

# Echo

TREADING WATER SINCE 1986

## Main Beach's future tabled

Paul Bibby

The range of options for protecting Byron's Main Beach look set to be narrowed to three, after the community had its say on the crucial shoreline project.

The project is focused on how to modify the existing, degraded coastal protection works in a way that will give the best outcomes for the fragile beach and the adjacent streets and buildings.

The strip has suffered severe erosion over the past three years, with entire dune areas consumed by the sea, and water lapping at the footings of two beachside buildings.

However, there are signs that the naturally occurring sand and tidal movements, which have driven the erosion process, may be starting to reverse.

In August 2020, Council endorsed seven intervention concept options, ranging from a relatively minor upgrade of the existing protective structure, to the replacement of the entire main groyne with an artificial headland.

Following feedback on the options from 415 locals and agencies earlier this year, Council staff have recommended that councilors narrow the field to three.

This recommendation will be voted on at this week's Council meeting. The shortlisted options include: 1) relatively minor upgrading works to bring the protective structures up to contemporary standards, 2) moving the entire protective structure 10 metres inland, and 3) replacing the existing human-made

► Continued on page 2



Reverend Rosie Wynter, Community Priest for Byron Shire Anglican Parish at Mullum's St Martin's Church.  
 Photo Jeff Dawson

The Anglican Parish of Byron plans to ring the bells of their three main churches: All Soul's Bangalow, St Paul's Byron Bay, and St Martin's Mullumbimby, on Saturday October 30 from 6pm for 10 minutes.

Anne Wareing from Anglican Parish of Byron says, 'We mostly associate church bells with the call to worship, weddings and very special national celebrations. But they also have another historic function: to ring out warnings'.

'Here at The Anglican Parish of Byron, we believe that this is a time of real national crisis, and so on Saturday October 30 at 6pm, we will be ringing our bells to warn the people of Byron Shire of the threat we face.

'The IPCC report has stated unequivocally that the extreme weather events, which have swept the globe, are the consequence of man-made climate change. The UN Secretary General has signalled "Code Red for Humanity", which he would not do lightly.

'Our planet has given us warning after warning, through floods, wildfires, droughts, heat domes and hurricanes, that we have profoundly affected the balance of the planet and are making it increasingly hostile to humankind.

'There can no longer be any doubt that humanity is now in mortal danger... and on a global scale.

'Here in the Byron Shire the extreme weather events have affected our Community, but as Christians, we are also concerned with the millions around the world who are being profoundly affected: the poor who have contributed the least to the problem.

'We need our political leaders to take the courageous and, if necessary, selfless actions that times of extreme emergency require'.

Toluene found at old hospital site ► p4

Nationals MP targeted over lack of climate action ► p6

And the Simple Pleasures winner is... ► p7

Byron Youth Service offers regular events ► p7

The hub of creativity that is the Byron A&I Estate ► p20

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## Council election nominations close Nov 3

Candidates who plan to contest the NSW Local Government elections on December 4 have until 12 noon November 3 to nominate, says the NSW Electoral Commissioner.

Nominations can, for the first time, be made online via

the Commission's Nominations Online Management System (NOMS) at elections. nsw.gov.au.

NSW Electoral Commissioner John Schmidt said candidates may be nominated by either a registered political party or two electors.

'Hard copy forms are available by emailing or calling the candidate helpdesk on 1300 022 011'.

### Handbook

'Late nominations cannot be accepted. Information about nominations is

available in the *NSW Electoral Commission Candidate Handbook*. The registration of a candidate or group [with the EC] is a separate process to the candidate or group being nominated for the election to have their name printed on the ballot paper'.

## Main Beach's future tabled

► Continued from page 1 spurs with a rock wall.

This third option would also involve the creation of a terrace on a lower level that would provide the foundation for a shared walkway.

According to the Council staff report contained in the agenda to this week's meeting, a series of broader themes also emerged from the consultation process.

### Holistic approach

These included the desire for a holistic approach to planning on the site.

'The best outcome for the Byron Bay community is for Council to pursue a "whole of embayment" approach in planning the future management of the Byron Bay beachfront,' said one community member.

'The planning zone should encompass the entire area from the Cape Byron Headland to Belongil Creek and not the piecemeal segmentation presently proposed.'

In response, staff said that they had in fact adopted a 'whole of embayment approach' and were 'presently preparing a Coastal Management Program (CMP) for this section of the 'open' Northern Shire coastline, from Cape Byron to South Golden Beach'.

A second theme that

emerged from consultation was criticism that Council had already predetermined the outcome of the Main Beach protection project.

'The Main Beach Shoreline Project unequivocally evidences to have predetermined, in advance, any formulation of any Coastal Management Plan to "protect the town centre by fortifying the Jonson Street Protection Works"; another resident said.

'It seems that Council still fails to comprehend that a CMP is legally required to formulate a legally valid proposal to manage the whole of the Byron Bay Embayment, not just Jonson Street.'

In response to this criticism, staff said Council's ability to make a decision with respect to public safety was not dependent on a CMP being prepared, and therefore the Main Beach project could be considered first.

Should councillors adopt the three options for the Main Beach project, these will then be the subject of a technical investigation, including geomorphological assessment and coastal modelling of how the options would perform now and in the future.

A report on the outcomes of the detailed technical investigation would then be made to Council.



A new community space opened in Byron's CBD last Saturday, blessed by beautiful weather. The railway corridor upgrade project, which was part of the Byron Bay Town Centre Masterplan, aims to keep the 'cars out, people in' vision for the community, and improve pedestrian and cycle movement. Photo Jeff 'Opened And Spaced' Dawson

## Teacher shortages owing to mandatory vax

Hans Lovejoy

With the November 8 deadline for all school staff to be fully vaccinated for COVID-19, *The Echo* asked local high schools how their staffing numbers have been affected by those unwilling to be vaccinated.

While the Shire's Shearwater and Cape Byron Steiner school's replied, staffing level impacts are unknown at both Mullum and Byron High after an education spokesperson replied to the request with only statewide statistics.

A NSW education spokesperson from the north coast education media unit said, 'As at 9.30am on Friday

October 22, nearly 110,000 staff have provided their status, with over 95 per cent of these staff stating they are fully vaccinated'.

Shearwater's Head of School, James Goodlet, told *The Echo* that around one third of staff won't be vaccinated by the November 8 deadline.

He said he held a Zoom meeting last Wednesday night to which all parents were invited. 'Around 180 parents took part, and it was a meeting to outline the plan for Term Four in light of the November 8 deadline for all school staff to be fully vaccinated for COVID-19 to be able

to enter the school site'.

'All up we have 130 staff, and around 40 will not be vaccinated by then. Many have said they will be vaccinated by the end of the year. There are around 20 who say they will not get vaccinated, though it's hard to know [what they will choose to do].

'We are confident we will find staff to replace them, and we have found many already.

'The plan is to also have those unvaccinated staff work offsite.

'We are supportive of all the teachers regardless of their personal choices, yet we will be following the health orders, which means

by November 8 all staff and visitors must be fully vaccinated to be on school grounds'.

Meanwhile, Cape Byron Steiner Principal, Paddy Innes-Hill, told *The Echo*, 'We are wanting to give staff as much time as possible on this, and we will have a better idea of our staffing numbers after the November 8 deadline'.

He added that he is, 'confident that the school will be fully staffed after that date'.

'All of our staff have expressed a desire to stay employed at the school. This is a private and personal matter, and we are working in partnership with them on the issue'.

## Solar train serviced

The Byron Solar Train was lifted in the air last week at Byron's North Beach Station to receive its major five yearly service, just shy of four years of operation.

The 1949-era two-carriage heritage train was retrofitted to run on solar power, and operates between Byron Township and North Beach (Sunrise), with ten return services daily during daylight savings.

Byron Solar Train Operations Manager, Robert Jarvis, says prior to its relocation to Byron and being converted to solar, the train sold out tourist services in and around the Lithgow area.

Tim Elderton from Lithgow Railway Workshop was present to oversee the servicing on the train that he and his team lovingly restored to its original condition six years ago.

### World first

He said, 'We're very proud of our "world's first solar train".'

'While India and Argentina are investing in this technology, sadly there is little interest from within Australia.

'We are hopeful that these projects will pick up again next year'.

For more information visit [www.byronsolartrain.com.au](http://www.byronsolartrain.com.au).



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# Rally highlights #bigbadbiomass

Aslan Shand

Around 50 people gathered on Friday morning near the Condong Sugar Mill to join the world-wide protest against the use of biomass to create energy, and to emphasise that burning biomass is not 'environmentally friendly'.

This followed the action the previous day at the Broadwater Power Station, which is owned by Cape Byron Power (CBP).

According to protesters, the largest fuel source at the Broadwater Power Station last year was wood waste.

Yet according to Cape Byron Power, they claim their 'primary fuel source remains bagasse, the plant fibre left over from the sugar cane harvest each year after the cane juice has been removed by the sugar mills during the crush season'.

A spokesperson for the company said, 'The plant's current [operation] consent allows the use of various wood-based fuels, largely comprised of waste timber from sawmill offcuts, local weed removal that has no other economically beneficial



Protesters gathered last Friday at the Condong Sugar Mill. Photo Jeff Dawson

use, or wood and plant fibre from purpose grown crops'.

'These will be largely replaced by recovered timber fuel'.

They added, 'The power stations are 100 per cent compliant with State, Federal and United Nations guidelines for renewable energy generation'.

Yet President of Northern Rivers Guardians (NRG), Scott Sledge, said Cape Byron Power company has

refused to answer a number of questions, citing commercial in confidence reasons.

Concerns raised by Mr Sledge included the application to burn commercial waste at the facility.

'They would not tell us what the mix was, and we are concerned about our native forests'.

'They have recognised that there are concerns around the use of large trucks coming through

Kyogle and Cawongla with the narrow roads'.

Greens Candidate for Richmond, Mandy Nolan, said at the rally, 'The proposal to burn building waste from Qld includes burning about 90 per cent wood'.

'We've called the waste company repeatedly to find out what will be in the other 10 per cent, and have had no response. This project will open the door for waste incineration'.

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## Where mud becomes art

Ceramicists opened their studios to visitors last Saturday as part of the North Coast Mud Trail. Pictured is Jacquie Sos (Sonowski), with the Ja Obvara raku pots she made in her Mullum studio. Photo Jeff 'Kiln-Fired Since 1986' Dawson

## Tweed growth plan outlined by govt

Community feedback on the draft Tweed Regional City Action Plan is now sought, which the NSW government says outlines 60 measures to plan for the growing population in the Tweed in the next 15 years.

The press release says, under the plan, 'Tweed residents would enjoy greater housing choice, more active lifestyles and seamless travel across the border'.

Minister for Planning and

Public Places, Rob Stokes, said, 'The pandemic has amplified Tweed's cross-border lifestyle, and the plan sets out how the NSW and Queensland governments will work collaboratively to improve connections between Gold Coast Airport, the new Tweed Hospital and wider city'.

Mayor of Tweed Shire, Chris Cherry, said actions under the plan would be delivered in partnership with

Council, in consultation with the community, and had a focus on preserving the environment.

'Council has had some opportunity for input to the State Government on developing the draft plan and will have an important role in overseeing and coordinating its delivery', Ms Cherry said.

To view the plan and to have your say by November 23, visit [www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/tweedRCAP](http://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/tweedRCAP).

## Toluene found at old hospital site

Paul Bibby

Yet another contamination concern has been uncovered at the site of the old Mullum Hospital, adding an extra \$1.5 million to the already ballooning cost of remediating the land.

The agenda for this week's Council meeting reveals that, following the removal of the asbestos-riddled buildings on the site, the potentially hazardous substance toluene was found.

A derivative of benzene, toluene is a colourless, water-soluble hydrocarbon.

Exposure to the substance has a number of health impacts, ranging from eye and nose irritation, to liver and kidney damage in cases of extended, high-level exposure.

The discovery is set to add significantly to both the cost and time required to prepare the site for community use following the State Government's decision to gift it to the community in 2017.

With this latest financial hit, that 'gift' has now cost the community in excess of \$5m, the vast majority of which has been spent on site remediation.

This is before a single cent has been spent on building anything on the site.

The discovery of toluene means significant additional investigation and remediation work will be required, according to the staff report on the issue.

This includes capping a significant area of the property, primarily where the former hospital buildings were located.

'The Remediation Action Plan also requires the removal of trees within the capped area, which must be done in a prescribed way to ensure containment of asbestos contamination,' Council's manager of assets and major projects, Phil Warner, said in the staff report on the issue.

The cost and time required to complete this remediation is heavily dependent on the direction of the registered auditor contracted by Council to independently monitor the remediation work.

'Council cannot control the level of work or timeframes required by the auditor to complete requirements,' Mr Warner said.

Council has twice discovered that asbestos levels were higher than initially thought, leading to a seemingly ever-expanding process of investigation and remediation.

### History

Council has already borrowed \$3.33 million to pay for this work, with total interest payments for that loan set to be \$124,000.

It is predicted that remediating the toluene contamination will cost an additional \$1.15 million. However, staff have recommended borrowing \$1.5 million for the work 'in case there are any other unforeseen costs'.

'The understanding is that outcomes on the former Mullumbimby Hospital site will generate sufficient return to Council to recover all of the costs Council has invested,' Mr Warner said.

'The proposed time frame for finalisation of the remediation works will then give nearly two years to Council to generate that return, to recover its costs, before the loans have to be fully repaid'.

He added interest rates for loan borrowings are still very favourable.



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- If you need help with the survey or would like one posted to you, call **6626 7000**.



Submissions close 19 November 2021

## Parking review on the table for Council

Touted as their 'first detailed policy position ahead of the Council elections', the Byron Independents have announced their plans to expand pay parking in 'other towns' like Brunswick Heads and Mullumbimby.

According to the party's lead candidate, Acting Mayor Michael Lyon, the move 'will be essential to ensure that our visitors pay their fair share towards our infrastructure costs in the coming years'.

Cr Lyon is calling for the \$55 charge for locals be

removed, while raising the pay parking hourly rate for visitors only.

He will move a motion at this Thursday's Council meeting to review the pay parking scheme, Shire-wide.

Cr Lyon is also seeking in his motion a breakdown of 'pay parking revenue from meters originating from residents of NRJO, being Byron, Ballina, Lismore, Kyogle, Richmond Valley and Tweed Shires vs those coming from elsewhere'.

Yet Council staff have

flagged issues with that aspect of the motion, saying in the agenda that they 'do not have the level of detail required to confirm where parking patrons originated'.

They write, 'Consideration would need to be given to the capital costs to implement aspects of the Notice of Motion and impacts arising from Master Plan projects within town centres, such as the Green Spine in Mullumbimby and Tincogan Street works'.

Throughout councillors'

last five years in office, they have faced tough opposition to pay parking plans from both Bangalow and Bruns, with claims of inadequate traffic studies that underpin Council decision making.

Additionally, the towns' business chambers cite the considerable impacts of COVID-19 restrictions on local business.

■ Thursday's Council meeting starts at 9am in the Council Chambers with public access.



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## Council's finances slipping, says candidate Cr Hunter

Conservative candidate for the upcoming December 4 local elections, Cr Alan Hunter, has challenged acting mayor Michael Lyon's comments in this week's Council agenda that Council's financial stewardship has improved 'out of sight' in the last five years.

Cr Hunter was responding to Cr Lyon's plans to increase pay parking for visitors while offering free parking for residents. He described the plan as 'preposterous'.

See story above.

Cr Hunter said in a press release, '[Cr Lyon] would be aware we have drained our unrestricted funds of more than \$1mil in the last 12 months alone'.

'The overall cash investment position has declined by over \$4 million and total liabilities have increased \$4.5 million in the same period'.

He says Council funds

have been wasted on 'politically motivated dreams like the train study, numerous unfounded and unnecessary consultancy reports, and an increased number of legal challenges, a lot of which we've lost'.

He said, 'Any financial support has come from government funded projects, which is in itself is a huge concern for the Council'.

'Because of the pandemic, the Federal and State Governments are now in a sea of debt, and likely to remain so for the foreseeable future, so watch this space for continued support for Councils that are prepared to waste money.'

'Council needs to be realistic and first stop wasting precious funds on irresponsible studies that have no identified funding to complete, before we hit up our customer tourist with more unpopular Council fees'.



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North Coast online ►  
[www.echo.net.au](http://www.echo.net.au)**Call to reject Evans  
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DA over failure  
to recognise  
Indigenous heritage**

The federal inquiry into the appalling destruction of the 46,000-year-old Australian Indigenous cultural heritage site at Juukan Gorge has found that this was not a 'unique' incident. The question is, is the same thing currently about to take place in our own backyard?

**4WDs multiplying on  
Seven Mile Beach?**

Beach users in Lennox Head are reporting much higher numbers of 4WDs on Seven Mile Beach recently, along with an increase in hooning behaviour.

**No means no, say  
traditional owners**

As Water Week draws to a close, with a theme of 'Caring for Water and Country', a group of Widjabul Wia-bal elders have emphatically said they do not want the Dunoan Dam proposal to be put back on the table by pro-dam councillors.

**Recycling  
polystyrene just got  
easier – Lismore**

The Lismore Recycling & Recovery Centre has a new machine that can recycle polystyrene which will help the facility increase the capacity to deal with this Earth-wrecking synthetic aromatic hydrocarbon polymer.

**Animal welfare on  
the Tweed**

Local MP Justine Elliot recently announced that an Albanese Labor Government will invest \$1 million to build the new animal pound and rehoming centre at Lundberg Drive, South Murwillumbah.

**20 questions to  
Lismore mayoral  
candidates**

Cr Cook looks to 'restore accountability and trust' and 'lead the way in implementing climate resilience initiatives, affordable housing strategies'

[www.echo.net.au](http://www.echo.net.au)

# Lismore Nat MP targeted over lack of climate action

Eve Jeffery

As part of a fortnight of climate actions and protests led by Extinction Rebellion (XR), more than 30 activists visited MP Kevin Hogan's office in Lismore on October 21 dressed in red and black.

Black Wraiths were dressed as mourners and pushed ghostly empty white prams, while the Red Rebels were cloaked in red.

It was a powerful message for the National Party.

Red Rebel Venus said the message was crystal clear: 'Act now, or we risk the future for all generations to come. We are facing a planetary crisis', they said.

'We need strong action in the short term, and that is not what we are seeing from the Nationals. We, in regional areas, know the impacts of the climate crisis more than



The Red Rebels' message to Nationals MP Kevin Hogan (Lismore): 'Act now or we risk the future for all generations to come. We are facing a planetary crisis'. Photo Jordan Pavey.

anyone – it already impacts on our ability to farm, protect wildlife and even to feel safe in the bush.'

Protesters started at the Regional Art Gallery Quad, and marched through town to Kevin Hogan's office.

Mr Hogan didn't appear to be there, and the door was closed.

Venus said that as

Australia's COP26 delegation prepares to depart, and Environment Minister Susan Ley appeals against the Federal Court's finding that she has a duty of care to protect young people from harm, it's time that our elected representatives lead from the front.

'They need to not be the last to catch up. Our children and grandchildren depend on action now.'

**Stolen futures**

'The Black Wraiths chained themselves to the prams and ashes were scattered while the Red Rebels grieved for the stolen futures of our children and grandchildren. XR's purpose is to create a visual lament, and an urgent plea, for the Australian Government to catch up with the rest of the world with renewable energy sources.'

# Mary's Place receives welcome boost in Ballina

David Lowe

One of the major recipients of Ballina RSL's latest round of ClubGRANTS is Mary's Place, a drop-in centre and support service for homeless people and travellers in the area, supported by Vinnies.

Bryan Jamison is Team Leader at Mary's Place, which has been open to everyone since November 2020.

He says the facility offers a wide range of services.

'We have hot food five days a week. We have showers, we have computer facilities.'

'We have baggage storage facilities.'

'We have a lovely big outdoor area where people can socialise and build some community connections', explained Mr Jamison.

He said that a wider range of outreach services were available on a fortnightly basis, including Legal Aid,



Team Leader Bryan Jamison at Mary's Place. Photo supplied

Centrelink, and drug and alcohol counselling.

'We also have priority access to a medical service in Ballina for patrons of Mary's Place,' he said. 'And we have a community health dental program.'

Bryan Jamison started working with Vinnies as the homeless outreach worker for the Northern Rivers in 2014, and spent several

years working to establish Mary's Place, which also benefits from 'a whole series of partnerships with local community groups', including donations from various local charity groups.

He told *The Echo*, 'We're well supported, although it would always be nice to get a bit more.'

Mary's Place is open 8.30am–12.30pm each weekday, with more intensive case management and crisis support services available in the afternoon, usually by appointment.

'We offer a pretty high quality service all the time for people who haven't got very many places to go,' said Mr Jamison.

In terms of positive community impact, over 200 people come through Mary's Place each week, and 500 hot meals a week are served. 'Anybody is welcome to come

here,' he said.

COVID-19 has raised demand and pressure on support services.

'Yes it's been pretty full-on,' said Mr Jamison. 'Fortunately, Vinnies has got a very good set of protocols around managing the pandemic, quite a strict regime.'

**Generous support  
from Ballina RSL**

Bryan Jamison said it was 'absolutely wonderful' to have the support of ClubGRANTS for Mary's Place arriving at the end of a difficult year.

'This has been very generous on the part of Ballina RSL,' he said.

Bill Coulter, CEO of Ballina RSL, told *The Echo*, 'We get many requests for funding from the community and they are all worthy. The Mary's Place application

particularly stood out to us for a few reasons.

'The application was for a permanent outdoor awning. This meant that during the bad weather we so often experience, those using the Mary's Place services were unable to get out of the rain and the wind.'

'Sadly, COVID-19 saw an increase in Ballina Shire residents needing to use the service more often,' said Mr Coulter.

Pending Council approval, the new weather protection will be installed by contractor Trueline in December.

If you would like to know more about Mary's Place, or volunteer, you can email: [bryan.jamison@vinnies.org.au](mailto:bryan.jamison@vinnies.org.au).

Mary's Place can be found at the north end of Moon Street, Ballina, near Bangalow Road and Kentwell Community Centre.

# No staff cuts for Mur'bah mega school: NSW Education Dept

Claims that a proposed merger of four schools in Murwillumbah will result in the loss of at least 19 teaching positions have been rejected by the NSW Education Department.

Minister Mitchell told NSW Parliament Upper House Question Time recently that staffing projections, based on 2020 enrolment numbers, indicate that, when combined, there would be 3.42 fewer teaching service

positions and 1.262 fewer school administrative and support staff [SASS] positions in the primary school, and 15.5 fewer teaching service positions and 3.082 fewer SASS positions in the secondary setting. (Source: *Hansard*).

Teachers Federation Deputy President, Henry Rajendra, said, 'It had taken Education Minister, Sarah Mitchell, almost a year to tell the Murwillumbah

community that this building project would have the net effect of reducing the numbers of teaching positions in the merged mega school.'

**Holding NSW govt  
to account**

Mr Rajendra said, 'We are determined to hold the NSW Government to account on this project and make sure the community of Murwillumbah knows the full extent of the

downgrading of education services being proposed.'

Yet a NSW Education spokesperson said it has been 'clearly communicated since the inception of this project, no permanent staff will lose their jobs.'

'It is disappointing the Federation continues to mislead the community instead of engaging with the project like the majority of families have,' said the spokesperson.

'Staffing numbers at the four schools will be reflected in the new campus through until 2026, when staffing will be determined by the state-wide staffing formula, agreed upon by the NSW Teachers Federation. The campus will include a separate primary and high school on the same site and will offer students in Murwillumbah advanced educational opportunities that have not previously been available to them.'

# And the Simple Pleasures winner is...

Mark Seiffert, better known for his skills with the barcode reader than a camera, has won the 2021 Simple Pleasures Photo Comp with his photo of a bicycle beside a stormy Bruns beach.

Brunswick Heads bibliophiles will know Mark as a much-loved man behind the counter at the library, but the secret is out – he has a sideline as a snapper.

The photo competition has been held every year from 2006 to 2021 (in 2013 the Photo Competition was run by the Byron Shire Council), with a selection of entries chosen to showcase the town and its residents in an annual glossy calendar and postcard series. This year the theme was 'Brun in Focus'.

This year's judging was a virtual event, and Valerie Hardy from the Simple Pleasures calendar design team said that there were over 200 entries via social



Mark Seiffert's winning photo for the 2021 Simple Pleasures Photo Comp.

media and email.

'Mark's shot is very Brunswick Heads and represents Simple Pleasures beautifully!' she said. 'Thanks to our judges: Ros Goodchild, former owner of Mina Mina Gallery in Bruns, and Eve

Jeffery, *The Echo* legend.

'We all thought they chose a very worthy winner, and when you see all the finalists together it's a really good looking display.'

Mark wins a night at Crystal Creek Rainforest Retreat

for two, valued at \$500. If you would like to see more, the 12 finalists' photos are on display in the sponsors' windows in town.

You can see more of Mark's work on Instagram: m\_m2483.

# Byron Youth Service offers regular events

Byron Youth Service (BYS) say they are proud to be partnering with the Australian Alcohol & Drug Foundation to host The KICKBACK 'Artist in Residence' opening night at the Youth Activities Centre (YAC) this Thursday.

The YAC is located at 1 Gilmore Cres, Byron Bay.

YAC Music Program Coordinator, Lindy Lou Smith, says a live event will be held on the last Thursday of the month.

Every Thursday, from 4.30pm till 7pm, she says there will be games, pool

comps, table tennis and food. Additionally, once-a-month gigs will be held from 5pm till 7pm. She says, 'It's one of the first steps in offering a weekly event for young people in the community'.

'This is a great opportunity for us to showcase the amazing, talented young people in music, re-open the YAC space for young people, and continue to foster the creativity of our emerging musicians', she said.

For enquiries, please email [lindylou@bys.org.au](mailto:lindylou@bys.org.au) or call the YAC on 6685 7777.



From left to right: Sam Sanders, Milla Stewart-Long, Aquila Porter (Loose Content) and right, Kai Walton (KAI-FI). Photo Joshua Sykes

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# Council staff push to take Unauthorised Dwelling Policy off the books

Aslan Shand

A contentious draft Unauthorised Dwelling Policy, put on exhibition last year by Council, has re-emerged for this Thursday's meeting.

At the June 18, 2020 meeting, all councillors (except Cr Lyon) supported a motion by Cr Sarah Ndiaye (Greens), which was drafted on the fly, and was buried within a development application (DA) for a property at Skinners Shoot.

Her motion led to an

attack on property owners in Upper Main Arm by Council's compliance staff.

Before the policy went on exhibition for public feedback, compliance staff took it upon themselves to target their first area of alleged unauthorised dwellings - Upper Main Arm.

Letters were sent on September 4, 2020, demanding that recipients respond and gain approval for their unauthorised dwellings.

Owing to lack of research by Council staff, letters were

sent to many houses that already had DA approval.

The process caused significant stress and alarm for the hinterland community.

The staff report for this Thursday's agenda is recommending that the draft policy be downgraded for 'internal use' for Council staff. Staff are also seeking that the document become a 'supporting document to the Enforcement Policy 2020'.

## Abandon policy

Greens Mayoral candidate, Duncan Dey, has told *The Echo* that instead the policy should be 'abandoned' by councillors.

'Report 13.11 lists issues raised in submissions, and at the end of the report, admits the submissions were right, ie that the draft policy was

deeply flawed. Hence, it should be dumped', he said.

Mr Dey says he has sent an alternative motion to sympathetic councillors, that not only seeks for councillors to 'abandon' the policy, but also that Council acknowledges 'the flawed approach of the draft Policy, of using it prior to adoption, and of the program launched from it, but not described in it'.

He also states that Council should acknowledge 'the anguish and housing stress caused to residents of Upper Main Arm in particular, and the Shire in general, owing to pursuing this unadopted policy during COVID-19 times'.

'There should be a report on the impact of what Council did over the last 18 months under the draft policy. There is none, no comment on

social impacts. Staff chose somehow to investigate Upper Main Arm. The impacts were horrible, but there is no mention of them.'

This point was highlighted in the draft policy submissions by former Mayor, Jan Barham who stated that, 'I also oppose and object to the manner in which Council has implemented the compliance program in relation to the Main Arm community.'

## Procedural fairness?

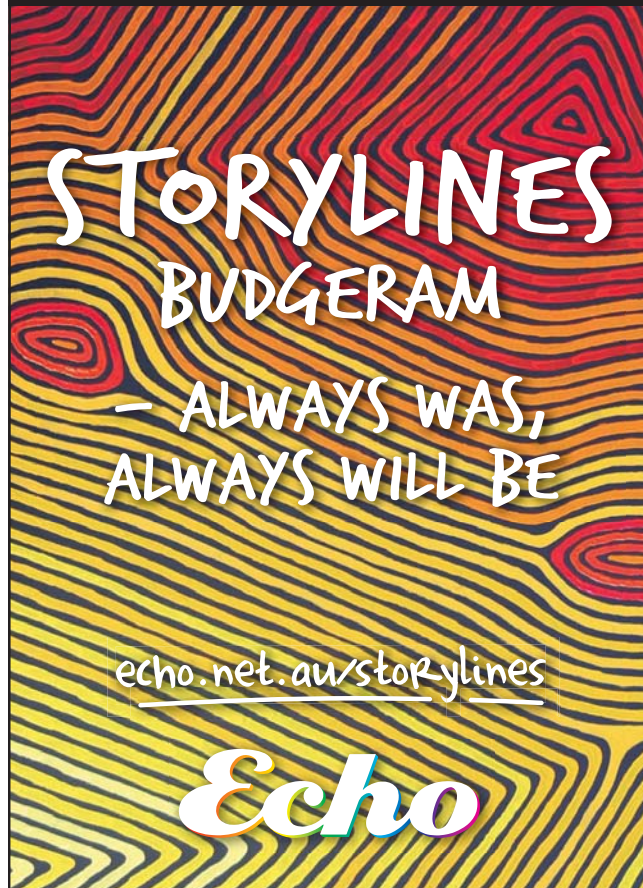
'It appears there was no report to Council that indicated what investigation had been undertaken to determine which properties were identified for receipt of the notification letter regarding unauthorised development.'

'Therefore, there's no clarity regarding how the

properties were chosen. This is not how procedural fairness is enacted. I was on Council when a similar program was launched in 2002 and 2009, both times initiated on the Main Arm community, and both times required the elected councillors to intervene to ensure that procedural fairness, education and support was offered to those residents in genuine need of assistance. Council initiated the Interagency Meeting to ensure that the State Government agencies were aware and available to provide support if required', she stated.

Mr Dey added, 'Council should focus on unauthorised development of all kinds, not just dwellings, and investigate during construction, not decades later'.

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**Echo**

\*Budgeram means story in Bundjalung language.  
Thank you to Ninbella Gallery for supporting this monthly column.

# Stallholders win case against Bluesfest

Hans Lovejoy

A group of Bluesfest stallholders have won back around 75 per cent of their fees paid for the 2020 festival, after winning an appeal in the Civil and Administrative Tribunal (NCAT).

The 2020 event was cancelled owing to COVID-19 health orders by the NSW government, and was again cancelled this year in April just one day before it was to take place.

It was one of many festivals to be hit by COVID-19 restrictions.

The decision for *Bluesfest Services Pty Ltd v The Cajun Kitchen Pty Ltd* [2021]

*NSWCATAP 325* was on October 21 and was heard before Deputy Presidents M Harrowell and S Westgarth.

Mark Swivel from Barefoot Law, who represented the stallholders, told *The Echo*, 'The stallholders proved their point - that Bluesfest's contract was unfair'.

'Bluesfest had no right to retain all the stallholders' money'. NCAT found Bluesfest's no-refund clause was an unfair contract term. Bluesfest keep 25 per cent of the fee to cover costs.

'Some might say that's too much. The stallholders are still wondering why Bluesfest fought so hard to keep all their money'.

## Appeal warranted

Bluesfest director Peter Noble told *The Echo*, 'What Mark didn't say was that the appeal found the first judgment erred in areas, and that

the appeal was warranted'.

He said, 'There is also in the appeals judgment a specific statement that costs applied to the provision of stallholders attending can be charged in future, if there is a cancellation. Our agreement will be amended as a result'.

'There is also a statement in the judgment that 50 per cent of the fee would have been awarded to Bluesfest [if] we had initially provided that information... The money was placed with the court to show good faith.'

'We believed this was a matter of law that needed to be defined under the Act, as it had wide implications for any business entering into an agreement, and it has now been defined'.

Brad Heydon, who represented Bluesfest as ALG Heydons Lawyers, also responded to Mr Swivel's claims.

He said, 'The Appeal Panel

did not find that Bluesfest had no right to keep all their money; what the Appeal Panel found was it is obviously going to be a case-by-case analysis by the Tribunal in any further cases'.

Mr Noble previously told *The Echo* that the majority of the stallholders were happy to roll their fees on to the upcoming festival.

The stallholders to be compensated are: 'The Cajun Kitchen Pty Ltd, Safe House Pty Ltd, Moreton Bay Sea Farms Pty Ltd, Rebecca Stewart and Hay Maclure t/as Voodoo Burgers, Paul Daly t/as The Fish Taco Co, Kristy Papp and Arpi Papp t/as Langos, Wayne Jeffery t/as The Hat Empire, Liza-Lee Campbell t/as 24:7 Sunglasses, Cakes by Sweethearts Pty Ltd, Sukkupmaida Saragih t/as Balinese Street Food and Kerry Williams t/as Gatinha Beachwear'.




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This clinical trial has approval from the Southern Cross University Human Research Ethics Committee (ECN-2021-045).

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# Mullum's natural burial ground update

Paul Bibby

Tucked away on Mullumbimby's northern fringe lies a small gem with a big purpose.

The undulating paddock with a view that spans the town is set to become the Shire's first natural burial ground (NBG).

For more than a decade, a small but persistent group of locals lobbied Council for a place where people could be sustainably buried - with their remains nourishing the earth rather than polluting it with plastic-lined, lacquer-coated coffins.

Eventually, a site was found in the form of a parcel of Council-managed land off Vallances Road.

The degraded paddock bordered by the Brunswick River had sat dormant for years, with councillors and staff engaged in ongoing discussions over its future use.

It is recognised as a biodiversity hotspot, with more than 100 recorded bird species.

Eventually, last November, councillors voted unanimously in favour of the burial ground plan, and the vision began to, excuse the



Council-managed land off Vallances Road is approved as a natural burial site. Photo Jeff Dawson

pun, come to life.

In addition to being a natural burial ground, the site is proposed to remain a nature conservation area that the whole community can enjoy.

Now, a group of residents are seeking support from the community.

'We really need some money to do this,' says Di Hart, one of the stalwart campaigners for the burial ground plan. 'We want to build a really simple chapel so that people can hold

ceremonies and funerals here, or maybe just enjoy a picnic on the verandah.'

Ms Hart and her fellow advocates have already set up the NBG as a not-for-profit charity through a local organisation called Mullum SEED, and are now accepting donations to support the project.

At the same time, Council and the NBG committee are formulating the policies and procedures required to open and operate a burial ground in NSW.

'Once we've jumped

through all of the land management hoops we'll be able to take bookings,' Ms Hart says.

To donate, firstly email Di Hart at [dianehartgardens@gmail.com](mailto:dianehartgardens@gmail.com). Then you can pay by Paypal via the Mullum SEED website - [www.mullumseed.org.au](http://www.mullumseed.org.au)

Or make a direct deposit via the following account: Account name: Bunya Sustainability Fund, BSB 722 744, Account No: 100 128 876. Transactions description: Your name, then 'NBG'.

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**Ian Cohen:** first Greens MLC in NSW, environmental activist

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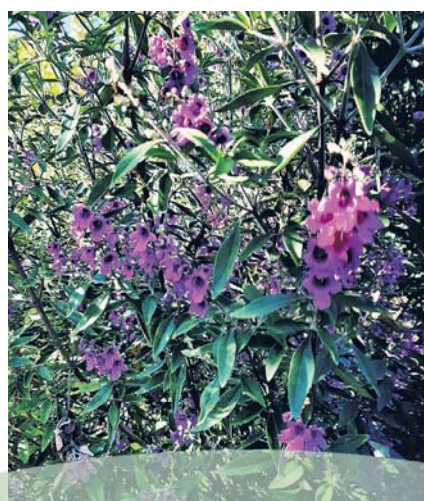
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## Climate talk vs climate action



The UN Climate Change Conference will open in Glasgow on Sunday, and Scott Morrison will be there, with the grunts, farts and oinks of the National Party ringing in his ears.

It was a gamble whether he could go or not, and before he could lift off with his woolly socks and Hillsong hymnbook, some weighty right-wing baggage had to fall away.

For example, the Business Council of Australia completely reversed itself, discovering that cutting carbon emissions would be good for business, while all the News Corp papers, which pretend to operate independently, announced in unison that they had always accepted the science, and the non-stop gabble of climate denial tosspots had just been ironic teasing of the humourless Greens.

Only the acquiescence of the National Party to a bare minimum policy was needed to save his face in Glasgow when he will be led to his stool at the back of the big people's meeting.

Naturally an agreement so desperately needed by the PM enables the party of thugs and stand-over merchants to divert the maximum amount of tax dollars from our pockets into theirs.

However, the smell of pork is so delicious that the Nationals are lingering over opening the barrel; so at the time of writing we do not know how much ransom will need to be paid.

Nevertheless, we are going to get the high-level, albeit embarrassed, representation of Morrison at COP26.

So what is the purpose of the conference?

The number one goal is to 'secure global net zero by mid-century and keep 1.5 degrees within reach.' (Keeping under 1.5 degrees of planetary warming is thus implicitly abandoned: we must keep it 'within reach.')

The 2050 target is a given; the real need at the conference is to get countries to adopt ambitious emission reduction targets by 2030.

For Australians, this has already been ruled out by the National Clown Party, but Morrison will still get some credit in Glasgow.

This is because the organisers of the conference have realised that to create a plan to combat climate change all they need to do is study Australia, and then do the exact opposite.

So the agenda reads: 'accelerate the phase-out of coal; curtail deforestation; speed up the switch to electric vehicles; and encourage investment in renewables.'

This is, of course, a precise reverse image of the climate policy initiatives undertaken by the Liberal-Nationals government over the past eight years.

It's good that we could contribute something.

Will the conference achieve its aim? Existentially it must.

However, we should remember that whatever decisions come out of the next two weeks, they will have to be implemented within the limits of the same system that caused the catastrophe in the first place.

We have seen over the last eight years how difficult it is to rein in destructive forces when they get control of a national government.

We can only hope for more success at the global level.

David Lovejoy, *Echo* co-founder

## My plans to be net sober by 2050

With Scott Morrison about to jet off to Glasgow for the UN COP 26 Climate Change Conference, I've got some unexpected and exciting news of my own: I've decided to take advice around my health and wellbeing and give up drinking!

I know, I know. Thank you for your applause and admiration, which I correctly assume is pouring my way.

It's wonderful to be able to make this announcement loudly in the media. To that end, I've set a target for giving up... well, look, not all booze, obviously. That would be both irresponsible and unrealistic.

To be specific, I have agreed on a non-binding drinking target with many, many conditions attached - but I am confident that I will be net sober by 2050!

You may applaud again.

Part of this future triumph is already being achieved by rolling over my sobriety credits from 2005, specifically the two weeks I had that gastro thing and basically consumed nothing but dry toast and flat lemonade.

By extrapolating those 14 days and baselessly assuming that they are representative of my thirties, I think you'll find that my drinking has been very reasonable by international standards, per capita.

Achieving this incredibly impressive goal is also based on a few very reasonable assumptions about the rapid development and commercialisation of new alcohol capture and storage initiatives, like the successful implementation of Clean Brewing - a developing technology by which my drinking multiple growlers of tangy, frosty beer actually removes hangovers from the community!

Admittedly early research has been a little disappointing, in that I woke up the other morning feeling like rats had hollowed out my skull and were using it as a combination latrine and firing range, but I'm hopeful that with



*'I reserve the right to abandon any plans to stop drinking if there is any risk of so much as a single job loss in the brewing and viticulture industries.'*

- Andrew P Street

adequate public funding we will start to see a dramatic reduction in the number of soiled and soggy mattresses I am forced to shamefully drag to the curb.

Now, to the naysayers who naively declare that ample non-booze alternatives already exist, such as water, orange juice, soft drink and literally almost all potable liquids worldwide; it is possible that these may play a part in my thirst-quenching efforts going forward.

But frankly, I have my doubts about whether those can be successfully applied to all of my hydration needs on a regular basis, which is why I have been stocking up on brown liquors to provide a baseline supply of liquid while we explore alternatives, including the purchase of some very nice new monogrammed tumblers. It's my glass-led recovery!

In addition, there are a few things that I feel should be made clear about my brave and bold step into a lean, clean future.

One is that I realise that some so-called experts in my liver function have suggested that I will literally explode if I keep drinking for the next nine years, and that a strong interim reduction of booze is required by 2030.

Unfortunately, I cannot commit to any such reduction, and may instead have to ramp up my drinking in the short term in order to hit my 2050 goal.

I will not be drawn on the details of these on-booze matters.

Also, I reserve the right to abandon any plans to stop drinking if there is any risk of so much as a single job loss in the brewing and viticulture industries in the

next three decades. Obviously.

There are those who will suggest that reducing my drinking by 2050 is far too little, and pathetically too late, to be remotely beneficial.

Others may cynically suggest that my announcement is an empty gesture made purely to look like I'm doing something positive while deliberately doing the opposite, especially since I've been swigging from a hip flask throughout the writing of this column.

And sure, you might point to my career-long reliance on booze, and my many public statements on how great it is up until and including last week.

Like that time I stood up and waved a cask around shouting "This is goon! Don't be afraid, don't be scared!" in what I thought at the time was parliament, but was actually an Oporto's car park.

But the fact is that I am demonstrating a strong and extremely admirable commitment to a sensible and economically responsible level of sobriety, following a perfectly acceptable and internationally agreed-upon timeline that protects both my health and the job security of the hardworking people at Dan Murphy's.

In any case, there is no longer any need to speak to me about the dangers of polishing off a bottle of red in a park, or demanding to know where that smell is coming from, because I am meeting and beating all of my unlegislated, changeable, vague and easily discarded targets as I head to my goal of being net sober by 2050.

Bottoms up, Australia!

It's not so much that they fog up the window so we can't look in, it's that they write "Fuck off" backwards in the condensation while laughing at us! - Shaun McCallie.

# Echo

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Phone: 02 6684 1777

Editorial/news: [editor@echo.net.au](mailto:editor@echo.net.au)

Advertising: [adcopy@echo.net.au](mailto:adcopy@echo.net.au)

Office: Village Way, Stuart Street,  
Mullumbimby NSW 2482

General Manager **Simon Haslam**

Editor **Hans Lovejoy**

Deputy Editor **Aslan Shand**

Photographer **Jeff Dawson**

Advertising Manager **Angela Harris**

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**Nicholas Shand**  
1948-1996  
Founding Editor

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*'The job of a newspaper is to comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable.'*

- Finley Peter Dunne 1867-1936

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## Waste to energy

On Friday I attended a bio-mass and waste incineration event, at the Condong sugar mill, held by the Northern Rivers Guardians (NRG) and North East Forest Alliance (NEFA). Generating electricity from incinerating wood 'waste' and other waste is a multi-billion dollar industry throughout the world. An industry claiming carbon credits.

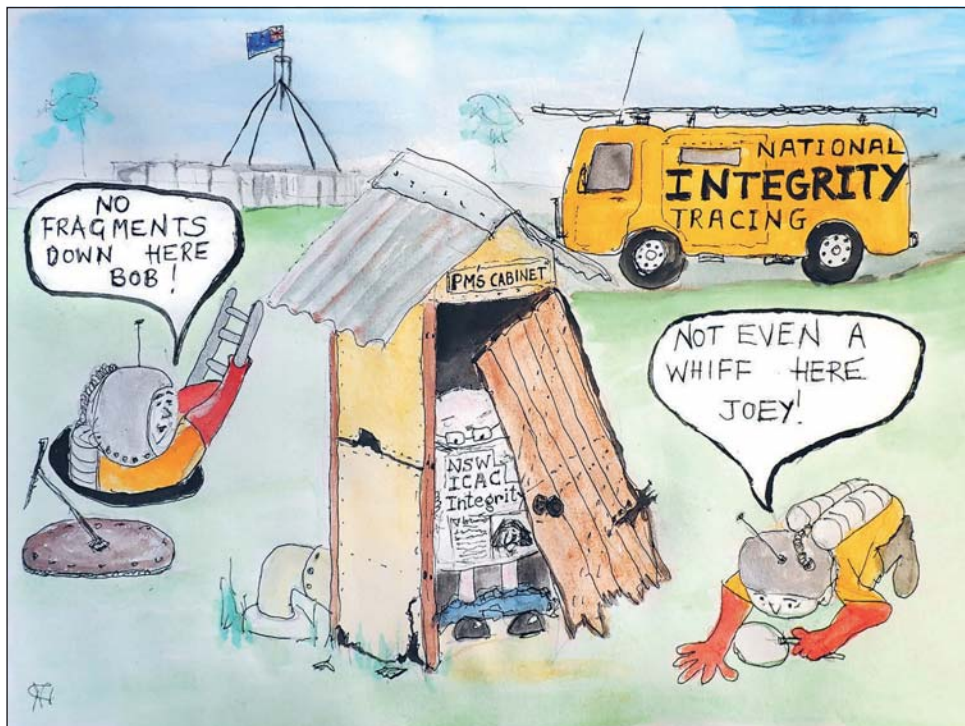
In our region Cape Byron Energy is a company doing the business. Their website says they use waste from sugar cane predominantly. I asked them what percentage of sugar cane waste to wood 'waste' they use? But they have not answered me. Australia is part of the global industry to chip forest 'waste' into pellets to export to be used for biomass energy production.

Other types of waste are also being incinerated and turned into energy in Australia and globally. Sounds genius and green? Zero Waste Australia says this about biomass incineration fuel production facilities; 'While the organic waste may come from renewable resources the energy created through the incineration is comparatively more climate polluting than other energy sources such as oil, gas and coal'.

The toxic emissions from waste incineration bio waste plants are difficult or impossible to monitor. A technology supplier for one waste-to-energy facility in Queensland says it is difficult to provide comprehensive information on emission performance as the technology supplier is not the operator of the facilities. This is a very dirty rabbit hole to enter. It looks like some of our politicians are attempting, successfully, to green wash.

The ABC Illawarra reported on 10 October how the Independent Planning Commission rejected, in 2018, a proposal to build a waste incinerator in Western Sydney, citing impact to the environment and public health. Instead, Goulburn, Lithgow, Parkes and the Richmond Valley local government areas (LGAs) have been identified as sites for new waste-to-energy infrastructure.

Our Richmond Valley region is considered not populous enough, so Casino is to get a waste incinerator.



Cartoon by Nic Cobcroft

Besides the Condong incinerator there is also a waste-to-energy incinerator at the Broadwater sugar mill. This makes me less hopeful for the future.

The Byron Council has a bioenergy project which, when running as proposed, will be genius and green. Apparently, it will be the first of its type anywhere on this planet; converting organic waste into clean and green renewable energy using a closed-loop carbon cycle. The carbon created will end up as plant matter and stays within the system. Dry anaerobic digestion uses oxygen-free conditions to break down organic matter inside a contained facility. The resulting biogas is converted into energy. Dry anaerobic digestion DOES NOT use burning, incineration or combustion-based technology.

The Byron Bioenergy Facility would NOT USE forestry waste.

I believe some clever people have made their own closed loop bioenergy facilities in the Shire. This makes me hopeful for a future.

Peta Best  
Main Arm

## Freedoms and rights

Whilst I agree with most of Adrian Gattenhoff's assertions in Letters (13 October: Perrotet and Opus Dei) I urge him not to be fooled by the premise that we have inalienable rights that are innate to us all.

What we have are privileges that can be taken away with the stroke of an unelected bureaucrat's pen. Search YouTube: 'George

Carlin: you have no rights' and have a laugh at the absurdity of such a premise.

Brian Mollet  
Mullumbimby

## Masters of disasters

If ever alarm bells were sounded for Ballina and ignored, they surely were those of former mayor and West Ballina farmer, Bert Barlow, in the 1976 newspaper report on yet another flood plain outrage as quoted herein.

'Siltng of Fishery Creek had caused the worst flooding on record on the southern approaches to Ballina. Fishery Creek could not cope with the flow after Emigrant Creek overtopped the water back up along the raised highway causing a dam effect. This caused caravan parks and motels to be flooded.

'Similarly, water backed up on the other side of the highway entering motels when there was not sufficient escape route to the river.

'Mangroves and silting had swallowed Fishery Creek which was two and a half miles to the canal as against the 13 mile route taken by Emigrant Creek.'

Authorities were taken to task when these flood waters powered up the Tintenbar valley into and under village housing. Yet major floodplain transformation surged ahead, devoid of any duty of care to affected landholders over the next 45 years.

Barlows Road construction commenced from River Street, coupled with levee banks and floodgates on the

western side of Fishery Creek that is now heavily urbanised on nearby reclaimed floodways, including Ballina Quays.

Next to fall was the former Emigrant and Fishery Creek junction and its shortcut to Ballina, choked into oblivion at the newly built Flathead Lane turn-off.

In close proximity lay the new Pacific Highway from Newrybar headwaters to Woodburn, its total flooding impact not yet felt.

Of disbelief is a proposed \$7.8 million Barlows Road upgrade and mini-bypass reaching north to Tamarind Drive at Cumbalum.

The opportunity arises at upcoming elections to shaft the masters of disasters in favour of candidates prepared to govern for all Shire ratepayers and not the select few.

John Hayter  
Tintenbar

► More letters on next page

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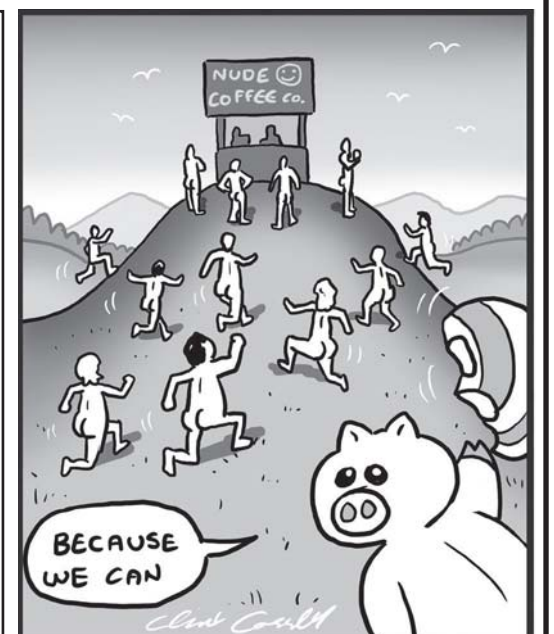
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## Letters to the Editor and cartoons

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

# Individuals, community and COVID

■ David Lovejoy (14 October) and Jeffrey Lewis (22 October) each provide thoughtful and insightful observations regarding the narrative of oppression and the co-option of human rights language that has been adopted by anti-vax folk.

Anyone can use human rights language – terrorist, politician or priest; it's common for despots to appeal to hard-core individualism, libertarianism and 'freedom'. When 'me first' libertarian ideologies deploy human rights language, they turn important thinking into distorted and superficial slogans, and mask confusion.

Most significantly, human rights language has been powerfully used by civil rights movements of all kinds, from rights activism against racial apartheid in South Africa, to the rights of women, First Nations people, people with a disability, LGBTIQ+ people and more.

But, human rights are

We are not free to act without affecting others; there is always a consequence to our actions.

not based on 'survival of the fittest'. They regard the individual as indivisible with the community.

Thus, we are not free to act without affecting others; there is always a consequence to our thoughts and actions (even if we ignore them). We are entangled and interdependent with each other, and therefore in a shared and mutual relationship.

Ultimately, human rights are about taking ethical care of others; essentially about empathy, curiosity and humility, and they compel us to take responsibility for the suffering and dignity of others.

Baden Offord  
Ocean Shores

■ In response to 'Covid Cassandra peers into the future'. One question for David: Will the people who have chosen natural immunity through infection, perhaps mitigating the severity of their infection through an unapproved alternative protocol, rather than vaccination, be able to receive immunity status, (a vaccine passport), or does natural immunity have no place amidst pandemic fear and the new democracy our government is presenting to us?

The further towards Andrews and the far left you go, the more suppressed the science that does not fit their narrative and political dissent, becomes.

This cognitive dissonance is one of the reasons for the concerted suppression of medical science.

On 9 March 2021, AHPRA published a position statement: 'Any promotion of anti-vaccination statements or health advice which contradicts the best available scientific evidence or seeks to actively undermine the national immunisation campaign (including via social media) is not supported by National Boards and may be in breach of the codes of conduct and subject to investigation and possible regulatory action' (i.e. deregistration).

If the pandemic demands of you an unacceptable course of action, then it is necessary to control the narrative. Is natural immunity through infection acceptable?

Michael Taylor  
Ocean Shores

## Saddle Road DA

In response to last week's article on the Saddle Rd DA, the discussion was long and arduous owing to the contradictory and missing information in the staff report. This needed to be thrashed out, as evidenced by the large number of amendments and ever-changing opinions.

Everyone was leaning over backwards to play 'fair' given Matthew is a Greens candidate. It's too easy to sit on the sidelines and be critical. We all do it. But in the long run, those out of the loop are unaware of all the discussions, questions, site inspections and other research that precedes any Council meeting.

At least with our current Mayor, Michael Lyon, meetings now proceed with respect and good humour. I can't tell you how relaxing it is to be able to 'gnaw the bone' in the chamber without being personally attacked and denigrated during any exchange. To actually feel one's contribution to the debate is respectfully considered and actually 'heard' has been refreshing. I have finally felt part of a team that seriously considers each matter objectively and with the best interests of the community at heart. Michael is a team player and capable of listening and changing his mind, and I applaud that.

I believe all candidates running for mayor in the next election have integrity, intelligence and enthusiasm in abundance. However, given next term will be a very short one, we will need a mayor who has experience in the political arena if we are to get off to a seamless start.

Asren Pugh can give you

that in spades – integrity, political experience, deep knowledge and he is a lifetime local environmental warrior – (and yes, I am a Labor candidate).

But don't damn Michael. He's been even-handed and professional in the position of mayor and as chair of meetings and I've enjoyed working in a respectful and collegiate Council chamber at last.

Cr Jan Hackett  
Byron Bay

■ You can view footage of Byron Shire Council meetings at: [www.byron.nsw.gov.au/Council/Council-meetings/Council-audio](http://www.byron.nsw.gov.au/Council/Council-meetings/Council-audio).

## No NB Farmers mkt

New Brighton Farmers Market is an invasion of our community and needs to go!

The New Brighton Farmers Market is an invasion of privacy for locals and the impact is too much for our roads and nature reserve that are being treated like a car park. This is the wrong place for such a market and for this small community to continue having to tolerate it. Our roads see more traffic on Tuesday morning than all locals going to Coles for the whole week.

New Brighton, Ocean Shores and South Golden Beach are NOT tourist destinations. They are solely residential housing estates, so please, to the people that think we want this to be a tourist spot – you are very mistaken. Our local resources are struggling to keep up. So let's take back our community, people, before it's too late.

Darren Gray  
Ocean Shores

## Their absolute worst

What a nauseating display of expedient, political backflipping we've just witnessed with the coalition, (especially the Nationals) pitifully attempting to agree on even something vaguely resembling a serious climate policy for 'Scotty' to take to Glasgow and sit with the grownups around the table. Even this motor mouthed blowhard is going to struggle to sell this one. This is the coalition at their absolute worst.

The Nationals' spin is that 'they're not going to be rushed into making bad decisions without having all the facts on the table'. Seriously, the facts have been on the table for a decade, they can't handle facts, they've made a litany of poor decisions regarding climate change policies while ignoring the protests of their farming constituents.

How is this corruption-infested, incompetent rabble going to get out of this mess? Will we be subjected to another rorting campaign like (Nationals) Bridget McKenzie's infamous 'sportsports' scandal. Then came the Building Better Regions rorts, where money meant for regional infrastructure was spent in marginal metropolitan seats on swimming pools.

Then, the daddy of all rorts, the Commuter Car Park rort, (Pork and Ride), where millions were promised, to alleviate congestion in marginal seats, and mostly never built. This seriously bad government cannot continue. Labor government with a federal ICAC. Now.

Keith Duncan  
Pimlico

► More letters on page 14

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DR ALEX PHOON CONTACT ME

## Do COVID vaccines affect male fertility?

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

### Social-media theories don't hold firm

Vaccines do have side effects, but there are some social-media users peddling myths that COVID-19 vaccines cause male infertility and sexual dysfunction.

This is not the case – there is no established link between COVID vaccines and male fertility, though falling ill with COVID-19 may pose a risk of sexual dysfunction.

### Do vaccines cause infertility in males?

Currently there is no evidence that sperm count, semen volume and sperm motility are negatively affected by a vaccine. In fact, there is no evidence that any vaccine at all causes infertility in either males or females.

One preprint study, submitted in May 2021, found no difference in sperm characteristics of 43 men before and after vaccination with Pfizer. The volunteers came from a pool of men receiving IVF services, and 32 per cent of the participants already had ineffective sperm.

Another study published in *JAMA* quantified sperm volume of 45 men before and after two doses of an mRNA vaccine (either Pfizer or Moderna) and saw no decrease in sperm count after 70 days – the life cycle of a sperm – following the second dose. In fact, it found that semen volume, sperm count and sperm motility all significantly increased.

Eight of the men had low sperm count prior to vaccination, but this increased to normal levels after.

'Because the vaccines contain mRNA and not the live virus, it is unlikely that the vaccine would affect sperm parameters,' the authors point out in the paper.

In 2017, about seven in 1,000 men of reproductive age were affected by male infertility. With 2.8 billion people fully vaccinated globally, we would expect to see a significant and large increase in reported male infertility in 2021 – except we haven't seen this reported.

The International Federation of Fertility Societies, the European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, the British Fertility Society and the Association

of Reproductive and Clinical Scientists have all released statements that there is no evidence that COVID-19 vaccines cause infertility.

There were no Therapeutic Goods Administration reports of infertility or fertility issues following the administration of 28.7 million vaccine doses in Australia, but there were six mentions of penile discomfort. There was no established link, however, between the vaccine and the discomfort.

Regardless, public concern does remind us that research about COVID-19, vaccines and male fertility is crucial.

### Why do people claim there is a link between vaccines and infertility?

The nature of vaccine hesitancy is complex. Sometimes, rumours can circulate because a question was asked that became misconstrued over time as a statement.

Other times, a fact may be taken out of context.

The Society for Male Reproduction and Urology (SMRU) and the Society for the Study of Male Reproduction (SSMR) issued a joint statement with this example: 'It should be noted that about 16 per cent of men in the Pfizer/BioNtech COVID-19 vaccine clinical trial experienced fever after the second dose. Fevers can cause temporary declines in sperm production. Thus, if a man experiences fever as the result of the COVID-19 vaccine, he may experience a temporary decline in sperm production, but that would be similar to or less than if the individual experienced fever from developing COVID-19 or for other reasons.'

Since the life cycle of a sperm is only 70 days, future sperm production is unlikely to be affected by a fever.

In another instance, a circulating video involving Dr Roger Hodkinson, stated that ACE2 receptor 'is present in the testes' and 'it's actually on the cells that produce spermatozoa'. The video was accompanied by rhetoric claiming that this showed vaccines were unsafe.

However, many facts were omitted. First of all, this information was based on a paper published in *Biology of Reproduction*. In the study, researchers found that the ACE2 receptor, which is found on the cell membrane

of some organs, was high in the testes and interacted with SARS-CoV-2. Because of this, the researchers suggested there should be further research into the association between male reproductive health and male COVID patients.

The key here is that this study was not about vaccines – it was about the coronavirus itself.

The researchers told FactCheck that the paper 'is a hypothetical article about the potential effect of SARS-CoV-2 infection on male reproductive health, not about the impact of COVID-19 vaccine on male reproductive health'.

Ironically, the paper didn't prove that SARS-CoV-2 influenced male fertility, either.

But it did prompt further research.

### Does COVID cause infertility?

There isn't an established link between COVID-19 and sperm count, but there is evidence that the virus is present in the testes and penis.

An autopsy of six men who died of COVID showed that three of them had a lower sperm count than expected, although this is a small sample and may not represent all survivors.

Likewise, a biopsy from another patient who'd recovered from COVID showed that the virus was still present in the testes three months later.

The same team also found that coronavirus affected the penis, with the virus still present in the penile tissue of two men seven and nine months after their diagnosis. Both men had developed erectile dysfunction, potentially because the infection reduced blood flow.

This trend is consistent with studies on the 2006 SARS outbreak, which is a close cousin of COVID.

A meta-analysis published in March suggested that there hadn't been enough time to assess the long-term effects of COVID-19 on sperm count and quality, but there is definite evidence of an effect on testes and penile tissue, including inflammation and testicular discomfort in up to 19 per cent of male patients.

While the effect of COVID-19 on sperm count is inconclusive at this stage, it is still highly unlikely that COVID vaccines can cause male infertility.



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### CHESSE Ian Rogers

Hoogeveen is a small town in the north of the Netherlands which has hosted an annual international tournament since the 1990s.

As the Netherlands moved out of pandemic restrictions midyear, Hoogeveen realised that bringing players to an international open tournament would be difficult and instead bid to host the Dutch national championships.

A Covid protocol was required by the city including non-vaccinated players being tested for Covid each morning. This was accepted without demur by the Dutch Chess Federation (KNSB) but opposed by a small group of players. The most prominent of the objectors was Lucas van Foreest, the defending Dutch Champion.

(Lucas and his older brother Jorden share a name famous in Dutch chess, with a pair of van Foreest brothers – one the great, great grandfather of the current stars – dominating the Dutch Championship between 1885 and 1896.)

Three-time Dutch Champion

Sergey Tiviakov simply withdrew and went to play in Bangladesh but six others decided to sue the KNSB and the municipality of Hoogeveen. The players argued that the rules were unfair for unvaccinated players and in any case, the rules for top sports competitions should not apply to this event because not all players were professional.

Shortly before the tournament was due to begin, a judge ruled against the players on all counts. The Dutch Championship was very definitely a top competition and there was no obligation on the part of KNSB to relocate the tournament just to keep half a dozen players happy.

Four of the claimants then withdrew, while two had already declared they would compete regardless of the legal outcome: van Foreest's 14-year-old sister Machteld and her main trainer GM Sipke Ernst.

In order to compete Machteld needed to ask permission of her parents, who believe that the Covid vaccines are unsafe, but a daily Covid test was deemed tolerable.

The upshot of the dispute is that the championship is one of the weakest in memory, with the top five Dutch players missing.

### Byron sea level rise

There is no capacity of Byron Bay to survive. There is now no actual capacity to limit greenhouse gas emissions from causing a 1.5 degrees temperature increase.

This coming 1.5 degrees increase is associated, by a rule of thumb, with a three-metre sea level rise. With Byron largely developed from 2.5 metres above sea level, when the powers that be acknowledge that we won't meet the restriction to a 1.5 degrees temperature rise (on the way to a now projected >4 degrees increase), they will also be acknowledging that Byron Bay (and much of our other developed coastline) will eventually and unavoidably be completely inundated by the ocean.

Australia has the world's largest glacier in our Antarctic territory, which scientists identify is melting now and won't stop. This glacier on its own will contribute approximately 1.5 metres of sea level rise. The powers that be have sold us out, and continue to sabotage meaningful action.

Don't panic, while chunks of coastline will be gouged out from storms as the sea level rises, it may be next century before the entire loss

This coming 1.5 degrees increase is associated, by a rule of thumb, with a three-metre sea level rise

of towns like Byron Bay. It's the laws of physics; of putting excess carbon dioxide and other gases into our atmosphere. And while some may feel like ignoring the inevitable – people can move – but our vegetation and wildlife can't move without our help, and that is where our focus must go, to give the best chance to the living systems, that also provide us humans with the basic needs for our survival.

There is no orderly transition period, that potential has gone. We are now in a disorderly transition period. Yet even still, all levels of government refuse to acknowledge that the laws of physics don't bend to their made up politically neutered climate change positions. Byron Bay, Brunswick etc will join the Pacific Nations, under the same threat, of being land that will no longer exist, wiped off the map, and permanently under the sea. Interesting times.

**John Lazarus**  
Byron Bay

### Cannot be named

Since the news came through I have been keeping an eye and an ear out for further reporting in the mainstream media. Needless to say, the news I am talking about did not come through on that very same mainstream media.

I listened, in vain, to ABC Radio National and watched in vain on ABC TV news – nothing heard, nothing seen.

I have heard there has been some mention on local radio in Sydney, as well as on SBS TV. The *Sydney Morning Herald* and *The Guardian* have also had articles making mention. There may have been some coverage on commercial outlets, but I haven't heard of any.

As the news was coming out, the ABC was keen to have us know about someone called R Kelly being convicted in the US on sex trafficking charges. Other news included the fact that Kylie Minogue was returning from London to live in Australia.

At least Kylie is an Australian citizen. So fair enough!

However, they were not so interested in letting us know about the threats made by the US Government to murder an Australian citizen.

Definitely not interested in exploring the implications of such threats to not only Australian citizens but citizens of all countries.

The public broadcaster also seems even less interested in exploring the role of that citizen's government and its attitude – in 2017 or now.

Whether or not they knew about the plan – and if so, did they agree to it? – or as citizens would expect, did they oppose it in the strongest possible terms?

If they weren't informed, is the Australian government demanding of the US government that criminal charges be laid against those responsible?

It is probably too much to expect, because the citizen's name is Julian Assange, and as far as the mainstream media and the government are concerned, the less said about him the better. We can't afford to get offside with the US if we want those nuclear submarines.

However, it is more vital than ever that we have the name Julian Assange in our minds as we approach the final appeal by the US government to extradite him to the US on 27 October.

**Roy Drew**  
Mullumbimby



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# Climate change wars – everyone’s business

Keith Duncan

In 2011 the minority Gillard Labor government made history and introduced the Clean Energy Act (Carbon Tax). Within six months electricity generators recorded a nine per cent decrease in emissions. After nine months in operation, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions fell to a 10 year low, with coal generation down six per cent from 2008.

The Carbon Tax was hailed as a resounding success over such a short period by most Australian businesses, but was relentlessly attacked by the fossil-fuel industry and the opposition coalition parties that were now led by the unscrupulous Tony Abbott, who vowed that, upon election to government, to immediately repeal the Carbon Tax.

In 2013 that threat became real, and in 2014

the Clean Energy Act was repealed and replaced with the ‘Direct-Action’ Carbon Reduction Scheme that involved a \$3 billion taxpayer subsidy paid directly to companies to fund emission reduction initiatives. Modelling by Treasury indicated that the scheme would cost twice as much as the previous Clean Energy Act, and no Australian economist would even support it.

## Vengeful Abbot

By September 2015 even the Liberal Party couldn’t wear the embarrassment of Tony Abbott any longer and replaced him with Malcolm Turnbull, who reinstated an element of respectability to conservative politics and hope for serious climate change action. But in 2018 Turnbull’s desperate efforts to introduce a National Energy Guarantee in an

effort to combat rising electricity prices and facilitate an orderly transition to renewables, failed miserably because of opposition by the right-wing coalition rump, led by a vengeful Tony Abbott.

This shameful legacy of systematic obstructionism by the coalition is an insult to all Australians. Morrison now has the gall to claim that his government has reduced emissions by 20 per cent since 2005. The official figures are; that 14 per cent happened under Labor’s Carbon Tax, which the coalition scrapped; the six per cent that did occur under the coalition was largely from Labor’s Renewable Energy Target that the coalition tried to scrap; and the remaining percentage came from the first recession in 30 years.

This latest cynical attempt by the coalition to cobble together a seemingly

respectable climate change policy to hoodwink Australian voters, and the world, out of imposing punishing carbon tariffs on Australian exports, and that Australia has a roadmap to net-zero emissions by 2050 – by using modern technology alone (clean coal and gas) – is both outrageous and pathetic. Anybody who thinks that the likes of Angus Taylor, Barnaby Joyce, Matt Canavan or Keith Pitt have suddenly ‘seen the light’ and are now embracing a fossil-fuel free future is completely delusional. The only thing these lobbyists for the fossil-fuel industry can see is their tenure in government rapidly disappearing, along with the continued burning of fossil-fuel.

■ Keith Duncan is the vice-president of the Ballina Labor Party sub-branch.

# Will Adani mine cause ‘irreversible decline’ to region’s water?

The proposed Adani (rebranded Bravus) Carmichael coal mine in the Galilee Basin is putting Doongmabulla Springs Complex at risk. According to the the latest research on the springs led by Flinders University this is due to the difficulty in determining the aquifer sources that potentially feed the spiritually and environmentally significant springs.

Mr Robin Keegan-Treloar, the lead author of the new paper in the international *Journal of Hydrology* says that without better knowledge of the hydrogeology of the area, the springs are at risk of ‘irreversible decline’.

## Threats to springs

‘Our study expands on existing water level data, undertaking the most rigorous analysis so far, and even now we



Doongmabulla Springs Complex. Photo Lock the Gate Alliance

cannot definitively identify the source of water to the springs.

‘These concerns have been raised in this study, as well as CSIRO and Geoscience Australia studies, about threats to the springs from the Carmichael mine,’ he says.

Despite previous warnings, and remaining uncertainties over the effects of nearby mining operations, the mine is still going ahead, says senior author, Flinders University Professor Adrian Werner, from the National Centre for Groundwater Research and Training.

## Danger of damage

‘These findings have important implications given that the Permian Formations will be dewatered by the operation of the nearby Carmichael coal mine,’ Professor Werner says.

‘Lowering the uncertainty of permanent damage to the springs will require new drilling and seismic studies to adequately identify the hydrogeological regime between the mine site and the springs.’

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**Featured Events**

- Official Mark Swivel Team Launch - Tues 2 Nov, 6-9pm, Byron Theatre
- Farming at The Farm with Venetia Scott - Sat 30 Oct, 10am-12pm
- Barefoot Bowls - Sat 13 Nov, 2-5pm, Brunswick Heads Bowling Club
- Hanging at Habitat - Sun 21 Nov, 4-7pm - Team Barbie
- Race to the Polls - Sat 27 Nov, from 10am - Let's Go Vote!

**Cool Conversations** - on Zoom and Facebook Live

- Lindy Lee in conversation with Mark Swivel - Wed 27 Oct, 6pm
- Zoom Drinks Party with Fran, Venetia & Jess - Fri 29 Oct, 6pm-7pm
- Chayne Hultgren (The Space Cowboy) in conversation with Mark Swivel - Fri 5 Nov, 6pm-7pm

**Talking about Council** - Zoom and Facebook Live Mondays 6pm-7pm

- What is the Strategic Plan for Byron Shire Council? Mon 25 Oct
- What is our Residential Housing Strategy? Mon 15 Nov
- How do our Policies and Priorities sit with existing plans? Mon 22 Nov

**Community Forums** - Cavanbah Room, Byron Community Centre, Thursdays 6pm-7.30pm

- Small Business and Council - 11 Nov
- Council Management of Tourism - 18 Nov
- Community Voices on our Beaches and Habitats - 25 Nov

**Fundraiser** - Art Auction Online NOW!

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# Where the rainforest meets the Cape: Inside the old-growth remnants of Hayters Hill

Chris Byrne

From the balcony of Neil and Erica Holland's Hayters Hill home, visitors enjoy an uninterrupted view of Cape Byron Lighthouse and its coastal plains. It's a breathtaking vista, punctuated by rolling green hills and the sparkling

of the sun as it dances across the Bay.

On either side of the homestead sit ancient remnants of the Big Scrub rainforest, equally as breathtaking in their natural beauty. These remnants – one on the Hollands' property and the other on what is now public land

– are the closest patches of unspoiled lowland subtropical rainforest to Byron Bay. Their proximity to the wetland rainforest around Suffolk Park helps to form important stepping stones in the area's recovering wildlife corridor.

For this endangered ecosystem it was fortunate that 'landcaring' runs deep in the history of Hayters Hill. One of the first landowners along the winding ridge of Bangalow Road, JJ Hayter, chose to save an area of rainforest, contravening government mandates that the entirety of the land be cleared. His resolve saw a three-hectare area of the Big Scrub preserved. Through edge planting, this old-growth remnant has more than doubled in size, with Erica, herself a Hayter descendant, and Neil, continuing the family's stewardship of the remnant. Recognising the ecological significance of the site, Big Scrub Landcare organised and funded 120 days of restoration work by professional bush regenerators over the past 20 years at a cost of \$35,000.

A short distance down the road is Hayters Hill Nature Reserve, a sister to



Erica and Neil Holland and images from inside their Big Scrub remnant. Photos supplied

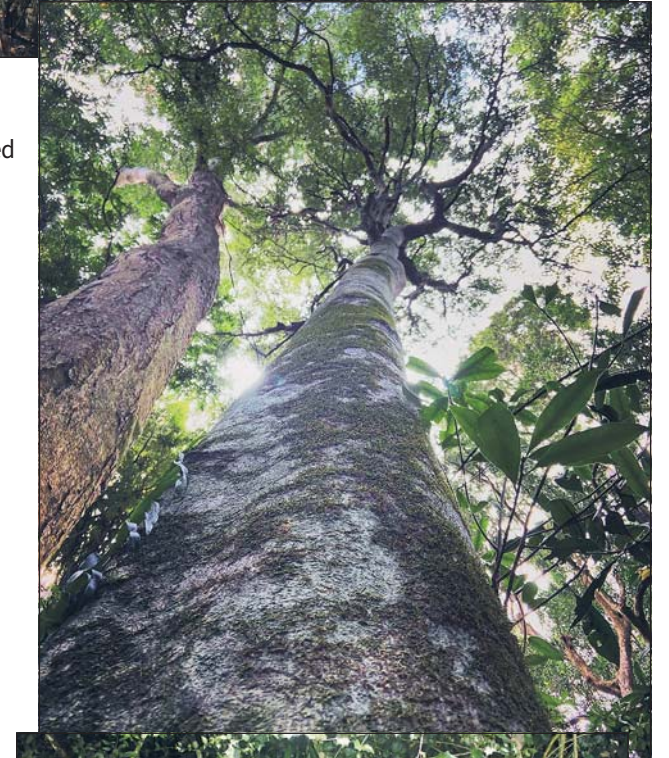
the Holland's remnant. Also spared from clearing, this eight-hectare portion of land was originally held by the Hayter family and has since passed through several owners. The most recent private owner was a botanist who lived in a small hut in the Big Scrub rainforest remnant before passing the land on to NSW Parks and Wildlife Service in 1988.

There is a commonality between the plant species in each remnant, but with some notable differences. The coastal facing edge of the reserve is exposed to easterly winds, making it home to more dry rainforest species, such as the Thorny Yellowwood.

## Significant stand of subtropical rainforest

Together the two remnants represent the most significant stand of subtropical rainforest between Bangalow and the Byron coast. The corridor, remarkable in the towering size of its old-growth specimens, is home to many important and threatened species, such as the Carronia vine, a woody climber and the host plant for the endangered Southern Pink Underwing Moth larvae. The larvae are a sight to behold with their distinctive heads decorated by white tribal-like markings. Higher up in the canopy you can see Coolamons and the rare Red Lilly Pilly, and hidden deep in the heart of the remnant sits a spectacular giant fig with root buttresses towering above head height and stretching well into the forest.

As their interest in rainforest regeneration grew, Neil and Erica hosted the



inaugural Big Scrub Landcare field day in 1993. A crowd of over 300 people visited the property to share knowledge about caring for land. Around that time Neil and Erica were exploring models of active reforestation. They initially planted out adjacent areas to the existing remnant with pioneer species, but their approach would change course successively over the years as the collective knowledge in the field matured.

Maintenance of the Holland's remnant over the years has been a combination of their own efforts and an ongoing collaboration with Big Scrub Landcare. The invasive Madeira vine is now all-but eradicated from the property after decades of relentless weeding. Ongoing maintenance is needed,

around twice a year, to keep this and other invasive species in check.

Neil and Erica are now allowing the gullies and steep banks on their grazing property to naturally regenerate, thanks to seed dispersal from nearby remnants. As native species continue to germinate, Neil and Erica are hopeful that inspiration will spread to nearby landholders.

A number of neighbours along Bangalow Road have also planted tens of thousands of trees, bolstering the Bangalow-Byron corridor even further. With two significant remnants and restored rainforest flourishing, it's heartening to think that the forests of old may begin to extend all the way to the Cape once again.

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# What does the current federal government solar rebate scheme mean for you?

The Federal Government provides a solar discount to home owners and businesses in Australia that install a small scale renewable energy system (solar, wind or hydro under the **Small-scale Renewable Energy Scheme (SRES)** to help with the purchase cost. Installing an eligible system allows the creation of Small-scale Technology Certificates (STCs). The number of STCs created is based on:

- The amount of renewable electricity the system produces or the amount of electricity consumption it reduces.
- The climate region where it's installed.

Under the package, the Federal Government will pay around \$500 per kilowatt towards cost of a solar system.



## Let's Break it down

Pamela and Daniel are considering a 5.92KW solar system, supplied and installed by ProSolar for \$7900. The federal government discount for this system is \$2916 (at time of publishing). This brings their system cost down to \$4984 saving them \$1750 per year enabling them to pay back their investment in 2.84 years!

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ProSolar has designed three great deals to help you take advantage of the federal government discount.



## 4.44KW Solar System

- 12 x Longi 370W panels with a 12-year product and 25-year performance warranty
- 1 x GoodWe 4.2kW inverter with a 10-year premium warranty
- Cost \$6,250
- Less federal government discount of \$2,220
- **Total cost after discount = \$4030**

## 6.66KW Solar System

- 18 x Longi 370W panels with a 12-year product and 25-year performance warranty
- 1 x GoodWe 5kW inverter with a 10-year premium warranty
- Cost \$8400
- Less federal government discount of \$3312
- **Total cost after discount = \$5088**



## 8.88KW Solar System

- 24 x Longi Solar 370W panels with a 12-year product and 25-year performance warranty
- 1 x GoodWe 8.5kW inverter with a 10-year premium warranty
- Cost \$11290
- Less federal government discount of \$4392
- **Total cost after discount = \$6899.55**

The above prices include supply, installation (standard installation on a tin roof) and GST. The Federal government rebate is subject to change at anytime.

# The Good Life

## Rancho Relaxo

Although Jane Boniface says that everything she does is 'a mistake', she seems to have the knack of turning things to her advantage. When she and her partner Jose first bought their farm, they weren't really looking to become farmers, but now she's a regular at the farmers' markets with an award-winning product.

So how did they buy a farm? Jose, a trapeze flyer and acrobat with the Spanish boys circus, Los Muchachos, had become a tent master with Circus Oz when he moved to Australia, and was looking for a property to store his equipment and prime movers. Jane, on the other hand, was just looking for a place for horses when they discovered a 40-acre farm for sale in Numulgi. They purchased the property and these reluctant farmers inherited custard apples, stone fruit and many old citrus trees.

'The farm had been on the market for years, people with farming experience knew how much work it would be,' says Jane. 'We bought it and called it Rancho Relaxo, although it hasn't been all that relaxing. We arrived on the property and were overwhelmed, and then we saw the chemical shed and thought "Oh my God, no way!"'

Once the couple realised how many chemicals farming stone fruit required they removed these trees and instead threw themselves into citrus, planting 1000 new lime trees, as well as mandarins, lemons and 400 elderflower plants.



'Everything I do is a mistake, I was experimenting with our produce and trying out my cordials with friends and it was incredibly popular, so I began to bottle it - we knew very early on it was a winner'.

'I sent the bottles to a food technologist who helped us with nutritional analysis and food safety and we set up a factory on the farm. Then on a whim we sent them to the Sydney Fine Food Show and we received a silver medal on our first submission'.

Rancho sell three cordials; mandarin, lime and elderflower, as well as dehydrated oranges and a blood orange and lime marmalade. Recently, they have branched out into shrubs, selling these vinegar-based tonics in a variety of delicious flavours.

The difference between these products and the cordials available in supermarkets is easy to define. 'Oh, ours are super, super fresh, everything is made by hand and grown on the farm, and grown organically. We make the products almost every day in two to three dozen batches and we have designed the varieties in the orchard to ensure we have fresh fruit year-round,' says Jane.

At home Jane drinks her cordials just with ice and water, although she can also add gin or vodka if the mood takes her. 'They are really amazing in a margarita, we even include a margarita recipe on the bottle'.

You'll find Rancho produce at New Brighton Farmers Market 7-11am Tuesdays, and Mullum Farmers Market 7-11am Fridays.

## Cacao wow

After ten years of wholesale trading from their small factory, Byron Bay Cacao's stunning new retail space is now open to the public. The industrial-style factory designed by the owner offers a unique experience. It is fast becoming a favourite spot for locals and visitors to the region.

Watch the chocolatier in action from the viewing window, while choosing from the range of artisan chocolates, and enjoy a hot chocolate, coffee, chai, iced drink, or their local and in-house baked goods in the sunshine-soaked outdoor seating area.

Byron Bay Cacao offers gluten-free, dairy-free, vegan, egg-free, refined sugar-free cakes and chocolate products to cater to the masses. The gourmet chocolates are handcrafted, implementing three fundamental values: sourcing only the finest local and imported ingredients, applying skillful and accurate preparation, and achieving excellence in artistic presentation. Byron Bay Cacao's artisan chocolates are unique and luxurious, from the crisp chocolate shell to the rich, soft ganache centre. It is chocolate pleasure in its purest form.

All products are made on-site by the chocolatier, Richard Tuohy, who says, 'I have travelled a large part of the globe exploring each



New chocolate flavours coming out on 30 October, have an emphasis on Australian natives.

country for its unique cuisine and culture. This inspired my journey to translate these enriching experiences into food, which led to my love for creating chocolate.'

Richard is a devoted craftsman who prides himself on producing the finest chocolates, confections and wedding cakes for clients worldwide. He has trained with some of the best chocolatiers and pastry chefs globally. His passion for his craft manifests in both the taste and appearance of his stunning creations.

An exciting new bon-bon menu will be launched in the factory on 30 October. The new

range will showcase Australian ingredients and collaborations with local suppliers, with a new product launch to follow each season. Byron Bay Cacao also has you covered for Halloween, Christmas, Easter and those special occasions that sneak up suddenly. Stuck on gift ideas? Gift vouchers are available for purchase and can be used on any of the in-store products.

The team is delighted with the support from locals since launching the new retail space, even during the challenging pandemic times. The business continues to serve up coffee and tasty treats during lockdowns, with the full range of chocolates and a hot and cold drink menu available - pop in and grab a Toby's Estate coffee and sample their delectable range of chocolates!

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## Excellent Harvest

### S Haslam

I was so lost in the enjoyment of eating at Harvest again that I didn't bother to find out the exact name of this dish, which is currently jockeying



for inclusion on the regular Harvest menu. It got my vote, in fact I found the whole meal, service, presentation... and cocktails and wines, were terrific. Plus there's the consistent commitment to quality local produce, and their semi-enclosed deck seems to create a pleasant microclimate for each table, without losing the feeling of being able to overlook the gardens that grow many of the menu items.



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## BYRON BAY



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www.theitalianbyronbay.com

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

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## Blue skies for Blueberry Fields

Blueberry Fields is very much a family business with father-and-son team Otto and Jasch Saeck working alongside each other on their 160-acre farm at Brooklet. Farming is part of their DNA. Otto's father farmed potatoes and cattle on the NSW south coast and his grandfather was one of the first qualified viticulturalists to come to South Australia (from Latvia) back in the 1880s.

Despite this, both Otto and Jasch left the land to initially pursue other careers - Otto in industrial relations and Jasch in engineering - before being lured back.

'I was brought up on the farm and was on a tractor by the age of 10,' Otto says. 'But I did want to try something else and I left the family farm after I got my pilot's licence and went aerial mustering up north before going to uni.'

Otto earned a degree in economics and industrial relations, which landed him a job in the public service. But it wasn't long before he realised that an office job was not for him.

A connection to Ridley Bell - who brought blueberries into Australia - saw Otto leave



Otto Saeck and son Jasch from Blueberry Fields on their farm at Brooklet.

the city to help set up the first blueberry farms on the North Coast.

'I left a very secure job for half the pay in a new venture in farming, but I've never regretted it,' Otto says. That was 40 years ago, and in that time, Otto and his family have established their own farm and have been selling their blueberries at Byron and Bangalow Farmers Markets for almost 20 years.

In fact, Otto and wife Lynette were founding members of Byron Farmers Market in 2002. And Otto credits the farmers' market for changing his direction in farming.

'We started out farming traditionally - using chemicals - and it wasn't until we started selling at the farmers' markets and listening to our customers that I wondered if we were doing the right thing,' Otto says. 'So, we looked at using alternative methods to traditional chemical use.'

Today, Otto and Jasch use biological farming methods to grow their great-tasting blueberries.

Byron Farmers Market is held Thursdays 7-11am at the Cavanbah Centre and Bangalow Farmers Market is Saturdays 7-11am behind the Bangalow pub.

## BYRON BAY continued



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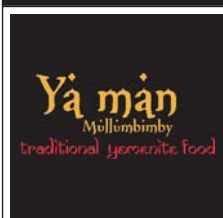


### Barrio

1 Porter St, North Byron  
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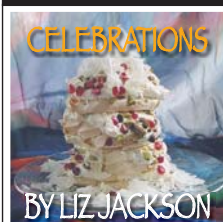


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# BYRON ARTS & INDUSTRY

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Luxury, cruelty-free, Byron Bay beauty brand, Eye of Horus, is globally renowned for being at the forefront of sophisticated, ethical and timeless beauty. Their brand new concept store is an elevated beauty destination that offers a unique, interactive experience, inviting clientele to sample cosmetic shades, customise their own palettes, and experiment with luxe beauty looks created by in-house makeup artists.

4/1 Boronia Place, Byron Bay  
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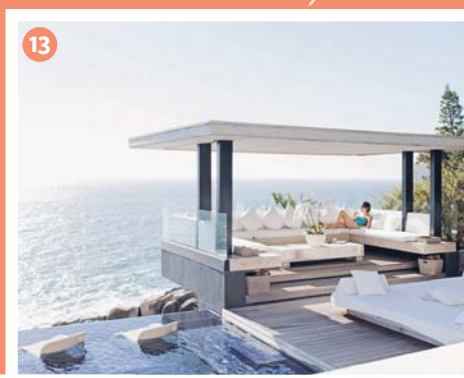
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Katrina Boehm Real Estate specialise in coastal and hinterland sales through Byron Bay, Ballina and Lismore shires. With twenty years locally in real estate, Katrina and her team have a large database and first-class marketing strategies that can help you sell your property.

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## 14 SHACK PALACE RITUALS

Stepping into the Shackpalace store at Habitat you may experience an overwhelming sense of calm. This local, family run business has a passion for thinking differently about the way we live in our homes, designing and sourcing luxurious, handmade, artisan homewares and products that help us stay a little more mindful everyday.

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www.shackpalacerituals.com  
Instagram: @shackpalace  
0488 616 408

# HABITAT PRECINCT



# BYRON ARTS & INDUSTRY



## 5 BODHI LIVING

Bodhi Living is a conceptual furniture store that showcases unique, antique pieces from around the world, combined with a range of contemporary furniture, rugs, lighting, décor and art.

They also offer a unique and personalised design experience and can guide their clients through residential, commercial and contract projects with in-house design consultation, planning and execution, creating considered spaces that enrich the soul.

**1/18 Centennial Cct, Byron Bay**  
**0429 479 260 | @bodhi.living**

## 6 STONE & WOOD

With days getting warmer, their sunny beer garden is the perfect place to soak up some time with mates over a cold one. Beer tastings and brewery tours are always on offer, with local legends 100 Mile Table pumping out some of the best food in Byron to complement your frothy. Kids and furbabies welcome, so bring the whole family!

**100 Centennial Cct, Byron Bay**  
**Stoneandwood.com.au**

## 7 KIDO STORE

Kido is a kids concept store with items they love curated from around the world. Catering for newborns to 15 years, they focus on ethically and environmentally conscious brands across fashion, decor, furniture, books, toys, and bikes. With brands sourced locally and from around the world, their products are designed to be lovingly handed on from one child to the next.

**7/18 Centennial Cct, Byron Bay**  
**9045 7777 | kidostore.com**  
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## 8 ROASTING HERE IN BYRON BAY

Choose from ethically sourced Certified Organic, Rainforest Alliance, Fair Trade, Australian grown blends or compostable coffee pods... all traceable to origin. Want to travel a bit further afield? Explore Bun Coffee's Single Origin Bar and taste the world of coffee through their unique Single Origin collection from over 40 countries.

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## 9 FORM.STORE

'A connected meeting of form and function.'

FORM.store is a boutique offering a core focus on fashion and lifestyle products curated to enhance a considered yet luxurious lifestyle.

They are dedicated to showcasing both Australian and international brands that embody their philosophy and values of timelessness, quality and sustainable fabrics with ethical production. Open Monday to Saturday from 10am.

**1/57 Centennial Cct, Byron Bay**  
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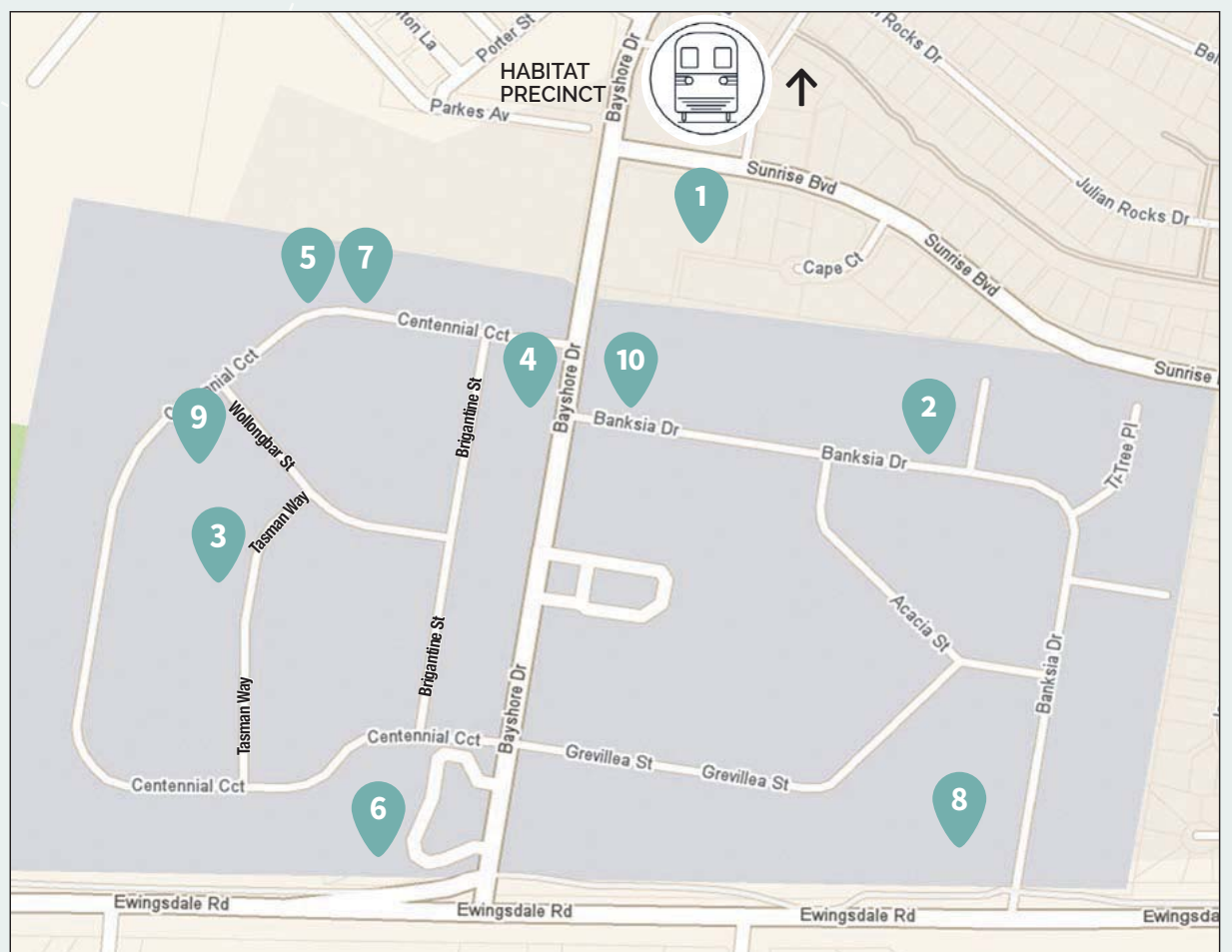
## 10 MARK TUCKEY FURNITURE

Mark Tuckey Furniture is an Australian furniture company dedicated to designing and creating timber furniture with integrity, simplicity and strength, using recycled and sustainably managed timbers. They also retail complementary seating, homewares, lighting and artwork. Their commitment is to produce lifetime pieces with a negligible footprint.

10% OFF new dining table and bed orders until 31 October.

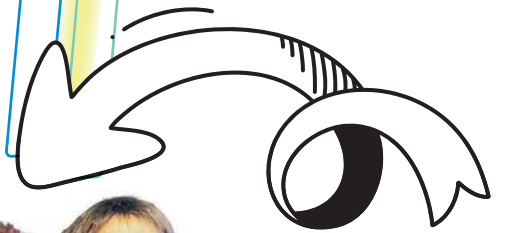
**14 Bayshore Drive, Byron Bay**  
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**www.marktuckey.com.au**

## BYRON ARTS & INDUSTRY ESTATE





# Sprung!



## SPRUNG!! IS KICKING 2021 TO THE CURB

Sprung!! Integrated Dance Theatre has big plans to finish off 2021 in style.

The Northern Rivers-based dance theatre company has an end of year gala event planned for next month.

The gala will include performances from the Sprung!! Ensemble members as well as pieces from its Community Program members.

You can expect some dazzling dance; creative physical theatre and movement; original poetry recitals; plenty of theatrical comedy, and a rousing finale from the whole Company. Showcasing a number of works choreographed by the performers themselves, this disability-led event will change your perception of what it means to be a person with disability and how that disability informs the creative process.

Sprung!! is also running a fabulous spring raffle with nearly \$5000 worth of prizes, including at two night getaway experience at The Ramada in Ballina, a Breville coffee machine and grinder, ten hours of private French lessons (ooh la la) and two original artworks. Raffle tickets are \$5 each or three for \$10 and are available for purchase from: [www.sprung.org.au/sprung-raffle](http://www.sprung.org.au/sprung-raffle). Raffle will be drawn on 5 December.

The Sprung!! Gala will be held on Sunday 14 November at 6pm, Lennox Head Cultural Centre, Mackey Lane, Lennox Head.

Seating is cabaret style at tables of up to eight people. Doors open at 5pm with the bar and courtyard available for pre-show drinks. Grazing platters are also available for purchase to enjoy with a glass of wine while watching the performance.

**Tickets cost \$15–\$25 and are available from the website at: [www.sprung.org.au](http://www.sprung.org.au).**



Photos above and right: Sprung!! by Mack Walker  
 Photo left: The Brunswick Valley School of Dance will be holding their annual Soloists Showcase at the Byron Theatre on Saturday. Photo by Tree Faerie



## PERFORMANCE ANXIETY

It's been really tough for teachers and students of dance, theatre, music and song over the last 18 months. Many young students who would usually have weekly contact with a teacher, have struggled maintain enthusiasm, and teachers who outlay thousands on equipment and preparation time have had to work twice as hard for less income to keep businesses that rely on term fees afloat. Most classes, in particular for younger students, have a curriculum that builds on skills week by week, but the practise and rehearsals necessary for creating healthy muscle memory and fitness

of mask-wearing, online lessons and cancellation after cancellation. Some teachers and many students have put it all on hold and decided that they will wait till next year, when they hope life-in-the-time-of COVID will get easier, or at least simpler to navigate. Some businesses, through no fault of their own, have closed altogether. As the school year crawls to an end, many performance students who have braved the turmoil of learning through the pandemic are hoping to finally be able to put their talents on the stage and actually have an audience in attendance to cheer them on. Quite a few of the local performance schools have worked to the 'show must go on' ethic and will host an end of year concert between now and Christmas, and they are to be mightily congratulated. Well done!

have been a jolty-juggling kaleidoscope



**BYRONE THEATRE**

**LUCIAN FREUD**  
A SELF PORTRAIT  
A modern British master revealed

**NEW DATE**  
WEDNESDAY 22 DECEMBER 3PM

**Brunswick Valley School of Dance**  
Soloists Showcase

SATURDAY 30 OCTOBER 11:00AM

**MARK SWIVEL FOR MAYOR**  
Byron Shire Council Election December 4, 2021

**Mark Swivel Team**  
OFFICIAL LAUNCH

TUESDAY 2 NOVEMBER 6:00PM

**SYDNEY COMEDY FESTIVAL**  
SHOWCASE

**NEW DATE**  
SATURDAY 10 SEPTEMBER '22

BOOK NOW: [BYRONTHEATRE.COM](http://BYRONTHEATRE.COM)  
 (02) 6685 6807 | [BOXOFFICE@BYRONCENTRE.COM.AU](mailto:BOXOFFICE@BYRONCENTRE.COM.AU)

BYRON THEATRE & COMMUNITY CENTRE  
69 JONSON STREET, BYRON BAY 2481

## Sprung!!

Integrated Dance Theatre

### Join us for our 2021 Gala

An evening of dance, theatre and a joyful celebration of diversity

Sunday 14 November  
6.00pm – 7.30pm  
5.00pm doors & bar open

**LENNOX HEAD CULTURAL CENTRE**  
1 Mackney Lane

Dress Code:  
From Casual to Dazzle

Adult \$25  
Concession \$20  
Child \$15

Purchase tickets at:  
[www.sprung.org.au](http://www.sprung.org.au)

**SPRING RAFFLE**

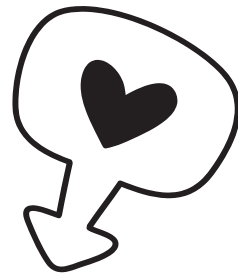
\$5 per ticket or 3 for \$10  
Drawn December 5, 2021  
Tickets: [www.sprung.org.au](http://www.sprung.org.au)  
\$5000 WORTH OF GREAT PRIZES!

## PALACE CINEMAS

Session Times: Thu 28 Oct - Wed 3 Nov    NFT = No Free Tickets

<p><b>SPECIAL SCREENINGS</b></p> <p><b>BRITISH FILM FESTIVAL 2021</b> Daily except Sat, Wed: 11:30AM, 1:45, 4:00, 5:00, 6:15, 7:15PM</p> <p><b>ETERNALS (CTC)</b> Grand Opening Event Sat: 8:00PM</p> <p><b>JULIA (M) Matinee Screening</b> Sat: 4:00PM</p> <p><b>PARIS OPERA BALLET: NOTRE-DAME DE PARIS (CTC)</b> Sun: 1:00PM Wed: 11:00AM</p> <p><b>THE EVIL DEAD TRIPLE FEATURE (R18+)</b> Halloween Triple Feature Fri: 6:30PM</p> <p><b>FAMILY FILMS</b></p> <p><b>AINBO: AMAZON PRINCESS (PG)</b> Daily except Wed: 11:00AM</p> <p><b>RON'S GONE WRONG (PG) NFT</b> Daily: 11:15AM, 1:30, 6:20PM</p>	<p><b>ALL FILMS</b></p> <p><b>HALLOWEEN KILLS (CTC) NFT</b> Daily except Sat, Wed: 11:30AM, 1:45, 4:00, 5:00, 6:15, 7:15PM</p> <p>Sat: 11:30AM, 1:45, 5:00, 6:15, 7:15, 8:30PM Wed: 11:30AM, 1:45, 4:00, 5:00, 6:15PM</p> <p><b>ANTLERS (MA15+) NFT</b> Daily except Sat: 2:15, 4:15, 7:00 Sat, Sun, Mon, Tue: 11:30AM, 4:00, 6:15PM</p> <p><b>PASSING (PG) NFT</b> Daily: 1:45, 6:20, 8:30PM</p> <p><b>EIFFEL (M)</b> Thu, Fri, Wed: 11:30AM, 4:00PM Sat, Sun, Mon, Tue: 11:30AM, 4:00, 6:15PM</p> <p><b>JUNGLE CRUISE (M)</b> Daily: 11:00AM</p>	<p><b>MALICIOUS (R18+)</b> Daily: 11:45AM</p> <p><b>NITRAM (MA15+)</b> Daily except Sat: 11:00AM, 3:50 Sat: 11:00AM, 3:50, 8:30PM</p> <p><b>RESPECT (M)</b> Daily except Sun, Wed: 1:00, 3:50, 6:45PM Sun: 3:50, 6:45PM Wed: 1:10, 3:50, 6:45PM</p> <p><b>ROADRUNNER: A FILM ABOUT ANTHONY BOURDAIN (M)</b> Daily: 4:30PM</p> <p><b>SHANG-CHI AND THE LEGEND OF THE TEN RINGS (M)</b> Daily: 11:00AM, 1:40PM</p> <p><b>SUMMER OF SOUL (PG)</b> Daily: 1:20PM</p> <p><b>THE LAST DUEL (MA15+)</b> Daily: 2:00, 3:45, 6:45PM</p>
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108 Jonson St, Byron Bay    Book online now at [PalaceCinemas.com.au](http://PalaceCinemas.com.au)  
 Mercato Complex 3hrs FREE parking validation available for all Palace Cinemas customers



www.echo.net.au/soap-box

# MANDY NOLAN'S SOAPBOX

## 'WHAT'S THAT, SKIP?'

### GIG GUIDE

#### WEDNESDAY 27

- PALACE CINEMAS, BYRON BAY, **ST. ALI ITALIAN FILM FESTIVAL**
- FOXY LUU'S, BYRON BAY, 6.15PM **REGGAE AND RAINBOW FEAT. BOMBACLOCK**
- MIDDLE PUB, MULLUMBIMBY, 6.30PM **MUSICAL BINGO**
- MARY G'S, LISMORE, 7.30PM **QUIZEME TRIVIA**
- CABARITA BEACH SPORTS CLUB 6.30PM **MUSICAL BINGO**
- KINGSLIFF BEACH BOWLS 7PM **KINGY COMEDY - FEATURING: FEATURING: TING LIM WITH SPECIAL GUEST: MATTY B AND MC MANDY NOLAN**

#### THURSDAY 28

- PALACE CINEMAS, BYRON BAY, **ST. ALI ITALIAN FILM FESTIVAL**
- SUFFOLK PARK COMMUNITY HALL 7PM **DOCTORS OF DEVOTION FOR BHAKTIATSU KIRTAN**
- LENNOX HOTEL HOTEL STAGE 8.30PM **JAM NIGHT**

#### FRIDAY 29

- PALACE CINEMAS, BYRON BAY, **ST. ALI ITALIAN FILM FESTIVAL**
- MULLUMBIMBY EX-SERVICES CLUB **KARMA COUNTY**
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 4.30PM **DJ JOE MCKAIN**
- MARY G'S, LISMORE, 9.30PM **DJ DANNY B**, 11.30PM **DJ SOLI B**
- MURWILLUMBAH SERVICES CLUB 6.30PM **DJ CHRIS**
- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS, THE STAGE 7.30PM **THE FEBS**

#### SATURDAY 30

- PALACE CINEMAS, BYRON BAY, **ST. ALI ITALIAN FILM FESTIVAL**
- BYRON TWILIGHT MARKET 5PM **TIM STOKES**
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 4PM **DJ JAMES OWEN**
- LISMORE HEIGHTS SPORTS CLUB 5PM **JON J BRADLEY**
- MARY G'S, LISMORE, 9PM **THE MAJESTIC NIGHTS**
- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS, THE STAGE 7.30PM **ELECTRIC SODA**, THE SHOWROOM 8PM **JOHN WILLIAMSON**

#### SUNDAY 31

- PALACE CINEMAS, BYRON BAY, **ST. ALI ITALIAN FILM FESTIVAL**
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 4.30PM **BEN WHITING**

#### MONDAY 1

- PALACE CINEMAS, BYRON BAY, **ST. ALI ITALIAN FILM FESTIVAL**

#### TUESDAY 2

- PALACE CINEMAS, BYRON BAY, **ST. ALI ITALIAN FILM FESTIVAL**
- MARY G'S, LISMORE, 12PM **JAMIE SULLIVAN**
- CHINDERAH TAVERN 1PM **JON J BRADLEY**

#### WEDNESDAY 3

- PALACE CINEMAS, BYRON BAY, **ST. ALI ITALIAN FILM FESTIVAL**

PLEASE CHECK WITH INDIVIDUAL VENUES RE COVID RESTRICTIONS.

I love Kangaroos. Like most people my age I grew up eating my dinner off a Skippy plate. Seeing Sonny and Skip was a real incentive to finish my dinner. I wanted a kangaroo friend too. I wanted to say 'What's that, Skip?' And Skip would tell me 'There was a murder down at the gorge' or 'There's bushranger treasure down by the creek bed'. Or maybe even alert me to a paedophile at the school gate. Skip was a hero. She cared about human safety. She was on the side of good. She was an ally.

I later found out that Skippy was not one, but nine kangaroos, and that when Skippy did amazing stuff like open doors – it was a kangaroo paw nailed to a stick and operated by one of the crew. A friend who had a role in one of the episodes told me that he arrived on set to find (one of) the star of the show in a sugar bag. This was her dressing room. Apparently this made the kangaroos docile.

When I knew this; that kangaroos were kept on set in sacks, I felt weird about the show I once loved. That's cruel. I had that Rolf Harris feeling all over again. The stuff I loved in my childhood just doesn't stack up once you know what happened behind the scenes.

More broadly, our romantic Australian notion of kangaroos doesn't match the reality either.

We have a strange relationship with this iconic animal. In many parts of our country this extraordinary macropod is seen as a pest. It's hard to understand just how a native species can become a 'pest'. I guess it's when they are perceived to be a threat to grazing land, agriculture and cars. Out west, many bodies of dead kangaroos lie on the roadside, victims of everyday motoring atrocities. Once, driving past at 100km/h, I glimpsed the little face of a joey. I turned back and felt the grief of pulling a baby animal from its dead mother.

The fires that ripped through our country from September 2019 to March 2020 destroyed millions of acres of bushland. The estimate of native animals killed is about three billion. Many of those were kangaroos. Kangaroo numbers were already in decline. Many species are now endangered, especially here in NSW. The real pest in this country is us; we need to find a more sustainable way to live with our native animals.

The reason the kangaroo and the emu were chosen for our national emblem is that they can't move backwards. Ironically we cull our national emblem while our federal government moves backwards on climate. We have been called out on the world stage as having the worst climate plan of any developed nation. Perhaps what needs culling to protect our country, to protect our native species, is the ideology that puts profits before the planet.

So, as I write this, it's National Kangaroo Day. Maybe it's a good time to reflect on our relationship with Country, on our relationship with kangaroos. How much do you know about them? Did you know they're the largest marsupial on Earth; that they're left handed; they can use their tail as a fifth leg; and that once they're grown they don't

like to be kept in sacks? And they don't like being hit by trucks. Or being fenced away from the grasslands where they graze.

That joey I rescued survived. He was a red kangaroo. He was cared for by a wildlife carer. And now he's free, back on his Country. Well, that's the fairytale I hope for. The reality is that he has probably perished from unprecedented bushfire, or speeding trucks, or shotguns defending grass. There was a moment when I almost had my own Skippy, but wild animals don't belong to us. They belong to Country. So let's learn from kangaroos and stop moving backwards.

'What's that, Skip? Our Prime Minister is a climate criminal? Let's get help.'



### BayFM needs people like you

Subscribers are the lifeblood of the station. Your subscription provides essential funds BayFM needs to keep running. While we manage everything as frugally as we can, begging favours everywhere, running a radio station costs money. And, to the surprise of many people, the government doesn't give us any funds to help.

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Adults: \$14	Thursday Oct 28 <sup>th</sup> to Wednesday Nov 3 <sup>rd</sup>							<a href="http://ballinafaircinemas.com.au">ballinafaircinemas.com.au</a>
Stud/Conc: \$12								We accept the Dine and Discover \$25 vouchers
Senior: \$11								
Child: \$10								
	OCTOBER / NOVEMBER	THU 28 <sup>TH</sup>	FRI 29 <sup>TH</sup>	SAT 30 <sup>TH</sup>	SUN 31 <sup>ST</sup>	MON 1 <sup>ST</sup>	TUE 2 <sup>ND</sup>	WED 3 <sup>RD</sup>
	<b>AINBO: AMAZON PRINCESS</b> PG 84 MIN	10:20 AM	10:20 AM	10:20 AM	10:20 AM	10:20 AM	10:20 AM	10:20 AM
	<b>HALLOWEEN KILLS</b> MA15+ 106 MIN	12:35 PM 3:00 PM 5:00 PM 7:20 PM	12:35 PM 3:00 PM 5:00 PM 7:20 PM	12:35 PM 3:00 PM 5:00 PM 7:20 PM	12:35 PM 3:00 PM 5:00 PM 7:20 PM	12:35 PM 3:00 PM 5:00 PM	12:35 PM 3:00 PM 5:00 PM	12:35 PM 3:00 PM 5:00 PM 7:20 PM
	<b>MISS M</b> 107 MIN		11:55 AM				11:55 AM	
	<b>ONLY THE ANIMALS</b> M 118 MIN	1:50 PM				1:50 PM		1:50 PM
	<b>PAW PATROL: THE MOVIE</b> G 86 MIN			1:25 PM	1:25 PM			
	<b>PERFUMES</b> M 100 MIN	11:55 AM				11:55 AM		11:55 AM
	<b>RON'S GONE WRONG</b> PG 107 MIN	10:30 AM 5:20 PM 7:00 PM	10:30 AM 5:20 PM 7:00 PM	11:55 AM 1:55 PM 5:20 PM 7:00 PM	10:30 AM 11:55 AM 1:55 PM 5:20 PM 7:00 PM	10:30 AM 5:20 PM	10:30 AM 5:20 PM	10:30 AM 5:20 PM 7:00 PM
	<b>SHANG-CHI &amp; THE TEN RINGS</b> M 132 MIN	4:00 PM	4:00 PM	4:00 PM	4:00 PM	4:00 PM	4:00 PM	4:00 PM
	<b>THE BIG HIT</b> M 107 MIN		1:55 PM				1:55 PM	
	<b>THE LAST DUEL</b> MA15+ 153 MIN	10:40 AM 2:35 PM 6:35 PM	10:40 AM 2:35 PM 6:35 PM	10:40 AM 2:35 PM 6:35 PM	10:40 AM 2:35 PM 6:35 PM	10:40 AM 2:35 PM	10:40 AM 2:35 PM	10:40 AM 2:35 PM 6:35 PM
	<b>THE WEDDING SPEECH</b> M 88 MIN	1:25 PM	1:25 PM			1:25 PM	1:25 PM	1:25 PM

## The Organic Ceramics Co

The Organic Ceramics team are conscious of their social responsibility and their impact on the environment, so they are branching out into more sustainable practices. Together with a local supplier they are creating their Venetian Plaster furniture using a hemp substrate. Their hemp furniture is a lightweight furniture option that is as durable as its timber counterpart, has a negative carbon footprint, and is fireproof, to name a few of the advantages.

The hemp range will begin with their popular nesting tables, as pictured. The nesting tables have been a prominent feature in their catalogue and have been featured in numerous high-end design projects. The nesting tables are sold separately or can be purchased as a set at a discounted price.

0493 035 807 | [theorganicceramicsco@gmail.com](mailto:theorganicceramicsco@gmail.com)  
[www.organicceramicsco.com](http://www.organicceramicsco.com) | Insta @theorganicceramicsco



## Small Bedroom Ideas

If your bedroom is on the small side and feeling a little cramped, Beds R Us Byron Bay has a range of mattresses, bed frames and storage options to help make the most of your space.

Positioning your bed in the centre of the wall, if space allows, creates symmetry and also allows access to each side of the bed. A modern and sleek bed design like the Kimberley (pictured) can visually add more space and there's plenty of room under the bed to utilise for extra storage.

Let the team at Beds R Us Byron Bay help you to create your sanctuary of rest and relaxation.

16 Brigantine Street, Byron Arts & Industry Estate.  
 Ph 6685 5212



# MAKING SPACES



## Enspire Furniture and Homewares

Summer is on the horizon, so it's time to get ready for the biggest celebrations ever!

Why not create a beautiful Alfresco outdoor dining space by bringing a touch of modern cane into your living or patio area with the stunning Veranda range, which is available in two- or three-seater and a full-length daybed with modern upholstered cushions.

Enspire Furniture in Ballina has a large range of cane and wicker furniture, perfect for combining an indoor-outdoor space, making it comfortable yet functional.

Feeling inspired? Complete the picture with an outdoor Berkelly Rug (pictured) and add a realistic, low maintenance, artificial plant and hey presto!

Visit Enspire Furniture's huge showroom in Ballina, open 7 days.  
 15 Sheather St, Ballina | [www.enspirefurniture.com.au](http://www.enspirefurniture.com.au)

## Cascade Concrete

Cascade Concrete specialises in creating high quality, architectural concrete pieces such as benchtops, vanities, basins, fireplace plinths, furniture, and more, for residential and commercial spaces.

Working with architects, interior designers, builders, and home owners Cascade Concrete creates custom bespoke pieces as well as offering a range of made-to-order, handcrafted basins at set sizes.

Based in Lennox Head, and with over 20 years of experience, the team at Cascade Concrete pride themselves on providing excellent customer service and specialist installation of benchtops and vanities in the local area. Keep your eye out for a showroom opening later in 2021.

Give Brett a call to discuss your next project.

0407 915 684 | [www.cascadeconcrete.com.au](http://www.cascadeconcrete.com.au) | @cascade\_concrete



## Eden at Byron

Every garden needs some fruit trees, and low-chill peaches, plums and nectarines are a perfect choice. With their masses of gorgeous spring blossom, followed by delectable fruit, they are both ornamental and productive. They don't grow too big, and they fruit from a young age.

Beautiful, fresh, new season plants have just arrived at Eden at Byron from their grower in SE Qld. The recent rains have put plenty of much-needed moisture back into the soil, so it's a perfect time to plant.

140 Bangalow Road, Byron Bay  
 02 6685 6874



## Down To Earth

The Down To Earth team here in the Byron Shire are bringing something new and exciting to the Northern Rivers.

Their large sandstone blocks and retaining walls are unique and eco friendly, with no concrete needed to build large walls or stone features that can also incorporate hardwood. The sandstone they work with is from the Northern Rivers and has beautiful, individual colours throughout.

Whether you need a retaining wall or a large fire pit area built, this is a beautiful, natural and cost effective solution that will last.

Contact Luke today for a design and quote for your project.

0413 626 117 | [www.downtoearthbyronbay.com.au](http://www.downtoearthbyronbay.com.au)



## So much more than just a granny flat!

Byron Built design + construction is your local builder specialising in multi-dwelling projects, small homes, as well as custom builds.

Looking to start your new project but don't know where to begin? Byron Built handles the whole process from the design and approvals to the construction of your new abode.

'Our focus is to customise a design that suits your property's aspect and your individual concept, budget, and style. We will sit down with you and guide you through the design process where you are the commander. You will be involved from the start, making decisions on everything from roof pitch to texture of the bathroom tiles.'

To keep your construction local, contact Byron Built for more information.

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[www.byronbuilt.com](http://www.byronbuilt.com) | FB/Insta: @byronbuilt

## Bodhi Living

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

They also offer unique and personalised design experience with the support of their knowledgeable

team. They can help guide their clients through residential, commercial and contract projects with in-house design consultation, planning and execution.

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

Shop 1-2/18 Centennial Cct, Byron Bay. 0488 278 185 @bodhi.living





Just Listed

5 4 2

View Scan QR Code  
Sale Expressions Of Interest



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

**3 North Head Road, New Brighton**

**Unique & Expansive Beachside Lifestyle Home**

Set just a hop, skip and a splash to beautiful, unspoilt New Brighton beach, this well-presented, elevated family home offers two large levels of living and entertaining space plus the ground level, which is unique in New Brighton.

- Master with large ensuite and adjoining timber deck
- Spacious, light-filled open plan living and dining areas with high ceilings



Just Listed

5 5 5

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Sale Expressions Of Interest



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

**17 Skyline Road, The Pocket**

**Tropical Lifestyle with Substantial Income**

This beautiful property comprises 5 acres with a pretty, babbling natural creek plus stands of majestic trees and Balinese-style gardens. There are multiple dwellings which generate a high occupancy rate and healthy returns for the current owners.

- Owner's residence renovated rustic charm with high ceilings Two bedroom villa
- Self-contained studio with bathroom and kitchenette
- Two bedroom bliss cottage



Just Listed

3 2 2

View Scan QR Code  
Sale Online Auction



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

**108 Orana Road, Ocean Shores**

**Panoramic Ocean Views from Retro-style Home**

Opportunity knocks at this classic brick and tile home with picturesque ocean views, spanning all the way to Cape Byron Lighthouse and Julian Rocks.

- Set on a spacious 1037 square metres of land
- Ensuite to the large master bedroom
- Family bathroom + separate toilet
- Formal dining room
- Family living and dining area
- Enclosed sunroom



Just Listed

2 1 2

View Scan QR Code  
Sale Just Listed



**Elizabeth Hickey**  
0409 812 229  
elizabeth.hickey@oceanshores.rh.com.au

**16 Clifford Street, South Golden Beach**

**Potential Packed Beachside Escape**

Have you been dreaming of escaping to an unspoilt beachside community, where life seems to move at a more relaxed pace? This property is ideal for those seeking an idyllic coastal lifestyle, all within walking distance of the beautiful, unspoilt sands of South Golden Beach.

- Set on a level, 639 square metre block of land
- Well-presented bathroom with luxurious bathtub
- Vibrant kitchen with timber benchtops, gas cooking, Smeg stovetop and dishwasher

**Freecall 1800 LIST IT**

We'll Love Your Listing

Your health is our priority, so we are complying with the NSW Government's Covid Safety Plan which is adjusted accordingly as updates arise



RayWhite

3/3-4 Cape Court, Byron Bay

3 1 1

**Beautifully Renovated Byron Bay Pad**

- 3 large bedrooms flooded with natural light
- Timber laminate floors throughout living & kitchen
- Recently renovated bathroom with shower & tub plus separate toilet
- Reverse cycle air conditioning
- Crimsafe screens
- Lock up garage with internal access plus attic storage area
- Enclosed rear patio room providing a beautiful extra living space
- Generous & private back yard with side access
- Boutique block of only 9 villas

Price: Contact Agent  
Open: By Appointment



Damien Smith  
0418 123 393



April Nicolson  
0457 451 094

rwbyronbay.com



RayWhite

18/21-25 Cemetery Road, Byron Bay

4 2 2

**Perfect home or investment opportunity**

- Naturally light, free-standing home.
- Privately sits within a tranquil complex.
- Open plan living and kitchen opens to covered balcony.
- Hardwood timber floors and high ceilings.
- Downstairs studio space perfect for work or guests.
- Walk to Tallow Beach through Arakwal National Park.

Price: Auction  
Open: Saturday  
12.30pm - 1pm  
Auction: 6th November  
at 1pm



Brett Connable  
0408 155 931



Damien Smith  
0418 123 393

rwbyronbay.com



RayWhite

304 Tyagarah Road, Myocum

6 4 12

**Hinterland Beauty in Fantastic Location**

- 5.48 Hectares / 13.5 Acres with subdivision potential R5 zoning
- Large Heated ozone spa perfect spot to watch the beautiful sunsets.
- High Ceilings, timber floors.
- Slow combustion fireplace and A/C
- North aspect. / Assorted fruit trees and wildlife
- Separate Studio ( STCA), plus 2 Sheds
- 100,000L underground water tank and 22,500 L Tank at studio plus a potential bore
- Bike Track / Quad track around the whole property

Price Guide: \$3,850,000  
Open: By Appointment

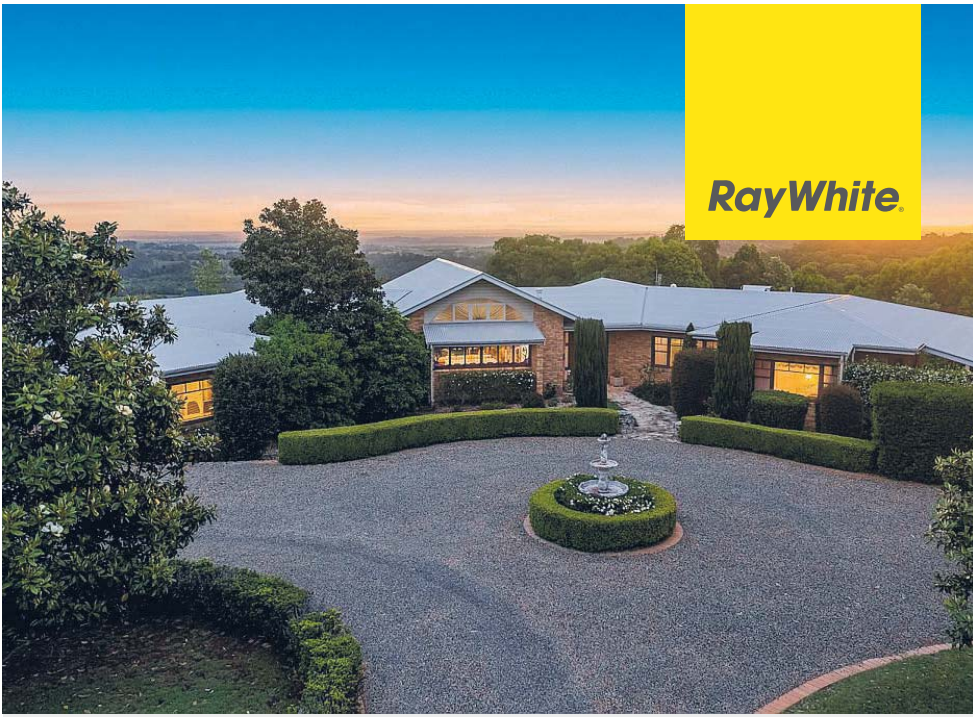


Michael Gudgeon  
0419 495 494



Matthew McCormack  
0400 468 587

rwbyronbay.com



RayWhite

568 Tregagle Road, Tregagle

2 2 2

**Rural lifestyle estate w/ vast valley views**

- Master built home, architect Gina Ghioni, built by Greg Lyon.
- Tree-lined driveway opens to manicured gardens w/ feature marble fountain
- Private home w/ extensive valley views
- High ceilings, large rooms and Blackbutt hardwood floors
- Home cinema enjoys inbuilt projector & surround sound system
- Native gardens attract birdlife & local Koalas
- Freestanding guest cottage & space for dual occupancy (STCA)
- Veggie gardens, open paddocks and finger lime orchard

Price: Contact Agent  
Open: By Appointment



Nick Russo  
0405 977 049

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RayWhite

Boundary lines approximate only

214 The Manse Road, Myocum

2 2

**Rural Lifestyle Opportunity**

- Elevated 8.97 ac with beautiful views
- Renovated cottage with high ceilings
- Large shed with views over grassland
- Ideal for sustainable hobby farm or horses
- Spring fed dam & cooling sea breezes

Price: Contact Agent  
Open: By Appointment



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Brett Connable  
0408 155 931

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RayWhite

103 Paterson Street, Byron Bay

4 3 2

**Last acre in central Byron Bay**

- Large modern four bedroom home
- Bedrooms open to private deck w/ large pool area
- Large solar system & in-ground magnesium/chlorine pool
- Hardwood floors, high ceilings & modern features, large living and dining areas
- Great tenants in place at \$1,100 per week, leased month to month

- 3,816 sqm Torrens title gently sloping block
- Fully fenced site, suitable for subdivision or other development potential
- Residential R2 Zoning, highly sought after location
- Appropriate zoning for subdivision, townhouse development or retain and land-bank.

Price: Contact Agent  
Open: By Appointment



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Landmark Freehold Building, **Bangalow**

**Iconic Main Street Position**

- Once in a lifetime opportunity to own prime hinterland commercial property of this calibre
- Profitable mix of 11 individually leased shops and offices
- Originally built in 1912, this solid historical building has been well maintained and tastefully refurbished
- Dual street frontage, off street parking and an internal leafy courtyard add value and character

**Auction**

Sat 6 Nov at 2pm on-site

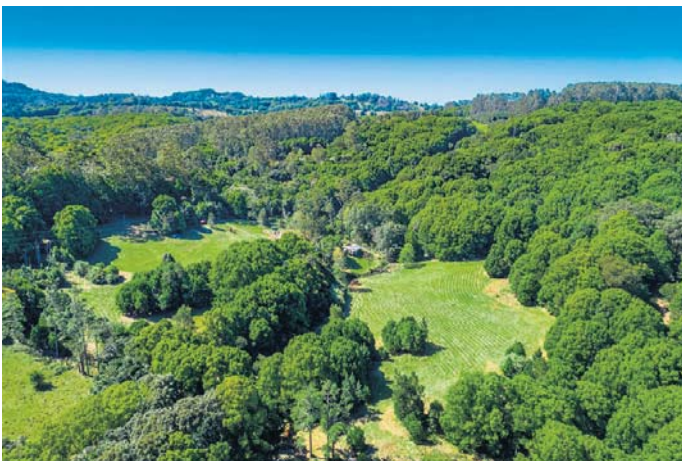
**View**

By Appointment

**Greg Price**

0412 871 500

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Hobby Farm Lifestyle Acres, **Goonengerry**

1 1

**Traversed by Pretty Byrangery Creek**

- 15 acres of rich red soil ideal for home orchards and grazing
- Rustic timber cottage with mains power and septic connected
- Choice of several level homesites overlooking your own private swimming holes
- Verandah views across Byrangery Creek to wide fertile paddocks and pockets of bushland
- Short scenic drive to Federal village amenities

**Auction**

Sat 6 Nov 10am On-site

**View**

Wed 27 Oct 10:00 - 10:30am  
 Sat 30 Oct 10:00 - 10:30am

**Greg Price**

0412 871 500

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## Tropical Treetop Escape, Bangalow

4 3 2

### Family Resort Close to Town

- Stunning 1,341m<sup>2</sup> block with lush tropical gardens
- Beautiful outlook from elevated covered balconies that wrap around this gorgeous Western Red Cedar home
- Large family inground pool nestled in a paradise setting
- End of cul-de-sac location backing onto a council reserve and neighbouring farmland
- Easy walk to cafes and shopping precinct

### Auction

Sat 6 Nov 12pm on-site

### View

By appointment

### Trent Stana

0447 301 660

raywhiteruralbangalow.com.au

## Deceased Estate Sale, Bangalow

3 2 2

### Peaceful Retreat in the Heart of Bangalow Village

- Open plan living flows seamlessly to wrap around north-east verandahs
- High ceilings, polished timber floors and loads of character
- Upstairs parents retreats opening to leafy balcony
- Easy care established grounds and paved intimate courtyard
- Move straight in and enjoy or value add with creative update
- Vendors declared reserve of \$1.3m

### Auction

Sat 30 Oct 1pm on-site

### View

Thurs 4:30 - 5:00pm

### Greg Price

0412 871 500

### Adriano Talone

0422 650 711



raywhiteruralbangalow.com.au

## Charming Beachside Cottage

Site 18 Suffolk Park Caravan Park

2 1 1

Expressions of interest

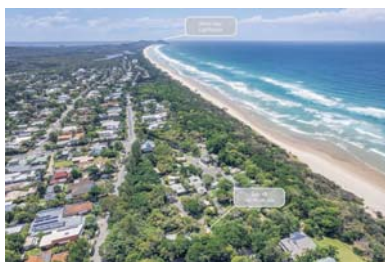


Rarely does an opportunity like this become available. Located in the highly desirable Suffolk Beachfront Holiday Park is this two-bedroom relocatable home. Set in a private leafy setting with easy access to the beach from your back door, perfect for your own little holiday paradise all year round.

- The high ceilings allow plenty of light and sea breezes to flow through the home
- One bedroom has a mezzanine bed and plenty of storage underneath; the other bedroom leads directly to the courtyard
- Charming kitchen with adjoining spacious living area, perfect for entertaining guests
- Use of communal amenities including laundry room
- Enclosed front deck offers a sunroom-like experience and extra potential storage

The purchase of this site allows ownership of the relocatable home, including exclusive rights for the land lease community.

**Contact:** Katrina Boehm – 0467 001 122  
Katrina Boehm Real Estate



## Potential in a great location

6/18 Mahogany Drive, Byron Bay

3 2 1

Price: Contact Agent



This is the ideal classic Byron Bay townhouse with three spacious up stairs bedrooms to facilitate the open space living downstairs. The quiet leafy location is within easy reach of the central Byron Bay amenities and even closer for access to Tallows Beach. The main bedroom has an en suite and deck overlooking a native garden with a lovely sunny northerly aspect. The unit design upstairs incorporates high ceilings with interesting skylights used to create a feeling of space and brightness. Downstairs the open plan living, and kitchen are separated by the split level lounge. The kitchen and lower lounge area is bright, sunny and open with direct access through to the north facing patio and garden area.

- Easy walk to Tallows beach
- High ceilings with skylight features
- Up stairs views to the North of Mt Warning, Mt Chincogan and the Nightcap Ranges
- Three well proportioned rooms with two bathrooms
- Split level lounge and dining room
- Separate laundry and wc downstairs
- Potential to expand and create a lovely garden

**Open:** By Appointment  
**Contact:** Michael Gudgeon – 0419 495 494  
Matthew McCormack – 0400 468 587  
Ray White Byron Bay

## New Luxury Estate with Views

20 Fig Tree Lane, Myocum

6 5 3

Price guide \$9m



Sprawling over 600m<sup>2</sup> of floor space this sundrenched masterpiece is situated on 6.2 useable acres of green rolling hills overlooking the Byron Hinterland. Constructed in 2020, this resort style home unfolds across two expansive linear wings, which pivot around a central foyer, stonewall and fireplace.

The centrepiece is the grand blackbutt kitchen with fully integrated appliances and a butler's pantry, making this an entertainer's dream. The open plan layout spills out onto the expansive outdoor terrace and stunning 15m infinity edge pool, capturing incredible sunsets.

A once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, this property features high-end luxury materials, fittings and fixtures throughout.

The landscape design integrates uniquely sourced pillar rocks with Australian native gardens and rockwork, creating an impressive entry.

**Contact:** Tara Torkkola – 0423 519 698  
Denzil Lloyd – 0481 864 049  
First National Byron Bay





coastal & hinterland sales

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real estate



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- Amanda

We recently sold our home with Katrina Beohm Real Estate. Both Katrina and Rachael were professional and very pleasant to deal with. We would highly recommend Katrina and the team if you were thinking of selling your home.

- Jenny & Steven

Thank you Chris, Katrina and your team for all the work you did selling our blocks. You certainly went out of your way to get the best result for us, way beyond our expectations!

- Joy

From our first contact Katrina was completely committed to selling my property. Her entire team and staff including photographers were professional, friendly and very competent. All my queries and questions were taken care of promptly and I felt great confidence throughout the process. I thoroughly recommend Katrina to anyone selling their home.

- Alison

Katrina is a delightful young lady who is committed to doing the best for her clients. Her knowledge in marketing is top class, her communication skills are excellent, she kept us well informed throughout the process. This is our third property we have listed with Katrina Beohm Real Estate. We have been more than happy with the outcome. We could definitely list future properties with Katrina and have no hesitation in recommending this lovely lady to anyone.

- Nyrell & John

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AUCTION SATURDAY 13 NOVEMBER 12.30PM ON-SITE

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## Open For Inspection

### Atlas by LJ Hooker

- 47 Bulgoon Crescent, Ocean Shores. Sat 9-9.30am
- 978A Coolamon Scenic Drive, Coorabell. Sat 10.30-11am

### Byron & Beyond Real Estate

- 1 Hulls Rd, Crabbes Creek. Sat 10-10.30am
- 38 Waranga Cres, Burringbar. Sat 11-11.30am

### Harcourts Northern Rivers

- 39 Lilli Pilli Drive, Byron Bay. Sat 9.30-10am
- 4 Summerhill Crescent, Cumbalum. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 11 James Street, Ballina. Sat 1-1.30pm

### LJ Hooker Brunswick Heads

- 16 Mia Court, South Golden Beach. Thu 11-11.30am
- 16 Mia Court, South Golden Beach. Sat 11-11.30am
- 9 Riverside Crescent, Brunswick Heads. Sat 12-12.30pm

### Raine & Horne Ocean Shores/Brunswick Heads/Murwillumbah

- 4 Dorothy Street, Murwillumbah. Sat 9-9.30am
- 2 Kanandah Court, Ocean Shores. Sat 9.30-10am
- 16 Clifford Street, South Golden Beach. Sat 9.30-10am
- 24 Matong Drive, Ocean Shores. Sat 10-10.30am
- 61 Riverview Street, Murwillumbah. Sat 10-10.30am

- 426 Tweed Valley Way, South Murwillumbah. Sat 10-10.30am
- 7 Yalla Kool Drive, Ocean Shores. Sat 10.30-11am
- 3 North Head Road, Ocean Shores. Sat 11.30am-12pm
- 108 Orana Road, Ocean Shores. Sat 1-2pm

### Ray White Rural Bangalow

- 27 Minyon Falls Road, Repentance Creek. Wed 11-11.30am
- 290 Repentance Creek Road, Goonengerry. Wed 10-10.30am

### Real Estate of Distinction Byron Bay

- 21 Wallaby Court, Stokers Siding. Sat 10.30-11am

### Tim Miller Real Estate

- 1 Avalon Avenue, Clunes. Sat 11-11.30am
- 7 Ryces Drive, Clunes. Sat 12-12.30pm

## New Listings

### Raine & Horne Ocean Shores/Brunswick Heads/Murwillumbah

- 70 Rous River Way, Murwillumbah
- 44 Lanana Avenue, West Tweed Heads

## Auction

### Ray White Rural Bangalow

- 27 Minyon Fall Road, Repentance Creek. Sat 11.30am
- 1 Rankin Drive, Bangalow. Sat 1pm



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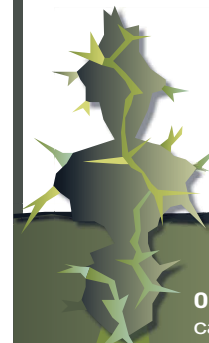
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The Echo Service Directory is online in Echonetdaily - [www.echo.net.au/service-directory](http://www.echo.net.au/service-directory)

**ACCOUNTS & BOOKINGS: 6684 1777**

## INDEX

Accountants & Bookkeepers .....33	Health .....35
Acupuncture .....33	Hire .....35
Air Conditioning & Refrigeration.....33	Insurance.....35
Antennas & Installation.....33	Landscape Supplies.....35
Antiques/Restoration .....33	Landscaping .....35
Appliance Repair.....33	Locksmith.....35
Architects .....33	Osteopathy .....35
Automotive.....33	Painting.....35
Blinds, Awnings, Curtains, Shutters.....33	Pest Control .....35
Bricklaying.....33	Photography.....35
Building Trades .....33	Physiotherapy.....35
Bush Regen & Weed Control .....33	Picture Framing .....35
Carpet Cleaning .....34	Plastering.....35
Chimney Sweeping.....34	Plumbers .....35
Chiropractic .....34	Removalists .....35
Cleaning .....34	Roofing.....35
Computer Services .....34	Rubbish Removal .....36
Concreting & Paving.....34	Self Storage .....36
Decks, Patios & Extensions.....34	Septic Systems .....36
Dentists .....34	Snake Catchers.....36
Design & Drafting.....34	Solar Installation .....36
Driveway Maintenance.....34	Television Services .....36
Earthmoving & Excavation.....34	Tiling.....36
Electricians .....34	Transport.....36
Fencing.....34	Tree Services.....36
Floor Sanding & Polishing.....34	Upholstery.....36
Flooring.....34	Valuers .....36
Funeral Services.....34	Veterinary Surgeons.....36
Garden & Property Maintenance.....34	Water Filters .....36
Gas Suppliers .....34	Water Supplies.....36
Graphic Design.....34	Welding.....36
Guttering.....34	Window Cleaning.....36
Handypersons.....35	Window Tinting .....36

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## INDEX

Annual General Meetings ..	37
Birthdays.....	38
Caravans .....	37
For Sale .....	38
Funeral Notices.....	38
Garage Sales .....	37
Halls For Hire .....	37
Health Notices .....	37
In Memoriam.....	38
Motor Bikes.....	37
Musical Notes .....	38
Only Adults .....	38
Pets.....	38
Positions Vacant.....	38
Professional Services.....	37
Property Wanted .....	38
Public Notices.....	37
Shared Accommodation .....	38
Social Escorts.....	38
To Let.....	38
Tradework .....	37
Tree Services .....	37
Tuition.....	38
Wanted .....	37
Wanted To Lease .....	38
Work Wanted .....	38

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Liberation Larder 2021 AGM  
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Base Station Deployment Code, we invite you to provide  
feedback about the proposal.  
Further information and/or comments should be directed to:  
Steven Bishop, 0429235501,  
[community.consult@downergroup.com](mailto:community.consult@downergroup.com)  
by **Wednesday 10th November 2021.**



## Maintenance/ Groundsperson Immediate Start

Cape Byron Rudolf Steiner School is an independent  
K-12 school dedicated to the educational principles  
inspired by Rudolf Steiner.

Applications are sought for a suitably qualified and  
experienced Maintenance/Groundsperson for all  
aspects of the school site, that comprises of 400  
persons. You will be required to assist with the  
maintenance of buildings, furniture, equipment,  
grounds, and onsite wastewater facilities, with  
grounds being the larger portion of duties. The  
successful applicant will report to and work under  
the Site Manager with backup from tradespersons  
where required.

The position is a temporary full-time position for the  
remainder of 2021, with a view to continuation in 2022.

Position Description and application process available:  
[www.capebyronsteiner.nsw.edu.au](http://www.capebyronsteiner.nsw.edu.au).



Mullumbimby & District  
Neighbourhood Centre  
*Connecting the Byron Shire Community*

## HELP YOUR COMMUNITY

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

- Baristas –
- Gardeners –
- Food Sorters –
- Cleaners –

The team at MDNC are  
searching for some dedicated  
volunteers to help us continue  
to support our community.

Contact Volunteer  
Coordinator Kaz  
Wednesday – Friday  
6684 1286

## Body Based Psychotherapy Somatic Practice

Julie Wells  
Anne Goslett  
(nee Mannix)

Dip.Som.Psych, Clinical PACFA Reg.  
Individual and Couple Therapy  
Supervision and Coaching

(02) 6685 5185  
9 Fletcher St, Byron Bay

## HYPNOSIS & NLP

[www.wendypurdey.com](http://www.wendypurdey.com)

Make profound changes in your  
life. Achieve personal goals  
and reach your true potential  
within every aspect of your life.

Call Wendy 0497 090 233

## TREE SERVICES

LEAF IT TO US 4x4 truck/chipper, crane  
truck, stump grinding. Local, qualified,  
insured, free quotes. 0402487213

**HART  
TREE SERVICES**  
20 years local experience  
• 19 inch chipper • Stump grinding  
• Cherry picker • Crane truck • Bob Cat  
Fully insured • Free quotes  
**0427 347 380**

**BYRON BAY  
TREE SERVICES**  
• FULLY INSURED  
• PROFESSIONAL SERVICE  
• FREE QUOTES  
**6684 4421  
0402 364 852**

**SUMMERLAND  
TREE SERVICES**  
• Arborist • 15" Wood  
Chipper • Stump Grinder  
• Fully Insured  
Byron Bay & Surrounding Areas  
**6681 3140**  
Mobile 0417 698 227

## TRADEWORK

## Septic Waste Removal Summerland Environmental

The Liquid Waste Specialists!

- Septic tank cleaning
  - Grease trap servicing
  - Oily Liquids
  - Portable toilet hire
  - 24 hour service
- 6667 2880**

## AYRES ASPHALT

Specialises in pothole  
repairs, patchwork, drive  
way entrances and  
speed bumps.

Servicing Tweed & Byron Shires  
Mitchell Ayres – 0499 546 166

## GARAGE SALES

MASSIVE CUL-DE-SAC GARAGE SALE  
Over 5 homes are selling their spring  
cleaned treasures. Free stuff too!  
Murumba Close, Ocean Shores.  
Sat 8am–12pm ONLY.

COMBINED GARAGE SALE  
Sat 7.30am–12pm. 3 Nightcap Ct, Mullum

SABINA'S FAB CLOTHING SALE  
Summer, vintage and more.  
Also, a large assortment of fabrics,  
some vintage. Not before 8am Saturday.  
43 Fingal Street, Brunswick Heads

28 RUSKIN ST, BYRON Sat 8am–12pm.  
Huge designer & vintage clothes, h/  
wares, toys, huge clear out. Happiness  
sold here.

## Tip Runs & Rubbish Removal

**0408 210 772**

## MOTOR BIKES

VESPA 125 5 months old, 750km. Has  
extras. Cost \$800, sell for \$6000 ono.  
As new, not a scratch on it. 0431683374

## CARAVANS

CARAVANS  
We buy, sell & consign.  
All makes & models.  
0408 758 688

## PROPERTY WANTED

**LOCAL COUPLE** wanting to buy sml-med acreage Byron/Ballina shire within 30 mins of beach. Pls call/text 0448203313

## SHARE ACCOM.

**BYRON** room, close to Clarkes Beach, free WiFi, drug-free, \$200pw, no bills. Bond req. 0423353877

## TO LET

### LOCAL REMOVAL

& backloads to Brisbane. Friendly, with 10 years local exp. 0409917646

**Summerland Storage Bangalow**  
From \$105 to \$290 per month  
Call GNF Bangalow 6687283

**EWINGS DALE** 4bdr, family holiday house on 1 acre. Available for 5 weeks. 28 Dec-1 Feb. No pets. Rick 0427807220

**MYOCUM** 1 bdr studio & carport in rural setting. 3km from Mullum. Long-term lease. Suit single, working person. Sorry, no pets or kids. \$360pw (inc gas, electricity & internet), 4 weeks bond. Please TEXT 0409528664

**O/SHORES.** Avail 2 Nov. Large room, built-in robes in nice 2bdr unit. Close to shops. \$265p/w plus bills. 0435831164

## TO LEASE

**MULLUM STATION ST STUDIOS** Cnr Station & Mill St. Stand alone brick building. Suit prof services or practitioner. Main space 6.4m x 6.4m with bathroom. Air con, 24/7 access. Avail Nov. \$495 pw inc GST. 0419887775

## WANTED TO LEASE

**ACCESS TO ACREAGE**, dwelling or not. Prefer 2x2 or 3x3 or similar. Substantial security deposit OK. Pls call 0423218417

## TUITION

**FRENCH • ITALIAN • GERMAN**  
Eva 0403224842  
www.language tuitionbyron.com.au

# Adobe Tutoring

Experienced Professional Trainer

- Photoshop • Indesign
- Illustrator

contact@thinkblinkdesign.com  
www.thinkblinkdesign.com

## FOR SALE

### MIELE WASHERS

Dryers and dishwashers available at Bridglands Mullumbimby. 66842511

**BAMBOO PLANTS:** clumping, screening, hedging, flowering ginger, bromeliads. Close to Mullum. 0458535760

### ARCHIBALD'S CHEAP QUARRY PRODUCTS

Road base, gravel, blue metal and metal dust. ALL SIZE DELIVERIES. Phone 66845517, 0418481617

## The Configura Twin Motor with Tilt Recliner Lift Chair

Designed to provide comfortable seating to users with mild to moderate postural requirements. The features of the chair include interchangeable backrest options; adjustable pillow backrests; easy to use handset and castors for easy mobility. Used as a bed alternative after shoulder surgery.

Excellent condition.  
New \$3,600.  
**For sale \$1,200. 0408 857 806.**

## POSITIONS VACANT

**DELIVER** small local phone books. Own vehicle required. Immediate start. Phone 0418994956 or 0419009517

**LADIES WANTED, MUST BE 18+** Casual or permanent work available in busy adult parlour. 66816038 for details.

**VENUE HOST** for night work in upcoming music venue in Byron. Security licence preferred. Email millaryvette@gmail.com

**SLICE PIZZERIA** seeks a qualified cook. Must have knowledge & passion for Italian food, 2 years relevant experience & qualifications, be presentable, reliable, & a good communicator. Must have a comprehensive understanding of Food Hygiene, HACCAP, OH&S. Experience with menu planning, stock control & estimation pref. CV: office@sliceizzeria.com.au

## HOUSE HELP

Looking for a female to help with household chores, food prep, grocery shopping, etc. 3-5 days a week for 8 hours per day. Call Shalini 0434198819

**FACE-TO-FACE FUNDRAISER** Rainforest conservation. Training provided. Call Ant 0475744096

**EROTIC MASSAGE STAFF** reliable and friendly for Gentlemen's Relaxation Centre 18+. Tweed. Grace 0418185791

**HINTERLAND PROPERTY SERVICES**  
BYRON BAY HINTERLAND & SURROUNDS

**Hiring experienced property maintenance worker.**  
Employee or ABN. Good pay. 3-4 days p/w. Long term, own ute pref. Mowing, edging etc.  
Tony 0459 619 187

## Harmony Singer/Musician Wanted

Vocal harmony driven duo/trio, into acoustic swing jazz and Americana/Folk, seeks harmony singer with lead instrumentalist skills (preferably lower female voice or male voice).

Ideally fiddle, banjo, mandolin, guitar, trumpet. Not industry focused. Into making great music for short, fun gigs.

Current material includes: Crabbuckit (Good Lovelies), Tennessee River Runs Low (Secret Sisters).

If this sounds like you, please contact **Jessie Vintila and Tirza** on **0420 235624**.

## Welder

Northern Rivers Fencing is seeking a welder for light manufacturing of aluminium and steel gates and panels to join our team. Majority of work is MIG. Previous experience is required. Work is undertaken in a workshop in Ballina. The job includes receiving, unloading and checking of deliveries. 40hrs per week based on casual rates.

To apply please forward your resume to **admin@northernriversfencing.com.au** Or call **0266 94 1165**

## Receptionist required

- Good customer service
- Well presented

02 6685 7382  
glenvilla@byronbayresorts.com

## Customer Support Position

Would you like to be part of an innovative startup, helping the bees, and using business for a positive purpose?

We're looking for a Customer Support Agent to join our already established team.

Please only apply via our website:  
**www.honeyflow.com.au/jobs**

## Experienced barista

capable of tackling the complexities of coffee culture, with passion and love.

Email:  
**mullum@otherjoint.com**

## WORK WANTED

**GRAPHIC DESIGN/PHOTOSHOP** Sean 0478150513

**ACREAGE BRUSH CUTTING** \$50 ph. call Lach 0493094744

## IN MEMORIAM

**ALBERT McLEAN**  
21/11/1923-27/10/2011

It has been 10 years but a song, a smell, or a memory takes us straight back to that day and the overwhelming feeling of grief. Love for you fills our hearts but our hearts are also filled with loss. Life goes on as it must, but never again the same, love does not stop because you are gone. We will love you always. The hardest thing we have ever had to do was say goodbye.  
Lyn, Cheryl, John and families.

## BIRTHDAYS

**Happy Birthday Liz!**

Thanks for all the wonderful cakes and savouries ♥  
**The Echo Feeders**

## ONLY ADULTS

**BALLINA EXCLUSIVE**  
34 Piper Dr. Open 7 days 10am till late. In & Out Calls. 66816038. Ladies wanted  
Find us on Facebook and Twitter!  
COVID SAFE

**EXQUISITE**  
Be impressed with my hot body and warm hands. Tweed area. 0438573677

## SOCIAL ESCORTS

**LOTS OF GORGEOUS LADIES** available for your pleasure nearby. Spoil yourself. In & out. 7 days. Ladies always wanted. 0266816038. COVID SAFE

## MONTHLY MARKETS

1st SAT	Brunswick Heads	0410 785 554
1st SAT	Alstonville	0429 019 407
1st SUN	Byron Bay	6685 6807
1st SUN	Lismore Car Boot	6628 7333
2nd SAT	Flea, Bangalow	0490 335 498
2nd SAT	Woodburn	0439 489 631
2nd SUN	The Channon	6688 6433
2nd SUN	Tabulam Hall	0490 329 159
2nd SUN	Coolangatta	
3rd SAT	Mullumbimby	6684 3370
3rd SAT	Murwillumbah	0413 804 024
3rd SUN	Federal	0433 002 757
3rd SUN	Uki	0487 329 150
3rd SUN	Lismore Car Boot	6628 7333
3rd SUN	Ballina	0422 094 338
4th SAT	Flea, Byron YAC	
4th SAT	Evans Head	0439 489 631
4th SAT	Wilsons Creek	6684 0299
4th SAT	Kyogle Bazaar/kyogletogther.org.au	
4th SUN	Bangalow	6687 1911
4th SUN	Nimbin	0475 135 764
4th SUN	Murwillumbah	0422 565 168
4th SUN	(in a 5 Sunday month)	Coolangatta
5th SUN	Nimbin	0458 506 000

## FARMERS/WEEKLY MARKETS

Each TUE	New Brighton	6677 1345
Each TUE	Organic Lismore	6628 1084
Each WED	7-11 am M'bah	6684 7834
Each WED	3-6pm Nimbin	0475 135 764
Each WED	4-7pm Newrybar Hall	
Each THU	8-11 am Byron	6687 1137
Each THU	2.30-6.30pm Lismore	0450 688 900
Each FRI	7-11 am Mullum	6677 1345
Each SAT	8-11 am Bangalow	6687 1137
Each SAT	8am-1pm Uki	6679 5530
Each SAT	8.30-11am Lismore	0466 415 172
Each SAT	8.30-12am Blue Knob	
Each SUN	7-11am Ballina	0493 102 137

## SUN, MOON & TIDES TIMES FOR NEXT 2 WEEKS

DATE (Oct/Nov)	DAY/MOON PHASE	SUN RISE / SET	MOON RISE / SET	HIGH TIDES, height (m)	LOW TIDES, height (m)
27	W	5:57 19:02	0:03 10:18	00:39 0.95 13:28 1.41	06:14 0.48 20:23 0.56
28	TH	5:56 19:02	0:53 11:12	01:42 0.90 14:28 1.37	07:12 0.55 21:38 0.52
29	F	5:55 19:03	1:38 12:09	03:13 0.89 15:39 1.37	08:33 0.59 22:45 0.50
30	SA	5:54 19:04	2:20 13:08	04:38 0.96 16:45 1.41	09:57 0.57 23:37 0.42
31	SU	5:54 19:05	2:59 14:09	05:37 1.08 17:43 1.47	11:06 0.51
1	M	5:53 19:05	3:34 15:10	06:27 1.22 18:33 1.52	00:18 0.32 12:05 0.42
2	TU	5:52 19:06	4:09 16:12	07:12 1.36 19:19 1.56	<b>00:56 0.22</b> 12:58 0.32
3	W	5:51 19:07	4:43 17:16	07:56 1.51 20:03 1.56	<b>01:31 0.14</b> <b>13:49 0.24</b>
4	TH	5:50 19:08	5:18 18:23	08:41 1.65 20:47 1.52	<b>02:08 0.07</b> <b>14:40 0.19</b>
5	F	5:50 19:08	5:57 19:33	<b>09:26 1.75</b> 21:32 1.44	<b>02:45 0.03</b> <b>15:32 0.17</b>
6	SA	5:49 19:09	6:40 20:45	<b>10:12 1.82</b> 22:18 1.33	<b>03:23 0.04</b> <b>16:27 0.18</b>
7	SU	5:48 19:10	7:30 21:57	<b>11:00 1.84</b> 23:07 1.21	<b>04:03 0.08</b> <b>17:25 0.22</b>
8	M	5:48 19:11	8:26 23:06	<b>11:51 1.81</b>	<b>04:46 0.16</b> <b>18:29 0.28</b>
9	TU	5:47 19:11	9:29 00:01 1.10	<b>12:46 1.74</b>	<b>05:35 0.26</b> 19:35 0.33
10	W	5:47 19:12	10:34 0:07	01:04 1.01 13:48 1.65	06:32 0.37 20:45 0.37

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

## Community sport warms up as restrictions recede

Ross Kendall

Amid the uncertainty of COVID-19 and the winding back of public health restrictions, summer sporting codes are doing what they can to get their season underway.

### Netball is go

From this week through to early December the Brunswick Byron Netball Association will be running its Twilight Season for senior players. The season will run to December 8 and will follow all current government regulations including the requirement that all players and spectators over the age of 16 need to be vaccinated against COVID-19.

The association was hoping to put on junior competitions as well, but the numbers just weren't there.

'It's hard times at the moment. We are going to have a short competition, just so everyone can have a bit of a run around,' Mullumbimby Netball Club's Maree Leeson said.

### Football sixes

The ever-popular Bangalow Summer Sixes football competition was set to kick-off earlier this month but has been cancelled.

The Mullumbimby six-a-side competition will still go



Young fellas getting into AFLX. Photo supplied

ahead. It was going to start next week, but will likely be put off until the restrictions ease again on December 1.

The competition is open to men and mixed senior teams (players must be over 14). So far 20 teams have signed on and the register is still open until a maximum of 24 teams is reached.

### Cricket ready to play

The Ballina-Byron District Cricket association is planning to run a shortened 2021/22 season commencing on November 6 for juniors and December 4 for seniors.

First grade and second can also look forward to a short-format warm-up competition in November.

'Because numbers are expected to be down, as players have to be double vaccinated, lower grades will probably have to make up the numbers, so they won't have their own short-form comp,' Byron Bay

cricket Club's Greg Daniels said.

Twilight Cricket will also get underway next week.

'Everything should be confirmed by the end of the week,' Greg said.

### Basketball

The regular five-a-side competition run by the Byron Bay Basketball Association at the Cavanbah Centre will not be going ahead this year, but the club is hosting an informal three-on-three competition.

The juniors will also be training and trialling over summer, ahead of entering an expanded junior league in March 2022.

### AFLX

Starting this week, teams of ten junior players will be competing in the Northern Rivers AFLX eight-week competition.

AFLX is an introductory version of the game involving

ten players and small square playing fields.

### Cycling gears up

The Byron Bay Cycling Club is on track to host at least five events before Christmas.

Starting in November, the club will resume its usual program of racing every second and fourth Sunday of the month, from 6.30am at the Cavanbah Centre. There will also be a monthly Friday night event on the third Friday of the month.

### Nippers are back

Byron Bay SLSC has announced that Nippers will be run over summer, starting from this Sunday, October 31.

### Byron Bay Football

The Byron Bay football club is currently on hold, but is planning to run an evening competition for men and women starting in late January. The club will assess numbers and enthusiasm in the new year to determine the final format of these competitions.

### Waterpolo

Teams across the Far North Coast will be making a return to competition from next Monday, November 1. Trial games are already underway for the 2021/22 season.

## Dragon Boat coach takes on leadership development course

Ross Kendall

Rainbow Region Dragon Boat Club's head coach, Mary Davis, has successfully been accepted into the Sports NSW Fast Track for Female Coaches Program.

The course aims to address the under representation of women in leadership and coaching roles at the elite level.

Davis started coaching at Rainbow Dragons in 2014 and is now an accredited Level Three Dragon Boat Coach. In 2019, Davis was appointed Dragon Boat New South Wales Northern Region's coach, which covered paddlers from Lennox Head to Port Macquarie.

'I applied for the course because I saw it as an opportunity to learn new skills, to reflect on my own practices and to see how they could be improved, to talk with "expert" coaches and to



Rainbow Dragon's Head Coach, Mary Davis. Photo supplied

discuss the relevant issues that need to be addressed in developing a successful team of athletes,' she said.

The six-week online program content includes topics such as, 'Maximising your impact as a coach' and the 'Psychology of coaching', then the last session is a networking function for all the participants in Sydney.

## Regular As Clockwork

### DEADLINE NOON FRIDAY

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

### Laptop Library

Are you over 50 and in need of a laptop (with pre-paid data), plus one-on-one tutor support, to help you improve your computer skills? Laptops (PC or Mac) are available to borrow for a minimum of one month and maximum of six months. Contact Kathleen at the Byron Community Centre on 66 856 807 or beconnected@byroncentre.com.au.

### Bruns Brekkie

The Brunswick Heads Breakfast Club (Bruns Brekkie) provides a free breakfast every Tuesday and Friday morning 8-9am at the Brunswick Heads Community Centre (the one near the surf club). We have toasties, tea and coffee, fresh sandwiches and more. Everyone is welcome.

### Prostate Cancer Support

The next meeting of the Northern Rivers Day Prostate Cancer Support Group is to be held on Monday October 18 from 10am till 12 noon at the Ballina Cherry Street Bowling

Club. Men diagnosed or newly diagnosed with prostate cancer and their partner or carers are most welcome to attend. Enquiries, phone Bob Corney 6628 1527 or 0400 747 630

### Cancer Support Group

The Byron Bay General Cancer Support Group runs on the first Tuesday of the month. Call David on 0428 187 025 or email david@davidyoung.com.au or Ken on 0411 233 755 kenconnell46@gmail.com.

### Low-cost or free food

**Food Box Thursdays** 9.30-11.30am at Uniting Church, Mullumbimby. If you have any sort of Centrelink card you may purchase cheap food, obtain free veges, and enjoy a cuppa. **Free Food Relief Bags** for anyone doing it tough, every Wednesday 10-12noon at The Hub Ocean Shores, cnr Rajah Rd and Bindaree Way. No ID or Concession Card required. NILs referral service also available. Check Facebook page The Hub Baptist Ocean Shores for details.

## On The Horizon

### DEADLINE NOON FRIDAY

Email copy marked 'On The Horizon' to editor@echo.net.au.

### CWA Brunswick Heads

Brunswick Heads CWA Crafty Women meet Fridays 10am-2pm, corner Park and Booyun Streets, Brunswick Heads. Learn new crafty skills from the experts! Ring Mary 0431908 063 for more information.

### Earth vigil

Unite in a fierce love for our sacred Earth at St Bartholomew's, The Avenue, Alstonville, on Wednesday,

3 November, anytime between 8am and 8pm. All people of every faith and no faith are welcome to come for quiet thoughtfulness. Enquiries: 6628 0231.

### Bangalow PA AGM

All residents in the 2479 postcode are invited to attend the Bangalow Progress Association AGM. This will be held at 7pm on Wednesday, 10 November at Heritage House, Deacon St, Bangalow. Our shared values and proactive engagement in

rapidly growing development and infrastructure projects can make a real difference to our village. Become a member and help to seek the ideals we want to achieve.

### Ring out for Climate!

The bells of The Anglican Parish of Byron, All Soul's, Bangalow, St Paul's, Byron Bay and St Martin's, Mullumbimby will ring out on Saturday, 30 October at 6pm. They will be ringing out our warning to remind the delegates of the Glasgow, 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the dangers we now face. We need our political leaders to take the courageous and, if necessary, selfless actions that times of extreme emergency require.

### Rosebank C'ty AGM

This longstanding not-for-profit community group, which oversees The Village Journal, will be holding its AGM on 18 November at 6pm at Rosebank Hall/ Community Preschool. Residents of Rosebank, Repentance Creek and surrounding hinterland villages are warmly invited to attend. Enquiries/ to register interest please call Aletha on 0410 380 496.

### Caring for someone with Dementia?

Our monthly Northern Rivers Carers Coffee Club on Wednesday, 27 October in Brunswick Heads. Call Emma White on 66851 619 or email on; emmawhite@byronrespite.com.au.

## STARS BY LILITH

Fiery Mars joins this week's Sun in intense Scorpio for the feast of Halloween, honouring those ancestors who have gone before us...



### SCORPIO THE SCORPION

**ARIES:** With your take-charge mentor planet Mars firing up desires, you might find yourself impatient for action after what's seemed like life in the never-ending doldrums. But like Aries Diana Ross sang: *You can't hurry love, you just have to wait.* And for progress on other fronts as well...

**TAURUS:** Mars in Scorpio, your opposite and complementary sign on the zodiac wheel until mid-December can be deeply healing, though not without intensity; the hot red planet in a water sign tends to generate steam heat. But November's empire of the senses overflows with bonding opportunities - soak them in.

**GEMINI:** This week won't respond well to a channel-surfing approach. It requires staying power. Plus conversational caution, so send Twin Who Talks A Lot on holidays, zip the lip and listen to what your feelings are whispering. Could it be Mars and Jupiter suggesting it's your time escape the daily grind and unwind?

**CANCER:** Lucky you, Crab clan, with astral energy in your house of fun and leadership for the next few weeks. Let passionate Mars take the lead, but avoid getting sucked into random dramas. If something comes back to bite you, monitor your responses and reformat strategies so you don't make the same mistake again.

**LEO:** Assertive Mars adding excitement and drama in your home zone guarantees there'll be movement at the station of some kind. But this week's astral ingredients are forceful, so handle with care. If you think something's going on, ask first rather than accuse. Best use of the present transit is for restructuring relationship infrastructures.

**VIRGO:** This week offers some significant realisations combined with quite a slice of realistic advice. And suggests establishing who and what you trust. Or don't. And why... Asking yourself where you need more privacy, and conversely what makes you feel isolated, then answering yourself - honestly.

**LIBRA:** Plagued by people intent on sharing their personal secrets while you're hot-to-shop or to rearrange the décor? Try to *look interested*, because this deep and meaningful week is also an auspicious transit for amour - if you can manage balancing your life in the spotlight with enough intimate downtime out of it.

**SCORPIO:** You've dived deep, now it's time to fly high as your birthday month stirs passionate ambitions along with auspicious conditions to fulfill them. This week turns up the volume on Scorpio Katy Perry singing 'Firework', and glamorizes you with so much razzle dazzle you can get away with just about anything. Except perhaps with Capricorns.

**SAGITTARIUS:** Sun and Mars in Sagittarians' sector of self-analysis and completion makes this week less about forward progress than digging deeper: think inner rather than outer exploration. Observe what changes, rearranges, strengthens, dissolves and resolves, and remember that when everything's uncertain, anything's possible.

**CAPRICORN:** As energetic momentum returns around money, work and social plans, you're back in the game and making up for lost time. With this week activating Capricorn's astrozone of groups and teamwork, who you know is more important right now than what, so ditch reliance on devices: focus on communication and relating.

**AQUARIUS:** Earth to Aquarius! Your space capsule is now entering unpredictable oceans of emotion. Fasten your seatbelt and prepare for turbulence... While relationships simmer in this week's pressure cooker, it's still an active transit for fortifying alliances and networking. Don't push yourself to exhaustion; do pay extra attention to those who love you.

**PISCES:** As this week applies finishing touches to a year's intense journey of self-development and personal evolution, raw emotions could surface. Your call is to morph these into some kind of heart-healthy shape so they can be invested in the personal, social or environmental causes you feel strongly about.

**MARK SWIVEL FOR MAYOR**  
Byron Shire Council Election December 4, 2021

**Mark Swivel Team**  
OFFICIAL LAUNCH



Tues Nov 2, 2021  
Doors Open 5:30pm, Launch 6:30pm, Performances 7:30pm  
Free, Bookings Essential [www.trybooking.com/BTCWH](http://www.trybooking.com/BTCWH)  
Live Music: Lisa Hunt | Performance: Joel Salom  
Enquiries: [events@markswivel.team](mailto:events@markswivel.team)  
Byron Theatre 69 Jonson St, Byron Bay



MST Art Auction: 26 Oct-9 Nov  
[airauctioneer.com/markswivelteam-fundraiser](http://airauctioneer.com/markswivelteam-fundraiser)



Young music lovers rejoice – the YAC is again holding regular gigs at the YAC in Byron. See page 7 for more.

A new website, [www.taking-care-of-bruns.org.au](http://www.taking-care-of-bruns.org.au), has been launched by the town's Chamber of Commerce. It aims to support local businesses and visitor centre members via online shopping, gift vouchers etc. It's also a portal to donate financially to businesses of your choice.

Former NSW Liberal minister Pru Goward – who once had a job as minister for Family and Community Services – went next level cray cray last week in *The Financial Review* (Nine). Perched upon her tower of entitlement and hubris, she demonised poor people as some sort of plague. Historically, when the uber wealthy one percent push to normalise demonisation of the 'others', it never turns out well.

Congrats to Northern Rivers' 2021 Business of the Year, Huw Jones and Becky Thompson, founders and directors of SimplyClean. Their Lismore based natural cleaning product business was one of 20 that Business NSW recognised at an online ceremony last Saturday evening.

Who owns Christian Porter, and why does Christian Porter own Scott Morrison?

Council staff have strategically retreated from a really, really bad unauthorised dwelling policy in this week's meeting agenda. With legal uncertainty, vague wording and a potential public relations disaster, planning staff have suggested that



Local resident, Sonia Friedrich, recently snapped this pic of a baby humpback off Byron, which she has dubbed 'Liquorice' because of its black belly. Sonia was on a whale watching tour with Out Of the Blue Adventures. She says, 'It was toward the end of the trip the whales appeared, and this little calf was excited and breaching. It must have breached five times and was getting closer to the boat. I love that the tour had a marine biologist onboard. Like any professional, they are trained and know so much more. You learn something new every time. Her excitement in seeing this calf, got us all even more excited, realising that we were witnessing something quite special in these southern waters.'

their policy be kept quiet for 'internal use'. Cr Sarah Ndiaye (Greens) originally penned a poorly written ad hoc motion at the June 18, 2020 meeting, which led compliance staff to accuse, without evidence, hinterland residents of unauthorised dwellings via a phishing letter campaign. Just a reminder, most councillors want to be re-elected on December 4. For five long years, they have demonstrated no understanding of this community, and have given away enormous powers to unelected staff.

What an historic week – the Liberal-Nationals federal government reached an in-principle agreement to make a plan, to put a process in place, to discuss aiming for Net Zero 2050. But the Liberal/Nationals deal is secret.

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