

Echo

DOUBLE BLIND RANDOMISED PLACEBO CONTROLLED TRIAL SINCE 1986

The Byron Shire Echo • Volume 36 #10 • August 18, 2021 • www.echo.net.au

Byron locks the surf down



Ironically, they may have to put up a 'Locals Only' sign at The Pass after increased traffic at the popular surf spot last Sunday. Meanwhile, two surfers were fined at Lennox over the weekend for being outside their Local Government Area (LGA). Photo Jeff 'Yokel Since 1986' Dawson

Health authorities say they are prepared

As the Delta variant moves the goalposts globally, local health authorities say they are confident they are prepared for any case surge.

Yet when asked how many ventilators are on hand in the region, a Northern NSW Local Health District spokesperson said they did not have that information.

Acting Chief Executive, Lynne Weir, told *The Echo* her department has a 'detailed escalation and surge plan for COVID-positive patients within our district'.

Ms Weir says, 'In NSW, we have a large, highly-integrated, networked health system with sufficient surge capacity to ensure all patients who require intensive care will receive it'.

'In our District, there are more

than 20 intensive care (IC) beds spread across our three major hospitals in Grafton, Lismore and Tweed, with plans in place to surge staffing and intensive care capacity, if and when required, across all our health facilities. Throughout the early stages of the pandemic, we sourced additional equipment, including ventilators, in the event it's required for any surge in intensive care patients that may occur in our region.

'From the outset of the COVID-19 pandemic, Northern NSW Local Health District has been actively increasing its staffing and upskilling its workforce in readiness to care for COVID-19 patients in our region.

'An additional 62 nurses were recruited across the District,

including Assistants in Nursing, Enrolled Nurses and Registered Nurses.

'Additional training programs were developed for nurses, midwives, and allied health staff, with more than 265 staff attending surge training in Intensive Care, Emergency and Immunisation specialties to provide additional capacity to care for patients.

'In June this year, an additional staffing allocation of 3.7FTE was added to the Lismore Base Hospital Intensive Care Unit, which is currently being recruited to.

'We regularly review our stocks and supply chains of resources, including PPE and pharmacy items, to ensure adequate supplies'.

Unclear messaging over vax rollout

Mia Armitage

'[That] data would be handy,' said Pharmacy Guild of Australia NSW Branch President David Heffernan, when asked on Monday how many pharmacies in the Northern Rivers had AstraZeneca vaccines available.

While the NSW government says COVID-19 cases will continue throughout September and October, the calls for people to 'get vaccinated' are increasing.

Yet the basics, such as who can get what vaccination, when, where and how in the Northern Rivers, were still unclear, with various peak bodies, government agencies and local providers offering varied and constantly changing advice to *The Echo*.

Checking the 'find a pharmacy' website, which offers links to getting vaccinated, wasn't much help either, as Mr Heffernan readily agreed.

There were zero outlets showing up for COVID-19 vaccine availability in the Byron Shire on Monday.

And it's unclear how many Pfizer vaccines have been allocated to the Northern Rivers, or how many have been administered.

'Only statewide vaccination numbers are provided', said a NSW Health spokesperson, when *The Echo* asked the question on Friday.

That's statewide numbers on AstraZeneca and Pfizer combined too; State authorities were yet to provide a breakdown between the two vaccines when *The Echo* went to press this week.

The Northern NSW Local Health District have three dedicated COVID-19 vaccination clinics listed:

one in Grafton; one in Lismore at the Lismore Square Shopping Centre; and another at the Tweed Mall in Tweed Heads.

Meanwhile, Healthy North Coast is responsible for a significant portion of the Northern Rivers COVID-19 vaccine roll-out, with Wellness Executive Director, Monica Wheeler, describing the group as a non-government organisation, receiving funding from the federal government to manage the distribution of vaccines to GPs and other federally resourced health services, including aged care facilities.

The federal government has also set up two vaccine clinics on the Northern Rivers, Ms Wheeler said, one in Murwillumbah and the other in Grafton.

As of going to press, here are some of the developments around the current lockdown, which is expected to end on Saturday:

■ Police have increased their mask wearing compliance presence in Mullumbimby.

■ Health authorities reported no cases in the Northern Rivers on Tuesday, despite COVID-19 traces in the Ballina and Lennox STPs.

■ A new Lennox Head testing clinic opened at the QML Pathology drive through clinic, Epiq Sporting Field, Hutley Street. It's open daily from 9am-2pm.

■ The Qld government said on Monday that essential workers needing to cross the border would have to have had at least one COVID-19 vaccine dose, with the new rules coming into effect from this Friday.

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Art in times of solitude

Entries are open for the 2021 Ocean Shores Art Expo online event and in-person exhibition, to be held at the Ocean Shores Country Club on October 9 and 10. Categories include watercolour and gouache, printmaking, drawing and pastels, oil and acrylic, mixed media, sculpture/3D art, photography and digital art. Prize money is \$1,000 for the Vale Award, and \$500 for first, and \$200 for second prize in each category. Registrations close September 1. Visit www.osartexpo.com for more info. Pictured is Roslyn Oakes in her Murwillumbah gallery/studio, with her entry, *Lilly Pad Dancer*. Photo Jeff 'Yarts' Dawson

Farmers markets to go ahead, with changes

Market managers of the Bangalow and Byron Farmers Market say both markets will be proceeding with a 'no mask, no entry' policy.

Kylie McGregor from Byron Farmers Market told *The Echo*, 'We will also have security guards in place to monitor both mask compliance and check-in procedures (we will have both QR code and manual check-in available).'

'We are also asking, in line with NSW Health lockdown regulations, that only one person per household attend. On top of that, we will have COVID-19 marshalls patrolling throughout the market to ensure people are social distancing.

'There will be no seating provided at the markets and all food will be sold only as takeaway. Both markets will be cordoned off so that there are only two entry/exit

points so the above can be facilitated.

'We understand that there may be some people in our community who may not be willing to comply with these safety measures. We are asking them to please respect that these measures are to ensure we abide by NSW Health regulations and keep our farmers' markets open.

'Ultimately, these measures are in place so we can provide a safe shopping environment for our customers, stallholders and the community as a whole.

'For those not willing to abide by these regulations, we kindly ask them to not attend the market.'

The Byron Farmers Market is held Thursday mornings at the Cavanbah Centre, while the Bangalow Farmers Market is held Saturday mornings behind the pub.



Would you like an alternative to talking therapies for your child or adolescent?

Kitty Saleh is a social worker and therapist who specialises in using drama and play therapy techniques with children and teens to facilitate change, healing, strength and resilience.

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For more information or to book a session go to www.playingforreal.com.au.

Environmental impact assessment needed for increased STP flow

Aslan Shand

Management of the Byron Bay Sewage Treatment Plant and its impacts upon the Belongil Estuary was thrashed out at Council's August 5 meeting, with councillors deciding to undertake 'a review of the current Opening Strategy for the Belongil ICOLL to determine whether it is impacting adversely on upstream lands within the Drainage Union catchment and/or flooding issues within the Byron Bay township.'

Waste water volumes from the STP are estimated to be up to five megalitres a day, and have been an issue for more than ten years. They have led to fish kills, Melaleuca tree dieback, erosion of the Union Canal, and according to landholders and environmentalists, long-term flooding of farmers' fields, rendering them useless for either cropping or grazing.

Despite the ecological impacts, Council proposes to increase the STP flow up to ten megalitres a day, as part of the additional flow path (overland flow route) project.

Yet the Belongil Catchment Drainage Board (BDCB), who manage the Union Drain through which the excess STP flow runs, told *The Echo* they

object to 'the current, insufficient design of the flow path (no design south of Ewingdale Road), and strongly object to any additional water flows into the system.'

They did, however, say they appreciate Council's efforts and support the flow path 'in principle.'

'An EIS [Environmental Impact Statement] should be required before any upgrades/expansions to the STP', the Board says.

Hydrologist and Greens Mayor aspirant, Duncan Dey, agrees with the Board and told *The Echo*, 'Integration is what is needed here.'

He said, 'The current Entrance Opening Strategy (EOS) is one of Council's newest strategies - studies for its creation were undertaken

in 2019. This review can shine a light on the performance of the mechanical openings of the Belongil. But what is really needed is to address the big wet elephant on the room: the input of five megalitres per day of treated sewage (plus more in wet weather).'

Conflict of objectives

Mr Dey points out that Council staff say in their comments on NoM 9.8, that management objectives within the Entrance Opening Strategy conflict with each other, as they attempt to maintain natural processes, and at the same time, limit inundation on agricultural land.

'Interestingly, the Additional Flow Path project was Report 13.27 to that Council meeting. Its cost has just

risen by \$1m to about \$2.5m.

'Despite it being advertised by Council as a stormwater project, it is fully funded by the Sewer Fund, including a transfer of \$1m to the General Fund (the one responsible for stormwater)', said Mr Dey.

'The Additional Flow Path project was yet another of Council's own. It was self-approved under the Infrastructure SEPP (like the Belongil rockwall, and the Byron bypass).

Mr Dey added, 'Presentation to the public as a stormwater project and design that did not examine 100-year flood scenarios must have been to protect residents of the A&I Estate from the truth; that treated sewage will reach their streets in extreme wet weather.'

Community grants on offer from NRCF

Locally based philanthropic organisation, Northern Rivers Community Foundation (NRCF), is offering streams of funding for its 2021 community grants.

Co-organisers say, in response to critical issues impacting the Northern Rivers community, there are four priority criteria.

These include: a focus

on social, economic, cultural and/or educational disadvantage in our region, supporting the conservation of our natural environment, supporting smaller community organisations in their recovery from COVID-19, and/or recent natural disasters, and finally, the prevention of homelessness and/or providing accommodation and

support services for those most vulnerable.

The grants round closes on Monday, September 6.

Enquiries can be directed to NRCF's Community Impact Officer, Kyla White, at grants@nrcf.org.au or phone 0499 862 886.

For more info, visit www.nrcf.org.au/grants/community-grants-program/

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Nicholas Shand
1948-1996
Founding Editor

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

Disclaimer: *The Echo* is committed to providing a voice for our whole community. The views of advertisers, letter writers, and opinion writers are not necessarily those of the owners or staff of this publication.

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

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Seniors speak of lockdown angst

Mirembe Campbell with Mia Armitage

We heard a lot about elderly Australians when the pandemic first emerged 18 months ago, and for all the worst reasons: they were dying of COVID-19 in aged care. But what's it like when you're a senior living in a regional community, under increasing travel restrictions and, more recently, an extended lockdown?

Before the pandemic, governments were funding tech 101 classes for seniors to help them learn online basics such as email, social media, and how to set up a MyGov account.

Now, our seniors are expected to fill out border pass applications online, use QR codes on smart phones and in some cases, see a doctor via tele-health.

'The pandemic's changed things forever,' retired Mullumbimby Primary School Principal, volunteer firefighter and theatre enthusiast, Alex Benham, says.

Mr Benham has lived in the Byron Shire for 35 years, and said he used to have meet ups after golfing tournaments where he'd have a drink and chat.

'But that hasn't happened for two years, and theatre is non-existent,' Mr Benham said.

President of Drill Hall Theatre Company, Michael Borenstein, has lived in the Shire for 40 years, and said he was used to organising numerous social events, including a local dance group called 'Old Men Dancing'.

Mr Borenstein said the effects of COVID-19 were 'especially frightening' for



Michael Borenstein

seniors with underlying medical conditions, but for everyone it's about 'isolation and the impacts on mental health'.

Recently retired Byron Community Centre's Seniors Program Co-ordinator, Pippy Wardell, has lived in the Shire for 15 years and agreed that social activities were important for seniors' mental health.

Active seniors

'Seniors in Byron Shire are mostly very active; they're professionals who've been very successful and moved up here when downsizing from the cities, or they're here to live better and be more creative,' Ms Wardell said.

'Lockdowns and other restrictions feel absolutely atrocious,' she said, 'I know some seniors are staying indoors trembling with fear, but most of us are in shock, no one knows what to do'.

'The worst thing for seniors is isolation, especially not being able to see children and grandchildren,' Ms Wardell said, with Mr Borenstein proving her point by saying the most difficult thing for him was an inability to see his grandchildren.

'It's really affecting me,' Mr Borenstein said. Mr Benham shared a similar lamentation. 'It's very hard, we've got a



Pippy Wardell

daughter in Melbourne and a son in Sydney, but we've not seen them for almost two years,' Mr Benham said, adding his sympathy for families separated by global travel restrictions.

'People need to stop thinking they're more important than everyone else, thinking they can do whatever they like,' Mr Benham said. 'These recently extended lockdowns are causing more problems for everyone'.

Govt led confusion

Professor of Global Health, Thespinia Yemanis, at American University School of International Service, says inconsistent, vague or unrealistic health messaging from governments creates confusion.

Confusion has been an ongoing complaint in Australia's pandemic, with the Byron Shire no exception.

Mr Borenstein accused the NSW government of having 'too many loopholes' in its recent travel restrictions for Sydneysiders.

'They should have been in hard lockdown, when the virus was first detected,' Mr Borenstein said. 'Look what happened recently with the person coming up from Sydney to ostensibly check out real estate'.



Alex Benham

Mr Benham and Ms Wardell agreed.

'They could have put checkpoints on the two roads out of Sydney coming north, but they didn't,' Ms Wardell said. 'They left us wide open; I'm disgusted and upset'.

As if worrying about health and social isolation wasn't enough, financial stress was also impacting Byron's seniors.

'Lockdowns are exhausting my funds,' Ms Wardell said, 'many of us are afraid of losing our homes, of not having enough to eat and not being able to survive'.

■ Mirembe Campbell and Mia Armitage are BayFM members. Full interviews are on Community Newsroom via www.bayfm.org.au.

■ Photos by Jeff Dawson

Strip search class action launched

Law firm Slater and Gordon, and Redfern Legal Centre are launching a class action for those who were searched by NSW Police while entering the Splendour in The Grass festivals from 2016-19.

According to www.slater-gordon.com.au, 'Registration is free and confidential', and 'Class action participants

don't face any financial risks by being part of [this] case... People who have been unlawfully searched have a right to compensation for what has happened to them'.

For more info visit www.slatergordon.com.au/class-actions/current-class-actions/nsw-strip-search-class-action.

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Funds raised for fest

To support the Byron Writers Festival in the face of this year's cancellation, the Book Room Collective held a festival weekend event, where ten per cent of all sales at both Byron and Lennox shops were donated. The Book Room Collective's John Mitchell told *The Echo*, 'We raised over \$2,000, which we will gift to the writers festival'.

Photo Jeff 'Wormed On Books Since 1986' Dawson

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NSW govt Housing Taskforce avoids affordability

Mia Armitage

Questions remain unanswered around what benefit, if any, a NSW government led Regional Housing Taskforce will be to those who find themselves without affordable housing in regional NSW.

Repeated requests for an interview with NSW Planning Minister Rob Stokes have been unsuccessful;

his staff say the minister is unavailable.

Headed by town planner Garry Fielding, the Taskforce meetings, due to happen in Ballina this week, were shortened and shifted online.

According to www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au, 'Throughout August 2021 the taskforce is conducting a major listening exercise with a series of virtual roundtable events to hear from councils

and representatives from community groups, the housing, not-for-profit and development sectors, Local Aboriginal Land Councils, business groups and members of the public to identify barriers in the planning system to housing supply and affordability'.

Yet there is no information regarding future government/council investment in social housing; how the government

plans to prevent dwellings being turned into holiday-letting businesses instead of being used for long-term housing; nor whether there are any plans to address so-called 'land banking'.

Land banking is where developers lock up land to sell at a later, more profitable, time.

Tweed Shire Council revealed earlier this year it had up to 13,000 residential

dwellings approved, but the land had been owned for years by two separate investors who had not developed.

Land banking

Lismore City Mayor Vanessa Ekins said entire housing estates had been approved in her LGA without being started, while Ballina councillor Ben Smith told *The Echo*, staff had found enough already-zoned

residential land in his LGA to supply housing for the next twenty years.

As recently as Monday, a 96-hectare parcel of land was advertised online for sale in Tyagarah with the real estate agency saying it could be developed for housing or 'land-banked'.

The NSW government's Regional Housing Taskforce follows the Housing 2041 Strategy, launched in early May.

Vale Dean Trevaskis

Molly Trevaskis

This past Friday, surrounded by family, Dean Trevaskis passed away peacefully. Dean had been fighting stage four brain cancer (glioblastoma) since November last year.

Dean grew up in Shepparton, Victoria, and family was always important to him.

His dad passed away at age 54 from cancer. His mum Janis Trevaskis is still in Shepparton, and he has sisters Kerri and Jayde.

Dean worked really hard to always check in on them, and update them with how everything was going.

Dean studied nursing at La Trobe University in Melbourne, and then went into psych nursing.

He did that for 20 years, and worked in some of the biggest psychiatric hospitals in the world, including Broadmoor in England, where he looked after people like Peter Sutcliffe, the 'Yorkshire Ripper'.

Love of journalism

But his biggest passion was journalism and writing. He often wished that he did that instead of nursing.

Dean and Suez got married 22 years ago, and have been living in Ocean Shores for the past 12 years.

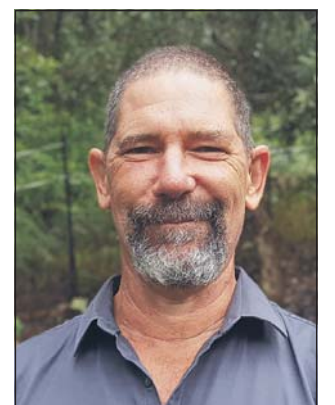
Dean was always passionate about trying to help other people.

His goal was to make everyone else happy.

He always loved to hear me (his daughter) sing as well, and because we used to do bush poetry together, he always wanted me to turn one of his poems into a song.

We learnt guitar together as well, which was difficult because he was tone-deaf, as well as being actually deaf.

Dean was always a big supporter of the Moonshiners Rugby Club. He used to play for the team, and



Dean Trevaskis

occasionally write union stories for the sports pages of *The Echo*.

Dean was always a passionate writer, bush poet and storyteller, which he has passed on well to me.

Another place he loved was the Ocean Shores Country Club. It was like Dean's second home.

I remember him going there at every chance he could and coming home in the middle of the night with a big grin on his face.

He was so proud to call it his club, and I know he is up there now, very proud.

Dean established a local business, Deeper Water Cleaning, from the ground up, ten years ago.

He always employed local people and many disadvantaged people.

His business ethics were strong and he was loved by his employees as much as his friends and respected by his customers.

Kookaburra

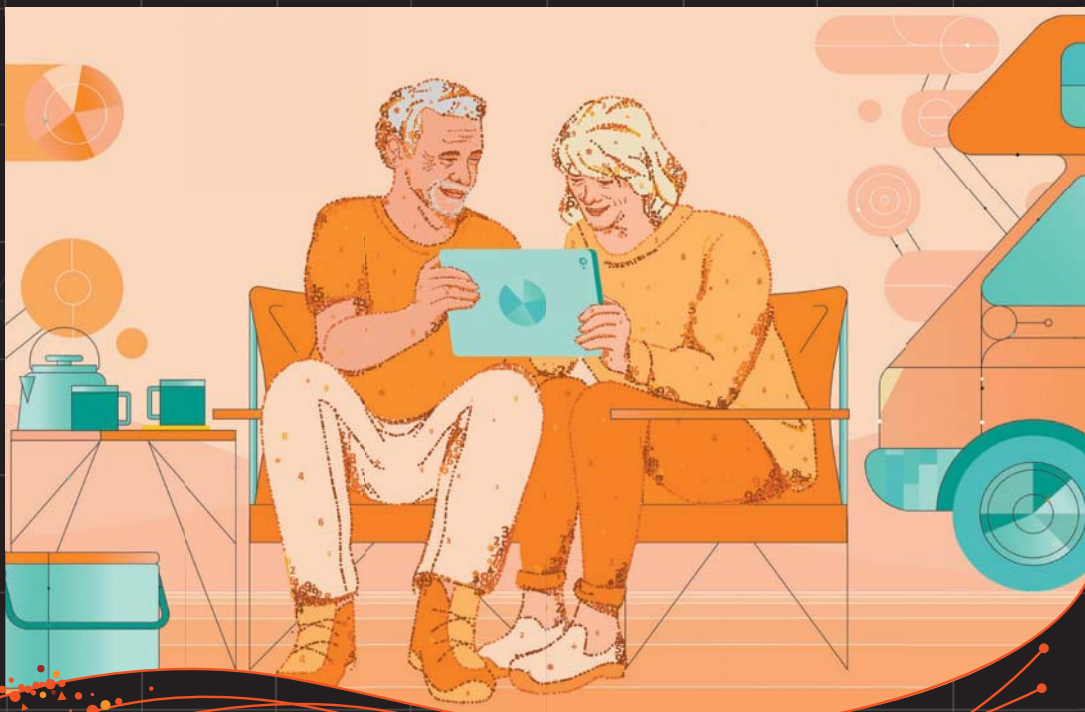
Before he passed, Deano told us all that he was coming back as a kookaburra, and now we have been hearing them everywhere. So, keep your ears out, he might be coming for a little visit.

Dean Trevaskis leaves behind his wife Suzette, his children, Molly, Jimmy, and Courtney, his mother Janis Trevaskis and sisters Kerri and Jayde.



Census

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Senior Counsel eviscerates Council planning errors

Recent advice from Tim Robertson, one of Australia's most senior environmental barristers, is that Byron Council acted illegally when it zoned part of Linnaeus Estate for mixed use development.



Photo www.linnaeus.com.au

Established in 1996, Linnaeus Estate is a 111 hectare gated community located on rare littoral rainforest adjoining the beach between Broken Head and Lennox Head. It is bounded by the Broken Head Nature Reserves and the Cape Byron Marine National Park and contains abundant wildlife, including threatened species.

Senior Counsel (SC) Robertson's Memorandum of Advice concludes that an application to develop eco-tourism facilities on Linnaeus is prohibited and not permissible.

According to the advice provided to *The Echo*, he finds that even if it were permissible, it is nonetheless illegal for either Byron Shire Council or the Northern Regional Planning Panel (NRPP) to grant consent to the application.

He further finds that the planning instruments which zoned part of Linnaeus

Estate for mixed use were not validly made.

This is the latest in an ongoing dispute between residents and the prospective property developer Brandon Saul, who represents wealthy landowners pushing to construct an exclusive tourist resort, restaurant and bar, a wellness spa, parking lot, and more than 30 exclusive cabins, treehouses and other buildings on the property.

According to the DA, the proposal includes the destruction of Nationally Critically Endangered Littoral Rainforest to make way for buildings.

The project is opposed by many Byron residents, along with the major shareholder of Linnaeus Estate, who commissioned the study by SC Robertson.

In his 40 page document, SC Robertson says, 'The eco-tourism proposal is not for the purpose of education. It is for tourism with an educational "experience" as a fringe benefit'.

No BDAR report

He notes that the law requires development applications to be accompanied by a Biodiversity Assessment Report (BDAR) if the proposed development is likely to significantly affect threatened species or ecosystems.

Robertson SC contends the consent authority has no power to grant consent in its absence. He concludes: '...[if] the proposed development is likely to significantly affect threatened species, then the consent authority has no power to grant

consent. No BDAR has been prepared and no concurrence has been given'.

SC Robertson also finds that the 'Sustainability management plan' in the development application contains no measures to remove threats of serious environmental damage, to maintain habitats, or to monitor and review the effects of the proposed development on the natural environment.

There is no undertaking to prepare a vegetation management plan for the site as a whole. Such a plan should already lie before the consent authority.

Robertson finds the DA's proposals 'too inchoate', or rudimentary, to meet some of the stringent tests required by law.

Claims by SC Robertson were put to Council staff, who replied in part that 'Council has obtained legal advice, which is privileged'.

They added the independent long-awaited review of the Linnaeus audit report had been delayed owing to 'consultant availability and ongoing COVID-19 restrictions'.

Health and Wellbeing

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News from across the North Coast online ► www.echo.net.au

Elliot launches ‘urgent’ petition for border zone

Member for Richmond, Justine Elliot, has launched an urgent petition to the NSW Premier Gladys Berejiklian calling on her to take up the offer from the Qld Government to establish a border zone on the NSW North Coast.

COVID sewage detections at Lennox Head and Ballina

After fragments of the virus that causes COVID-19 were detected at Lennox Head and Ballina sewage treatment plants, Northern NSW Local Health District is urging people with even the mildest of symptoms to get tested.

12 social housing units for Lismore

While a strategic federal and state government strategy needs to be developed to provide affordable, social and sustainable housing, the addition of 12 extra social housing units in Lismore has been welcomed.

HEMP Party looks to remove ‘Marijuana’ from the title

Founded in 1993, the Help End Marijuana Prohibition (HEMP) Party has a number of policies that centre around the re-legalisation of cannabis for personal, medicinal and industrial uses in Australia.

Govt cancels in-person Northern Rivers housing crisis meetings

The state government’s regional housing taskforce meetings due to happen in Ballina next week have been shortened and shifted online.

\$900,000 worth of cocaine located during vehicle stop – Bonville

A man has been charged after about \$900,000 worth of cocaine was allegedly found inside a car in the state’s north yesterday.

www.echo.net.au

Controversial Iron Gates Masterplan withdrawn

Aslan Shand

The developer behind the controversial large Iron Gates development at Evans Head has withdrawn its Masterplan (MP).

For decades, locals have been opposing the proposal, which is currently a 184 lot subdivision, including 175 residential lots, and three residue lots.

Since the mid 90s, owner/developer Graeme Ingles has been attempting to develop the site, through a range of different companies.

The DA went to the Land and Environment Court (L&EC) in 1997, and the Court removed development consent for the development, owing to the serious breaches of the development application (DA) by the developer.

It was also ordered to do approximately two million dollars worth of remediation at the site, which has never been done.

According to advice provided to Richmond Valley Council, those Court Orders are still outstanding.

Further unauthorised clearing took place at the site in 2016.

The legislation under which the current DA was submitted in 2015 requires that a Masterplan is completed in conjunction with it. The MP went on exhibition on the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) website on February 24, 2016; however, it has now been withdrawn with no public announcement by the proponent of the DPIE.

Richmond Valley Council’s DA Tracker shows the last data entry for the current DA was September 2019 and Council’s website is still spruiking an amended development application (DA2015/0096) advising that ‘prior to the determination of the DA’, the NSW DPIE ‘must endorse a masterplan



A section of the Iron Gates site at Evans Head that was cleared in 2016 without approvals. Photo supplied

for the development’ with ‘All enquiries regarding the masterplan’ to be ‘directed to the Northern Region Office of the Department’.

Dr Richard Gates from Evans Head Residents for Sustainable Development Inc. says that ‘it was particularly disappointing that both State and local governments have failed to keep the public informed of the status of the Iron Gates

development. It’s almost two years since we heard anything, yet a number of us made comprehensive submissions about both the DA and the Masterplan which deserve a reply’.

‘This controversial development has cost ratepayers and taxpayers a great deal of money, time and effort. To retain confidence in the planning process in NSW there should have been a timely

statement telling the public what has happened to the development.

‘At the very least those who had made submissions regarding the proposal should have been informed about the withdrawal of the Masterplan and the reasons for that withdrawal,’ he said.

Dr Gates said that it was understandable that the Masterplan was withdrawn as it contained ‘many shortcomings’ as a planning document.

Court orders

‘The land for the development is still, inter alia, the subject of Land & Environment Court Orders for remediation, a planning nightmare for bushfire risk, part of a government-identified wildlife corridor that should be preserved, and a major intact coastal Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Landscape that should be retained for future generations (Riebe, 2016).’

Damning ‘death tracks’ report released on greyhound racing

Eve Jeffery

A NSW specific ‘death tracks’ report, compiled and released by the Coalition for the Protection of Greyhounds (CPG), has evidenced shocking industry data confirming an alarming increase in NSW greyhound racing track deaths and injuries.

Animal Liberation’s Lisa Ryan says, ‘NSW racetracks are not just killing more greyhounds compared to 2020, but also injuring more dogs, with an increase in all racing injury categories, with 1521 total injuries, 268 major injuries and 97 life-threatening injuries’.

Ms Ryan says past claims by NSW Better Regulation



Greyhound racing. Photo Animal Liberation

and Innovation Minister, Kevin Anderson, have proven inaccurate and unreliable.

He previously claimed the industry has high welfare and track safety standards.

‘The NSW Coalition Government’s has failed to implement promised welfare reforms emanating from the government’s own 2016/2017 Greyhound Reform Panel

Inquiry’, she says.

‘There is a failure by the NSW Government and GRNSW to progress the commissioned study, findings and recommendations from the University of Technology Sydney report into track design and safety’.

‘The 30 million dollars of public money invested towards track safety in 2017 was not fully expended and provides, at best, cosmetic and meaningless improvement in track safety and preventing greyhound deaths and injuries.’

Federal Richmond Greens candidate, Mandy Nolan, says, ‘Things have to change now. Animals are not here for our entertainment or

gambling profits,’ she said.

‘There are no safe greyhound tracks. Ending greyhound racing, injuries and deaths starts with us, and will be the catalyst for change across NSW and Australia.

‘No amount of political spin can obscure the industry’s own damning statistics. Between January and June 2021, NSW greyhound racing resulted in a marked increase in deaths and injuries across all categories (36 deaths and 1521 injuries), and we know their final injury fate will remain largely undocumented’.

The entire report can be viewed at www.greyhoundcoalition.com/lethal-tracks-nsw-update.

Casino pharmacy delivering AZ vax

Mia Armitage

A pharmacy in Casino is one of the first in the Northern Rivers to start offering the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine during the latest lockdown.

Vaccine-administering pharmacist Kellie Beckenham said she’d given out her first eleven COVID-19 vaccines on Monday at McDonalds Pharmacy, located in Casino’s CBD.

The customers were a mix of ages, between those in their mid-twenties to

those in their early sixties, Ms Beckenham said.

Ms Beckenham also said another fifteen people were booked in for the next day and that the pharmacy would try to accommodate walk-in requests, but it would be ‘preferable to book in, especially during lockdown’.

She confirmed the pharmacy was only administering to people over the age of 18, with or without a medicare card.

Customers underwent a

supervised online screening process to determine informed consent, Ms Beckenham said.

Any pharmacy worker can undergo the training necessary to guide customers through the informed consent process, but only qualified vaccine administering pharmacists can evaluate the results. According to www.health.gov.au, blood clotting can occur for between four and six people in every million after being vaccinated with AstraZeneca.

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Funds help vollies protect hinterland's biodiversity

Volunteer-run Goonengerry and Wilsons Creek-Huonbrook Landcare groups have secured a further \$330,000 in two grants to improve, restore, and protect parts of the Byron Shire hinterland's biodiversity values.

Goonengerry Landcare Group grants manager, Alan Goldstein told *The Echo*, 'The grants align with this year's Environmental Trust theme of climate change mitigation and adaptation'.

He says, 'Bushland dominated by lantana and camphor laurel will be converted to diverse subtropical rainforests, continuing expansion and connection in the surrounds of Nightcap, Mount Jerusalem, and Goonengerry National Parks. The grants are part of the NSW Environmental Trust's Restoration and Rehabilitation 2020 program, and will run for four years starting in November 2021.

'Together, the two projects provide value at over \$1.2m when grant monies are added to contributions of cash and in kind works by volunteers, landholders, and project partners'.

Meanwhile, Dr Barbara Stewart, president of



Dr Barbara Stewart, president of Wilsons Creek-Huonbrook Landcare, with Goonengerry Landcare Group grants manager, Alan Goldstein. Photo Jeff Dawson

Wilsons Creek-Huonbrook Landcare, says, 'The November 2019 bushfires brought the reality of climate change right into the rainforest valleys of Wilsons Creek and Huonbrook, and our worksites include directly fire affected vegetation.

'In addition, we have plans for removing obvious fire hazards, in particular bamboo and slash pine.

'These species have little or no biodiversity value and are highly flammable'.

Council fines Suffolk landowner for cutting down trees

A Suffolk Park property owner has been convicted and fined \$30,000, say Council staff, for cutting down three mature trees.

Staff say, 'Two of the trees were mature coastal cypress pines which formed part of an endangered ecological community. In September 2020, Council received a

development application for a swimming pool, and when staff inspected the site of the proposed pool they noticed that three trees had been cut down. The property owner was issued with three \$3,000 on-the-spot fines, but the property owner elected to have the matter dealt with in the Local Court'.



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'Unlawful' forest agreements head to court

Aslan Shand

Environmentalists are challenging what they refer to as the 'rubber stamped' ongoing destruction of forest ecosystems of the north east NSW forests from Sydney to the Qld border.

The North East Regional Forest Agreement (RFA) exempts logging in native forests from federal biodiversity law. It was originally signed between the federal and

NSW governments in 2000, and was renewed in 2018 for another 20 years, with five year rolling extensions that could continue indefinitely.

The North East Forest Alliance (NEFA) and the Environmental Defenders Office (EDO) say they are taking the federal government to court.

NEFA President Dailan Pugh says, 'NEFA will argue that when the Prime Minister executed the varied RFA, he did not have regard to

assessments of key environmental matters as required by law'.

NEFA spokesperson Susie Russell said 'We say there was no assessment of the impact of climate change on the forests. This is despite the Commonwealth having access to, and publishing its own, materials about the current science - science that warns about the effects climate change has already had on the Australian natural environment and what

climate change might mean for our forest ecosystems in the future'.

Meanwhile, federal Nationals Senator Perin Davey has attacked the EDO as delaying 'resource projects and tarnishing legitimate industries that support jobs'.

Senator Perin said, 'Activists are welcome to pay for their own lawfare but should not be assisted by taxpayer funding'.

Tenant and landlord support extended

The NSW government says its Residential Tenancy Support package 'will now be paid for a second month, and eligible landlords can now apply for up to \$3,000 to cover the two months from July 14, 2021, assuming they have reduced rent for their tenant by at least that much'.

Minister for Better Regulation and Innovation Kevin Anderson added 'Landlords who have already applied can make an additional application and those who are yet to apply will be able to make one application for the total amount of rent waived, up to \$1,500 a month'.

'Landlords will also have

the option to apply for the COVID-19 land tax benefit, instead of applying for the Residential Tenancy Support Payment, which is an offset of the land tax liability equal to the rent reduction granted.

'Eligible COVID-19 impacted residential tenants who cannot meet their residential rent payments will be protected from eviction during the moratorium period commencing from 14 July and finishing at the end of September 11, 2021'.

For more information visit www.fairtrading.nsw.gov.au/resource-library/publications/coronavirus-covid-19/property/moratorium.

Water compliance job goes to former Nats MP

Former Nationals MP and police officer, Troy Grant, has become the Inspector-General of Water Compliance for the Commonwealth in a formal capacity.

A National Party press release says he had been acting in the role since December 16, 2020.

The press release says, 'The role of Inspector-General is a regulatory role aimed at ensuring consistent, trusted and transparent management, with the ability to

investigate and enforce non-compliance through audits and investigations'.

While the National Party has been embroiled in water theft and mismanagement accusations, Mr Grant quit politics in 2018 after his party faced an historic loss in the Orange by-election to the Shooters, Fishers and Farmers Party, which was widely attributed to backlash against the government's bungled greyhound racing ban and forced council mergers.

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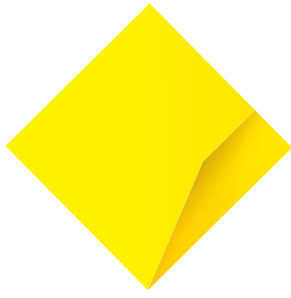
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The Byron Shire Echo
Volume 36 #10 • August 18, 2021

Real men don't harm others

Standing at a public urinal in Mullumbimby last week, I found myself face-to-face with a small poster stuck to the wall: 'Real men don't wear masks'.

Maybe the message was intended to elicit a wry chuckle, and its stupidity was actually ironic. But it was neatly printed and who spends money on promoting their sense of irony?

No, alas, this was a genuine communication from the bottom of the rabbit hole. For the last few months *The Echo* has been earnestly publishing factual articles about COVID-19 in an effort to counter the fictional ones that swarm around social media.

Still guided by the European Enlightenment of over two hundred years ago, which discovered that science is better than superstition, we have assumed that the false will not survive exposure to the true. People can be misinformed if they have no opportunity to correct their misinformation, but if the truth is available, who would cling to falsehood?

It turns out that quite a lot of people would. Naïve rationalists think that an incontrovertible argument wins them the case. But an incontrovertible argument merely puts you in a particular camp, the one that your antagonists have marked as their enemy. They have a different set of 'facts' and their camp is not defined by rationalism.

The 'real man' who stuck his poster at eye-level on the toilet wall is not going to be persuaded by epidemiology.

His belief is not scientific, although he may try to defend it with pseudo-scientific ideas.

It is a statement of identity: he belongs to the group that asserts the value of personal freedom above the value of public health. Not wearing a mask tells you what side he is on.

That side is actually quite diverse; it consists, among others, of anti-vaxxers, science contrarians, sovereign citizens, conspiracy theorists, and people who believe in the healing blood of Christ.

Politically speaking, this side is most comfortable on the far right, and to see where that leads it is only necessary to look at the United States: COVID-19 cases and deaths are now approaching last year's levels, but this time it is mainly *Fox News* viewers, Trump voters and Christian fundamentalists who are affected.

These right-wingers in Republican states are 'owning the Liberals' by refusing to get vaccinated. And by dying.

One may feel a sneaking glee at such people removing themselves from the gene pool, but in our neighbourhood they don't just damage themselves.

Until the federal government organises a competent vaccine roll-out and most of the population is protected, flouting the COVID-19 lockdown rules is not a philosophical protest, it is simply an act of malevolence.

Real men don't harm others.

David Lovejoy, *Echo* co-founder

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

Navigating the laws around vax passports

Marco Rizzi & Katie Attwell

Several jurisdictions overseas have introduced vaccine requirements for entry into public and private spaces such as schools, restaurants, public venues, and for domestic travel.

Attention is turning to whether these policies would work in Australia and at what point they might be introduced.

An important consideration is whether the mandates are seeking to protect people against COVID-19 transmission in key sectors or spaces, or whether governments are using them as a lever to push up vaccine rates in the population at large.

While both can be legitimate, they are different policy goals and governments need to be transparent about which one they are pursuing.

Israel, the first jurisdiction to introduce a vaccine passport, has utilised this measure intermittently, depending on the transmission risk and coverage rates. This suggests the government has used it as a strategy to increase vaccine coverage overall.

EU countries are also utilising vaccine passports, but they have had design and implementation issues.

Despite ongoing protests to the measures in France, and to a lesser extent Italy, surveys show the majority of people in both countries approve of the measures. They have also led to a rapid increase in bookings for vaccinations.

New York City has also mandated vaccination for certain public spaces — the first government in the US to do so. There is a legal basis to do so: the Supreme Court, ruled in 1905, that states could require residents to be vaccinated against smallpox or be fined.

There is scope for Australian governments to impose a similar 'vaccine passport'.

It's important to bear in mind this kind of mandate is very different from forced vaccination (where an individual is forcibly inoculated). Rather, mandates create a set of negative consequences in cases of noncompliance.

The most obvious example in Australia is the 'No Jab, No Play' policies that restrict access to childcare in most states for children who are not fully immunised.

In the same vein, COVID-19 vaccination could be made mandatory for specific purposes, such as access to certain public or private spaces, travel, or certain types of employment, such as the pending vaccine requirement for aged care workers.

From a legal perspective, the key limitation for government mandates pertains

to discrimination. The mandate must not discriminate, and therefore exemptions must be available for those who cannot be vaccinated for medical reasons.

There is no protection under Australian law, however, for 'discrimination' against people who are opposed to vaccination because of their personal beliefs.

Countries like France and Italy have dealt with vaccine refusal by enabling people to show proof of a recent negative COVID-19 test as an 'opt-out' measure to the vaccine mandate.

This is good behavioural science, since it makes the option available — albeit more burdensome than the default of vaccination.

Private sector vaccine mandates are also feasible in Australia for COVID-19 and other diseases. These mandates can apply to workers, clients, or both, provided they align with existing employment and consumer laws.

Unlike in the US, where many major companies are mandating COVID-19 vaccines for employees, the measure is still framed in Australia as a possible exception to the general rule.

However, this could become more widespread in Australia after the Fair Work Commission ruled, in several cases this year, that it was reasonable for employers in the aged care and child care sectors to insist on flu vaccinations for staff.

Unsurprisingly, it looks like the Fair Work Ombudsman may be open to a tiered system of employment mandates.

Mandates may be easier to establish and implement in the private sector because companies are generally subject to less scrutiny and accountability than governments. They can also rely on arguments about their duty of care to workers and clients.

International research also shows the private sector is highly trusted, and this can provide a useful anchor if companies ask their workers or clients to vaccinate. (There is a difference, of course, between providing vaccinations at a workplace or requesting it of employees, and demanding it!)

Moreover, private companies lack some of the constraints that governments face. Government vaccine mandates must be linked to other conditions for which governments are responsible and accountable, such as the available supply of vaccines.

A broad-based government mandate in the absence of adequate supply could be subject to court challenge and risk being political suicide.

By contrast, private entities do not share the same level of responsibility for

providing vaccines when enacting such mandates on clients. In the case of vaccine mandates for employees, however, the duty to provide vaccines is much higher.

Accordingly, it is heartening that companies introducing employee mandates are taking steps to ensure their workers have easy and funded vaccine access. It would be great to see more companies doing this without introducing mandates first.

Despite the fact that private sector mandates may be easier to introduce, the complexity of exemptions and enforcement leads us to prefer government mandates.

Our research shows Australians are broadly supportive of vaccine mandates, and our recent unpublished work indicates they prefer vaccine passports to other kinds of mandates (such as punishments or financial incentives).

However, the high levels of support for government mandates we saw in our survey last year may not be the same now, given public perceptions of the government's vaccine rollout failure.

Australians may be less trusting of government, and therefore, less supportive of government-mandated vaccinations.

This demonstrates that the obstacles to the introduction of vaccine passports are not only legal, but highly political.

To appear legitimate, a mandate needs to serve clearly articulated public health goals and be proportionate. (In particular, it has to be effective, reasonable and without a less invasive alternative available.)


Mandates can be good public policy when they are appropriately designed and defensible from ethical and epidemiological perspectives. These attributes are largely within government control.

However, when governments do not take sufficient action to address hesitancy in the community, this can create the conditions that make mandates appear attractive or necessary. Our research shows this was the case in Italy with childhood vaccines.

The danger here is that all roads automatically lead to mandates, without governments first exhausting other important strategies to encourage vaccinations. Excellent public communications targeted to specific groups, and making access to vaccines as easy as possible, are two no-brainers.


■ Article first published at www.theconversation.com.

■ Marco Rizzi is Senior Lecturer in Law, at The University of Western Australia, and Katie Attwell is Senior Lecturer at The University of Western Australia.



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Disgusted

I am disgusted and angry reading Magenta Appel-Pye's letter (*Echo* 4 August) concerning the atrocious treatment of muso Lisa Hunt by NSW police that left her with a two-year good behaviour bond.

Now Lisa is leaving Byron Bay. Lisa has been a Northern Rivers icon for years and now, because police saw fit to take her to court, this is the result.

What a bloody indictment of the justice regime in NSW. It's back to the good/bad Rum Corp?

Paul Brecht
 Evans Head

Dunoon Dam again

I just don't get it? Why does State MLC, Sam Farrow, want the State and Federal governments to launch an 'independent study' into the Dunoon Dam issue? Haven't we already seen – and paid for! – enough investigation of the solutions to the pressures that a changing climate and growing population will put on the Northern Rivers water supply? What will another study possibly reveal, that has not already been considered, at length?

As Bathurst-based Farrow – only became a member of the Select Committee on Floodplain Harvesting on 29 June, 2021 it seems unlikely that he is truly up to speed with the best strategies for ensuring the water supply in our area. Instead, I suspect his intervention is motivated by a political juggling act that has little to do with our local water needs, and everything to do with rewarding the interests – 'infrastructure' – that put him in office!

But unlike most politicians, who pander to every whim of a fickle public, just to stay in office, Rous County Council (RCC) councillors do not care if their decisions are popular – they care that their

decisions are the right ones, and backed up by the most up-to-date research available.

Just as State health authorities do not pay much attention to loud protests about mask-wearing, RCC does not use signatures gathered on shopping mall petitions to guide their decisions. Rous councillors are focussed on one job: best water management. They are committed to delivering the most cost-efficient and secure long-term water supply for the Northern Rivers that is possible, and have spent the last two years exploring just that – relying not just on their own considerable expertise in this area, but on the advice of multiple experts in the field.

When will our elected officials stop playing partisan politics, and start paying attention to the science, and to the environmental and cultural values inherent in the site once proposed for a second dam? After extensive consideration, RCC has decided upon the best way to safeguard our water supplies for the future: their current Integrated Water Cycle Management Strategy outlines how to do this, and why.

Rous knows what to do, so please – let them get on with the job!

Margaret Louise
 Lismore

■ Read more letters about the Dunoon Dam online at www.echo.net.au/letters.

Smoke and mirrors

When's a building's fourth storey not a fourth storey? When Byron Council says (at a developers request).

A new fourth storey was approved on the Jonson Street mall development, now under construction, after previous consent was given for a ten-metre height, which already breached the nine-metre height restriction. The new roof height for 'recreational facilities' is approximately 12.5m.

The Council's report responded to opposition to the fourth storey by denying that it was a fourth storey, because 'The rooftop recreational facilities do not constitute a fourth storey, which is defined as a space between one floor level and the floor level above'. Ah no, actually a next level higher room, with a roof over it, is defined as a next storey, and 'the rooftop recreational facilities', have toilets and change rooms, with roofs.

So you can build fourth storey rooms on a roof, but

they aren't a fourth storey – everyone clear with that?

Of the Councillors standing for re-election, Cr Cameron voted against, Cr Coorey, (who has conscientiously voted against height increases), was away, Cr Ndiaye took a ten minute break and didn't vote and next Council aspirants, Lyon and Martin, joined the rest to pass the DA. An example of their commitment to building a bright new future of 'no rules for developers' if re-elected.

John Lazarus
 Byron Bay

Yes, David

David Heilpern, you are not the only grumpy old person who finds the restaurant experience in Byron a challenge to sanity and communication – not to say to inner-ear safety! (*Echo*, 11 August).

My friends and I have almost given up trying to find a venue conducive to both enjoyable eating and conversation. Even when we go to a restaurant in the 'oldies' hour' – 5.30 to 6.30 – we often find that the management turn up the volume in the speaker right above our table to welcome us and take umbrage if we dare to complain!

'But this is a restaurant!' we are told, 'we have to have music!' I wondered, what-ever happened to ambient music, like lounge, or cool jazz improvising away softly in the background, which actually did enhance a dining experience?

For a time, I thought that the 'music' and the playlists were there to keep the young kitchen staff happy and upbeat, and I discussed the idea of starting a campaign to get restaurants to have an 'Oldies Happy Hour' as you suggest. But an internet search finds that this is a lost cause – the 'music' and its volume is not solely a staff choice but scientifically designed to turn over bums on seats – yikes! We do live in Greed City, it's true!

Christine Willmot
 Sunrise Beach

Palestine and Israel

Having read the letters for over a decade published in *The Echo* on the Palestine/Israel conflict I thought I may be able to elucidate matters. The Palestinian/Israeli is readily identified when viewed from a few metres away, primarily by their attire. However, to understand the situation a closer and a more distant view is needed together.

When examined close up, say from one mm beneath the protective dead scaly skin, both Palestinian and Israeli are identical.

No longer identifiable as people, reality reveals that the Palestinian and the Israeli are a community of symbiotic micro-organisms consisting of thirty-seven trillion single-celled independent animals working together. Six trillion of them are closely related and are identifiable as human cells. Thirty-one trillion of them are not related to human cells and have colonised the community. Sixty trillion bacteria and three-hundred-and-eighty trillion viruses have also colonised the community and so create one person.

Every one of these single-celled animals are fully conscious and communicating with one another, particularly those that have assembled to form the brain. Observing the visual image behind the eyes and listening to the vibrational frequencies from the ears the community of cells within the brain come to the deluded opinion that the Palestinian and the Israeli are different. Further delusions include the belief that it will survive in some form forever while two million neurons, ten billion synapses and 12km of myelinated fibres die within the brain and are replaced every minute. A further ten million other body cells die and are replaced every second.

The Palestinian/Israeli is also unrecognisable from a greater distance. From a sky-soaring eagle-eyed view they are indistinguishable from the community of photosynthesising organisms that colour the landscape and support their existence, providing oxygen and moderating the climate. The Palestinian/Israeli can only exist in a stable habitat and climate and will go extinct as the temperature increases owing to the removal and pollution of its habitat.

The Palestinian/Israeli will not be missed or remembered since it can only be found clinging to the surface of a single planet on the edge of a small galaxy of stars in a remote portion of the universe far from the gigantic central cluster of galaxies. Walking on the planet's face are microbes called the human race... lost in time and lost in space.

Gary Opit
 Wooyung

► More letters on page 15

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Sixth time's the charm: new IPCC report shows climate is still changing

IPCC releases sixth major assessment report, and it's clear that the biggest threat now is delay

Brought to you by *The Echo* and *Cosmos Magazine*

As fires and floods rage across the globe, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has released its latest major assessment report on the climate. The results are clear – without a shadow of a doubt, human influence has warmed the atmosphere, ocean and land.

This is not a surprise. The report synthesises more than 14,000 scientific papers to provide the most up-to-date view of how the changing climate has affected, and will affect, the world. It found that many of the observed changes are

beyond anything experienced for thousands of years – if not hundreds of thousands – and may continue to influence the Earth's systems for millennia to come.

This, too, is not a surprise. The report says we need to immediately slash greenhouse-gas emissions and rapidly reduce our reliance on fossil fuels in order to avoid the worst-case scenarios of extreme weather, sea-level rise and more.

This, yet again, is not a surprise. We have known all this for 30 years.

The bigger picture

In 1990, the IPCC published its First Assessment Report. It has since released a series

of further reports, drawing on the expertise of hundreds of international researchers to synthesise our knowledge of the science of climate change, its impacts, and the actions we need to take.

Even in the first report, the evidence showed that 'human activities are substantially increasing the atmospheric concentrations of the greenhouse gases: CO₂, methane, CFCs and nitrous oxide'.

This spurred the establishment of the international environmental treaty, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), in 1992, with the goal of avoiding 'dangerous human interference with the climate system'. This agreement was signed by all industrialised nations.

But in the three decades since, 'we have emitted one trillion tonnes of carbon dioxide coming from the combustion of fossil fuels and land-use change', says the CSIRO's Pep Canadell, who was coordinating lead author on chapter five of the new report.

'That is 41 per cent of all CO₂ emissions emitted since the beginning of the Industrial Revolution – 41 per cent in the last 30 years.'

So in 1990, scientists were already issuing warnings about the need to urgently reduce our emissions. We then not only continued to burn fossil fuels, but almost doubled our emissions.

In the subsequent years, the science has solidified as the IPCC released report after report. This new, sixth assessment, weaves in eight more years of data about the physical underpinnings.

Lead author of one report chapter, Michael Grose from CSIRO, highlights 'the sheer weight and bulk of evidence presented in the report'.

'There's more evidence than ever,' he says. 'Just the sheer number of scientific papers that are reviewed and assessed – it was immense.'

Blair Trewin, climate scientist from the Australian Bureau of Meteorology and lead author on chapter two says the data sets used have a more global coverage than previous data.

So what do the findings actually tell us?

'We can see that the climate system is in a state that it has not been for at least centuries to millennia, and it is changing at a rate that is



Myall Creek–Bora Ridge fire at Woombah, Iluka Road during the Black Summer fires 2019–20. Photo Ewan Willis

unprecedented in at least the last 2,000 years,' Trewin says.

'We're really seeing conditions that are outside the range of human experience.'

Ice-core records have confirmed that the concentrations of the main greenhouse gases – carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide – are higher than at any point in the last 800,000 years. Our species, *Homo sapiens*, only arose 200,000 years ago.

The report continues: the land is warming faster than the ocean; hot extremes are getting hotter and cold extremes are warming even quicker; the subtropics are drying; extreme rainfall is increasing; marine heatwaves are more frequent; the oceans are acidifying.

The report can now also directly attribute individual extreme events to human-induced climate change – from marine heatwaves around the Great Barrier Reef to the Black Summer fires of 2019/20 – in a way that we could not do with certainty a decade ago.

The report also has a greater regional focus than previous iterations. It fills in the gaps with far more detailed projections for how global climate change is linked to change in specific areas across the world.

Australian impact?

The ARC Centre of Excellence for Climate Extremes has prepared a special report detailing future consequences for our country.

'Beyond the next 20 years, global and regional change depends strongly on the global emissions that we experience,' explains Grose.

The report presents five different pathways we can take, like a choose-your-own adventure novel: in a storyline at one end of the spectrum, we rapidly decarbonise and avoid the worst; while at the other extreme, we continue to pursue

fossil fuels and release high volumes of emissions.

Grose refers to each of these pathways as 'narratives' – stories we construct for ourselves about the paths we could follow.

Shayne McGregor from Monash University, a lead author on chapter three of the report, notes: 'The key point here is that what is required – regardless of what scenario we're looking at – is rapid, sustained large-scale reductions in greenhouse-gas emissions.'

Not too late

'It's not too late. Every action that we do moving forward is beneficial – every half a degree or 0.1 degree of warming we can reduce or minimise, the better off we are.'

Matthew England, a physical oceanographer and climate scientist from the University of New South Wales, says the science has been there for decades. He explains that models made even before the first IPCC assessment report have played out with confronting accuracy.

Perhaps the best example, he says, is the pattern of global surface air temperature change.

From the late 1960s onwards, models were created coupling the atmosphere and ocean systems to predict how different regions of the world would warm. These models produced certain patterns: the northern hemisphere would warm faster, with the most severe heating over the Arctic, with the southern hemisphere warming more slowly.

This is because the land experiences greater warming than the ocean, and the northern hemisphere has much more land.

'The physics of why that happens is so fundamental, it's almost embarrassing,' he says. 'It comes down to

how much heat the land and ocean can each absorb.'

'This fingerprint of global atmospheric change is virtually identical to what was predicted,' England says.

'It is frustrating to see these projections that are 30 years old now just play out without meaningful action.'

After the IPCC fourth assessment report was released in 2007, England says many researchers – including lead authors of these reports – questioned whether more were necessary.

'Really top scientists [were] having conversations at conferences in 2008, 2009, saying, "Hey, is this sending the wrong message by having IPCC reports five, six, seven, eight, nine? This should be the end. The science is settled – now action is needed?"'

While England notes that we still need IPCC reports to lay the groundwork for adaptation and mitigation strategies, these scientists were questioning whether we needed further updates on the physical basis of climate change to justify the need for cutting emissions.

'We don't need that,' he says. 'We haven't needed it for a couple of decades now.'

Reports are becoming more fine-grained and detailed. But we already know the action needed.

In 1996, Nobel Laureate, F Sherwood Rowland, a pioneer in the field of ozone depletion, said: 'What's the use of having developed a science well enough to make predictions if... all we're willing to do is stand around and wait for them to come true?'

England points out that the same can be said now for climate science. The enormous cost of the current and future climate extremes 'just dwarf the costs of inaction'.

He also points out, that 'the fossil-fuel industry has slowed down this progress to make a buck, and that's one of the cruellest aspects of this'.

But the science is about as certain as it's going to get. The biggest uncertainty, by far, lies in what we choose to do about it.

'We're still in control about where we want to take this planet,' says Canadell.

As F Sherwood Rowland said in 1997: 'If not us, who? If not now, when?'

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NATIVE PLANT SPECIALISTS

CHESSE by Ian Rogers

Five players who had been in a European Union 'Shengen' country in the previous two weeks, including Tour leader Maxime Vachier-Lagrave from France, were banned from entering the US. (US travellers are free to enter Europe, although the EU is reconsidering this policy given the spiralling Covid numbers in the US.)

The missing Grandmasters were replaced by US-based players, plus Russia's Peter Svidler, who had arrived in Saint Louis to work as a commentator. (Russia is not on the US banned list. Indeed one Dutch photographer detoured to the World Cup in Sochi in order to be able to fly to Saint Louis and work at the tournaments.)

The upshot will be that US players – plus Azeri Shakhriyar Mamedyarov, who made it to Saint Louis – will scoop up the lion's share of the GCT prizes.

The players who were forced to miss the final two tournaments might have dodged a bullet. Missouri, which has one of the lowest vaccination rates in the US, albeit twice that of Australia, is going through a severe Covid wave.

The Grand Chess Tour, which successfully held its first three tournaments in recent months, has fallen apart due to the travel restrictions which the USA places on European Union citizens.

After being cancelled in 2020, the GCT restarted midyear with successful tournaments in Romania, Paris and Zagreb. By then World Champion Magnus Carlsen had decided not to be one of the Tour regulars and his challenger Ian Nepomniachtchi also dropped out, leaving nine elite players in the race for the \$US1.275m prize fund.

Then China's world number three Ding Liren discovered that travel from China was too challenging and left the Tour, replaced by Hungary's young star Richard Rapport.

With only Europeans and Americans remaining, the Tour began in June and by the time the third event concluded in late July most players remained in contention for the biggest prizes.

However, the fourth event, the Saint Louis Rapid and Blitz began this week with only four of the nine Tour players participating.

Lockdown, COVID and a matter of choice

■ Why is the order to 'stay at home' seen as a game of hide and seek? Sars-COV-2 does not care about whether or not you can travel to a holiday home. It does not care what the police or the government says. It does not consider you a smart arse for putting other people's lives at risk. It is looking for a host.

I am appalled that a judge would state that he is not breaking the law by travelling to the snow. It is not about the law, it is about restricting your movement. It is about doing what is blatantly obvious – staying at home – to minimise the spread.

It is bizarre seeing people panic buying as if they are going to starve to death. It is much more likely they will die of COVID-19 if they keep moving around, especially when they are clearly not respecting social distancing or wearing a mask. What type of society do we live in when police are required to make sure people behave themselves in the interest of the common good? How is it that our education system has failed so badly?

Hilary Bone
Federal

■ This morning, I found in my letterbox (Mullumbimby) a four page 'rant' about the harm of lockdowns, the case against mandatory vaccines, and the benefits of antiviral therapies. The document is anonymous, it does say it is from the 'COVID medical network' but there is no address or contact details.

As a reference, it cites three doctors; one is not in Australia, one is a GP on the north Sunshine Coast and one is an anaesthetist who has a long history of being critical of Dan Andrews. None are from the Byron Shire.

The document shows no understanding of the COVID virus, its effects, or how it is transmitted. It is pure scaremongering – and targeted at the Byron Shire.

As the document is in mail boxes, it is indiscriminate with regard to its recipients. The affect will be to generate confusion and fear in a time when it is essential that we work together as a responsible society.

I regard the authors as both gutless and criminal in their intent.

John Davies
Mullumbimby

■ Sarah Seaward (Letters, 4 August) is thankful for the unmasked folk making eye contact and bolstering her immune system. She also suggests that Mandy Nolan should consider moving from Mullumbimby if she is concerned about the unmasked.

I left Mullum earlier this year as I didn't like all the eye contact. I haven't looked back. Does anyone know where I can get a 'Mullum: If you don't love it, Leave' sticker for my Tesla?

Matt Long
Brunswick Heads

■ Oligarchy to kill 90 per cent? At a meeting of front-line activists last Sunday at Mullum gardens, a man held up a copy of our beloved *Echo* and the crowd went, 'BOOOO!'

Remember, *The Echo* was started as a protest against government tyranny. Now it seems that *The Echo*, the Byron Community Centre, BayFM etc are all going corporate.

There is a bill: *No Domestic COVID Vaccine Passports Bill 2021*. Please write to the politicians on this one. Safeguarding our 'last rights'.

But what is really important is the state of the environment. The IPCC report and Attenborough's series on the Great Barrier Reef are a shock. No wonder the oligarchy wants to eliminate 90 per cent of humanity. It has been working on an airborne virus for decades.

Now everyone is being given the spike protein vaxxination to bring on the 'great reset'. There is an 'Extinction Rebellion' group working on an alternative. Blessings on your journey.

Noah Yamore
Mullumbimby

■ Free to go? I just rang Service NSW 13 77 88, told them I was in a locked down LGA, and asked could I leave to go and look at property outside the area?

The answer was an astounding 'Yes,' just so long as I had a few pieces of paper in case police stopped me, eg; showing the reason I had to move, such as eviction etc, and a letter from agents saying I was looking at property – all easy to fake – I was fine to go anywhere in NSW.

Annabel Adair
Mullumbimby

■ I wish to provide a civil liberties perspective on the novel coronavirus health

crisis, given the feelings of some that the decision to vaccinate, or not, need only be considered in regards to their own body. Your decision is not that simple.

Civil liberties are never absolute, because the rights of one have a habit of impacting on the rights of another. So, for example, freedom to avoid vaccination has to be weighed against another's right to a safe workplace, safe access to public facilities, and so on. It is for this reason that the NSW Council for Civil Liberties and other groups advocate for a balanced approach to rights and responsibilities.

That said, note the reluctance of even a desperate federal government to mandate vaccinations. It is broadly considered a step too far in sacrificing personal liberty. You do ultimately have the choice of not vaccinating. But don't pretend it is your right to think only of yourself, and don't complain when others exercise their right to a vaccine passport so that they can go about their lives without worrying about the impact your choices may be having on their wellbeing.

Matcham Caine
Byron Bay

■ Hardcore libertarianism and individualism cannot lead us out of a pandemic. In fact, they have the adverse impact on our individual, collective and planetary well-being and safety.

What pandemics challenge is our ability and capacity to sublimely care for others, to understand that we are entangled, interconnected and bound up with each other. The cry for 'freedom' by libertarian individuals is responsible for the ecological and environmental crisis that we face. It is an insidious, dangerous cry, not for actual freedom, but for one's own self and survival.

When I was undertaking my postgraduate research at Southern Cross University I was fortunate to meet with the South African anti-apartheid activist Desmond Tutu and to spend a morning with him. He had worked with Nelson Mandela to free South African from its racial policies of apartheid. He explained to me that freedom only comes from our relationship with others.

The African philosophy of Ubuntu, he said, means: 'My humanity is caught up,

is inextricably bound up, in yours. We belong in a bundle of life. [In South Africa] We say, "A person is a person through other persons". That is the measure of our humanity'. At core, human rights activism is an understanding that the freedom of the individual is about radical indivisibility with others. We are indivisible with the community. What will lead us out of this pandemic and a planetary environmental crisis is our caring for other people in solidarity, and caring for this precious planet, our home.

Baden Offord
Ocean Shores

■ I'm wondering if our COVID-infected property buyer might instead spend some of that earmarked money on a couple of ventilators for the community?

Phoebe Havvatt
Byron Bay

■ We recieved many more letters on this and other topics that we couldn't fit in this week. Please read more at *The Echo* online: www.echo.net.au/letters.



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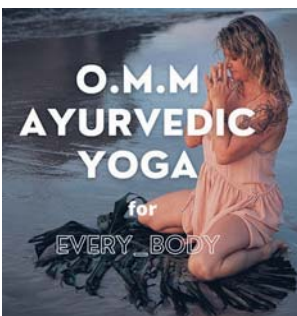
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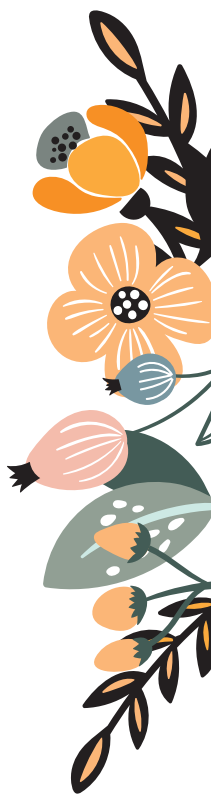
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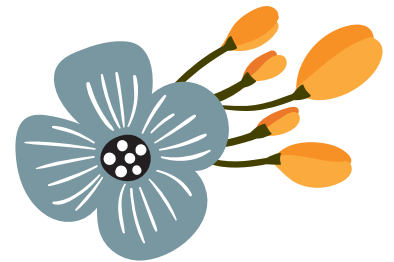
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Their aim is to provide therapies that support optimal health and wellbeing.

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Bodyhealz membership includes access to all classes as well as 24/7 access to Bodyworkz gym. They look forward to welcoming you to their beautiful studio and hope to see you soon.

0466 433 161

48 Centennial Circuit, Byron Bay
byronbodyhealz.com.au



Meridian Holistic Dental

The dentists at Meridian Holistic Dental have a wealth of experience in general and holistic dentistry, as well as specialised areas such as TMJ, cosmetic dentistry, and child oral health. They are passionate about improving the dental health and overall wellbeing of patients.

Meridian Holistic Dental is ready to look after any of your dental needs, from routine oral checkups to teeth whitening, emergency care, and children's dentistry. They will work with you to care for all your oral health needs through all stages of diagnosis, treatment, and ongoing care.

They strive to give you the highest quality of care in a relaxed and comfortable environment.

To make a booking please contact their reception on 02 6684 1511.

“Speak Up” health survey will help make a difference

What's up, or down, with health in your town?

Healthy North Coast, the organisation that delivers the Australian Government's Primary Health Network program, wants to find out.

Healthy North Coast is conducting a survey asking communities from Port Macquarie to Tweed Heads to share what's working well, what could be improved. 'We're asking North Coast residents to tell us about their health and the health services where they live,' said Healthy North Coast CEO, Julie Sturgess.

'The feedback we receive from the Speak Up survey helps us to prioritise areas of need and deliver essential health services to the most vulnerable in our communities.'

Survey participants can enter a prize draw for one of 20 x \$100 cash cards. Ts&Cs apply.

hnc.org.au/speak-up



Theta healing with Zena

Theta healing is a philosophy, and complete healing process, based on working with the frequency of theta brainwaves, which can be used to change self-limiting beliefs.

Repeating patterns in life that no longer serve you?

Feeling you are living someone else's life?

Depressed, lost, unhappy?

Theta Healing technique can make immediate changes at the deepest cellular memory level so you can heal more quickly and easily.

It positively affects you physically and emotionally and creates balance between the mind, body and soul.

Zena has 25 years experience in Australia. Based in Suffolk Park, she teaches basic courses in Melbourne and Byron Bay in two languages, Russian and English.

Her next course, 'Intuitive Anatomy', will be held on 26 November 2021.

0409 302 548

Zenamagic@gmail.com



Anne Ligthart

Anne Ligthart's professional focus and interest lies with trauma and family relationships, including couples and parental mentoring. She has worked in the alternative and holistic health fields for thirty years, which has also included the recreational diving industry, where she has applied holistic and healing principles to scuba diving instruction and licensing. She plans to return to the diving industry when global conditions permit. Currently Anne works with people suffering traumatic distress through individual sessions or with whole families. Her methods are unconventional and decidedly human, as well as evidence-based and very effective. Her main therapeutic models are EMDR/Brainspotting and Anthroposophical medical methodologies.

Call Anne to book a Zoom or phone appointment.

0466 599 837

anneligthartsupport@inet.net.au



Health & Healing



Crystals & Dreaming

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

Crystal Resonance Therapist™ and Dream Coach Kate Messenger offers sessions in Mullumbimby and workshops around Byron Shire. Crystal Resonance Therapy™ is a powerful modality that helps you access higher levels of consciousness and deep cellular memory to facilitate transformational shifts in your life and experiences. Sessions are facilitated through a 'laying on of stones' while you are in a relaxed and receptive state. The crystals work together synergistically to balance your energy and create powerful and lasting changes.

Some of the many benefits include: increased and more balanced energy, improved sleep, greater creativity and confidence, increased sense of personal power, and enhanced feelings of wellbeing and intuition.

0413 003 301

crystalsanddreaming.com.au

Introducing Dr Mann Ying Lim

BMed/MD
Bachelor of Medical Studies & Doctor of Medicine.
Dr Mann Ying Lim graduated from the University of New South Wales in 2015 and has experience working in various places including Brisbane, Gold Coast, and Casino. She enjoys all aspects of general practice but has a special interest in chronic diseases and preventative health. Dr Mann also believes in the provision of good holistic care and patient education.

In her free time, Mann Ying loves hiking, tennis, boardgames and is looking forward to exploring the Northern Rivers region.

02 6685 8666



What is Dramatherapy

The British Association of Dramatherapy uses the following definition:

Dramatherapy has, as its main focus, the intentional use of healing aspects of drama and theatre as the therapeutic process. It is a method of working and playing that uses action methods to facilitate creativity, imagination, learning, insight and growth.

Using dramatherapy techniques can include the use of story, rituals, puppets, and role-play to assist the participants to express feelings, re-enact events or painful situations and work through complex relationships. The use of drama and play allows the participants to process their issues in a creative way using symbolism and metaphor that is an alternative to the talking therapies.

To make an appointment for a dramatherapy session please visit www.playingforreal.com.au.



Bangalow Headache Clinic



At Bangalow Headache Clinic they treat headaches and migraines, jaw pain, clicking, grinding and locking, as well as vestibular disorders and dizziness.

Michael has done extensive studies and exams in both Australia and Europe involving the head, neck and jaw. He has completed advanced vestibular competency training with the Northern American leaders in this area.

At Bangalow Headache Clinic they quite often find an overlap between headache and dizziness and/or headache and jaw problems. They possess the expertise to resolve these difficult problems.

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

72 Byron Street, Bangalow
bangalowheadacheclinic.com.au

Health and Wellbeing at Byron Community College

Byron Community College offers an exciting and diverse range of health and healing courses to support and enhance your health and wellbeing in the workplace and at home.

This term the ever popular *Improve Your Gut Health* course with Louise Plant will return this September. The course will give you the practical components to learn to make, heal and repair the gut with the power of food and ferments.

Other great health and wellbeing focused courses on offer are *Writing for Wellbeing*, *Advanced Vegan Nuts and Cheeses*, *Ayurveda an Introduction*, *Communication for Clarity and Connection*, *Reiki Level 1*, and *Reiki Level 2*.

It's never too late to learn. Enrol online at www.byroncollege.org.au or call 6684 3374.



Learn The Art of Moving with Osteoporosis & Osteoarthritis

These two conditions have different treatments and natural movement can help alleviate both conditions. Primarily bone growth is dependent upon the mechanical forces applied to it as well as the chemistry surrounding the cells. Bone is designed rather like the rings of a tree and this architecture gives the bone strength. A strong skeleton is just as important as a healthy heart, and bone loss is a natural part of ageing. With an efficient movement pattern bones can get the support they need, and bone can be remodelled.

Movement Intelligence uses:

- Pressure through bones.
- Movement sequences.
- Strategies to develop a spring in your step.
- Ways to improve your equilibrium.
- Recruiting the Sphincters to create bone building movement.

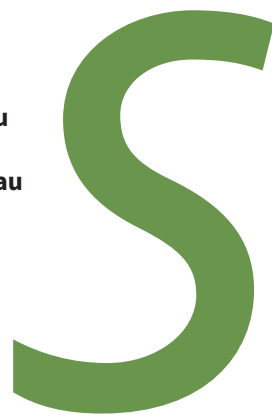
Movement Intelligence Australia
www.movement-intelligence.com.au

MANDY NOLAN'S SOAPBOX

www.echo.net.au/soap-box



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A WAKE UP TO AUSTRALIA'S REAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR FREEDOM

Today I woke up profoundly aware that as a white woman I live in a country that affords me extreme privilege. While baristas and hairdressers take to our front lines as 'freedom fighters'— getting shouty about the right to not wear a mask during a global pandemic – women in Afghanistan are waking up today wondering if the last 20 years was a dream. Two decades of education and ambition are over. The Taliban are back. Back is a life where women have no agency, where they will be forced, again, to wear a burqa at all times in public, because the 'face of a woman is a source of corruption'. This makes the push back on mask wearing look pretty shallow. Under the Taliban, it is women and children who will suffer most. After 20 years of American intervention, the Afghan government collapsed in one night. Weirdly, I was watching the latest season of *Homeland* where (spoiler alert) the presidents – both Afghan and American – are killed and the Taliban take control. This was made in 2019. It was dramatic, but clearly more than two years ago Netflix writers were able to forecast the political future for Afghanistan.

Today I woke up to the news that President Ashraf Ghani has fled. The Taliban have taken Kabul and are giving interviews from the Presidential Palace. The US personnel have hightailed it to the airport to Get the Fuck Out. It's starting to look a lot like Vietnam. Although the Americans are saying 'This is nothing like Saigon'.

Really? Who is being left behind? What is going to happen to those who were seen to be working towards democracy with the US led forces?

I guess, unlike when the Viet Kong took Saigon, this time we have Facebook. It's kind of surreal when a deposed president posts a message on Facebook to tell the world he had no choice but to leave: 'In order to avoid a flood of blood, I thought it was best to get out.' For a minute I thought I was still watching Netflix. Fact check. This is the real world. The lines are blurring.

I can only imagine the fear and the despair of women and girls in Afghanistan.

There is a whole generation of Afghan women who have entered public life as journalists, academics, teachers... who could very well end up being forced to marry Islamist militants. Women leaders and law makers who have been working to open up opportunities for later generations of women, who now have good reason to fear that the gains of the last 20 years will be lost.

'With every city collapsing, human bodies collapse, dreams collapse, history and future collapse, art and culture collapse, life and beauty collapse, our world collapses, someone please stop this,' Afghan photographer Rada Akbar wrote on Twitter.

While the Taliban have promised to protect women, women don't believe them.

The first and only female prosecutor in Kandahar Province has sent 21 men to jail for beating and abusing their wives. In the lead up to the Taliban takeover she received a warning: a handwritten note, on the windshield of her

family car, folded around a bullet. *The New York Times* reports the contents of the letter 'From now on you are our target and we will treat you like other Western slaves'.

Perhaps it's timely to revisit some of the rules women lived under with the Taliban: no laughing loudly (strangers are not to hear a woman's voice), no bright clothes, no appearing on the balcony of their home, the requirement that all windows be painted over so that women can't be seen, public stoning of women accused of infidelity, women whipped in public for showing their ankles. In fact, any non accordance with the dress code is met with a whipping and abuse. Previously, for women under Taliban rule, there was no activity outside the home without a close male relative, there was a ban on study at school, university or any other educational institution (women are banned from learning to read). There was a ban on high heels or shoes that make noise, because a man must not hear a woman's footsteps. Women were not permitted to gather for any festive or recreational purpose. Women were not to appear in pictures in newspapers, or in books, or in pictures hung on the walls of the home.

I write this list, and I can't help but cry. Australia needs to step up.

Afghan refugees living in Australia right now need permanent protection. We need a one-off humanitarian intake of vulnerable groups, and we need to lift the ban on family reunion immigration that currently prevents the hundreds of Afghan Australian permanent residents from being reunited with family still in Afghanistan.

After 20 years of promises to protect women and other persecuted groups, in Afghanistan, we can't just walk away.

THE WATERS ARE HERE

Matt Day and Jessie Rose are Broadwaters, playing a vast variety of styles and moods. The duo formed shortly after meeting, in late 2019, when Jessie was recording Matt as part of her SAE degree in Audio. They were bunkered down in their home studio for the better part of 2020 and are currently working on a music video for their next release 'Home'. Matt says it's been a tough year. 'Trying to manage finances as a musician during a global crisis hasn't been easy. Having the opportunity to play live again means I have the ability to sustain myself, not just in the body but in the mind and spirit.'



Get an early start to see Broadwaters at the New Brighton Farmers Market on Tuesday from 8am.

WHAT'S ON

DINE & DISCOVER NSW

Teardrops On My Dildo

Vanessa Larry Mitchell
 Stand-up comedy you will want to lay down for
 Thursday 26th August 7:30pm



Inception

A Three Lords Special Event
 Featuring live AV show by Dashboard Animals
 Saturday 28th August 7:30pm



No Man's Land - NT Live Encore Screening

Ian McKellen and Patrick Stewart lead the cast in this glorious revival of Harold Pinter's comic classic
 Saturday 4th September 11:30am



Legally Blonde The Musical JR.

Bright Lights Performance School paints the town pink!
 Sunday 5th September 2:00pm & 6:30pm
 Friday 10th September 6:30pm



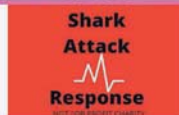
Ziggy Alberts 'brainwaves' Book Tour

An evening of poetry, conversation and reflection on Ziggy's first Australian book tour
 Monday 6th September 6:00pm



Shark Attack Response Inc. Public Access to First Aid Fundraiser

Bands, Surf Movie, First Aid Training, Auction, Raffles, Bar, Food
 Wednesday 8th September 6:30pm



The Big Bike Film Night 2021

A feast of short films that celebrate the fun, adventure and inspiration that cycling enables
 Thursday 9th September 7:00pm



Pompeii: Sin City - Art On Screen

A cinematic journey in one of the world's most famous archaeological sites
 Wednesday 15th September 3:00pm



Top Dog Film Festival 2021

Inspirational and heart-warming stories about dogs and their human companions
 Saturday 18th September 2:00pm



Gutsy Girls Adventure Film Tour 2021

Celebrate the bold women of adventure in films that will entertain, enthrall and inspire
 Saturday 18th September 7:00pm



Book now: byrontheatre.com

Byron Theatre & Community Centre
 69 Jonson Street, Byron Bay 2481



E N T E R T A I N M E N T

ENTERTAINMENT IS STILL HERE - A LITTLE BIT



TEARDROPS ON MITCHELL'S SEX TOYS AND OTHER STUFF

After being in the online dating scene for a few years, **Vanessa 'Larry' Mitchell** decided to write a book called *50 first dates*, which she had planned to be a bit of a reflection on the dating process. Mitchell says it certainly wasn't going to be a sex book (unless there was sex to document), but more about the process of dating, the nerves, the expectations and the miscommunications that happen with online communication. Mitchell only got up to chapter seven and ended up getting cat-fished by a dude with a beard. 'I have no problem with beards, but this guy's profile pic was of a smooth well maintained baby face. A solid 8/10 face. We had arranged to meet for a beer and 10 minutes before we met, he messaged me and warned me about the beard. If you have to warn someone about your beard, then even *you* know how bad said beard must be!'



COVID put the world on hold, but it ain't stopping BayFM

17 new shows since the pandemic kicked off
We're keeping things fresh at BayFM. Over a quarter of all our programs didn't exist before 2020.

New music, more genres, more choice
From garage to jazz, medieval to metal - plus heaps of new music from our local talent.

Challenging chat that gets inside local issues
Provocative interviews that draw from every corner of the crazy patchwork of Byron Shire life.

Not listened for a while? Surprise yourself and check back in to Byron Shire's 100% independent, volunteer-run, not-for-profit community radio station. Online at bayfm.org and on air at 99.9FM.



bayfm.org
Listen like a local.

'The whole date was awkward. I think I give people the benefit of the doubt on dates... Like at one stage my head was thinking "wow, this guy is really funny", but then I realised we were just laughing at me.'

Mitchell ended up giving up on the book, and on dating too for a while after that. 'Not just because of his beard, but dating can get tiring. I was telling my mate about the continual let downs I was starting to feel and he suggested I change the name of the book to *Teardrops on My Dildo*. The title made the show easy to write, as I knew exactly which stories needed to go in.'

Mitchell says the teardrops themselves aren't funny, but human tragedy kind of is. 'If we are not able to look back and laugh at our darkest moments when we're sitting on the kitchen floor, in a pile of tears, wondering how we made such a shit show of it all, then we might be in trouble. Relationships can rock people so hard.'

'I remember when my marriage ended, feeling like I was going to die from a broken heart. Looking back, I was probably just dying from a broken ego. Life didn't just "go on". It got better. I feel like I've lived about six lives already. It's a bit of a cycle isn't it? I'm not looking forward to hitting tragedy again, but I'll be ready for it - with a pen and paper ready to capture every juicy tragic moment.'

Some of Mitchell's reviews would suggest she a good time girl with a funny story. 'I've certainly done my fair share of partying, but I don't think I'm much more wild than a lot of women out there. Well, maybe a little, but when I am on stage, most women can relate to my stories. I just say the bits that most women have pushed down into that internal "do not ever tell anyone about this, vault". That vault is unnecessary. Save that space for the really dark stuff. There are still so many things that, as women, we are not supposed to say or talk about. It feels like there are some things we aren't even supposed to acknowledge to ourselves, which is so bonkers.'

'At the gym, you can see women's body language change as they see star jumps coming up as the next exercise, and afterwards one-by-one they'll discretely duck to the bathroom, but never dare mention that they just pissed themselves. We all do it. Just literally pissing ourselves everyday at the gym. We need to laugh more about that.'

There won't be actual dildos in the show: 'I would have to charge a lot more for that. Can you imagine, rolling into a theatre and some chick starts jamming herself on stage? Could we even do that?! I went to a cabaret show in Lismore once where the main act did a hand stand in a wedding dress on stage and her co-performer shoved a candle in her vagina and lit it up. It was one of the strangest things I have ever seen on stage, but a part of me was sitting there thinking "Why didn't I think of that?"'

Women *love* talking about dildo's. Mitchell says 'dildo' is one of those words that only ever got whispered when she was hitting her adult years. 'Before the internet was in full swing, we had to go into the dark and dingy Club X to buy them. Even now some of those places creep me out. I had to buy a vibrator when I was in Melbourne on a work trip and had a sexual emergency.'

'I'm not sure if you know St Kilda, but where they put the Club X in St Kilda is literally on the biggest crossroads in the whole entire city. There couldn't possibly be any more people, cars and trams getting a visual of you walking into that place. It took me a lot of convincing myself to go in, and when I did, I was so glad.'

'There was a little old lady working in there that looked like someone's nana. She tried to sell me a vibrator that makes you orgasm in 12 seconds. 12 seconds?! I'm a busy woman, but even I could make time for that. I imagine it's the same women that are buying their veggies pre-cut from Woolies that are buying those ones. Make time people!'

Mitchell says she is always interested in watching audiences reactions in comedy shows, not just in hers.

'I get at least 90 per cent female audiences to my shows. I never really intended for that to happen, but I guess the marketing appeals to women. Men love the show too though. I will often get a message from blokes who've attended. Not a slimy one - genuine feedback. Although one guy after my last show in Armidale sent me a photo that said something like "here is my dick pic". It was a picture of Dick Smith. Bit of a lame joke, but I appreciated his effort.'

'It's definitely not a show about dick pics or a slag off about men, but there are some common things that men (some men) do that are just revolting and they should stop. Mind you, I've had a woman send me a pic of her vag too once. I didn't even know that was a thing women did.'

THE INCEPTION ADVENTURE

Featured in last week's Seven - Three Lords had to postpone their Christopher Nolan's *Inception* adventure, but the crew are back at the end of the month. Three Lords bring you their next collaboration with local artists for a mind-bending A/V show for this science fiction thriller adventure.



The show is scheduled to go ahead on **Saturday 28 August 7.30pm at the Byron Theatre.**

'There is a thing that women do when they go to a comedy show, where the comedian might say a joke that is a bit edgy, and women will look at their man, almost seeking permission to laugh. Women don't mean to do it, but there is something ingrained into our DNA or something that makes people feel like they need approval to be able to laugh. When I see women come in to the room in droves, in my head, I know "I've got this in the bag". Women on their own are so ready to let their guard down. They've had enough of playing the sweetheart. Underneath the surface of even the sweetest of women there is that little voice that just wants her to let it all go.'

'I had two women at a show recently who looked so straight and boring. They looked like they had come straight from their jobs at a church library, complete with cable knit cardigans. I had an "uh oh" moment, wondering if I was going to be too filthy for them. I was genuinely worried they might not handle it. But as the show went on, I could see their shoulders bouncing up and down and their hands covering their laughing mouths, as though the laughter was about to explode out of them. That's the best feeling as a performer - just watching people let go.'

Vanessa 'Larry' Mitchell Thursday 26 August, Byron Theatre. Public health restrictions permitting.

WHAT'S ON

BUDJERAH

Debut EP Australian Tour.
Support: Sam Windley.
Thursday 19 August, 7.30pm



POSTPONED

TEARDROPS ON MY DILDO VANESSA LARRY MITCHELL

Stand-up comedy you'll want to lay down for!
Thursday 26 August, 7.30pm



INCEPTION

A Three Lords Special Event.
Featuring live AV show by Dashboard Animals.
Saturday 28 August, 7.30pm



NO MAN'S LAND - NT LIVE ENCORE

Ian McKellan & Patrick Stewart star in Harold Pinter's comic classic.
Saturday 4 September, 11.30am



LEGALLY BLONDE THE MUSICAL JR.

Bright Lights paint the town pink!
Sunday 5 September, 2pm & 6.30pm
Friday 10 September, 6.30pm



Arrive early and enjoy a drink at the Theatre Bar

Byron Theatre & Community Centre
69 Jonson Street, Byron Bay
byrontheatre.com

3
BYRON
THEATRE
AUG / SEP



Fig Tree uplifts

Sandra Haslam

Fig Tree Restaurant is usually all about welcoming their guests into an elegant eatery where diners are cooked lovely food, and waited on in the beautiful surrounds. With that not possible at the moment, the restaurant team have come up with the fabulous 'Fig Tree at Home' take-home dinner packs.

This weekend's boxed delight was the first in a series of 'Fig Tree at Home' three course dinner experiences. The box itself is beautiful; inside the food is laid amongst olive and fruiting cumquat branches, gingham wrap and a charming herb posy. Everything is cooked and labelled, then diners have a very easy couple of



instructions to reheat the meal. The first step in the instructions is to pour yourself some wine, and the rest was even more of a breeze.

We started with Fig Tree sourdough focaccia, which was soft, rich and a bit crunchy on the edges. Next was their really delicious local mushroom risotto with truffle, it came with a generous wedge of parmesan and cubed butter separately so the non-dairy member of the family was catered for. Alongside that was organic roasted chicken with lemon myrtle, sage and rosemary, with chicken jus, and it was the tastiest chicken I have had in a long time. A green ensemble of beans, sugar snaps broccolini and lemon was a great accompaniment, along with salsa verde and an artful bunch of salad vegetables. The last course was sublime with a rich hazelnut and chocolate brownie with vanilla and a silky home made vanilla bean nutella ice cream.

The serves were quite generous, the packs are said to serve 2-6 people, so our family of four, including a teenager with a vigorous



The drive-through at Fig Tree is a big step up from Macca's. You can have a restaurant meal at home, and the best bottle of wine in the house!

appetite, were absolutely satisfied on the night and happily enjoyed liberal leftovers the next day.

Even though we weren't in the restaurant, with all the expertly produced cuisine and careful touches, it felt like we were guests. Almost all of the meal was gluten-free, and there are vegetarian alternative options. From the flourishing Fig Tree Restaurant garden, via their skilled

culinarians to your home, this beautiful meal brought, to an occasionally weighty time, a welcome upliftment.

Fig Tree at Home is available Thursday to Saturday, with COVID Safe pick-up or some delivery options, place your order before 5pm.

Fig Tree Restaurant, 4 Sunrise Lane, Ewingsdale. 0457 285 783. info@figtreerestaurant.com.au.



Spicy carrot, red lentil and coconut soup

During these times many of us have found cooking to be even more comforting than usual.

Recipe: Belinda Jeffrey

Serves 8

1 tablespoon extra virgin olive oil
1 large onion, thinly sliced
2 large cloves garlic, finely chopped
1½ tablespoons finely chopped fresh ginger
1 small red chilli, finely chopped, optional
1½ heaped teaspoons ground cumin
1 heaped teaspoon ground coriander
¼ teaspoon cinnamon
2 teaspoons harissa
1 tablespoon sun-dried tomato pesto (or regular tomato paste)
1½ kg carrots, peeled and fairly finely sliced
1 x 400g can diced tomatoes
2 teaspoons raw sugar



Photo: Rodney Wedland

150g red lentils, thoroughly washed
2-3 teaspoons sea salt, to taste
Freshly ground black pepper, to taste
Approx. 1½ litres (6 cups) cool water
Juice ½-1 lemon (or lime), to taste
1 x 270ml can coconut cream

Warm the olive oil in a very large saucepan over medium heat. Add the onion, garlic, ginger and chilli and cook them, stirring often, for 10 minutes. Now add the ground spices, harissa, and tomato pesto and cook them, stirring all the while, for another minute or so.

Tip in the carrots and lentils and give them a good swish around so they're coated in the spicy mixture. Finally, add the tomatoes, sugar, salt, pepper and water. Increase the heat to high and bring the soup to the boil, then reduce the heat to low so it bubbles gently. Partly cover the pan and cook the soup for about one hour, or until the carrot is tender.

Allow it to cool slightly then puree the soup in batches in a blender, or with a stick blender. Gently re-heat it then stir in the lemon (or lime) juice and coconut cream, reserving a spoonful for garnishing. Taste the soup and add more salt or lemon juice if necessary. To serve the soup, ladle it into warm bowls, with reserved coconut cream on top, freshly ground black pepper and a few tiny herb (eg chervil) sprigs.

Scarcity

Simon Haslam

This is not my bottle of Husk's 'Lost Blend' rum, nor is it me (it's a photogenic Husk employee), but I am looking forward to getting my bottle #64 of this limited release rum, after my name was picked up in an 'online lottery'. Their excellent rum tastes better than toilet paper, but I share some similarities with Woolies panic buyers.

The 'scarcity' heuristic is a mental shortcut that places value on an item based on how easily it might be lost, especially to competitors - the more difficult it is to acquire an item, the more value it has. We use an item's perceived abundance to quickly estimate its quality or utility. Whilst I sentimentally like the idea that the 'Lost

Blend' was created in the original old shed at Husk, and the recipe lost in the flood, the 'online lottery' certainly piqued my interest.

'Social proof' is a principle of social psychology that reinforces the effect of scarcity. If a product is sold out, or inventory is low, we think it must be worth buying it because everyone else is. Also, if you've 'committed' to buying toilet paper, and you can't have it, it makes you want the item more. Maybe you'll buy as much as you can at a nearby supermarket, and maybe the fact that I've cut down my alcohol consumption made me want the bottle even more!

Regardless, I'm also looking forward to a taste-off between the Lost Blend and Husk's 1866 blend, their first limited release.



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Make the Switch works with food retailers in Byron to help them switch away from single-use plastics.

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Sunday Lunch - 12pm to 2pm - \$80
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To find out more, visit figtreeevents.com.au/events

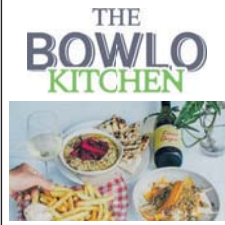
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BANGALOW



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Open Wed-Fri 12-2.30pm & 5-8.30pm;
Sat 12-8.30pm; Sun 12-7pm.
Club open Wed-Sun from 12 noon
www.bangalowbowlo.com.au
📍 bangalowbowlo @thebowlo

Family friendly, tradies' local, restaurant quality. Wednesday to Friday happy hour, midweek specials, excellent wines, foodies delight, creative cocktails, local produce, massive kids' space, welcoming staff, and COVID Safe.

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Book online:
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\$6 Loft lager or wine, \$10 Aperol Spritz, \$14 Margarita
Espresso Martini Nights | Every day 9-11pm
2 for \$25 Classic Espresso Martini
Open every day from 4pm till late.



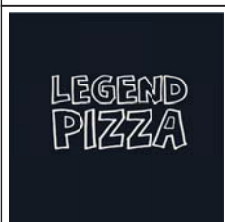
Fishheads
Restaurant & Takeaway
Byron Bay
1 Jonson Street, Byron Bay
6680 7632
📍 FISHHEADSBYRON

Warm your winter
Welcome and enjoy the fresh, local inspired seafood and ingredients or just come along for a drink by the sea
The Fishheads Family
www.fishheadsbyron.com.au



Chupacabra
Eat in or take out.
Shop 12A, 3 Clifford St, Suffolk Park
6685 3059
www.chupacabra.com.au
@chupabyron

Fresh authentic Mexican in a relaxed atmosphere. This is food made with love, all produce sourced locally. Margaritas and tacos all night long! Family friendly, totally GF menu.
DINNER 5pm-9pm
WED-SAT
Book via Resy



Legend Pizza
Serving Byron Bay for 30 years
Open 7 days and nights
Delivery from Suffolk to Ewingsdale
90-96 Jonson Street
6685 5700
www.legendpizza.com.au

Byron's Freshest Pizza
Order online and join our loyalty program
Catering for up to 100 people lunch and dinner
BYO
Locally owned and operated
Scan code for menu



Main Street
Open 7 days
11.30am until late
Call to make a reservation or for takeaway orders
18 Jonson Street
6680 8832

Gourmet burgers created by chefs
Cocktails, wine and beers served all damn day.
Group bookings available, please email mainstreetburgerbar@gmail.com for reservations.



Success Thai
Mon-Fri lunch & dinner closed Sundays
Lunch 12 noon-3pm
Dinner from 5-8.30pm
3/31 Lawson St, Byron Bay
www.facebook.com/pages/Success-Thai-Food/237359826303469

All your favourites, every lunch and dinner. Experienced Thai chefs cooking fresh, delicious Thai food for you.
BYO only
Welcome for lunch, dinner and takeaway.
Menus available on Facebook.



Daughter in Law
Mon-Sun 4pm-late
22 Fletcher Street, Byron Bay
@dil_byron
www.daughterinlaw.com.au
Reservations via website, and half of the restaurant is reserved for walk-in's

Not your typical Indian joint.
Jessi Singh's 'unauthentic coastal Indian' cuisine using local Northern Rivers ingredients.
DJ's spin 80s and 90s tunes, and self-serve fridges for cocktails, wine, and beer



Barrio
1 Porter St, North Byron
Breakfast & lunch
Monday-Sunday 7am-3pm
Aperitif hour
Wednesday-Friday 3-5pm
Dinner
Wednesday-Friday 5pm-Late

Barrio's canteen takes its inspiration from locally sourced produce with moorish cuisine.
Offering daily bakes, breakfast cakes, classic sandwiches, vibrant salads, smoked fish and grilled meats.
Book via our website for lunch and dinner in the restaurant at www.barriobyronbay.com.au.
Walk-in tables available.
Booking via our website barriobyronbay.com.au

BYRON BAY continued



Saltwater Social Club
A gathering place for all
32 Jonson St, Byron Bay
saltwatersocialclub.com.au

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



No Bones
Vegan Bar and Kitchen.
11 Fletcher Street
6680 7418
Book online:
www.nobonesbyronbay.com.au

We have temporarily closed during lockdown but...
Good news - we've opened 'Little No Bones' in front of Woolies
Serving ready made meals, sandwiches, salads, coffee, juices, smoothies
Open 7am-6pm everyday
108 Jonson Street - 0479 121 614 - @Littlenobones



The Italian Byron Bay
21, 108 Jonson St, Byron Bay
Open 7 days from 5.30pm
5633 1216
www.theitalianbyronbay.com

The Italian, Byron Bay, provides a bustling atmospheric restaurant, dishing up contemporary inspired Italian cuisine and some of Byron's finest cocktails and wines.
CLOSED FOR AUGUST

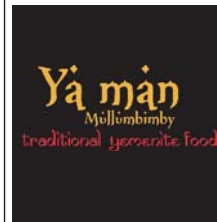
COORABELL



Gentlemen Noodle
Japanese pop-up Noodle Shop
RAMEN NIGHT
Every Thursday & Friday
Open 4pm to 8pm @Coorabell Hall
565 Coolamon Scenic Drive
We have a market stall and random pop-up restaurant too. Please check our update info, on FB and Instagram!!

Authentic fresh made Japanese food, vegetarian, vegan, gluten free Menus are available Community mind, Family friendly setting with amazing view of Byron bay
www.gentlemenoodle.com
📍 GENTLE-MEN-麵
📷 GENTLEMENNOODLE
Takeaway order text to 0434 570 933

MULLUMBIMBY



Yaman Mullumbimby
62 Stuart St, Mullumbimby
6684 3778
www.yamanmullumbimby.com.au
Open 7 days from 9am-8pm
Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

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.



The Empire
20 Burringbar St, Mullum
6684 2306
Mon-Fri 9am-3.30pm
Sat, Sun 9am-3pm
FB/Insta: EmpireMullum
empiremullum.com.au

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.



Paséyo
Corner of Stuart and Tincogan Streets Mullumbimby
0498 010 881
Monday-Friday 7.30am-3pm
Saturday 8am-2pm

Healthy, fresh, balanced and nutrient dense meals that create a sensory delight for our customers.
Buddha bowls, smoothies, coffee, cold-pressed juices, and so much more.

NASHUA



Frida's Field
76 Booyong Road, Nashua
Open 12-4pm Fri, Sat, Sun
Bookings via our website
www.fridasfield.com

Long Lunches
Contemporary country dining from award-winning chef. Seasonal produce-driven set menus with multiple dishes shared amongst your booking. Beautiful eco-farm location, just 10 minutes from Bangalow.
BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL.

NEWRYBAR



Harvest
18-22 Old Pacific Highway
Newrybar NSW 2479
02 6687 2644
www.harvest.com.au
@harvestnewrybar

HARVEST RESTAURANT, DELI + BAKERY
Culinary creativity that harnesses the connection between food and nature.
Restaurant
Lunch: 7 days 12-3pm
Dinner: Wed-Sat from 5.30pm
Baked goods at Sourdough
Weekends: Sat + Sun 8am until sold out
Deli 8am-3pm daily

CATERING



Celebrations Catering By Liz Jackson
Celebration cakes
Personal catering services
Event co-ordination and management

E: lizzijackson@gmail.com
P: **0414 895 441**

TIM MILLER
REAL ESTATE

0411 757 425
tim@millerrealestate.com.au
millerrealestate.com.au

149 FRIDAY HUT ROAD, COORABELL

Sunnyview - 40 beautiful acres in a prized Byron hinterland location



4 1 3 16.2ha

PRIVATE INSPECTIONS AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT
AUCTION SUNDAY 22 AUGUST 11AM ON-SITE

TIM MILLER
REAL ESTATE

0411 757 425
tim@millerrealestate.com.au
millerrealestate.com.au

17 PALM-LILY CRESCENT, BANGALOW

Contemporary charm and character in a peaceful part of Bangalow



3 2 2 653m2

PRIVATE INSPECTIONS AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT
AUCTION SATURDAY 4 SEPTEMBER 10.15AM ON-SITE



coastal & hinterland sales

Katrina Beohm

real estate



MULLUMBIMBY

1 Nightcap Court

Auction: On-site 11 September 1:30pm

Inspect: By Appointment

7 3.5 3 1265.7m²



MASSIVE HOME WITH MOUNT CHINCOGAN VIEWS

- + Cleverly designed master-built home, ideal for large or multi-generational families with plenty of room for all
- + Open-plan living, kitchen & dining areas. Two separate wings, two master suites & ducted air-conditioning
- + Huge north-facing level backyard with vehicle access & space for a second dwelling (STCA). 10kW solar
- + Quiet location close to parks, sporting fields & showgrounds. Short drive to town centre & 20 mins to Byron Bay

Christopher Plim 0467 000 222



Katrina Beohm
Director



Rachael Jenkins
Sales Manager



Christopher Plim
Sales Agent



Gail Beohm
Sales Support



Emily Hughes
Sales Admin

“Katrina and her team were of great assistance in getting us our dream block of land, especially towards the end where we ran into some last-minute issues.

- Dillon & Melissa, purchasers

I can highly recommend Chris, he is an outstanding real estate agent. Chris was considerate, supportive and very easy to talk to during the stressful time of selling my home.

- Daphne, vendor”

0459 066 087

8 PORTER STREET BYRON BAY

kbrealestate.com.au



Just Listed

4 2 2

View Scan QR Code
Sale Just Listed



Adrian Howe
0477 222 457
adrian.howe@oceanshores.rh.com.au

57 Balemo Drive, Ocean Shores

Coastal Family Home + Studio

Dreaming of a laidback lifestyle in the popular coastal town of Ocean Shores? This attractive brick and tile home set on a large block has a detached granny flat, ideal for in-law accommodation or the mature teenager.

- Brick and tile construction
- 1 bedroom granny flat
- Amazing, convenient location
- 1012 square metre block
- Ideal home or investment property



Just Listed

3 3 4

View Scan QR Code
Sale Just Listed



Adrian Howe
0477 222 457
adrian.howe@oceanshores.rh.com.au

5 Brunswick Street, New Brighton

Coastal Escape with Beach & River on your Doorstep

Perfectly positioned in the desirable New Brighton suburb, Brunswick Street is highly sought after as it offers the best of both worlds.

- 677 square metre block
- Spacious open plan living areas
- Functional kitchen with large island bench and lots of storage
- Beautiful, polished timber floors
- Large, covered entertaining deck + rear deck



Just Listed

2 2 1

View Scan QR Code
Sale \$699,000



Tania Sheppard
0436 033 636
tania.sheppard@oceanshores.rh.com.au

2/79 Rajah Road, Ocean Shores

Two Bedroom Townhouse Style Unit in tightly held Ocean Shores

Hello, lifestyle! Opportunities like this don't come along every day. This bright and breezy two-bedroom, two-bathroom townhouse style unit in Ocean Shores is your chance to enter the market and take advantage of everything this highly sought-after area has to offer.

- Lush, leafy outlook from every window
- Relaxed floor plan that flows for easy indoor-outdoor living



For Sale

5 2 4

View Scan QR Code
Sale \$2,700,000-\$2,900,000



Tania Sheppard
0436 033 636
tania.sheppard@oceanshores.rh.com.au

27 Pinegroves Road, Myocum

Eco-Oasis Sanctuary in the Byron Hinterland

Situated on a stunning 2.77 Ha with fruit trees, a spring-fed dam and plenty of space, this dual-living, eco-oasis set among regenerated rainforest enjoys lots of north light and is the perfect place for aspiring hobby farmers or those seeking the peaceful life.

- 2 heritage homes on-site
- Main dwelling: 3 bedrooms & 1 bathroom
- Secondary dwelling: 2 bedrooms & 1 bathroom



Coastal Mid-Century Luxe – Minutes to Tallow Beach

- Newly built and resting on 660m2 of land, 8 Pacific Vista Drive is the dream coastal home, alluding to the desert vibes and clean lines made famous in Palm Springs
- The premium finishes throughout the home will impress, including the unique rose quartz waterfall edged island benchtop which offsets the polished concrete floors
- The open plan living flows seamlessly to the covered balcony offering hinterland and sunset views - this large and private balcony adjoins the pool
- Located a short stroll to the white sand and crystal-clear water of Tallow Beach

5 beds 3 baths 6 cars 660M²

8 Pacific Vista Drive, Byron Bay

Price: Contact Agent

Inspection by private appointment only



Su Reynolds
0428 888 660



Absolute Riverfront Vacant Land

3.9 HA

- Approximately 500m of Richmond River frontage and approx. 10 acres of open pasture this property offers a slice of country life in the heart of the village of Wardell
- Build your dream home or business (STCA), watch a few horses or cattle roam the pasture and enjoy this amazing property while being close to everything the Northern Rivers has on offer, beaches, hinterland, villages and a relaxed pace of life

2 Byron Street, East Wardell

Price: \$1.05m – \$1.15m

Inspection by private appointment only



Su Reynolds
0428 888 660



Luke Elwin
0421 375 635



Absolute Beachfront Locale – Sought-after Position in Byron

2 beds 1 bath 1 car

- Directly opposite Byron Bay's beautiful Main and Clarks Beaches this is an opportunity to secure a holding in one of Australia's strongest property markets
- Amongst a boutique complex of only five units, this fabulous top-floor, north-facing apartment offers open-plan living and balcony with filtered ocean views
- Park in the secure single lock-up garage and don't get back in the car again, stroll over the road to the beach or meander up main beach to the centre of town

4/56 Lawson Street, Byron Bay

Price: Forthcoming Auction

Inspection by private appointment only



Paul Prior
0418 324 297



Oliver Aldridge
0421 171 499



Luxury Hillside Sanctuary with Ocean Views and Pool

- Nestled amongst Suffolk Park’s most tightly held hillside properties
- Within walking distance (1.3 km) to the Suffolk Park village with pub, bakery, supermarket and stunning Tallow beach
- The open plan living space as the centrepiece, featuring high ceilings and contemporary kitchen which opens to a beautiful wooden deck area, perfect for undercover alfresco dining and enjoying the fabulous ocean views
- Chill out in the heated pool, soak up the poolside sun or BBQ from the deck

5 3 2 2333M²

Address Available on Request

Price: Contact Agent

Inspection by private appointment only



Paul Banister
0438 856 552



Fabulous House and Land Opportunity

4 2 1 1.74 HA

- Only a minutes’ drive from Mullumbimby and Brunswick Heads
- Featuring unique turret-style architecture on an elevated 1.74ha block
- Multiple living areas spread across two floors provides versatile spaces, the first-floor rumpus room is ideal for the kids escaping the activity and life below
- Various decks give a treehouse feel, with every position providing a leafy outlook
- Let your imagination run wild to build, renovate and re-create (STCA)

41 Hyrama Crescent, Brunswick Heads

Price: \$2.2m – \$2.4m

Inspection by private appointment only



Tara Torkkola
0423 519 698



Expansive Luxury Abode

4 3 2 784M²

- Only a select few homes offer such truly breathtaking ocean views!
- Stunning coastal panorama which stretches across the Brunswick River to Byron Bay Lighthouse and Julian Rocks
- Set on a large 784m2 block with guest accommodation, resort style living and in-ground pool, all within a 10-minute walk to New Brighton Beach
- This remarkable home is unique in its dual living design, offering a completely self-contained 2-bedroom home on the ground floor

3 Kanandah Court, Ocean Shores

Price: \$2.5m – \$2.75m

Inspection by private appointment only



Tara Torkkola
0423 519 698



Large Elevated Block with Panoramic Ocean Views

3 2 4 5129M²

- Boasting absolutely stunning panoramic ocean views and situated just 15 minutes from Byron Bay and 8 minutes from Bangalow
- Brand new renovations and re-decoration elevate the home, including new kitchen cabinetry, bathroom fixtures, gas hot water system plus new gas cooktop
- An abundance of cleared land completes this wonderful package, allowing the ultimate space for family and friends to gather and enjoy alfresco living

494 Coolamon Scenic Drive, Coorabell

Price: \$4m - \$4.4m

Inspection by private appointment only



Tara Torkkola
0423 519 698



180m from Pristine South Golden Beach!

3 2 2 575M²

- First time being offered to the market in almost 40 years, 13 Gloria Street is a well-maintained home on desirable level land with huge potential
- The home features a versatile dual living layout, offering a self-contained section on the ground floor with its own entrance
- An easy 180m stroll to the beach, this home provides everything required to suit visiting families, owner occupiers and investors alike

13 Gloria Street, South Golden Beach

Price: Contact Agent

Inspection by private appointment only



Helen Huntly-Barratt
0412 332 232



Elevated Family Home with Cape Byron Vistas

3 2 2 2004M²

- This generously proportioned family home features views over the tree tops straight through to Cape Byron Lighthouse
- High ceilings and an open plan layout takes full advantage of the ample natural light and an expansive use of glass frames the spectacular vistas
- Multiple indoor and outdoor living areas makes entertaining easy anytime of the year
- Scope to add a pool or further develop the garden (STCA)

19 Cape Vista Drive, Ewingsdale

Price: Contact Agent

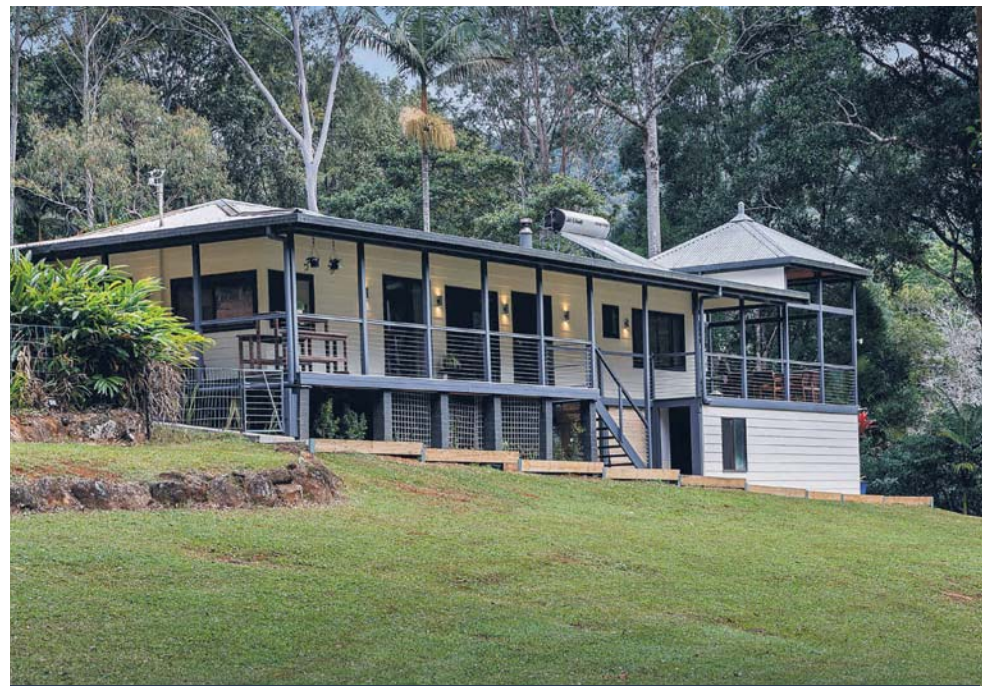
Inspection by private appointment only



Su Reynolds
0428 888 660



Luke Elwin
0421 375 635



Stunning Rural Lifestyle Property

3 2 3 11.6 HA

- Stunning rural acreage like this is hard to come by with approx. 28 acres including a flowing creek, iconic windmill and stunning native established forest
- Within walking distance to the local primary school and 40 minutes' drive to a selection of schools in both Lismore and Mullumbimby
- The modern home is perfect for the entertainer and families alike, with every bedroom and living space offering private access to the wraparound timber deck

59 Tickle Road, Upper Coopers Creek

Price: \$1.55m - \$1.65m

Inspection by private appointment only



Paul Prior
0418 324 297



Lee Grimes
0400 462 312



3 Armstrong Street, Suffolk Park



5 Armstrong Street, Suffolk Park

Rare Development Opportunity in Beachside Suffolk Park

- Incredibly rare opportunity to purchase two neighbouring properties in the quiet north-end of Armstrong Street, the premier Suffolk Park beachside location!
- Available for either individual sale or packaged. Land area:
3 Armstrong: 663m2, 5 Armstrong: 709m2, Combined: 1372sqm
- This is a development opportunity unlike anything else currently on the market
- Offering seclusion and tranquillity, these fabulous homes are an easy walk to the beach, shops and tavern or a bike ride to the centre of Byron Bay

8 4 3 1372M²

3-5 Armstrong Street, Suffolk Park

Price: Forthcoming Auction

Inspection by private appointment only



Paul Banister
0438 856 552



Prime Commercial Space in the Vibrant Byron Bay

- BUILDING: 330M²
- The Byron Arts and Industrial Estate is more tightly held than ever, with blocks of this size and level of exposure rarely coming to market
- This is an incredible business opportunity with double street entrances
- Ample off-street parking directly outside the property providing easy accessibility
- 8-minute drive to the centre of Byron Bay and 7-minute walk from Habitat

2/7-17 Brigantine Street, Byron Bay

Price: \$2.3m

Inspection by private appointment only



Paul Banister
0438 856 552



Stunning Riverside Victorian Property

- 5 3 2 1093M²
- Maclean is full of character and today's residents have formed a tight knit community, creating a small town with a big future!
- Peacefully set back from the river sits this distinctive 19th century building which has undergone extensive restoration
- The dual living design is perfect for B&B, professional offices or medical practitioners
- This is a fantastic opportunity for both residential and commercial endeavours

105 River Street, Maclean

Price: Contact Agent

Inspection by private appointment only



Paul Prior
0418 324 297



Lee Grimes
0400 462 312



Your Commercial Property Deserves Premier Service

David Gordon of Ray White Commercial Byron Bay is recognised by the Ray White group as a Premier Performer and Business Leader placing him among the top 20% of Ray White Agents in Australia. David is the only Accredited Commercial specialist in Byron Bay and fast becoming the preferred agent for landlords and sellers of commercial assets in the Byron Shire. David has recently secured tenancies for Country Road, Academy Brand, Industrie, Wanderlust Swimwear, Lush Productions, Alana Maria and many many more national retail tenancies looking to call Byron Bay home. If you feel your property deserves better attention, call David for a confidential discussion.

P R E M I E R
MEMBER 20-21

David Gordon
0418 856 222
david.gordon@raywhite.com
rwbyronbay.com



Unit 1/4 Towers Drive, Mullumbimby

1  3 

For Lease

Sitting in poll position on the very popular Mullumbimby Business Park, these new industrial units are in the perfect spot for your business to grab all the attention.

- Architecturally designed complex with stylish colour scheme
- Sized: Ground floor 132 sqm with 65 sqm mezzanine
- Pleasant outlooks across to Mt Chincogan
- Glass shop front finishes with full height roller doors
- Each unit is connected to a Grease Trap and plumbed for gas
- Within the complex will be a state of the art gym. Currently with 600 members, enjoy instant exposure for your brand or products.

Area: 197m²
Price: \$850 – \$900 per week
+ GST
Open: By Appointment



David Gordon
0418 856 222



Kylie Milek-Zaini
0459 610 399

rwbyronbay.com



10/1 Belongil Crescent, Byron Bay

2  1 

Great Location, lifestyle home

- Neat and tidy throughout, filtered by natural light
- Great investment or home
- Enjoy your own front and rear courtyard
- 3kW grid-interactive solar system
- Private pool in the complex, perfect for the summer months
- Located 3.6km from Byron Bay's CBD

Land: 105.76m²
plus external
Auction:
August 28th 9.30am
Open: By Appointment



Nick Russo
0405 977 049



Brett Connable
0408 155 931

rwbyronbay.com



Recently awarded

P R E M I E R
MEMBER 20-21

Brett Connable
0408 155 931
brett.connable@raywhite.com
rwbyronbay.com

*“You and your property deserve
premier service”*



20 Flatley Drive, Clunes

4 2 4

Dreaming of the perfect hinterland lifestyle

- Generously proportioned bedrooms, master with ensuite
- Gourmet kitchen with gas cooking & ample storage space
- Large lounge & dining area with wood heater
- Rumpus/home gym area
- Outdoor entertaining area complete with pizza oven
- Sloping land and a picturesque seasonal creek
- Double car garage
- Workshed

Land: 10,000m²/2.47 acres
 Price: Auction
 Open: By Appointment



Damien Smith
0418 123 393



April Nicolson
0457 451 094

rwbyronbay.com



11/24-26 Bay Street, Byron Bay

2 2 1

Ocean Views - Front row on Main Beach, Byron Bay

- Enjoy incredible ocean views from your lounge room, this luxury, self-contained, first-floor apartment has everything at its fingertips - ideally located within the tightly held Bay Royal Apartments, directly across from beautiful Main Beach and only a short stroll into the bustling heart of Byron Bay.

Land: 124m²
 Price: Contact Agent
 Open: By Appointment



Damien Smith
0418 123 393



April Nicolson
0457 451 094

rwbyronbay.com



21/9-13 Shirley Street, Byron Bay

2 1 1

Fantastic Position to Town & Beach

- Spacious living areas
- On site manager / good returns
- Two outdoor patios
- Underground car park
- Pool in complex
- Walk in walk out

Land: 81m²
 Price: Contact Agent
 Open: By Appointment

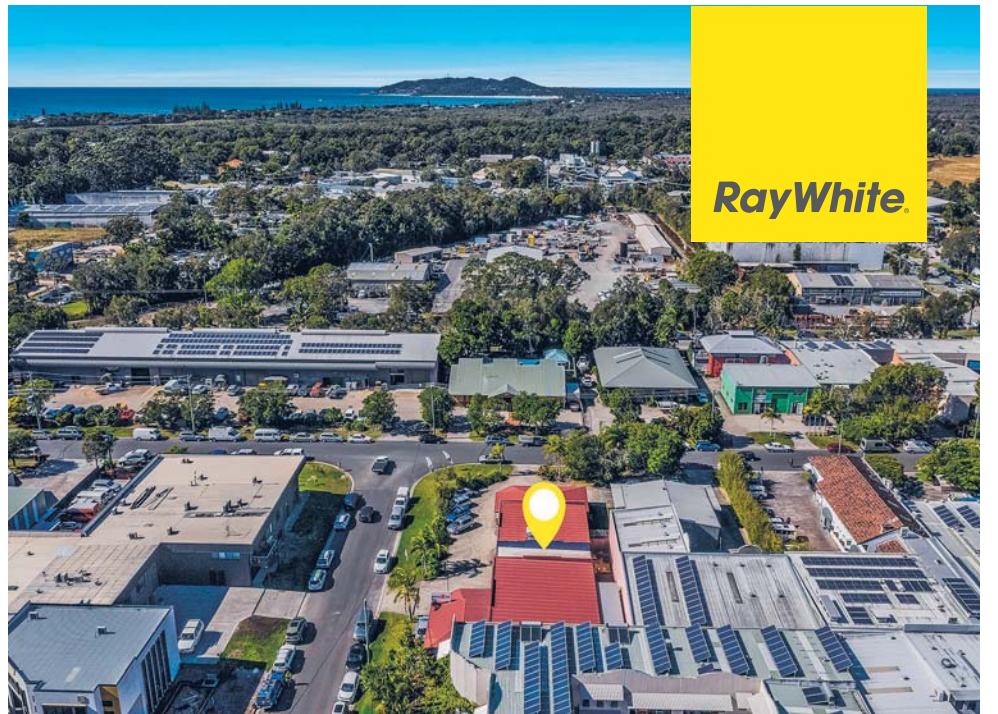


Michael Gudgeon
0419 495 494



Matthew McCormack
0400 468 587

rwbyronbay.com



16 Brigantine Street, Byron Bay

3 10

Commercial investment opportunity

- Corner block site with great access and visibility
- Redevelopment potential
- Centrally located in the industrial state
- Solid and well-established tenants in place
- Factory 1: 227m² approx
- Factory 2: 263m² approx, plus mezzanine
- Great opportunity to invest in the thriving industrial and arts estate

Land: 1,225m²
 Price: Auction
 Open: By Appointment



Michael Gudgeon
0419 495 494



Matthew McCormack
0400 468 587

rwbyronbay.com

AGENTS



Tara sold our house more quickly, and for a higher price than we could have imagined. She was enthusiastic about our place yet practical and professional in her advice as we prepared the house for sale.
VENDOR - CLUNES

TARA TORKKOLA

SALES MANAGER / SALES

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



TIM MILLER REAL ESTATE

0411 757 425
tim@millerrealestate.com.au
millerrealestate.com.au
@timmiller_realestate

BYRON SHIRE REAL ESTATE

Gary Brazenor
Negotiating strong results for my sellers for over 20 years

0423 777 237
gary@byronshirerealestate.com.au



PAUL PRIOR

SALES

0418 324 297
paulprior@byronbayfn.com

Professional and results driven with extensive knowledge. Servicing the Byron Shire and beyond.

Call Paul for an appointment today.

WWW.BYRONBAYFN.COM.AU

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**REAL SERVICE
REAL SOLUTIONS
REAL ESTATE**

CALL REZ TODAY
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rez@byronproperty.com.au

BYRON BAY & HINTERLAND
PROPERTY



Vanessa Coles
0433 836 755
vanessa.coles@atlas.com.au

Helene Adams
0412 139 807
helene.adams@atlas.com.au

atlas.com.au
Atlas by LJ Hooker

ATLAS

Property

Dreaming of the perfect hinterland lifestyle

20 Flatley Drive, Clunes

4 2 4 Land: 10,000m² / 2.47 acres

Auction



Located in the picturesque coastal hinterland town of Clunes, is this immaculate family home on 2.5 acres. Whisper quiet, you will feel instantly relaxed within the haven of your own home. This immaculate property has an ideal north-easterly aspect and is surrounded by beautiful verandas on each side to capture the breeze and providing sunny, shaded, and protected spaces.

The home was cleverly designed with huge windows and doors opening out onto the balcony which incorporates the benefits of its ideal aspect, resulting in a home that works harmoniously with the surrounding environment and is flooded with natural light.

This is a rare offering and an incredible family home with so much tranquility, privacy, and space, this property is a destination in itself.

Open: By Appointment
Contact: Damien Smith - 0418 123 393
April Nicolson - 0457 451 094
Ray White Byron Bay



TIM MILLER
REAL ESTATE

0411 757 425
tim@millerrealestate.com.au
millerrealestate.com.au

28 RUSKIN STREET, BYRON BAY

A beautiful original character home in Byron Bay's Golden Grid

3 2 1 505m²

PRIVATE INSPECTIONS AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT
AUCTION SATURDAY 4 SEPTEMBER 12.15PM ON-SITE

Property Business Directory

AGENTS *continued*

Alyce Field

Your experienced local agent

P: 0417 439 230

E: alyce@byronpropertyhub.com.au



PROPERTY HUB
Byron Shire

Offering individual, personalised & professional Sales & Property Management Services with a fresh, modern approach.

Elders Brunswick Valley

Integrity, Knowledge, Results

Call today to discuss your Real Estate needs.



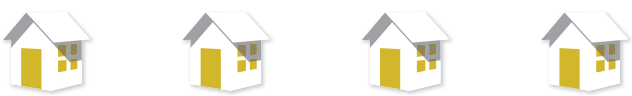
Dave Bosselmann
0431 100 097

Nadia Bandini
0422 233 176

Nathan Donnelly
0421 942 630

Shop 1/12 Park Street, Brunswick Heads,
NSW 2483. 02 6685 1206

brunswickheads.eldersrealestate.com.au



Open homes are banned during the lockdown period.

Private inspections are still allowed by appointment but are limited to one real estate agent and one buyer at a time. Face masks must also be worn.

There is also a ban on in person auctions.

These restrictions is in place until 12.01am, Sunday 22 August 2021.

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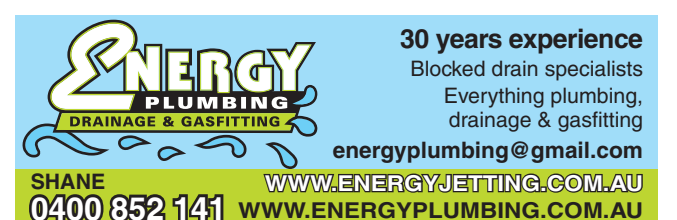
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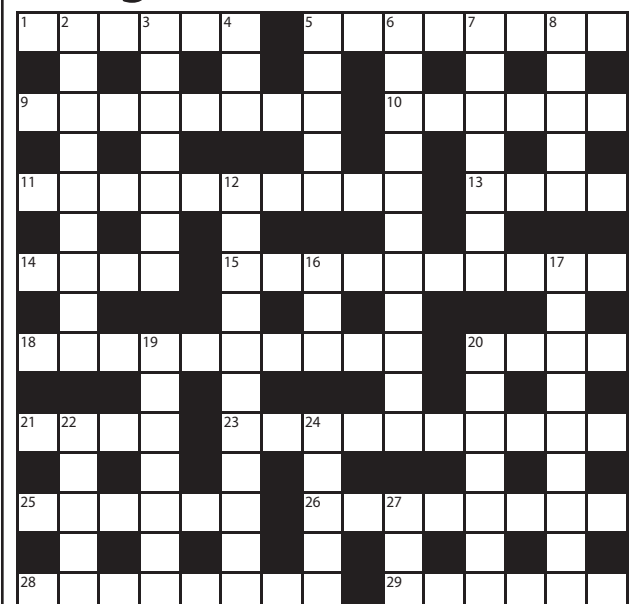
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Mungo's Crossword

N400



Cryptic Clues

ACROSS

- Diggers' swords, as they used to be called (6)
- They say it breaks a commandment - but maybe it's just growing up! (8)
- A contradiction in terms from an idiot on the banks of the Isis, it appears (8)
- Individual wizards could be icons (6)
- He produced crime and punishment - kids vote so stupidly (10)
- Entertain an army (4)
- A gentle song for a couple (4)
- Apes kill at random, and have an unexpected fall (4,1,5)
- Clumsy Bill causes the reason for the conflict - in Latin! (5,5)
- And the Latin motto found on banners is just four consecutive letters - confused? (1,1,1,1)
- Still Latin, you embrace the former ruler of 22 - an old you! (4)
- Enthusiastic about the state - it's all about the pitch! (10)
- Ample - huge, on examination (6)
- Really neat dessert (5,3)
- Get rid of princess's holiday home (8)
- Low alien hound (6)
- Panorama created around the Cross - more than two centuries of Latin concord! (3,6)
- Greek goddess of French measuring device (7)
- Gentleman - French if right (3)
- Long periods around name of ship wrecked near eponymous waters near 1770 (5)
- International body and one Australian in a story of coming together (11)
- Push - eat recklessly in a cafe (7)
- Royal fish dances! (5)
- Stable renovated, one farm building set up on a permanent basis (11)
- Potassium and Aluminium found in Korean airline (1,1,1)
- Strong drink and hard drug - but it's called confectionery! (9)
- Peacekeepers and America turn over a line - peculiar (7)
- Crossword compilers can be dogs (7)
- Hoi An confused with another Vietnamese city (5)
- Leave one out of the diatribe - deal? (5)
- Drinking hole drops off 99 from genital region (3)

Quick Clues

ACROSS

- Suit (6)
- Infidelity (8)
- Figure of speech (8)
- Likenesses (6)
- 19th century Russian novelist (10)
- Anchor (4)
- Match (4)
- Come off accidentally (4,1,5)
- It justifies war (Latin) (5,5)
- Latin initialism seen on Roman currency, buildings and insignia (1,1,1,1)
- Informal for 1,000 (4)
- Inflection (10)
- Sufficient (6)
- Embodies traditional US values (5,3)
- Uproot (8)
- Long-eared dog (6)
- Period of tranquility in 1st and 2nd centuries (3,6)
- Greek goddess of the harvest (7)
- Knight (3)
- Patron saint of young girls (5)
- Becoming a whole (11)
- Place of light refreshments (7)
- Staggers (5)
- Set up (11)
- Korean airline (1,1,1)
- Black lolly (9)
- Odd (7)
- They put cutlery on the table (7)
- Jane Fonda's nickname (5)
- Do business (5)
- Bar (3)

Last week's solution N399

R	E	G	A	I	N	M	O	N	A	R	C	H	S
C	O	O	N	I	V	T	H	P					
C	R	O	O	K	E	D	D	E	A	L	A	I	R
K		S	E	R	U	N	I						
H	A	I	R	P	I	N	O	N	A	G	O	N	
O	N	O	T	I	C	E	G						
L	I	G	H	T	N	I	G	C	H	E	S	S	
E	O		C	H	I	S							
C	O	N	T	R	A	C	T	B	R	I	D	G	E
P	D	H	L	T	E	E	N						
R	E	T	R	E	A	T	R	E	V	I	S	I	T
I	A	R	W	A	E								
N	O	S	E	L	I	M	I	N	A	T	I	O	N
T	T	I	N	N	L	R	C						
S	T	E	R	N	E	S	T						

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Sun 29th August

- Watercolour Magic

BIRTHDAYS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY SAFFRON

To the living legend of Mullumbimby!

Lots of love Aslan, Ewan, Sebastian, Laetitia, Lucien, Lyons, Cybelle, Coren, Popcorn, Pippin & Lush. xx

MUSICAL NOTES

GUITAR STRINGS, REPAIRS
Brunswick Heads 66851005

DEATH NOTICES

PAUL ANTONY STERNBERG
25/4/1946-04/08/2021
Late of Knockrow, formerly of Blackheath.

Adored husband of Julianne, much loved brother of Herbert and Peter, brother-in-law of Maggie and Geraldine, devoted father of Tim, father-in-law of Jax and Josh, stepfather of Jen, Rob and Andrew, and grandfather of Finn, Louie, Jude and Lennox.

He will be sadly missed by his family and friends. Privately cremated in accordance with his wishes.

LIFE CELEBRATIONS

Jackson Samuel Sugarman
1.8.47 - 8.8.21

Jack was a true character of the Byron Shire since the early 1970s. He will be missed by many and will be forever in our hearts.

May he rest in peace.

Jack's Celebration of Life will be held on Friday, 20th August, 2021, at 10.30am. Due to COVID restrictions Jack's service will be visible via livestream link: vimeo.com/event/1202720

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To read more details about these roles and how to apply, visit nrcg.org.au/work-with-us/

Happy Birthday beautiful Tams & Welcome back! We have missed you!

Lots of love from The Echo crew xxx

Dean Trevaskis
10.04.68 - 13.08.2021

Dean Trevaskis passed away on August 13 at the age of 53. He was an inspirational, caring and genuinely really great bloke. He had very strong ethics on treating all people with respect, always.

He leaves behind his wife Suzette, children Molly, Jimmy and Courtney, his mother Janis and sisters Kerrie and Jayde.

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SUN, MOON & TIDES TIMES FOR NEXT 2 WEEKS

DATE (Aug)	DAY, MOON PHASE	SUN RISE / SET	MOON RISE / SET	HIGH TIDES, height (m)	LOW TIDES, height (m)
18	W	6:15 17:24	12:52 2:22	04:09 1.09 17:18 1.65	10:00 0.37 23:59 0.45
19	TH	6:14 17:25	13:52 3:27	05:26 1.10 18:17 1.74	11:06 0.32
20	F	6:13 17:25	14:56 4:26	06:29 1.15 19:09 1.82	00:54 0.35 12:06 0.26
21	SA	6:12 17:26	16:02 5:19	07:20 1.21 19:56 1.85	01:40 0.27 12:58 0.21
22	SU	6:11 17:26	17:07 6:05	08:06 1.27 20:38 1.84	02:20 0.23 13:45 0.18
23	M	6:10 17:27	18:09 6:45	08:49 1.31 21:16 1.79	02:58 0.22 14:29 0.19
24	TU	6:09 17:27	19:08 7:20	09:30 1.33 21:51 1.71	03:33 0.23 15:10 0.23
25	W	6:08 17:28	20:05 7:52	10:08 1.35 22:23 1.60	04:06 0.25 15:49 0.31
26	TH	6:07 17:28	21:00 8:22	10:45 1.35 22:54 1.47	04:37 0.29 16:30 0.40
27	F	6:05 17:29	21:55 8:52	11:25 1.34 23:24 1.34	05:08 0.33 17:13 0.51
28	SA	6:04 17:29	22:49 9:23	12:07 1.32 23:58 1.21	05:40 0.37 18:02 0.60
29	SU	6:03 17:30	23:44 9:56	12:58 1.31	06:15 0.42 19:05 0.68
30	M	6:02 17:30	00:42 10:31	00:42 1.09 14:01 1.30	07:00 0.48 20:35 0.71
31	TU	6:01 17:31	0:39 11:11	01:47 0.99 15:15 1.32	07:59 0.52 22:16 0.68
1	W	6:00 17:31	1:34 11:55	03:18 0.94 16:25 1.38	09:07 0.53 23:24 0.60

Data sourced from Bureau of Meteorology. Times adjusted for Daylight Savings when applicable.

STARS BY LILITH

A trio of personal planets in their home signs: Sun in Leo, Mercury in Virgo and Venus in Libra, play warm harmonious chords this week for those who stop to listen...

LEO THE LION

♈ ARIES: With cosmic coquette, Venus, shimmying into her happy place, you might suddenly feel like everyone's flirting with you. In this position, Lady V loves playing dress-ups, wants to make everything beautiful, insists you leave comfort clobber in the closet and start styling up. And you'll want to look your best for this week's plot twists.

♉ TAURUS: What to expect with change-making Uranus heading into an energy-intense, five month 'lockdown' in your sign? It's not unreasonable to assume you'll be more aware of certain vibrational frequencies and information that are always surrounding you, but you mostly don't tune into. Think serendipities, illuminating insights and possibly unsettling revelations...

♊ GEMINI: With Mercury operating at full efficient capacity in Virgo this week, you couldn't ask for a more auspicious transit for bringing your ideas into being. Even better, the expressive planet conjuncts Mars so you'll not only be talking about your latest brainwave, but taking steps to make it happen.

♋ CANCER: This week's rare second full moon in Aquarius could intensify widespread feelings of repression and rebellion. But there's an upside, which is that it also supports teaming up for a common cause with like-minded souls who think outside the box. And if that's for a community project, even better.

♌ LEO: Something been bugging you since the Leo new moon Lion's Gate earlier in August? Sometimes what we have the biggest resistance to can precede our greatest breakthroughs. The last few days of El Sol charging your personal power source combined with this week's blockbuster full moon could bring insights - if you're ready.

♍ VIRGO: As the weekend Sun joins Mars and Mercury to kick off this year's Virgo birthdays, make your best plans, but be prepped for the unexpected and ready to pivot. The world is changing at a furious pace, but with Mercury in Virgo you're quick, analytical, practical - and a very witty funnybone tickler.

♎ LIBRA: With Venus swanning into her zodiac home sweet home - Libra the love sign - all at once the world looks lighter and brighter. You'll feel better and more optimistic about the future and life in general, as suddenly you're winning awards in the creative chops department, and scoring gold in the flirting olympics.

♏ SCORPIO: Domestic affairs continue to be spotlighted during this week's astrologically unusual full moon: a lunar lift that could help you approach an old problem from a new angle, so refresh your operating system by doing things differently. Get up to greet the sunrise. Take a new route to your usual destinations. Speak to a stranger...

♐ SAGITTARIUS: Venus and Saturn are in agreeable alliance, Jupiter's supportive, and a doorway of opportunity opens. This week's star scenario could bring confidence to the decision you've been mulling over in recent weeks about which direction is best for you. Look to the weekend full moon for the intel you need to make that call.

♑ CAPRICORN: The current earth trine - a benefic connection between planets in Virgo, Taurus and Capricorn - suggest that the wheels are finally beginning to move on manifesting and materialising some of the ideas and projects you've had brewing and stewing. Be alert for the opportunities in this week's upheavals: they're there.

♒ AQUARIUS: Auspiciously aligned with Jupiter, a rare second consecutive full moon in your sign offers the chance to make something right this week. If you've been seeking the solution to a problem (and who hasn't?) tune into this fortunate and perspective-expanding portal for Aquarians this weekend to finally connect the dots.

♓ PISCES: Venus the pleasure planet influences how we feel about our life: its qualities, values, beauty and worth. When Venus is in Libra, as it is this week, the world feels like a better place to be in. Love comes to town. Relationships improve. We work, plan and play more artistically.

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If it's wrong to dump someone, or sack someone, via a tweet, then the NSW government probably shouldn't put eight million people into lockdown via tweet either?

An *Echo* reader says The Mullumbimby Recreation Grounds is being regularly damaged by hoons. Please, hoons, stop.

The *Monthly's* editor Nick Feik tweeted last week, 'The fed government defends [Nationals MP] George Christensen's right to free speech, but is trying to take the same right away from all charities in Australia'.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has found that July 2021 was the world's hottest month on record, with the temperature 0.93°C above the 20th century average, the highest since global records began in 1880.

Pakistani activist and the youngest Nobel Prize laureate, Malala Yousafzai, tweeted: 'We watch in complete shock as Taliban takes control of Afghanistan. I am deeply worried about women, minorities and human rights advocates. Global, regional and local powers must call for an immediate ceasefire, provide urgent humanitarian aid and protect refugees and civilians'.

PM's parody tweet: 'Jenny and the girls have cracked it because I was in charge of ordering takeaway but I left it way too late to order and they were sold out of half the menu and then when the food arrived there wasn't enough for everyone'.



There's a new temporary pedestrian crossing for Mullum – lockdown made it a breeze for road crews last week. It's part of Council's Talking Street trial project, and more info is at www.yoursaybyronshire.com.au/talkingstreettrial. Photo Jeff 'Tarded and Feathered' Dawson

There's no other TV show that can move mountains like ABC's *Four Corners*, and they have just notched up 60 years of quality broadcasting. EP Sally Neighbours writes, 'In past five years alone, *Four Corners* has prompted royal commissions into aged care, youth detention, the banking system and water theft. But it's been under attack for the last 60 years'.

On Monday, Extinction Rebellion say seven of their activists entered the Brisbane City branch of the National Australia Bank and unveiled placards revealing their professions, such as teacher, scientist, and psychologist. 'In silence, the protesters displayed further placards revealing the bank's record of investment in fossil fuels'.

Tweet by shareholder activist Stephen Mayne: 'Struggle to see how the CBA

can report record profits, announce a \$4 billion dividend, flag a \$6 billion buyback and see its market

cap hit a record \$190 billion, all while borrowing \$51b from the RBA at 0.1 per cent'.

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