tweed Heads. Al-Anon family groups for older members at the same time and place. 1300 ALANON 1300 252 666 www.

meetings call1300 652 820 or text your postcode to 0488 811 247. www. na.org.au. Are you concerned about somebody else's drinking? Al-Anon Family Groups meeting held Fridays 2pm. Uniting Church Bangalow – 1300 252 666 www.al-anon.org.au.

Support after suicide

StandBy provides support to people who have lost someone to suicide. They provide free face-to-face and telephone support and are accessible 24/7. Follow-up contact is available for up to one year. Find out more at: www. standbysupport.com.au or call 13 11 14. If you, or someone you are with, are in need of immediate support please call an ambulance or police on 000.

Breast cancer support

The Breast Cancer Support Group Byron Bay gets together every third Wednesday of the month from 12 till 2pm at Byron Uniting Church in Carlyle Street, entering Carlyle Street from Jonson Street opposite Woolworths.. More info on Facebook: Breast Cancer Support Group Byron Bay, or call 0431 207 453.

Feel Good Friday

A free weekly group for women to access support and relax. Feel Good Fridays happen every Friday from 1 till 3pm at the Byron Community Cabin on Carlyle Street (behind the tennis courts in the recreational grounds). Just drop-in, no bookings or commitment necessary. For any further information and any questions just let me know by calling the Byron Community Centre on 6685 6807.

Library fun

Baby Bounce session Mullumbimby - Tuesday 11.30am, Brunswick Heads - Friday 10.30am, Byron Bay - Wednesday 10am. Storytime for toddlers and pre-school children Mullumbimby - Momday, 10am, Brunswick Heads - Monday 10.30am, Byron Bay - Tuesday 10.30am

Free exercise group

Join Byron Bay's free exercise networking group. It is open for all business people. Meet at Clarkes Beach Park carpark every Friday morning at 7.30am to walk or run the lighthouse loop. For more information call Sharon on 0400 609 916

Contact Improvisation

Contact Improvisation Saturdays in Mullumbimby 10-12 noon at St Martin's, Church Hall, Stuart Street, Mullumbimby. All levels of dancers welcome. Enquiries 0402 059 564.

End-of-life choices

Voluntary euthanasia options are discussed at quarterly meetings at the Robina Community Centre. Attendees must be Exit members. More information on www.exitinternational. net or phone Catherine 0435 228 443.

seniors@byroncommuntycentre. com or call 6685 6807. South Golden Shores Community Centre every Monday at 10.30. Phone 0435 780 017. Bangalow Bowlo Sundays at 3pm. All welcome. Enquiries Margot 0412 394 932. Byron Bay Croquet at Croquet Club next to the Scout Hall at the Byron Rec Grounds every Monday at 3.30pm. Ring 0477 972 535. Pottsville Fun Croquet Club at Black Rocks Sportfield. Beginners and visitors welcome. Game starts 9.30am Tuesday and 2pm Thursday. \$5 per game. Enquiries 0413 335 941.

Rainbow Dragons

Rainbow Dragons Abreast (RDA) welcomes breast cancer survivors for a paddle at Lake Ainsworth, Lennox Head, on Sundays 7.30 for 8am start. Info Marian 6688 4058, mazzerati2010@gmail.com.

Language exchange

Byron language exchange club runs every 2nd Friday from 6pm at Club Byron (Bowlo). Practise other languages or help someone with your English! Find us on Facebook. Contact byronbaylanguages@gmail.com.

Museums

Brunswick Valley Historical Society Inc Museum corner of Myocum and Stuart Sts Mullumbimby, open Tuesdays and Fridays 10-12 and market Saturdays 9-1. Discover your local history, join our team - 6684 4367. Bangalow Heritage House Museum & Cafe is open Wednesday to Friday 10am till 3pm. Enjoy home style cooking, fresh baked scones and more. Monthly meeting 1st Monday of each month at Heritage House Bangalow 6687 2183

Toastmasters

Byron Cavanbah Toastmasters meetings coaching in communication and self-development run on 1st and 3rd Mondays, 6.40pm at Byron Services Club, Byron Bay; www. byronbaytoastmasters.org. Mullum Magic Toastmasters meet every 2nd, 4th and 5th Monday Presbyterian Church Hall, 101 Stuart Street Mullumbimby 7–9 pm. Contact Shona 0457356567 or Bronte 0451567996.

Seniors computer club

Byron Shire seniors computer club invites interested seniors to come to learn how to use your photos creatively. Meets at Ocean Shores Community Centre, Wednesdays 1–3pm during school terms. For more information phone Lynne on 0428 665 948

French Conversation

Alliance Française – French Conversation in Lismore. Café Conversation every Thursday at Miss Lizzie's, Woodlark St, Lismore, 5–6pm. Come and speak French. For more info: afnorthcoast.org.au.

U3A discussion group

U3A audiovisual small discussion group. Thursday 10am-12pm. Further info Beverly 0474 943 601.

Time to sing

Come sing inspiring songs and make new friends, Sundays, 10am at South Golden Beach Community Hall. Call Linda: 0415 412 514.

 gem setting and jewellery making etc. Facebook @ Byron Gem Club. Club work shed located past Sky Dive Byron at Tyagarah Airfield. Contact 6687 1251 or 0427 529 967 for more info.

Craft group

The Uniting Craft & Social Group meets every Monday 9.30am–2.30pm at the Uniting Church in Carlyle Street, Byron Bay. Bring lunch and whatever else you need. All welcome. Do you prefer patchwork and quilting? Come along on Monday evening same place at 6pm. Enquiries Tilly 6685 5985.

Volunteer Hub

The Byron Community Centre Volunteer Hub is open weekdays at the Byron Community Centre. If you would like to volunteer in the local area fill out a volunteer application form on our website www.byroncentre.com.au or, contact us by phone 66856807 or email volunteers@byroncentre.com.au

CWA Bangalow

Interested women are welcome Wednesdays and Thursdays 9am-1pm and the second Monday evening of each month 5–7pm in the Bangalow CWA rooms for craft and friendship. Rooms are open daily Monday-Saturday 9am-noon.

#StartupByron

#StartupByron Un-Networking meets the first Thursday of every month, focused on connecting anyone interested in startups or small biz. See startinno.com/events/2015/5/7/ startupbyron-un-networking.

Toy Library

The Byron Shire Toy Library is open Mondays and Thursdays 9am-12 noon, at the Children's Centre, Coogera Cct, Suffolk Park. Come and see the large range of preschoolers toys available for loan

Up your skills

Come to Upskill in Mullumbimby, a free introductory building and carpentry workshop. Workshops are held every Friday, 10am to 1pm at Shedding Community Workshop. Bookings Essential. Contact Sophie Wilksch via email at shedding. communityworkshop@gmail.com.

Friday Muslim prayer. Jumu'ah service

held weekly at the Cavanbah Centre at

Muslim prayer

12:30 pm. Come to the remembrance of Allah.

Byron FLEA

Byron FLEA at the YAC (1 Gilmore Crescent) 2nd Saturday of every month from 8am till 1pm. Free stalls for young people. Call Berri 0490 026 840.

Baby café

Bubbamummas baby café drop in mornings, Thursdays from 9.30am at New Space, Shop 2 next door to Target 86 Rajah Road Ocean Shores. Morning tea, discussions, guest speakers. Ocean Shores Community Association (OSCA). Details 0431 477 445.

Seniors fun Fridays

Fun Fridays for seniors (60+) at Marvell Hall, Marvell Street East, Byron Bay. Mahjong and 500 at 1.30pm. Enquiries: Nancy 0498 480 373

Byron Gnostic Society

On The Horizon

DEADLINE NOON FRIDAY

Email copy marked 'On The Horizon' to editor@echo.net.au.

Crabbes Creek NYE

The Crabbes Creek New Year Eve party will not go ahead in 2020 owing to COVID public health restrictions.

Mullumbimby Food Box

Food Box will close on the 17 December and reopen on the 21 January

BB Cancer Support

The Byron Bay General Cancer Support Group welcomes new participants. Contact Ken 0411 233 755 kenconnell46@gmail.com or David on 0428 187 025 david@davidyoung.com.au

The Hub Baptist Church

The Community Space will be closed from 23 December until 13 January.

activeandhealthy.nsw.gov.au **BeHealthy Online** Join BeHealthy Online: A short free online course developed by NSW Health. Gain confidence using video conferencing programs (eg Zoom), finding reliable health information and exercise programs online, and accessing telehealth services. Contact

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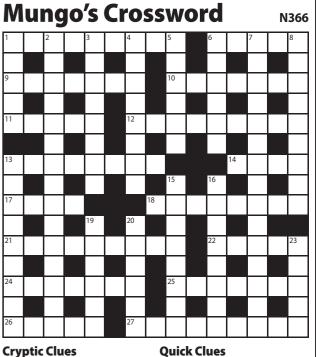
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ACROSS

1. Mineral such as yttrium and

12. Dilute, make less potent (5,4)

18. Demand, will not take no for an

9. Competitor in an endurance event (7)

ytterbium (4,5)

6. Shame, chastise (5)

11. Loathes, detests (5)

14. Russian river (4)

answer (6,2)

22. Loop of rope (5)

24. Praise, extol (7)

26. Velocity (5)

DOWN

25. Vaulting overtopping (7)

2. Normal measure of heat in a

3. Entangled, caught in a web (8)

27. Rider in a vehicle (9)

1. German state (5)

residence (4,11)

6. Reddish brown (6)

4. Celebrated, famous (8)

5. Queen of the witches (6)

17. Not odd (4)

21. Toy (9)

13. Moderated, refined (8)

10. Nightclub (7)

Cryptic Clues ACROSS

- 1. Unusual dicky heart lanthanide, perhaps (4,5)
- 6. A rough party shame! (5)
- 9. Athlete with stamina Female? (7)
- 10. Whip around nude floor show (7)
- 11. Dislikes place a hot return (5)
- 12. Dilute mixture new to ward (5,4)
- 13. Hardened mood with top
 - journalist (8) 14. Perform differently - return to Russian river (4)
- 17. Plain, yet... (4)
- 18.... brook no refusal tumble into
- sins (6,2)

22. Sniff around, circle rope (5)

24. Praise article in grown-up English

25. Vaulting - cunning in Greece (7)

26. Amphetamines - son piddled (5)

1. English invade wealthy German

2. Marsupial, adult, covers state of

emotion – a comfortable thermal

27. Paying traveller erases GNP

21. Night toy? (9)

blunder (9)

state (5)

ambience! (4,11)

(7)

DOWN

ACA

al-anon.org.au

Adult Children of Alcoholic Parents and/or Dysfunctional Families (ACA) help & recovery group meets in East Lismore every Friday 10-11.30am corner 215 Dibbs St and Wyrallah Rd in small Quakers hut next to Community Hall.

Drug support groups

Call Alcoholics Anonymous 1800 423 431 or 0401 945 671 – 30 meetings a week in the Shire - www.aa.org.au. Are you experiencing difficulties and challenges because of the alcohol or drug use of someone close to you? Learn coping skills and gain support from others. Narcotics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women for whom drugs had become a major problem. We are recovering addicts who meet regularly to help each other stay clean. For information and

Carers' support

Mullumbimby Mental Health Carers' Support Group for family members and friends who have a loved one with a mental health issue. Meeting on 4th Thursday of each month 9.30am at the Mullumbimby Neighbourhood Centre. Info: Leanne 0409 818 643.

Social sporting groups

Mullumbimby: Tuesday Ladies Group of Riverside Tennis Club welcomes new players 9.30am every Tuesday next to Heritage Park, for social tennis, fun and friendship. Info: Barbara 6684 8058. Tuesdays: 10.30am. Byron: Drumming with Gareth Jones at Byron Theatre; Chair Yoga with Pippy Wardell 12 till 1pm. Wednesdays: Choir with Kim Banffy, 10-11am; Ukulele 11.30-12.15. Suggested donation of \$10. No bookings needed, information

Quota Club

Quota Club of Brunswick Valley meets every 1st Thursday of the month at the Ocean Shores Country Club at 6pm. Ph 0439 733 763 for more info.

Lions Club

Interested in making new friends and helping our community? Lions Club of Brunswick Mullumbimby meets 1st & 3rd Tuesdays at 7pm Ocean Shores Country Club. Info: Joan Towers 0400 484 419.

Byron Gem Club

The Bryon Gem and Lapidary Club is open weekly to members new and old. Visitors welcome to view club facilities. Activities - semi-precious and gemstone cutting, shaping and polishing - gem faceting - silver work

Gnosis introductory courses in the Gnostic mysteries are on 7pm Fridays. and 1pm Tuesdays at 37 Cowper Street, Byron Bay. Entry by donation. Everyone Welcome. For more information call 0412 020 234.

Free exercise group

Join Byron Bay's free exercise networking group. It is open for all business people. Meet at Clarkes Beach Park car park every Friday morning at 7.30am to walk or run the lighthouse loop. More information call Sharon on 0400 609 916.

Free ESL

Free English as a Second Language classes suitable for beginners to advanced learners. Brunsick Heads 6672 0834 or Kingscliff 6674 7267.

Measure essential moment and discard – in a bit of a tangle! (8)

- 4. Celebrated present, new in grass (8)
- 5. Male with Blanchett a witch queen! (6)
- 6. Orange gold by creek (6)
- 7. Ironic Indian got adjusted and adjustment for 3! (3,12)
- 8. Popular success, and score! But it's actually a crime (3,3,3) 13. Clumsily, she paints actors! (9) 15. A horse, and sheep - like 12, 18 and 27, among others (8) 16. Salt in long summit? (8) 19. Abandon beach (6)
- 20. Eastern edge a major traffic accident! (4,2)
- 23. Avid queen, over time (5)

7. Machinery to keep 2 comfortable (3,12) Deliberately leave a road accident (3.3.3) 13. Actors (9)

15. Word play using the same letters differently (8)

16. Peak, summit (8)

19. Beach, seashore (6)

20. Serious collision, often multiple (4,2)

23. Keen, avid (5)

Last week's solution N365



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Wishing everyone a COVID-19 free Christmas, and in particular, Sydney peeps, as they face restrictions. Thankfully, the PM is on holidays again, and Potato Dutton's incompetent Border Force department are too busy torturing vulnerable asylum seekers to bungle the job of keeping Australia safe from infected flight attendants.

Hard border checkpoints have been reinstated with QLD, and it appears a lucky dip as to whether your pass application will be assessed in a few hours, or as the webiste says, 'up to three days'.

ICYMI, closing date for submissions for Council's Main Beach Shoreline Project has been extended to December 23. There are seven options to comment on, which could result in more, or less, beach.

NSW Police and Emergency Services Minister David Elliott (Liberal) was in town on Thursday for the opening of the Brunswick Marine **Rescue Training and Meeting** Centre – see page 9. Just a reminder; Mr Elliott supports strip searches of minors, and delights in hardline drug policies. Despite decriminalisation success stories in other countries, Australia lags when it comes to an open and honest discussion of drug addiction and use.

Those looking to solve the Murdoch problem can support Australian-owned independent journalism. Michael West and his team (www.michaelwest.com.au) are worthy of such support. According to NSW Labor MP Helen Dalton's tweet last week, Mr West was refused



Mungo MacCallum's partner Jenny Garrett and family say they, 'really and sincerely wish to thank our community for the outpouring of love, support and sympathy both during Mungo's long illness and eventual peaceful death, at home with family and beloved dogs, on December 9. This of course includes Vicky, Drs Susan and Hilda, The Echo, BARCO, Mike, Simon, Lex, the Enchanted Woods Nursery and all at Craig Watson Pharmacy for understanding and extra effort on many fronts'. Pictured is Kerry O'Brien speaking at Mungo's funeral at the Ocean Shores Country Club last Tuesday. Photo Jeff Dawson

access to NSW Premier Gladys Berejiklian's media conference. Ms Dalton asked Ms Berejiklian why, and the reply was that 'media arrangements are determined by my media director'. So much for a free press, huh Gladbags?

.... Donating \$4.1m to the Liberal Party gets great returns! Billionaire and Trump supporter Anthony Pratt's largesse to the party may, or may not, have contributed to his business being gifted \$10m from the bushfire recovery fund.

Apart from the normal shenanigans by Reflections Holiday Parks (see pages 6 and 7), management are also trying to regulate public gatherings in Torikina Reserve, Brunswick Heads. A sign reads that licence must be obtained from them for 'any event' and, if not, it will be 'shut down'.



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